

THE SUMPTER MINER.

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NO. 9.

WHAT OTHERS SAY.

SUMPTER'S BRIGHT PROSPECTS AS VIEWED BY OUTSIDERS.

Yesterday a Sleepy Village, Today a Hustling Camp, Tomorrow a Busy City.—Predictions as to Increase in Population.—Can't Get Too Much of a Good Thing.—This District Adds \$8000 in Gold to the World's Supply Every Day.

W. H. Lancaster, Spokane mining man, who has been operating at Sumpter and vicinity, has returned to Spokane and his opinion is thus reported by the Spokesman-Review:

W. H. Lancaster has returned from Sumpter. He adds his testimony to the many statements that have been made concerning the rapid growth of the town and the wealth of its mines. "I was away from Sumpter thirty days," he said, "and when I returned I found a whole street full of business houses had gone up in my absence, and so thorough had been the transformation that I could scarcely recognize an old landmark. If the influx continues during the winter the town will have 10,000 people in the spring. It must grow to accommodate them. A few weeks ago Sumpter was a sleepy village. Today it is a bustling camp. Tomorrow it will blossom into a lively little city, with all the conveniences and luxuries of city life. It is a rapid movement, and it is exhilarating to the spectator. Indeed, one does not long remain a spectator. He gets into the center of the stir and becomes part of it."

"There are seventeen stamp mills either running or about to run on mines around Sumpter, and I can count thirty-two or more properties that are generally conceded to be developed to a point where stamp mills are needed. There are openings in the district for all classes of mining men. The investor can find places for his dollars. The miner can find work for his sturdy arm.

"And the prospector can find great tracts of country where ledges are known to exist, but where no stakes have ever been driven. I have traveled over the country a little and I have seen great ledges cropping many feet out of the ground and traceable for many miles through the country, and yet no stakes were visible. The country has been asleep. Spokane will share in the profits which are following the awakening of the district to a realization of its wealth producing powers."

Capt. C. H. Thompson in Spokane.

Captain C. H. Thompson, of the firm of Thompson & Bell, has just returned from Sumpter, and says that things are more lively than ever in that flourishing burg. The Captain, who already has large interests in that section, evidently thinks there is no danger of getting too much of a good thing, and has lately taken up another property there, the Don Juan, near Robinsonville, and not far from the famous Bonanza mine. He has started work on the property, on which a shaft is already down for a depth of 200 feet. They are sinking at that point and are now down 48 feet farther, at the same time sinking a winze in the ore chute at a point some distance away. The ore is high grade, about 70 per cent of the gold being free. The property is well equipped

with a 10-stamp mill and all necessary buildings, and when it was being worked, ore to the value of nearly \$100,000 was taken out. The group consists of four claims.—Spokane Stock Report.

Eight Thousand Dollars a Day.

Every twenty-four hours the twenty-five mining camps in Baker county add \$8000 to the world's store of gold. The output is 800 tons of ore of an average value of \$10 a ton. About 400 stamps are dropping day and night in the camps. Between 2500 and 3500 men are employed in the mines or in prospecting and placer mining.—American Mining News.

Four Carloads of Machinery.

Four carloads of mining machinery have been received in Sumpter during the past week, two for the mill being installed at the May Queen, and two for W. L. Vinson's mill at the Magnolia. All is being transferred from the cars to wagons and hauled to the mines.

GOLCONDA AND RED BOY GOLD.

One Hundred and Sixty Pounds Shipped From Sumpter Monday.

There reached this city on the arrival of Monday afternoon's Sumpter Valley railway train about 160 pounds of gold, the yellow good stuff being from the Red Boy and Golconda mines. The sunny metal amounted to \$32,000 or more, and was deposited in the bank in this city.

The approximate amount of gold from the Red Boy, comprising the output for October, weighs close to 100 pounds, and is worth \$20,000.

The Golconda sent in \$12,000 in free gold. This was obtained in a 30-hours run with the Golconda's No. 4 Bryan mill and is entirely free gold, the amount of treasure from the concentrates not being learned.—Baker City Democrat.

Ball for Benefit of Episcopal Church.

The ladies of the Protestant Episcopal church of Sumpter are making extensive arrangements to give a grand charity ball Friday evening, November 17, at Ellis opera house, for the benefit of their church. Special effort to make this a memorable event is assured, and for a cause so worthy, the patronesses certainly deserve the success that is sure to be theirs. The floor of the hall will be especially prepared for this occasion, good music provided and undoubtedly no prettier dancing scene will have ever been held in Sumpter. Dainty refreshments, including lemonade punch, will be served from the stage and a general good time is guaranteed. The tickets have been placed at the modest price of two dollars, which includes gentlemen and their ladies. Usually at such entertainments in larger cities the price of tickets vary from five to ten dollars.

Sumpter Grocery Company Sold.

J. F. Alden, formerly associated with Mayor Gleason in the meat business, has, with N. W. Wheeler, purchased and will hereafter conduct the grocery business in the Opera house block, known as the Sumpter Grocery company. The new proprietors will continue the use of the old company name and will bid for a share of the heavy trade being done by the Sumpter merchants.

Hoseason & Co. Sell Out.

F. E. O'Rourke, of Portland, has bought the grocery business formerly conducted by Hoseason & Co., on Center street, and will enlarge the stock and store as soon as the express office, now occupying a part of the room, can find new quarters.

RAILROAD EXTENSION.

