



THE SUMPTER MINER

VOL. VI.

SUMPTER, OREGON, DECEMBER 14, 1904

NO. 16

BULLION FROM BLACK BUTTE

Twenty-eight hundred dollars in yellow gold, resulting from an eleven-day run of a Merrill mill—that is the remarkable record of the Black Butte mine, in Fox valley in the John Day district.

General Manager O. C. Wright, of the Black Butte, who left Sumpter Wednesday morning for the property, accompanying a party of Providence, R. I., stockholders in the Black Butte, Blue Bird, Buck Horn and Valley Queen mines in this region all of which properties are the successful promotions of Wheeler & Co., of New York, returned home Sunday morning with the party. In his possession was the cleanup of \$2800 as stated above.

The development of the property is under the direct superintendency of Ed C. Allen, formerly of Pendleton, and has been successfully carried on for the past ten months, during which time a hoist has been installed at the mine and old tunnels and shafts reopened. The Merrill mill, which was erected by John Gagen, has been overhauled and placed in running order, and is being equipped with two new concentrators, which have been freighted from Fox valley.

The cleanup resulted from an

eleven-day run on ore from a recently opened shoot of fair size and exceptional richness.

The members of the party which accompanied General Manager Wright to the mine were C. D. Starr, W. A. Crompton, Dr. G. R. Drew and Dr. Justin Boyce.

They left this afternoon for their homes, expressing themselves as highly pleased with the result of the trip to the west, and greatly gratified with the result of the investment in the Eastern Oregon mines mentioned above. The party visited the Blue Bird and Buckhorn last week in company with Manager Wright, who, upon his return, brought with him a big gold bar from the Blue Bird mill. The party was met at Sumpter by General Manager Tom Gray, of the Valley Queen mine, in which Mr. Starr is a stockholder, was overjoyed to hear from Manager Gray the details of the strike in the Valley Queen, which is mentioned in another column of today's Miner.

While the party were returning from Fox valley to John Day last Friday evening, they were caught in a blizzard on Dixie Butte. Mr. Starr and Dr. Drew suffered terribly from the cold, which was intensified by a terrific wind.

BIG MINING DEAL PULLED OFF IN GRANT COUNTY

What is perhaps the second largest mining deal ever pulled off in this section has been carried through the preliminary bond and option stage during the past week. About 1000 acres of the rich and well established placer ground of the Marysville section have been transferred by option and leases to a company composed of George Walker, his business associates, Mr. Brown and G. W. Dart.

Included in the lease are the well known Finlayson diggings, those of Cresap & Schoels, the Smith placers, the ground of Wm. Clark and numerous other well known and rich placers.

Besides these well known properties that have for many years been unfailing dividend payers, there are a number of new claims, much untried ground, and several locations. Roughly speaking, the boundaries run along the western side of Long gulch, around the Finlayson mines, on east as far as Pine creek, and again back to Long gulch. The locations consist largely of ground to be used as a race, which is to be constructed in a manner to permit washing and draining the lowest bedrock.

A number of these mines have been worked over extensive areas, but in few places, of any, has bedrock been reached. In order to afford

COMMENCE WORK AT THE RED BOY

It is reported in Sumpter that underground work in the Red Boy was resumed today, for keeps. Tom Moffit, who returned from the Oregon Monarch, the adjoining property, last evening, brought the news to town. He heard it as a rumor in that district yesterday. J. A. Howard, one of the large stockholders in the Red Boy mine, was questioned regarding the authenticity of the report, and replied: "I think it is correct. If they didn't start today, they will start sometime this week, for everything is in readiness."

The first work to be done will be the completion of the long crosscut, known as "Blacksmith" tunnel, to the main vein of the Concord group. This tunnel is now in 1900 feet, and must be extended between 300

sufficient dump to do this, it is necessary to construct a small canal, too expensive for the independent companies to undertake. The combination effected will harmonize all these interests in such a way that the ditch can be built. The surveys for this have already been made, and when the work is completed it will constitute the most gigantic piece of civil engineering ever undertaken in this section of the country. From the lowest level of mining ground, the race will be taken to Long gulch, two miles distant.

It is the intention of the company to guard the rights of owners below the mine by reservoiring the water and cribbing the tailings. The water that escapes will be free from all gravel and heavy sand, carrying only a fine silt that will enrich any field over which it is allowed to spread. This system of reservoirs will be a double gain, as large level areas will gradually be built up as work progresses.—Grant County News.

Midway Stockholders Here.

L. Van Hecke, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, a member of the board of directors of the Midway mine, arrived in Sumpter this morning, accompanied by C. H. Newhall and T. J. Anders, of Wisconsin, stockholders. The party immediately drove out to the Midway, accompanied by H. T. Hendryx, of the Geiser-Hendryx investment company, fiscal agents for the mine. Mr. Van Hecke has frequently been a

and 400 feet to cut the Concord vein. Its portal is near the hoisting plant, low down on the mountain side and attains great depth. When 400 feet in it intersected the famously rich Monarch ledge of the Red Boy group and was driven straight ahead 1500 feet further toward Monarch ground, the big lode of that system being the objective point. There is where the work was being done when the mine was shut down more than a year ago.

This tunnel will not only give "all kinds" of backs, for furnishing perhaps more stopping ground than any other tunnel in the state, but through it Monarch ore can be delivered easily and cheaply to the Red Boy mill.

visitor to Sumpter, but Messrs. Newhall and Anders are self-confessed tenderfeet, this being their first trip to the Oregon fields. The party will return from the mine tonight, but will remain in Sumpter a couple of days, perfecting plans for a more extensive development of the Midway.

Esmeralda Looks Good.

C. E. Hildge, a druggist of Huntington, who, with Mrs. Gray, of the North Pole boarding house, and W. H. Kinsey, of Sumpter, owns the rich Esmeralda mine on the Crocker Creek mother lode vein system, passed through Sumpter this morning, en route to the property. The recent performance of assessment work on the Esmeralda made such a remarkably fine showing that the owners of the mine will at once arrange for more extensive development. Ore of extraordinary richness shows in the Esmeralda.

Don Willard Home Again.

Don L. Willard, who during Sumpter's boom days of five years ago was a prominent figure in local mining circles, and who still retains valuable interests in this camp, returned this morning from a year's absence in the east, which time he spent in Pittsburg, Toledo, Cincinnati and Chicago. He has succeeded in financing an important deal, details of which are not yet ripe for publication, he says.