

The Sumpter Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
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A New York mining engineer is going to attempt the exploration of Mount Colima volcano in Mexico. The volcano is in a state of semi-activity. Several months ago it was violently eruptive, during which time the entire appearance of the cone was changed and several new craters formed. This engineer will attempt a survey of the changes.

There is a Persian story about a pessimist. The story is so old that no date can be assigned to it. It concerns a pessimistic farmer. "Good friend, a visitor said to the farmer, 'you are fortunate this year.'" He pointed to the heavy and rich grain fields spreading as far as the eye could see. "You can't grumble," he went on, "about your crop this season, eh?" "No," whined the pessimist, "but a crop like this is terribly wearing on the soil."

The New York Commercial, in speaking of the gift of a quarter of a million dollars to Columbia university school of mines, says editorially: In the technical education of the American youth of today there is no branch that holds out greater promise than that of mine engineering. While the mining industry has been one of the chief agencies in the production of wealth during the past half century, it may properly be regarded as still in its infancy here, when the mineral resources of the whole western hemisphere are considered, as well as the enormously increased and the still growing demand for metals in our industrial and commercial system and in the arts.

The amount of capital invested by foreigners in commercial undertakings in Japan is much larger than most persons suppose. The English investments are largest and those of the Germans, French and Americans in about the order named. Discussing this condition the London Statist says: "Statistics show that the amount of capital invested by foreigners, including the English, in commercial undertakings established and conducted by Japan is very large, as foreign money is invested in eighty-nine Japanese companies which have a nominal capital of 144,000,000 yen, or, roughly speaking, of between £14,000,000 and £15,000,000, of which 137,000,000 yen is paid up capital. This is irrespective of foreign carrying companies in which foreign money is invested, and which have a nominal capital of over £13,000,000."

The exports of the United States for the eleven months ended May 30 were valued at \$1,367,516,720, which was an increase of \$24,957,867 over those for the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year, and never but once, in 1900-1901, equaled, says a Washington report. He imports of merchandise, on the

other hand, amounting to \$909,479,644, were \$34,221,816 less than in the like period of the previous eleven months, while in that period the balance of trade in favor of the United States was \$458,019,076, against \$381,199,373 last year, or an increase of \$76,819,703. The imports of gold in the eleven months amounted to \$94,169,663, and the exports to \$79,939,442, being an excess of imports of \$14,230,221. Compared with the eleven months of the previous year the imports increased \$51,955,319 and the exports \$15,356,435.

The first installment of Thomas Lawson's widely heralded exposure of the financial methods of Amalgamated copper has been published. It is merely an outline of what he proposes to tell, and if he keeps his promise, it will be the most sensational series of articles ever published in America. By far the most interesting statement he makes is that immediately following the presidential election of 1896, \$5,000,000 was hastily collected and used to change the results in five states, for the purpose of continuing the republican party in power.

He promises further to give the details of the payment of two suit cases full of money for a judicial decision; how those who paid this money tried and failed to steal it back; of numerous suicides and defalcations resulting from the manipulation of Amalgamated, and finally of the commission of two murders to dispose of men who knew too much about that company's shady transactions.

Speaking of the reported attempt of John D. Rockefeller to control not only the base, but the precious metal output of this country, Secretary Mahon, of the American Mining congress, says:

"Amalgamation of all the great mines of America would mean the lowering of the individual prospector to the plane of a mere employee of the combination or trust, who would receive only such daily compensation for his effort as the management might be disposed to offer, and could not hope to reap the measure of benefit to which discovery and development should entitle him. It is to be hoped that every mining man and all of those interested in and loyal to the industry will attend the Portland session of the congress in August and take active part in its proceedings. Announcement of the plans of the Standard Oil trust may serve to arouse the mining men from the apathy and indifference that have caused them to fail in upholding their industry in the past as other industries have been upheld by those interested.

"The prospector is not only the backbone but also the eye and the hand of the mining industry. If the prospector had not found the ores and metals of our great mining regions, capital would never have had this wonderful field of investment opened to it, and our great mineral wealth would still be retained in Nature's safe, with the combination of the lock unknown."

John D. Rockefeller, having gotten substantial control of the oil deposits in the United States, is now said to be reaching out to corner the mines. It is a herculean task. Twenty years ago men would have considered it a wild dream. Yet it is not an impossibility.

The day of primitive mining has gone by. Whether the product of

gold, silver, copper or lead, the bulk of the production comes from mines, mills and smelters operated on a large scale and requiring the investment of extensive capital. Even now, experienced, far seeing mining men in this section hesitate to engage in the development of lead and copper properties, fearing that after they had taken the chances on making a mine, they might not be able to market their ores at a profit. The Spokesman-Review knows of at least one firm of extensive and successful mining men who were deterred by that fear from making investments in the Coeur d'Alenes.

The time will never come when Rockefeller or any other person or combination of interests will be able to own and operate all the producing mines of the United States. But it is among the possibilities that they may consolidate a majority of the larger producers, and then, through their ownership and control of smelters and markets, and with the aid of the big transportation lines, control enough of the product to send prices up or down at pleasure. Given that power, they could deal with the independent mine owners pretty much as they have been dealing for a quarter of a century or more with the independent owners of oil wells. It is not a pleasing prospect. —Spokesman-Review.