Branch Line May be Built to Clifford as Timber Feeder.

All sorts of rumors have been in circulation this week regarding the intentions of the Sumpter Valley railroad. No one knows just what the truth regarding the matter is.

The central idea of all those rumors is that a branch line will be built to Clifford. This is in line with the public announcement made by officials of the road at Pendleton some weeks since.

The line will be operated merely as a logging road. Some parties here who seemed to believe that a boom is booked for the terminus of this branch, after having received what they considered a straight tip a few days since, hastened to that vicinity to take up government land, preparatory to platting townsites, additions, etc.

The road, it is said, will branch off from the main line a couple of miles from Sumpter, but this is a guess. There have been some transfers of land in that vicinity during the past week or ten days, and if the rumor pans out, anyone with the price can soon buy lots there—in additions to Sumpter. G. W. Jett is negotiating the sale of his farm in that neighborhood. Curb stone quotations place the value at \$20,000, but \$3,500 would be nearer the true figure.

If moved at all, the Sumpter depot will not be changed more than three blocks from its present location. All roads and railroads hereabouts lead to Sumpter, and here is the throbbing heart of all industrial, commercial and speculative activity in the district.

Affairs of Midway Gold Mining Company.

The Midway Gold Mining company at a meeting held Monday evening at Stott & Shelton's law offices elected a board of directors for the year as follows: E. E. Hauser, Sam I. Jones, Sam R. Stott, N. C. Richards and A. P. Jones. The latter was elected president of the company and J. F. Shelton secretary. There was a proposition submitted by E. E. Hauser, Sam I. Jones and John T. Jones to sell the company the Midway, Red Fir, Otto and Condor mineral claims, taking in payment one million shares, less four shares, of the capital stock of the Midway Gold Mining company, for the above mentioned claims, which proposition was accepted and stock will be issued at an early date. Work is being prosecuted on the Midway company's property now and will be continued all winter.

John Cradlebaugh a Whole Host Himself.

We notice among the Sumpter club reception committee appointed, the name of John Cradlebaugh, who is a whole host in himself, and which shows that the influence of the club is to extend clear up into the Greenhorn district, where John will no doubt hold his receptions.—The Dalles Chronicle.

Interesting Suit for Commission.

R. R. Erwin and C. H. McCulloch have brought suit against Mrs. B. A. Duckworth "for services rendered," says the abstract of county records published in another column. The complaint alleges that some months since the defendant gave a written authority to plaintiffs to sell her property on the corner of Granite and Center streets, being the store building occupied by W. C. Calder, for \$2500,

and as their commission they could have all over that sum which the property would bring; that they secured a purchaser for \$3100. Some technical defect was found in the abstract of title and considerable time was wasted in straightening this out. Before the time expired, as stated in the written authority, when plaintiffs should have the handling of the property, however, they found another purchaser and tendered defendant \$2500, when she refused to give a deed, on the ground that one deed was already in escrow.

Lull in Real Estate Sales.

Real estate has been a trifle quiet this week, compared with what it was last. No large sales of Sumpter property have been reported, for the principal reason that every one who owns desirable lots refuse to give any price. Recent sharp advances in values has caused holders to hesitate to sell at any reasonable figure. The town is full of buyers, who snap up every bargain that is offered. Real estate agents report that the demand for residence lots, especially in the Townsite Syndicate's additions, remains strong and that a number of sales are being made every day, mostly to people who intend to build homes. The lot next to the Syndicate's engineering office was sold a few days since to Portland parties for \$1000. This is now included in the business district and the buyer got mixed with a soft snap when he secured it at that figure.

To the Ladies of Sumpter.

You are respectfully invited to inspect a beautiful line of modern hand-made Point and Battenburg lace work. I also have or will design patterns for any lace pieces desired, furnish materials, give lessons, or make work to order. The largest line and variety of genuine Mexican drawn work ever shown in eastern Oregon, and at such prices as will permit you to make handsome Christmas presents at moderate amounts. Call at the home of Mrs. Dr. Tape, adjoining the office, where I am temporarily located. MRS. MARSH.

Badger a Shipper for Over a Year.

Editor MINER: In one of your recent issues you stated that the Badger mine has taken its place as another shipper, as if it were a thing of yesterday. Now the fact is, the Badger mine has been a steady shipper for over a year. Two carloads were shipped to Selby this month. The average value is often close to \$200 per ton. Recent tests gave as high as 600 ounces in silver per ton, outside of the gold values. J. F. L.

Progressive Whist and Hearts.

A few friends of J. R. Levens, of Baker City, spent the evening at the home of George Jett Tuesday. Among those present were Freda Parsons, Carrie Spalding, Lulu Jett, Harry Shepherd, J. R. Levens, Dr. Brooks and Mr. Gove, of Spokane. A pleasant evening at progressive whist and hearts was enjoyed by all.

Steam Wood Saw Here.

I have a first-class steam wood saw and am in the field to saw cord or slab wood in any lengths desired, on short notice. My office is anywhere you hear or see the saw. P. A. Correll, Proprietor.

Mrs. E. R. Barchus, of Portland, is in Sumpter to organize a class in oil painting. She will receive pupils at the residence of W. S. Chipp, on North street, next door to new bowling alley. Paintings are now on exhibition at Hillier's drug store.

If he hasn't it in stock, Carl Adler, Baker City, will order for you any book published in the world, in any language.