

M'GULLY FORK WATER NOT POLUTED BY SHEEP

**Report Persistently Circulated Here Entirely
Without Foundation, Say Those Who
Know.**

Several Sumpter citizens have called the attention of The Miner to the fact that Seymour H. Bell, William Hewitt and others have leased certain timber lands along McCulley Fork to a sheep man from Heppner, by the name of McKnight, and the impression prevails to some extent that the flocks will contaminate the water of the Downey ditch, from which the city draws a part of its water supply.

The facts in the case, however, are not so bad, and do not necessarily lead to this conclusion. The timber tracts owned by the Hewitt interests were leased to McKnight and also the claims owned by S. S. Terrill, forest reserve superintendent, but with the understanding that the flocks were not to graze on the slopes from which the water supply is drawn. This, it is stated, was explicitly set forth in the understanding, and Mr. McKnight conferred with the Water company in regard to the matter, stating that he had no desire to infringe on its rights. He stated further that the man he had in charge of his flocks is thoroughly

reliable and the instructions he has given him in regard to the terms of the agreement will not be violated.

The Light and Water company owns some ten miles of this ditch, and four or five miles of it passes through the territory in question. According to all land regulations, such water rights carry with them priority privileges to any later timber or mineral acquisitions, whether rights patent, timber or homestead claims. And since the company's ownership to the Downey ditch and the right of way which is carried therewith antedates the acquisition of the Hewitt timber interests, it is stated that it holds absolute authority over such right of way, and can enforce the vacation of any sheep or cattle man whose flocks or herds would tend to contaminate the water.

However, there is no difficulty anticipated in this direction, as the sheep men have explicitly agreed, as was nominated in the contract, to keep their flocks not only away from the ditch, but from the slopes which lead into it.

NOW MAKING SURVEY OF JOHN DAY EXTENSION

J. A. West, chief engineer of the Sumpter Valley, went out to Tipton today to look after work on the extension, and also to superintend the survey which has been started from Tipton to the Middle Fork of John Day on this proposed branch.

Contrary to the statements made by Joseph Barton, general passenger and freight agent, that the timber reserve matter does not enter into the transaction, Mr. West says it does, as was also stated by President Eccles. While the survey to the Middle Fork, a distance of ten miles from Tipton, is now being made, the starting of actual construction this summer depends on the speedy opening of the reserve. If this matter receives attention within the next few days, Mr. West says that every effort will be made to complete this ten miles before snow falls.

"We have had all the experience," says Mr. West, "of late starting we are looking for in the instance of the Tipton extension, and we do not propose to begin on the other unless we have ample time to push it through this fall. However, we have been promised a speedy settlement of the reserve matter, and hope that it will yet come in time to start actual construction in time to complete this fall. Otherwise we will do nothing beyond making the survey, on which we are already at work."

MORE ABOUT THAT CORNUCOPIA STRIKE

Since the first report in the Democrat of the rich quartz strike at Cornucopia, made a few days ago, additional particulars give testimony of the great merit of the discovery.

John Wilson, of this city, who is interested in the discovery, has just returned from Cornucopia.

Mr. Wilson says the location of the strike made by Frank Gallagher, W. D. Pierce and himself is on Little Eagle creek at the apex of the Granite mountains, but only two miles from a good road. Three locations have been made there, known as the Surprise, Summit and Unknown claims.

On the Surprise, the discovery claim, a shaft twelve feet deep has been sunk. The ledge is from one to two feet wide and good shipping ore is being taken out.

The Summit shows a ledge seven feet wide that averages \$16 ore.

About one-half mile from the Surprise claim George Herbert and Charles Carnahan made a discovery that is very rich, the ore showing the same character as the Gallagher and Pierce claims.

The owners of these claims are engaged in doing location work and will arrange to develop their claims as rapidly as possible.—Democrat.

Contest on Rock Creek Claims.

A telegram from La Grande states

that Emmett Callahan, an attorney of Baker City, arrived here last evening and filed in the La Grande land office a contest suit in the matter of Titus Davis vs. H. C. Armstrong. The property involved is known as the Brooklyn and Vindicator claims in the Rock Creek district and it is expected that the contest will be a lively one.

TELLURIUM FOUND ON BULL RUN JULY 1

A man who asks that his name be not mentioned in this connection, is in town today displaying samples of rock from an entirely new find, in a new district of the Burnt river country. It is on Bull Run, five miles from Unity and eight from Mount Rastus district.

The discovery was made July 1 by Bert Caviness and Luther Eckers. They located several claims and since then a number of other parties have made locations. On the original discovery a shallow open cut reveals the fact that walls are eight feet apart and fairly well defined. The ore, of course, is not plentiful that near the surface and all the ledge matter is broken.

The Sumpter visitor showed two kinds of rock, one of which is float and the other taken from the open cut, from which he draws the conclusion that there are parallel veins there, one of which has not yet been found.

The float, so he says, has been tested by a Baker City assayer, who declares that it carries tellurium. The ore from the vein has not yet been analyzed. The particles of metal contained in the two specimens, however, are very similar in appearance, being lustrous and of galena shade.

The Bull Run district is easy of access, a wagon road running through it. There is also an abundance of water and timber there.

MILL FOR HUMBOLDT HAS BEEN ORDERED

Dr. R. N. Jackson, manager of the Fortune Mining company, operating the Humboldt and Red Lion in the Greenhorns, accompanied by M. A. Dehuff, of Spokane, secretary of the company, passed through Sumpter this afternoon, Mr. Dehuff returning to Spokane after a visit to the property and Dr. Jackson going with him to Baker City.

The mill for the Humboldt, Dr. Jackson, says, has been ordered, and will be on the ground in a short time. It is a three stamp Merrill capable of handling from twenty-five to thirty tons of ore a day. The saw-mill recently installed is cutting lumber for the buildings. Dr. Jackson thinks that a mill will also be placed on the Red Lion this season. Plans for this, however, have not yet been determined upon.

Another Shipment.

W. J. Hughes, managing owner of the Equity, came in from the property today to arrange for another shipment to the smelter. The Equity is shipping its high grade ore right along.

MAY INSTALL A MILL THIS FALL

Very favorable reports have been received lately from the Balck Jack, in the Red Boy district, owned largely by Judge Reese, of Lincoln, Nebraska, and one of the Killen, Warner, Stewart flotations. Work has been steadily prosecuted, under the superintendence of T. J. Sheedy, and so favorable is the showing, that the company hopes to get around to a plant this fall. No conclusions have been reached at this time with reference to the style of mill, but it is confidently thought that the extremely good development results which are now being made will justify such action at an early day.

The main crosscut is now in about 630 feet, and in driving this distance, six good strong ledges have been tapped, four of which show values ranging from \$6 to \$30. The depth attained at the present workings is over 500 feet. In about 200 feet further the the main ledge of the property will be cut. This shows about twelve feet on the surface, with very satisfactory values. The ore obtained from a twelve foot prospect shaft on this vein assayed from \$28 to \$32.

RECEIVED WORD THAT HIS FATHER IS DYING

L. V. Swiggett had a wire from Helena, Montana, this morning stating that his father is in a dying condition. Mr. Swiggett left for Helena on this afternoon's train. Mr. Swiggett, Sr. is about seventy years old and has been afflicted for some time with bronchial trouble.

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.

Notice.

Any and all persons having or holding claims or demands against the Morning Mine are hereby requested to present and file the same with the undersigned his at office in Sumpter, Baker county, Oregon, in order to arrange for the collection of the same.

C. H. McCOLLOCH.

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