

# The Sumpter Miner

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF SUMPTER

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY

J. W. CONNELLA

T. G. GWYNNE,

EDITOR

Entered at the postoffice in Sumpter, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year ..... \$2.00  
Six Months ..... 1.25

ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.



Stories about railroads to be built in the Inland Empire next year are numerous. These reports have been circulated for the last fifteen years. Why some of these roads have not been constructed is a mystery. They are needed and would pay dividends. Some day they will be built, and it is not improbable that next year will see the work inaugurated.

It is beginning to look a little more like war in the far east. While war in any form or in any quarter of the globe is to be deplored, and an eastern conflict would be a great shock to the general spirit of peace, but at the same time, if the worst comes to the worst, there is a slight bunch of consolation in the fact that an Oriental war would not be without beneficial results to the commerce of the Pacific coast.

The administration is not "over-looking many bets" in the matter of impressing upon the minds of Oregon's representatives in congress that they are in disrepute with the national powers that be. In another column of The Miner today is published a press dispatch from Washington telling how the delegation was snubbed in the matter of awarding them places on committees.

There has been during the past week or so an exodus of foreigners identified with the lowest classes of labor in this country to their native lands. Last week's figures show that nearly 14,000 sailed. It is estimated that each one takes back with him on an average about \$200. It is good riddance and it is to be hoped that the \$200 will last the returning pilgrims the rest of their natural lives, and that they will never have an excuse for coming back. They can be spared.

Out West, a magazine published somewhere down in California, is offering as a premium to new subscribers a portfolio containing the pictures of "sixteen of those living authors whose work counts for most in western literature," in the language of the announcement. Among the number is that of Chas. F. Lummie, editor of Out West, "author of a dozen books of travel, exploration and adventure, and a true leader of western thought," says the same authority. How is that for a modest admission?

The extent of Oregon's gold producing qualities and the possibilities of the state as a great mining center are shown in the fact that twenty-five of the thirty-three counties are on record with gold outputs. With three-fourths of the Oregon territory classed as gold producing the time will come when the title of Golden

state will be taken from California and transferred to Oregon. The counties in the gold list are: Baker, Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Crook, Curry, Douglas, Grant, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Linn, Malheur, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Tillamook, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa and Wasco.—Eugene Register.

Now, here is an iridescent dream quite as gaudy—even if it is a trifle less guileless—as that proposed by the Russian czar a few years since, when he called a disarmament conference, that didn't disarm to any alarming extent. Representative Gibson Robinson, of Tennessee, has introduced in congress a resolution looking toward the reduction of the naval armament of the maritime nations of the world. It authorizes the president to "open negotiations with such and so many of the maritime nations of the earth, as he may deem expedient, for the purpose of formulating some international agreement whereby the naval armaments of such nations may be reduced to the minimum consistent with the adequate policing of its own waters," and a few other purposes. Congressman Robinson must be looking for trouble with Lieutenant Hobson.

So it turns out that the over-indulgence of one's appetites and passions which constitute vice is largely a matter of color. Dr. Walter Dill, professor of psychology at the Northwestern University, has suggested a new scheme for reforming Chicago's red light districts. He says if the illumination of those sections were changed there would be an improvement in the morals, that the constant presence of red light has a bad effect. But the learned gentleman failed to suggest a color to take the place of the one supposed to inspire vice. As red possesses the lowest vibration in the solar spectrum, and violet the highest, it may be that the former is a sort of color degenerate, responsible for misdeeds among men, and the latter is the hue of righteousness. This sounds reasonable enough. Science may yet prove that all a person has to do to attain ultra or perfect holiness will be to surround himself with a display of violet.

Money is as easily frightened as a thief. That this is so, recent occurrences demonstrate. In years past Wall street has been the financial regulator of this country. During the speculating debauch of the last two years, many operators in that headquarters for this variety of intoxicant were administered knockout drops and "rolled". Those who thought that the street influenced the entire country so confidently predicted a panic that they almost created one, merely by their predictions; because of this cowardice of capital.

Every authority unites in the assertion that the industrial, commercial and financial condition of the country is perfectly healthy, normal, and that there is absolutely no reason for any stringency in the money market or commercial depression. Good crops and high prices have been the general rule; while the precious metal production has broken all past records. These are our sources of wealth; not stock jobbing operations on Wall street, and if this late insipient financial scare will only impress the fact upon the public mind, reassure too timid money, it will have served a good purpose.

