

The Sumpter Miner

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF SUMPTER

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY
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ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.



The Grand Rapids Herald, odiously connected with the promotion of official hooding in that Michigan city, continues to print the International Sunday School lessons regularly.

There is reported to be drafts and cash amounting to more than \$80,000, hundreds of filings and final proofs locked in the La Grande land office safe, waiting Dictator Hitchcock's pleasure in the matter of retaining or firing Receiver Thompson. In the meantime, newspapers that do business with the office are getting lean from hunger—hence this feeble wail.

Whatever justice labor may have in the matter of strikes and boycotts, it is carrying things entirely too far when it comes to interfering with the burial of the dead, as happened Saturday in Chicago. The strikers would not permit vehicles to attend funerals and street cars and undertakers' wagons had to be used to carry the dead to the cemeteries. Labor injures its cause among sane sympathizers by participation in any such sacrilegious proceedings.

Senator Morgan has introduced a resolution asking the committee on inter-oceanic canals to investigate the expenditures of the isthmian canal commission. He quotes official reports to show that during the three years of its existence nearly four million dollars have been expended, largely in salaries, army and navy officers thereon drawing from twenty to thirty five thousand dollars each, besides expenses. It seems that that canal proposition is destined to be a continual gigantic graft.

The East Oregonian, of Pendleton, is one of the papers in the state that continually swings its hammer against the mining industry. Its latest effort in that direction is the assertion that legitimate mining operators do not object to the Eddy law, that only the wildcaters are seeking to have it repealed. It grows rabid in discussing the question, makes so many absurdly false statements, that it leads one to the conclusion that some personal animosity prompts these malicious attacks.

Possibly the motive can be found in the fact that some months since the East Oregonian persistently solicited mining stock advertisements from brokers here in Sumpter and, presumably, elsewhere. All kinds of promises were made as to the selling powers of that paper's advertising columns; but somehow, these appeals were made to deaf ears and the East Oregonian didn't grow financially fat on revenue drawn from that source.

Some of the "big" mining papers are throwing the gaff into those

publications issued in the interest of some particular brokerage firm. The Mining World, of Chicago, advises its readers to sidestep the alluring promises of any of these papers that comes regularly with a stamp on it; that it is nothing more nor less than a prospectus in disguise and can't even get the privileges of second class mail matter.

On this point, the Daily Mining Record remarks that the dead line should not be drawn at the postage stamp paper; that some of them have run the vigilant blockade of the postoffice department, secured entry as second class mail matter and still are mere prospectuses, more artistically disguised. We legitimate mining papers—and there are only a few of the best of us left—will never be happy until we eliminate the cut-rate broker and the fake mining and investing journals, guides, advisors.

Even then, the chances are that the same pestiferous vermin will bob up in some equally offensive different guise.

For several days past The Miner has intended to take a fall out of the Portland Telegram because it didn't give the mining industry of eastern Oregon a square deal in its annual industrial edition, issue Monday. But this paper has changed its mind on that point and will spare the Telegram the humiliation of public censure, the mental agony which the knowledge that its effort to present to the world Oregon's varied attractions does not meet with The Miner's unqualified approval. And it can thank the Pendleton Tribune for escaping this scathing rebuke.

Under a three column headline the Pendleton publication proclaims lustily that Umatilla county was given the worst of it in that edition; kicks like a bay steer because its wheat production was given so little notice, when Baker county wild cat mines were boomed to beat the band.

And these facts, dear reader, teaches two propositions; namely, first, that we are all prone to exaggerate unduly the importance of ourselves and our surroundings; secondly, that not only republics, but counties, towns, and newspapers are ungrateful wretches—not to mention subscribers, both those paid in advance and those unpaid for months, may be for years, in arrears.

These cranks who get the notion into their addled brains that it is their duty to assassinate some prominent man never have sense enough to make a good selection. Take for instance, the fool who killed McKinley, that weak, kindly man who loved his fellow men. Without mentioning any names, one can recall a dozen men in the United States who could have been killed to advantage, especially to the advantage of his class; yet he slew his friend.

And a day or two since another thickhead, whom the despatches designate as a socialist, took a couple of shots at Max Nordeau, an avowed, splendidly intellectual foe to the enemies of socialism; though it is not probable that he is himself a socialist, being possessed of a well balanced, logical mind. But Nordeau is a natural born iconoclast. He sees the flaws and shams of the existing order of things, governmental and social, and in his writings has pointed them out with more force and clearness than any living man. Several of the European monarchies, notably Austria, have prohibited the circulation of his "Conventional Lies of Our Civilization." They fear such a man as Nordeau, with his

splendid mental equipment; while the ignorant fool who tried to kill him is despised.

The Assassins union should mix a little brains with its energy and enterprise.

