

The Sumpter Miner

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY
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ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

A review of the laws forbidding the pollution of inland waters in the United States, which may be of great practical benefit to the public, has been prepared by Edwin B. Goodell for the United States Geological Survey. It is published as No. 103 of the series of Water Supply and Irrigation papers, where it is available for all.

Mr. Goodell's purpose has not been to prepare a complete work on water pollution for the use of members of the bench and bar, but rather to put into the hands of public officials, legislators, water companies, manufacturers, farmers, and others interested in the subject, a guide for their action, and to furnish references to the sources from which a more exhaustive knowledge of the subject may be obtained if required. No attempt has been made to present a detailed statement of the entire law against water pollution as it exists independently of statutes, but the broad legal principles under which anti-pollution statutes become operative are explained and important court decisions are quoted to show authority for various deductions. These principles and decisions have been classified and are presented in three groups.

The rights of riparian owners to pure water as against one another.

The rights of the public (as distinguished from individual owners) to have inland waters kept free from pollution by riparian owners or others.

The conditions under which, and the extent to which public municipalities may use inland waters in the disposal of sewage matter from public sewers.

The statutes enacted in various states are classified according to their general scope and an opportunity is thus afforded to compare their effectiveness and desirability. In some states there is nothing more than a simple provision making it a crime to poison wells and springs, while in others elaborate provisions have been made to check, so far as possible, absolutely prevent all pollution of all waters by the refuse products of animal life or the waste of human industry. In citing the statutes, Mr. Goodell has grouped the states together logically, to show the stage of growth in sanitary education at which each has arrived.

"Senior Don Korker" writes some "hot stuff" for George's Weekly, a Denver publication, relative to the Guggenheims, their exploration company and the smelting trust. He quotes a mining man politician as saying that Simon, one of the brothers, has the United States senatorial bee in his bonnet, and is willing to bid higher than any other man in the state for that doubtful honor. Some one questioned his statement as to the political combination, when he continues as follows:

"Maybe I am mistaken. If I am, Guggy is a smarter d--- fool than I take him to be and is not only fooling Peabody, but Evans, Gould

and the whole batch of statesmen, by pretending to be an American Smelting Refining company man, when on the sly, he is selling out his stock as fast as he dares to, and investing it in Guggenheim's Exploration company schemes that in the end can put a crimp in the smelter trust. If such is the case, just watch Guggy blossom out as a fighter of trusts by building a lot of new independent smelters to fight the smelter trust, to treat ores from the mines owned by the Guggenheim Exploration company. Twenty million dollars will duplicate every smelter in the trust worth duplicating and perhaps treatment charges won't have to be so high as they now are because it won't be necessary to earn seven per cent dividends on fifty million preferred and three or four per cent additional to cover dividends on fifty millions of common stock. To squeeze eighty millions of water out of the Smelter trust and get down to twenty millions would give the railroads, coal companies, ore producers and lime rock men a chance to live."

The highest quotation on Homestake Mining company of South Dakota in the history of the company was in 1901, when the stock sold at \$104 per share. The lowest price at which it has sold in the past ten years was \$10 per share in 1894. Its present market value is \$55 per share. The years of greatest dividends were 1899, 1900 and 1901, when each year dividends to the amount of six dollars per share was paid. In 1902 five dollars was paid, and in 1903 three dollars, and a similar sum will be paid for 1904. Dividends are paid monthly of twenty-five cents per share at present. The lowest price the stock has touched since 1898 was in March of this year, when it fell to \$49.50 a share. The company has paid in dividends to date the sum of \$12,804,550.—Mining World.

The combatants in the east are unequally placed as to coal supply for fighting purposes, although Russia is not as badly handicapped as one might think, since there is a fair supply of coal obtainable from western Siberian points, thus relieving the necessity of dependence on the attenuated line of supply by the Trans-Siberian railroad. About 100 miles by land from Vladivostok an anthracite mine, from which much was expected, was opened early in 1902, and by now is probably connected with the Usuri railway line, permitting shipments to Vladivostok and Harbin. Perhaps, also, Vladivostok can still get coal from the convict mines on Saghalien. It is a long way from Vladivostok to Harbin, where the Chinese Eastern railway branches off to run to Dalny and Port Arthur, and that line, throughout its 600 miles of track, was until the outbreak of hostilities, mainly dependent on Japanese coal, though a little was obtained from native workings in the interior. The mines near Newchwang, and those near Lushang, in the Liaotung peninsula, produced coal of inferior quality, and last year were closed. The mines near Yentai, north of Liaoyang, made historic by recent fighting, produce better coal, but their output has been small. All these mines, however, are now in possession of the Japanese, and, as far as known, there are no considerable bodies of coal opened between Mukden and Harbin, 430 miles. West of Harbin the nearest coal mines of importance, so far as known, are in the province of Irkutsk, over 1,000 miles away.

These mines are opened on quite a large scale. The Japanese, of course, have an excellent and cheap supply of coal for all purposes, in the mines of their own islands, and in addition have the facilities of distribution by water to supply points. With the necessity of coal for the military railroads, the fuel problem concerns these eastern armies as well as the navies.—Mining World.