The gold miner, however, need have no fear. This great financial monarch, this tyrant of the commercial world, can not control the market value of the royal yellow metal. In some particular district he may, however, through ownership of smelters, render worthless mines carrying refractory ores. But the western miner is not the docile animal that is the eastern business man, and if Rockefeller tries some of the tricks out this way that he has worked successfully in the east, he will encounter a surprise party, not to his liking.

OFFICIAL RECORDS.

The following instruments were filed at the court house in Baker City for record yesterday:

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Daniel W. Spaulding et ux to Wm. McGrath, 160 acres in Secs. 23 and 26 Tp. 11 R. 37 E.; \$650.

June 14—R. Donald and wife to John Thomas, north 10 1/2 feet of lot 1 block 16, Baker City; \$1.

June 13—Jas. R. Gardner and wife to Jas. H. Hutchinson, 1/2 interest in lots 1 and 2 and E. 1/2 N. W. 1/4 Sec. 31 Tp. 6 R. 38 E.; \$250.

June 15—J. C. Martin and wife to Luttie J. Fresh, lots 1 and 2 block 1, J. E. Smith's addition to Baker City; \$500.

May 26—W. W. and Geo. Griswold and wives to Mary B. Griswold, lot 13 and west 15 feet of lot 12 block E, and lot 10 block 7, Huntington; \$1.

June 13—Annie B. Cavin and husband to John D. Best, 81 acres in south half of Sec. 6 Tp. 9 R. 39 E.; \$5,000.

June 14—C. H. Chance and wife to F. D. Smith et al, 160 acres in Secs. 17 and 18 Tp. 10 R. 36 E.; \$1.

Jan. 9, '90—U. S. A. to Jeremiah Fleetwood, 160 acres in Sec. 20 Tp. 12 R. 37 E.

June 13—John Best and wife to Annie B. Cavin, 81 acres in south half Sec. 6 Tp. 9 R. 39 E.; \$4,000.

June 15—Lanettie J. Fresh and husband to Ella E. Spangler, lot 7 block L, De Roo's addition, and lot 1 and 2 block 1, J. E. Smith's addition to Baker City; \$600.

June 14—C. J. Osborne and wife to State Land board, N. 1/2 N. W. 1/4 Sec. 34 Tp. 7 R. 38 E.; \$1,000.

June 16—W. T. Allen to George F. Jones, E. 1/2 N. E. 1/4 Sec. 37 Tp. 7 R. 46 E.; \$1,755.

June 15—Dan Rogers and wife to Perry D. Jones, 320 acres in Secs. 14 and 23 Tp. 11 R. 37 E.; \$1,000.

Dec. 21—Frank E. Pearce et al to Chas. M. Mullen, 300x600 feet in S. W. 1/4 N. E. 1/4 Sec. 9 Tp. 7 R. 84 E.; \$1,000.

June 11—U. S. A. to Geo. Blanchard, receipt in full for 160 acres in Sec. 20 Tp. 11 R. 40 E.; \$400.

June 17—W. L. Sparks to Oregon Lumber Co., 160 acres in Sec. 13 Tp. 10 R. 38 E.; \$670.

June 4—A. E. Clement and wife to H. C. Hays, east half S. E. 1/4 Sec. 25 Tp. 12 R. 39 E.; and W. 1/2 S. W. 1/4 Sec. 30 Tp. 12 R. 40 E.; \$1,300.

March 16—Jas. B. Sams to A. C. Bowman, 160 acres in Secs. 2 and 11 Tp. 7 R. 41 E.; \$1,300.

MINING MATTERS.

F. J. Perkins to John D. Goss, one-half interest in the Pointer fractional quartz claim; \$1.

T. S. Kennerly to W. C. Winterhalter, one-fourth interest in Royal Blues Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 quartz claims and in Mullen placer claim; \$2,000.

Chas. Hedges et ux to Amalia Schwarz, one-fourth interest in the Royal Blues Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 quartz claims, and in Mullen placer claim; \$2,000.

June 10—John Sharp to G. W. Collins, Eureka and Eclipse quartz claims; \$300.

March 4, '03—Jacob Mullen to T. S. Kennerly et al, Mullen placer claim of 130 acres; \$1,500.

June 3—J. Hougham to Consolidated Bonanza G. M. Co., Golden Monarch No. 1 and 2 quartz claims; \$500.

June 16—Geo. L. Turner to A. E. May, 20 acre placer claim known as Inland placer claim; \$1.

Dec. 7, '03—Thos. Barbee to Nannie Barbee, one-half interest in Crown Point group of quartz claims; \$5,000.

June 6—Aurora G. M. Co., to Albert Creighton Co., Nevewesat group of quartz claims; \$75,000.

June 18—Jos. Bower to Omar Bower, one half interest in 20 acres placer claim in Secs. 15 and 22 Tp. 12 R. 39 E.; \$1,500.

Special Excursion to The World's Fair.

The Denver and Rio Grande, in connection with the Missouri Pacific, will run a series of Personally Conducted Excursions to the World's Fair during June. These excursions will be run through to St. Louis without change of cars, making short stops at principal points en route. The first of these excursions will leave Portland June 7th, and the second June 17th. The rate from Baker City will be \$60 to St. Louis and return. Excursionists going via the Denver & Rio Grande have the privilege of returning via a different route. This is the most pleasant way, as well as the most delightful route, to cross the continent. The stops arranged give an opportunity of visiting the various points of interest in and about Salt Lake City, Denver and Kansas City. If you wish to accompany one of these excursions write at once to W. C. McBride 124 Third street, Portland, for sleeping car reservations.