Seymour Bell, the British commercial agent in the United States, says the New York Commercial, has been warning the British manufacturers to keep a sharp eye on your Uncle Samuel, of Yankee-land, as the crafty old boy is plainly preparing, owing to a diminished demand at home for American goods, to take the helpless British consumer by the scruff of the neck and compel him to buy his unsalable wares.

It may serve as an anodyne to excited British nerves to recall that during the last period of business depression in the United States exports of American manufactures, although the latter often sold for a song, fell off, as well as agricultural exports. They dropped in price from about \$170,000,000 in 1891 to \$158,000,000 in 1893, and they did not mount upward materially till the recent boom in business set in.

It is to be remarked, a'so, that American manufactured exports reached their zenith in 1900, when the business boom was at its height, at which time they amounted in value to \$434,000,000. Last year when business began to slow down somewhat, they dropped again, about \$30,000,000. American manufacturers, like other fallible beings, sometimes reckon, of course, without their host, but as a rule they do not deliberately go on trading out goods in order to sell them at a loss. When they find business beginning to slacken, they take in snail and dispose of such stock as they may find on their hands as best they can.

We betray no confidence in saying that British manufacturers have been known to do the same thing.

All the authorities agree in the statement that the investing public, that portion of it which has put its money into industrials and seen values decline to relatively nothing, is heartily disgusted with the Wall street manipulators and their methods. This grievance against these stock thimble-riggers is widespread. No such resentment has been engendered by mining companies among their stockholders. There are isolated cases, of course; but so many people have made money, thousands in dependent fortunes, by judicious investments in mining stocks, that it is impossible for any general, considerable resentment to be felt against mining as an investment.

Again, there is scarcely a doubt but that the next year or eighteen months is going to be a dull, depressed era in most branches; on account of the approaching presidential election, if for no other reason. Gold mining is the only industry that will not be adversely affected by the so-called "hard times." It would, therefore, appear that this is the opportunity, now the time, the present the psychological moment for the mining operators to make their best endeavors to push their respective propositions; for eastern Oregon especially to advertise to the world its rich golden treasures.

Heretofore there has been no concerted action among local mining promoters. They have succeeded in a measure and apparently saw no necessity for mutual aid. Do they still feel entirely independent? If not, is it possible for them to work together on some broadminded basis,

on some plan by which the entire district will be benefited directly and individuals indirectly? The day has past when the promoter who can't see beyond some specific stock deal will succeed. It will require men of larger mental vision to "make good" in the future than in the past and those who expect to remain in the mining business will have to remodel their ideas and plans, enlarge and liberalize their policy.

NOTICE OF SALE OF PROPERTY FOR STREET IMPROVEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that under and by virtue of a warrant issued by the City Recorder of the City of Sumpter on the 2nd day of December, 1903, to me directed, commanding me to collect the assessment levied upon each of the lots or tracts of land hereinafter described and set forth for the improvement of Auburn street from the east line of Center street to the west line of the alley in the center of Block 11, Sumpter Heights, McEwens' addition to the town of Sumpter, extended southerly would cross said Auburn street, I will at the front door of the City Hall, in the City of Sumpter, Baker County, Oregon, at the hour of ten o'clock a. m. on the 16th day of January, 1904, sell at public auction, to the highest and best bidder for cash in hand each and every lot, tract, or parcel of land hereinafter described, for the assessment levied thereon for the improvement of Auburn street, together with the costs and accruing costs of this sale, as declared by Ordinance No. 205 of the City of Sumpter.

Each lot, tract, or parcel of land hereinafter described will be sold separately for cash in hand, but no bid will be accepted on any lot, tract, or parcel of land that is less than the amount of the assessment levied thereon, together with the costs and accruing costs as hereinafter set forth.

The following are the lots or tracts of land that will be offered for sale with the name of the owner and the amount of the assessment against the same:

Lot 6, block 6, Sumpter Valley R. R. Co., owner, assessed for \$29.15.

Lot 7, block 6, Sumpter Valley R. R. Co., owner, assessed for \$35.45.

West 1/2 lot 8, block 6, Sumpter Valley R. R. Co., owner, assessed for \$19.14.

Lot 1, block 7, Sumpter Valley R. R. Co., owner, assessed for \$32.56.

Lot 2, block 7, Sumpter Valley R. R. Co., owner, assessed for \$36.69.

Lot 3, block 7, Sumpter Valley R. R. Co., owner, assessed for \$34.12.

Lot 4 block 7 Sumpter Valley R. R. Co. owner, assessed for \$28.52.

Lot 5 block 7, Sumpter Valley R. R. Co., owner, assessed for \$7.29.

All of the foregoing lots and parcels being in the original townsite of the town, now city, of Sumpter, as shown on the plat thereof, entitled: Revised plat of the town of Sumpter, of record in the office of the recorder of conveyances of Baker County, Oregon.

Witness my hand this 15th day of Dec., 1903. ED RAND, City Marshal of the City of Sumpter

Confectionery.

Fresh Candies and Fruit, Choice line of Cigars and Tobaccos, at STURGILL'S.