



THE SUMPTER MINER

SUMPTER SMELTER IS AGAIN IN COMMISSION

Ore Supply Ample and Plant Has Started For a Continuous Run.

The Sumpter smelter is in commission. It started this morning. The banks of sulphurous smoke which overhung the city at an early hour announced the glad news to the people. It has been known for some time that the plant was to be blown in soon, but Manager Fuller and Superintendent Kirchen are not of those who find it meet to do things in the full blare of trumpets, so the event came unannounced, unheralded.

The fire was lighted in the furnace at 5 o'clock this morning, it was charged and the blast turned on at 8. At 9 the slag started to flow. Such is the uneventful tale in brief of a matter of incalculable benefit to the mining interests of the district.

And there has not been a hitch or a bobble. The machinery, the plant, the men, everything, are going like a draft horse accustomed to the harness when he stretches his traces for a long and steady pull. Nor is the simile inappropriate, for the smelter is in commission to stay. The ore supply now on hand, approximating 2,000 tons, and the daily receipts are a guarantee of this. The plant is going now and will perhaps for a short time at only half capacity. This, however, is only provisional until things take on the shape of mature arrangement. About thirty men are being employed, which force will be largely increased when the plant is started full capacity. The briquetting plant was started up yesterday and is now going in fine shape. Everything is going after this manner—not a single drawback so far.

The smelter is pyritic, in the popular acceptance of the term. A full description was given of it when the trial run was made last winter. There is no necessity of it here. The main fact the people of the district want to learn is that the operation will be continuous, as heretofore stated.

Manager Fuller came here on May 16, and Superintendent Kirchen arrived on the 29th of the same month. Much credit is due them. They have ceaselessly em-

ployed their time in visiting the mines of the district and contracting for ore. Today the results appeared. Mr. Fuller says he has met with the most cordial support from the mining men of the camp. They have lent their aid to the institution and exerted themselves to bring in their products. And the hope is expressed by everybody that there will be no letting up in this direction, that the same aid and support will continue. And this, too, is evident, for new contracts are being made every day. Within the last week four new ones were added to the already long list, which will increase the receipts at least thirty per cent. Three other properties started shipping which were not counted on till spring. So interests are pulling together. And it is good.

As stated it is hardly necessary at this juncture to go into a description of the plant, or its history. These are well known and have been given repeatedly. The enterprise is a Killen, Warner, Stewart flotation, and is numbered among the company's many successes in the camp. Its position is now assured beyond question and the resumption is hailed with delight.

MCLEOD-MADDERN DRILL MEET A GO

The much talked of and much printed single drilling contest meet between William Maddern, of the Virtue, and D. M. McLeod, of the Overland, the winner of the Fourth of July singles and the Bourne straightaway yesterday, has assumed a status which leaves little doubt as to its materialization.

Mr. McLeod came to town today. Mr. Maddern is here also, and so is his backer, Ben Wood, of Baker. Mr. Wood today placed \$500 in the First National, which is the amount to be wagered per side, and Mr. McLeod put up a \$100 forfeit, also in the First National, that the stake will be covered, and that on his part

there will be no balk to the engagement.

Articles of agreement will be signed tonight. It is not known yet where the contest will occur. Sumpter, Borune and Baker are the favored points, however. The place which has the farthest reach in the shape of a purse, it is stated, will bring down the persimmon. The bar to Sumpter, has been raised and if Sumpter does the cash act properly the meet is hers. No time has been decided upon, but the talk is that the thing will be pulled off within two weeks. Definite arrangements are to be made tonight.

THINKS MOUNTAIN VIEW MINE IS A BIG THING

L. G. Keady, of Portland, secretary of the New York Consolidated, located in the Greenhorns, his attorney, H. K. Sargent, also of Portland, who arrived in town a day or so ago on matters connected with the company, left this morning for the property. They were joined on the train by Carroll K. Zilly, vice president of the Irwin-Hodson Printing company, of Portland, and director in the New York Consolidated.

Yesterday Messrs. Keady and Sargent visited the Mountain View. Mr. Keady was formerly interested in this property. The development, he says, has been amazing and he thinks it one of the big properties of the district. The new mill, it is thought, will be running within thirty days.

NEW SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE STANDARD MINE

Zoeth Houser, who has for some time been superintendent of the Standard, has resigned his commission on account of the press of other duties, and N. F. Heath, formerly superintendent of the Cracker Summit has been appointed in his stead.

Mr. Heath, is a well known mine superintendent having had years of experience in Colorado. He left yesterday to assume active superintendence of the property. Mr. Houser will perhaps remain in the Quartzburg district for awhile looking after other interests, before returning to his home in Pendleton.

May Queen Mill Going.

John Thomsen, manager of the May Queen, came in from the mine today on his way to Baker City. The mill, which was started a few days ago, is going in from fine shape, and effective and systematic development work is proceeding.

PROMINENT PORTLAND PEOPLE IN SUMPTER

Judge H. M. Cake, of Portland, president of the Mountain View Mining company, also president of the Portland Commercial club, with Walter White, of Portland, interested in the Mountain View, arrived in town this morning and went out to the mining property.

Judge Cake attended a meeting of the Oregon Development League in Baker City yesterday. Judge Cake, as president of the Portland Commercial club, was the promoter of this organization. With him from Portland came to Baker, L. E. Smith, president of the League, Thomas Richardson, secretary; A. L. Craige, general O. R. & N. passenger agent and Mr. Stevenson, of the State Press association.

Judge Cake is greatly pleased with the turn League matters are taking. He says:

"We had a most enthusiastic meeting in Baker City, and the enterprise met with entire approval. It is under way now and we confidently expect good results. It is the purpose to organize a league in Sumpter in the near future."

Judge Cake, while his residence in Portland may militate against him to some extent, is a mining man, and at the head of one of the prominent Sumpter districts properties. He knows what mining is in eastern Oregon, and the hay press and cheese sentiment, so prevalent in Portland, does not seem to have influenced him in the least, as far as mining is concerned. He is wide awake to the situation.

J. Frank Watson, president of the Merchants' National Bank of Portland, and president of the Keystone Mining and Milling company, came in on the train this afternoon, returning from Canyon City, where he was interested in the Keystone-Equity litigation. As stated elsewhere, the case has been postponed till September 26.

Mr. Watson's company has owned the Keystone mine since 1886. A bond was taken on it, however, some time ago by the Geiser-Hendryx company, but work has been stopped pending clearing of title.

Mr. Watson will remain over till tomorrow to confer with the First National bank, which institution is correspondent of the Merchants' National of Portland.

S. H. Norton, manager of the Blue Mountain Gold Mining company, left today for his old home at Ashland, Kentucky, and to attend the St. Louis fair en route. Mr. Norton will return in the spring and resume work.