The State Press association is making an effort to have incorporated in the taxation bill which the special session of the legislature is called to amend, a clause providing for the publication of the tax assessment; for the purpose it is alleged of cinching the chronic tax dodgers. The Oregon Law School Journal, published at Salem, devotes pages to the subject, strongly advocating the measure. Among other things, it says: We would, therefore, recommended complete publicity as a certain remedy against the practice of "tax-dodging." The assessment of each person liable to assessment in a county should be published, as is done in several other states before the county board of equalization meets, in the leading newspapers published in the county. The state of Illinois now has such a law, and its effect is magical. Each person is made aware of his neighbor's list of property given in to the assessor, and if such neighbor omits any of his property subject to assessment he is compelled to hasten its correction. This law has brought about a revolution in that state with regard to equal and just taxation, and it is almost impossible for one to escape his just proportion of the taxes.

Heinze is a game fighter, and resourceful. Over in Montana he is now engaged in organizing a political party to fight the domineering dictation of the Amalgamated Copper company. A convention to organize for the contest was held in Helena this week, when General Charles S. Warren was elected presiding officer of the meeting, which is conclusive evidence that some good people are identified with the movement. The Butte Inter-Mountain is owned by the Amalgamated and is fighting Heinze viciously, reports General Warren's speech on taking the chair, as follows: General Warren was escorted to the platform and made a speech. He said he was still a republican and in favor of Mark Hanna as first choice for president and Theodore Roosevelt for second, whereat the employees of the Montana Ore Purchasing company cheered some. Then if they cared they could put Booker Washington on for second place, and as a loyal follower of republican principles he would support the gentleman, whereat the colored men in the hall applauded. There, he added, his republicanism ceased as he was tired of jumping at the crack of the corporation whip of the Standard Oil and Amalgamated.

Our western mining promoters are altogether too modest in their statements, confine themselves entirely too close to the truth in describing their properties, are ridiculously timid in "drawing the long bow." They should study the methods of their professional brothers in the south, that they might learn boldness and dash; for faint heart never won coy and elusive dollar with any more success than it has fair lady. Let them take this as a model.

There is a gold mining company at Gainesville, Georgia, that advertises in the New York Banker that next month it will begin to drop stamps on \$23.40 rock; that it has "over ten million tons of free milling ore in sight and ready for milling," the stock in which company is offered for a few days only, of course, a twenty cents a share.

Now, let's see what that means. In the first place, it is equivalent to stating that the company has \$234,000,000 of gold in sight. It is a

million share company, so on a basis of twenty cents a share, the public is being urged to buy into that quarter of a billion dollar, proposition on a basis of \$200,000. It will surely not cost more than \$23.0 to mine and mill free gold ore, leaving a round two hundred millions in net profit; a case of investing one dollar and pulling down a thousand.

The sucker who will swallow that bait would scorn the shell game, as being too easy money for a grown man to take away from the jay who manipulates the peas.

The Colorado Mine Owners association in a circular letter issued last month calls attention to the dangerous attitude taken by the department of the Interior towards mineral patents. The dangerous attitude referred to is the decision of the secretary of the Interior and the commissioner of the general land office that the actual boundaries of patented claims must give way to erroneous descriptions, which means, in other words, that the actual boundaries of patented properties must conform to the theoretical descriptions of them on paper in the government's offices in Washington, and not as they are actually platted on the ground. The difficulty come about by reason of the fact that the land office assumes that the section corners or monuments are located with complete accuracy, but the theory is absolutely incorrect, as there is probably not a land section in any mountainous district in the United States the corners of which are accurately established. But the Interior department has now taken the position that if they are not accurate they ought to be; that according to their plats they are and that all the surveyings of the United States deputy mineral surveyors during the past fifty years has been incorrect; that they should not have tied up to the corners established by the government, but have found out where these corners should actually be and measure to or from this theoretical point.—Mining Investor.

Some weeks since The Miner published this ruling by the Interior department, and expressed a doubt at the time as to the accuracy of the authority from which it was taken. It didn't seem possible that any one would be so ignorant of conditions as to issue any such order. Hitchcock is evidently not only a malicious old granny, but a chronic thickhead, and if the President were wise and fair, he would retire him to his prairie state counting room.

## A DIRECT LINE

To Chicago and all points east; Louisville, Memphis, New Orleans, and all points south.

See that your ticket reads via the Illinois Central R. R. Thoroughly modern trains connect with all transcontinental lines at St. Paul and Omaha.

If your friends are coming west let us know and we will quote them direct the specially low rates now in effect from all eastern points.

Any information as to rates, routes, etc., cheerfully given on application.

B. H. TRUMBULL, Commercial Agent, 142 Third street, Portland, Ore.

J. C. LINDSEY, T. F. and P. A., 142 Third street, Portland, Ore.,

P. B. THOMPSON, F. and P. A., Room 1, Coleman Bldg., Seattle Wash.

FOR RENT—Five room, well furnished house, in good locality. Apply to C. H. McColloch.