

COVERS  
THOROUGHLY  
THE  
GOLD FIELDS  
of the  
INLAND EMPIRE



# THE SUMPTER MINER

EASTERN  
INVESTORS  
IN  
OREGON MINES  
Pay for  
AND READ IT

## STANDARD TREATMENT PROBLEM IS SOLVED

### Professor Nicholson Has Returned From Denver Where Exhaustive Ore Tests Were Made.

Professor Nicholson, of the Killen, Warner, Stewart company, returned today from a prolonged trip east. His principal purpose was to have some treatment tests made in Denver on Standard ore, but he went to Chicago on other business connected with the company.

He stated to a Miner representative today that he made exhaustive experiments with the Standard's strange gold-cobalt ore and that the treatment problem is solved. Under his own personal supervision these tests were made in one of the perfectly equipped plants in Denver. Nine different processes were tried on the thousand pounds of ore shipped there for the purpose. Some were entire failures, others saved a more or less satisfactory percentage of values and one was a complete success.

That one is a concentration process, in which two separate products are extracted from the ore. A high grade gold-cobalt concentrate is secured first and the other metals together later. "I haven't time today" said Professor Nicholson, "to go into a technical explanation of the matter, but there is no question but what we will save the values of all the metals."

C. H. Seig, secretary of the

Killen, Warner, Stewart company, with headquarters in Chicago; F. I. Cooper, a stockholder in the company, whose home is also in the windy city; J. A. McLaughlin, whose home is in Lincoln, Nebraska, drove out to the Standard mine last Friday. Mr. Seig returned yesterday, and Messrs. Cooper and McLaughlin are expected in tomorrow or next day.

Flattering reports are brought from the Standard, which under the superintendency of M. F. Heath is rapidly developing into one of the greatest mines of the west.

The narrow seam of sulphide ore in the Cleveland drift has widened into practically six feet of solid ore. The cobalt ore in the main Standard drift has also widened from one to two and a half feet. This is now one of the prettiest shoots of ore ever developed in Oregon.

Zoeth Houser, a heavy stockholder in the Standard Consolidated company, was in the local office of the Killen, Warner, Stewart Co. when hot news was brought in that the cobalt shoot had widened. "I look to see this shoot continue for an indefinite distance," he said to a Miner reporter. "Every shoot so far uncovered in the mine, five in all, has both widened and lengthened under development."

## SMELTER RATES IN "GOOD OLD DAYS"

A lot of rot appears from time to time with reference to the smelters, some papers asking its readers to believe that the smelters are slowly strangling the mining industry. As a matter of fact, the reverse is exactly the case, for rates have steadily declined, while the grade of ore has decreased and the tonnage treated has increased.

These statements may be verified by reference to the books of any mining company which has been shipping for twenty or thirty years.

If the smelters returned to the rates of the "good old days" (?)

there would be a howl on the part of shippers that would awaken the echoes.

A few statements as to rates that existed in the so-called "palmy days" of the state are herewith set forth:

In 1879, when silver was selling at \$1.18 an ounce, the smelters paid the producers sixty cents an ounce on ore running thirty ounces to the ton, and seventy-nine cents an ounce net on 180-ounce silver ore, while 1,000-ounce ore only brought ninety-eight cents an ounce net. Lead was paid for only when over twenty-five per cent, and at one time nothing less than one-quarter ounce in gold was paid for. Two-ounce gold ore only brought \$20 net. Copper was paid for after first deducting 1 ounce of silver for each per cent of copper. Six-ounce gold ore only paid the producer \$50. In 1878 ore that contained 1,159 ounces silver and thirty per cent lead netted \$630.10

## THINKS LEASE AND BOND IS THE PROPER SYSTEM

"The sale of the Imperial mine, in Cable Cove, to a Detroit syndicate for \$75,000, reported in yesterday's Miner, is a strong argument in favor of the leasing and bonding system," said a prominent Sumpter mining man to a Miner reporter this morning.

"The Imperial is one of the oldest mines in the Cove. It was operated in early days with fair success, shipments of high-grade ore being made to outside smelters. A company was incorporated to handle the proposition on a larger scale. The promoters were poor men and met with financial reverse. For a number of years the mine lay idle. Many mining men endeavored to secure control, but the old owners, imbued with a firm and wellgrounded belief in the richness of the property, refused to let go on any other basis than an outright sale for cash. Owing to the incomplete development the mine was not in shape for expert examination. A great deal had to be taken for granted in arriving at a valuation. Thus the old mine stood for a long period, decreasing in market value each day, through caving tunnels and rotting timbers.

"Finally the old owners came to a realization of their poor policy. The mine was turned over to a trio of rustling mining men on a lease and bond. The lessees installed a modern milling plant, opened new ore bodies, began shipping high grade ore and a heavy tonnage of still higher concentrates, keeping development well ahead of milling operations. In a short time the

mine was in shape for examination and sale for something near its real value, and this consummation has been brought about to the satisfaction of all parties concerned. It is safe to assert that had not the Imperial passed into the hands of lessees, it would have remained idle for an indefinite period. As it is, not only the original owners of the mine got what they demanded for the property, but the lessees, besides making a snug profit in operation, cleaned up about \$11,000. Everybody is satisfied, including owners of contiguous properties.

"There are dozens of other mines in this upper camp, which if loosened up and developed under lease and bond, would not only net a profit in operation to both lessee and owners, but would also be placed in shape to pass into the hands of a company or syndicate strong enough financially to operate them upon a big scale."

his formal plea he repaid to the government all but \$350 of the amount taken. This point was argued in his favor by his attorney, Alex Sweek, but United States District Attorney John Hall pointed out to the court that the refunding of the amount embezzled did not lessen the penalty by statute, and consequently the fine imposed could not be less than the amount embezzled. But the district attorney said he was willing that the minimum imprisonment, six months in jail, be imposed.

Kelly was turned over to the United States marshal to be taken to Baker City to serve his jail sentence.

per ton—the treatment and transportation charges being \$567.89. Then it cost \$8 to \$9 per ton to haul ore from Silver Plume to Georgetown, from the Pelican mine; the same ore is hauled to Denver for \$1.50 per ton now. The Terrible mine shipped from upper Clear Creek four and one-half tons of ore that yielded \$1,971. The treatment charges were \$669. These figures are taken from the books of the company.

Compare these figures with the treatment charges of five years ago, a year ago today. Ores that the smelters would not make a bid on in the "good old days" are now purchased at a profit to the miner. Under the present system, with reduced expense and advanced metallurgical method, it is possible to treat ores at a profit that were discarded a few years back.

Were the American Smelting & Refining company to go out of business and the smelters all return to the old basis, treatment charges would be raised to the old schedule necessary meet the increased expenses of separate operation of the different plants.

A return to the old days would mean a tax on the output of the mines that would over-burden them and would meet with protests on all sides.—Ores and Metals.

## MOVEMENTS OF MINING GOODS.

W. W. Elmer, consulting engineer for the Snow Creek mine, went out to the property this morning, expecting to return Wednesday.

Frank Falunery, the well known miner, who returned to Sumpter last week from Alaska with Hugh Gillis, left this morning for Whitney.

C. J. Johnson, secretary of the Scandia Tunnel company, drove in from the property today and left for Spokane on the afternoon train.

Frank Baillie, general manager of the Columbia mine, returned from a flying trip to Baker City this morning and immediately drove out to the property.

M. H. Kuapp, former owner of the Highland mine, is in town today on business connected with the company which now controls the property.