As the Mining World has already pointed out, the United States postal department has established the precedent that stock swindles, which were floated through the mails, are within its own tireless and sweeping supervision. Already several cases have been brought into court, and when the helpless victims, who thought that prospectus figures could not lie, come to realize the certain weapon of vengeance which lies in the power and practice of the postal department, as regards the investigation of use of the mails to defraud, there will be a lively hiking for the tall timber by some of the men whose mining operations were confined to the sky scrapers of Manhattan island and to the carpeted offices in other cities. The sooner the fakir is forced to his fate and the swindler sent to his cell the better it will be for legitimate mining promotion and the more money there will be available for actual mining and development.—Mining World.

It is generally known that lightning striking the ground sometimes forms tubes lined with fused minerals. In April last, during a thunder storm in Essex, England, a ball of fire which seemed to cast darts in all directions, was seen to descend from the clouds. There was a crashing explosion, and afterward, in an oat field, three distinct sets of holes, ranging from nine inches down to one inch in diameter, were found in the ground. They were perfectly circular, diminishing in size as they went deeper, and were cut through the yellow clay as clean as auger holes.

Dunn and Bradstreet agree that business has finally "turned a corner;" that speculation in stocks has been resumed and that the lambs are about to be fleeced to a gratifying extent.

Beautiful Columbia River Folder.

The passenger department of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company has just issued a beautiful and costly panoramic folder entitled "The Columbia River, Through the Cascade Mountains, to the Pacific Ocean." From Arlington to Portland, and from Portland to the Pacific ocean every curve of the river and every point of interest are shown, while Mount Hood, Mount Adams, and Mount St. Helens, perpetually covered with snow, stand in all their beauty. On the back of the map is an interesting story in detail of the trip from Huntington to Portland and, from Portland to the ocean, not overlooking the beaches and the San Francisco trip by ocean. Acopy of this folder may be secured by sending four cents in stamps to pay postage to A. L. Craig, General Passenger agent for the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company, Portland, Oregon. By sending the address of some friend in the east, and four cents in postage, the folder will be promptly mailed.

Zoeth Houser left today for a visit with the folks at Pendleton.

OFFICIAL RECORDS.

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

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

DEEDS.

May 16.—Baker City Real Estate and Home company to A. Welch, lot 4 block L De Roo addition to Baker City; \$2,850.

Oct. 26—A. Welch and wife to Louis Sommer, lots 4 and 5 block L De Roo addition to Baker City; \$7,500.

Oct. 3—L. Sommer and wife to M. Hoff, $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in same; \$3,750.

March 11—Receiver to Mary Young, in full for 160 acres in Secs. 18 and 19 T. 10 R. 36 E.; \$400.

Oct. 16—J. W. Moxon to Richard Philliber, $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in 32x100 feet in Greenhorn City; \$250.

July 24—O. R. & N. company to Jno. F. Chatham, lots 11 and 12 block 24 Huntington; \$100.

Oct. 13—Receiver to Joseph E. Reed, 160 acres in Secs. 17 and 18 T. 10 R. 38 E.; \$400.

Oct. 20—Jos. E. Reed to Hewitt-Bell Timber company, same; \$800.

Oct. 25—C. E. Wood and wife to C. L. Palmer, lots 13 to 16 block 14 Wilovale; \$1.

Oct. 13—R. M. Wilson and wife to Jas B. Wilson, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 6 T. 7 R. 38 E.; \$1.

Sept. 12, 0'3—H. Lancaster to Wm. Chamberlain, $\frac{1}{4}$ interest in Lancaster and Tetreau ditch, Burnt river company; \$200.

April 18—Clarence C. Shelton and wife to A. P. Brown, 160 acres in Secs. 22 T. 12 R. 43 E.; \$1,000.

MINING MATTER.

DEEDS.

Oct. 29—A. J. Bess to Jno. Sheak, $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in Red Bell quartz claim; \$1.

Oct. 29—Jno. Sheak, to C. C. Cox, $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in Red Bell quartz claim; \$1.

Oct. 24—A. J. Bess to C. C. Cox, $\frac{1}{4}$ interest in Red Bell No. 3 quartz claim; \$1.

Oct. 15—W. E. Sanders to Geo. A. Carter, $\frac{1}{4}$ interest Violin No. 2 quartz claim; \$25.

Sept. 12—C. W. Adams to Wm. Young, $\frac{1}{4}$ interest in Little Chief and Red Chief quartz claims; \$750.

Oct. 22—L. R. Bellman to California M. Gold Mines company, Minneapolis, quartz claim; \$1.

Sumpter's Wonderful Growth.

Fred Fontaine, while in Pendleton a few days since, delivered an entertaining address to an East Oregonian reporter on this town and district. Apparently for the purpose of vouching for the wonderful things quoted, that paper adds this on its own account: "Sumpter has experienced the most phenomenal growth of any camp in the Northwest, within the past seven years. In the fall of 1897, the editor of the East Oregonian was offered two fifty foot lots, 110 deep, lying in front of Tom McEwen's livery stable, in what is now the heart of the city, for a span of horses worth about \$110. At that time it didn't look as if the entire town would worth a team of cayuses, but within a year after, those same lots sold for \$2,000 without improvements. Within two years from, January 1, 1898, \$300,000 was invested in substantial buildings."

Messrs. Fuller and McConnell, of the smelter, went to Baker City this afternoon.