

The Sumpter Miner

Official Paper of the Town of Sumpter.

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IN order to vote at the state election in June, a law passed by the last session of the legislature makes it necessary to register.

TONNAGE is what railroads reach out for, and those who decide whether or not an extension shall be built turn deaf ears to stories about possible booms in town lots.

THAT was great representation which Sumpter was accorded in the New Year edition of the Oregonian, an illustration of "worked out placer ground," leaving the impression on the mind of one not posted on the facts that this is an abandoned camp.

THE Portland chamber of commerce recently whereased and resolved that Oregon's representatives in congress should endeavor to induce the general government to make a geological survey of this state, making mention of the especial importance of this work in the Sumpter district. Last summer and fall a party of government surveyors was in this district making a topographical survey, which is generally followed by a geological survey. This will doubtless be made next season.

IF this town can be bonded for a large enough sum to construct a serviceable sewer system, the money so used would be wisely expended. It is not a bad idea to reach the debt limit through expenditures on internal improvements while honest, economical men are in control of a municipal government—as in the case of Sumpter at present—instead of giving the other kind—liable to get control at any election—an opportunity to dissipate the city's credit in the hundred ways with which they do so soon become conversant. The present weather would not prevent the prosecution of such work, the completion of which would be a great blessing in the spring, preventing sickness and affording a means of disposing of a job lot of garbage that is sure to accumulate during the winter and make every one weary of life when it thaws out in the spring.

WHILE reading the articles of Mr. Boutelle, of Maine, which have appeared in recent issues of McClure's, one could not help wishing that he would tell a straight story, and regret that he who has so long and intimately been connected with national affairs, persistently endeavors by quips and quibbles to extricate himself and his political friends from positions which were at the time considered questionable, to say the least. He has written of interesting events in the history of this republic, events in which he played a prominent part, both before and behind the scenes, regarding which he could impart information of absorbing interest. But instead, he leads the reader to the point where the desired revelation is about to be made by one who could speak knowledgeably of the "inside" causes of certain known results in politics, and then shies off and makes a tiresome, transparently insincere explanation of why the honorable course could not be pursued under the

circumstances. And now the announcement is made that Mr. Boutelle is a victim of paresis. He surely must have been suffering from a slight attack of this mental malady while writing these articles. Of course, the magazine editors would never detect the fact; they were merely after his name.

THE MINER predicted weeks ago that commercial, real estate and mining activity would continue here all winter. Many were of the opinion that things would quiet down after the holidays and remain so for two or three months. During the past week there have been more visitors in this camp looking for investments and business openings than during any month of its previous existence. The town has been literally crowded with strangers, falling over each other in their efforts to rent buildings and buy desirable inside property. Whether or not this boom will continue unabated, growing in intensity, during the coming months as it has in the past four or five, or will subside for a while until the almost certain rush begins in the spring, is a doubtful problem. But there is now little question but what there will be more or less activity all winter. This is not an artificial, made to order boom; the conditions have been shaping themselves for just this culmination for years past; and no power on earth can either stay its onward march or detract from its mammoth proportions.

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