

## WILL FURNISH WATER FOR FLUSHING.

Superintendent J. W. Ball, of the Sumpter Water and Electric company, wrote to R. E. Strahorn, the owner, December 23, stating that the sewer question was being discussed here and that the opponents to the improvement base their opposition to the enterprise on the ground that there is at times not sufficient water to flush the sewers. He asked Mr. Strahorn to state plainly his position on this important objection, that the town might act intelligently in the matter. Several days since Superintendent Ball received a reply, in which Mr. Strahorn states positively that a sufficient supply of water will be furnished and that he will make no charge to the city for water for flushing purposes. This letter is now in the hands of a member of the city council. His plan is this:

He has 4,500 inches of water from Powder river, already harnessed, to be utilized for power. At the present time only about one-third of this is required, leaving fully 3,000 inches which he is going to pipe through the business streets for fire protection. This can be used for flushing the sewers in the business section and will be far more than is necessary.

Just as soon as the weather will permit the work of laying these mains will be commenced and the following territory will be covered: From the power house east on North street to Mill, south on Mill to Sumpter, west on Sumpter to Center, north on Center to North, connecting there and completing the circuit.

The letter states that an increased supply of water for domestic purposes will be furnished this summer, sufficient to flush the sewers in the residence districts. Where this additional supply is coming from, the letter does not state, and Mr. Ball says he is not informed, though he knows that plans have been perfected to make good on that promise also.

Chief Engineer Smith will return to Sumpter and hurry to completion all contemplated improvements, as soon as the snow disappears in the spring and the ground can be worked to advantage.

## NEW MILL MAN AT THE CALIFORNIA

Manager Bellman came back from the California last night where he went to install his new mill man, B. P. Braugh, formerly of Rossland.

The California mill, Mr. Bellman says, is working very satisfactorily. The roaster is going, but leaching has not been started yet owing to the fact that certain valves which go with the cyanide plant have not been delivered. They have been on the road three weeks. As soon as they come the entire equipment will be going full blast.

### Combination of Coast Smelters.

It is rumored that a combination of smelting plants on the Pacific coast is about to be effected. It is certain that the Guggenheims are interesting themselves with that object in view, and one of the firm is now in San Francisco looking up the possibilities of a working combination whereby an up-to-date smelting

plant of immense capacity may be erected somewhere on the San Francisco bay shore. If these plans are carried out San Francisco will become the great smelting center for the Pacific coast.—Mining World.

## BRIGHT BUSINESS OUTLOOK ASSURED

A thorough canvass among the leading representatives of manufacturing, mercantile and wholesale jobbing establishments by the New York Commercial, the result of which canvass was published in its issue of the 25th instant, with a view of ascertaining prevailing business conditions and the outlook for 1904, justifies the announcement that the closing months of this year mark a distinct revival in nearly all branches, and serve as a horoscope for continued wholesome trade.

Frank expressions were solicited, and they were forthcoming. Although 1904 is a presidential election year, no apprehension is shown as to the outcome. In some instances President Roosevelt is severely criticised for the Panama embroglio, while other business men strongly approve of the canal policy as advancing the cause of canal construction. The greatest anxiety, however, is directed toward the labor market and the exigencies resulting from strikes, lockouts and aggressive enforcement of labor unionism.

A remarkable feature developed by interviewing over two score of leading business men is the unanimous demand for a high protective tariff, as opposed to reciprocity or tinkering with the Dingley law. A number of these business men, Democrats by conviction, appear to have been overwhelmed by the persuasive evidences favoring high protection, and are high protectionists at heart, although still advocating free trade for consistency sake. The criticisms of Roosevelt's administration, while in some instances based upon the effect upon market conditions, are more of a personal nature and are so diversified that it is but just to state that Roosevelt is the candidate of the level-headed business men.

The adoption of a high protective tariff by Germany and the agitation in England by the Chamberlain faction serves to make more clear the demand for high protective tariff in this country.

Every business man interviewed was requested to speak upon the condition and prospects of his particular branch of business, and likewise the dominant attitude toward the Roosevelt administration.

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