

# THE SUMPTER MINER.

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NO. 19.

## PROSPECTORS' PARADISE.

### THIS DISTRICT SO CHARACTERIZED BY A VETERAN.

**His Reports Start a Stampede From British Columbia.—Enquiries Come By the Hundreds From All Over the West.—Large Advance Guard Already Arriving.—Safer to Invest Here Now Than It Was Eight Months Since.**

Last fall when Col. Topping, the widely known Trail, B. C., mining man, came to look into the merits of the Sumpter mining district, he brought with him a veteran prospector, who had operated in all the great camps of the West. The first day out in the mountains he located five promising ledges. He prospected for some days, and his first favorable impressions were confirmed and intensified. And then he wrote to some of his British Columbia friends what he thought of the country, characterizing it as the prospectors' paradise. News of this character spreads rapidly among mining men, travels almost as fast as ordinary evil report.

Colonel Topping returned from Trail and Rossland this week. He reports that in mining circles all through British Columbia the fame of this district has spread, and that hundreds of men are preparing to come here during the next few months. In this connection he said: "This is the best camp for quartz mining I have ever known, in all my thirty-three consecutive years of mining."

And this is the tenor of reports from every section of the West. The Townsite company is flooded with enquiries and requests for information about the camp and district. They come from all mining regions, Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Montana, Idaho, Washington, British Columbia and the Black Hills.

The postmaster and THE MINER are likewise deluged with letters of enquiry. People of the West are not satisfied with getting enough to eat; they want to accumulate a competence, and they flock to that locality which promises a realization of this hope. Today, in all the world, Sumpter offers the most favorable opportunities for money making and thousands will avail themselves of it.

Nor is this all a future possibility. Scores of new comers are arriving daily, capitalists, prospectors, business men, promoters, laborers. The only words of regret heard from any of these are that they didn't come sooner. The proposition has advanced so rapidly during the past ninety days, that many are disappointed in not being able to secure choice snags, mining and real estate, on old six months ago dull times prices and terms. But men of discernment see that the boom has just fairly started, and that it is by far a surer thing to invest here now, even at present prices, than it was eight months ago, when uncertainty as to the future prevailed.

#### Meeting to Vote Special School Tax.

The school trustees of this district have called an election for January 27, to vote an additional tax for school purposes for this year. At the lowest estimate there will be 300 pupils in attendance upon the public schools this session. At least five teachers will be required to handle this number, whose salaries will amount to

\$2700 for nine months. The district now owes \$600 borrowed money, and \$105 interest on bonds, making the total amount of funds necessary to meet these absolute requirements, \$3,405; not to mention incidentals. The present revenue from all sources amounts to about \$4 a pupil, or a total of \$1,200, which will leave a short age of \$2,205. The proposed special tax will be based on the assessment of last year, \$86,992. A three-mill tax on this valuation will net about \$2,500, every dollar of which will be needed. Present property values are four or five times greater than last year's assessed valuation, and this tax will in reality be only a fraction of a mill, which every property owner in this town can well afford and ought to be willing to stand.

### THREE PROMISING MINES.

#### Properties Owned by Local and British Columbia People.

Colonel Topping, of Trail, British Columbia, is here on his way to his Treadwell property, located at the head of Olive creek, three miles above the Red Boy mine. On this mine two shifts have been at work since his last trip here, several weeks ago. Since that time they have run about 100 feet of tunnel, and as far as known have a six-foot vein of ore.

He will also visit the Blue Modie property, owned by himself, Clark Snyder and Elling Johnson, a former Trail, British Columbia, mining man, now of Portland. A new company has been incorporated in British Columbia to acquire and operate the Blue Modie, which is three miles up Granite creek from the town of Granite. It has over 100 feet of tunnel work completed and showed nine dollars in values when last assayed.

Colonel Topping also says the Snow Bird mine, near the Free Coinage, is making a fine showing, the values now running from \$3 to \$17. This is the property recently acquired and stocked by British Columbia mining people.

#### Alamo Mine Improving.

J. G. McGuigan, who is operating the Alamo group, came down from that property yesterday and reports 125 feet of tunnel work done since beginning a few weeks ago. He says they cut the vein when in 72 feet and have 7 feet of quartz showing free gold, samples of which he exhibited to THE MINER representative. A new tunnel has been opened further down, that will give an additional 150 feet of depth, by driving 175 feet. If the showing is comparatively as good at that depth as in the upper workings, the Alamo will soon be among the paying mines of this district.

#### Will Develop Grizzly Group at Once.

Eugene Sperry and E. Sanderson Smith have paid the original locators for the Grizzly group of mines, an extension of the Ixex lode, and transferred the property to John Martin and associates. Mr. Martin is a well known and successful mining man from Trail, British Columbia, and was formerly largely interested in the Noble Five. He and other owners of the Grizzly group will arrive in Sumpter in a few days for the purpose of opening up these prospects on an extensive scale in the immediate future.

#### Trying to Jump Evening Star Claim.

Officials of the Evening Star Mining company had A. H. Shipman and A. J. Tadlock arrested Monday for trespass. They had a preliminary hearing yesterday before Justice Steffen, who will render a decision this afternoon. The men are attempting to jump the Evening Star claims.

## TOWN TALK.

A fine girl baby was born to Mrs. E. Jones, who lives near McEwen, on the 14th.

If this warm weather continues much longer, freighters will have to abandon runners and return to wheels.

Final proof on the Granite townsite will be made tomorrow at the United States land office at La Grande.

A meeting of all persons interested in the erection of a hospital is called for Saturday, January 20. By order of the president.

T. K. Muir left yesterday for Portland, on business connected with the state militia. He will return by the 26th to remain here permanently.

A dance for the benefit of the hospital fund has been suggested and will doubtless be arranged for the evening of St. Valentine's day, February 14.

Dan Shovelin, formerly of Montana, was brought in from the Diadem mine yesterday quite sick from pneumonia and will be taken to the Baker City hospital today.

O. Brechtel has recently added a complete set of ovens to his bakery, opposite the depot, and is now turning out everything in the line of breads, pies and general pastry.

Dozens of houses are being connected with the waterworks, and plumbers are having things even more their own way than the funny photographers' have for so long delighted to picture their lordly lot.

T. M. Word, representing the Blake, McFall Co.'s paper house of Portland, made his first trip to Sumpter this week. Tom is a rustler and proved this assertion by carrying off orders for a carload of miscellaneous goods from Sumpter merchants.

Frank S. Bailey, Tom Gray, Tom McEwen, William Gleason, Tom Evans, J. P. Fox, A. Elliott, H. W. Hawley, Dr. Beinnopp, M. Durkhomer and Mr. Johnson, the last named of Bourne, leave today for Portland, to attend a meeting of Scottish Rite Masons.

Major G. L. Luhn, now serving with the American army in the Philippines, who was recently promoted to a lieutenant colonelcy for distinguished bravery in the field, is an old-time chum of John M. Murphey. The two correspond regularly, Mr. Murphey having received a letter from him recently.

#### Mrs. General Warren's 5 O'clock Tea.

General and Mrs. Warren entertained a party of friends at a 5 o'clock tea in their apartments in the Austin building Monday afternoon. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Vinson, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. Tom McEwen, Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kilpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. John M. Murphey, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Warren, Miss Worswick, Messrs. W. C. Calder, Charles E. Roblin, A. P. Goss, A. L. McEwen and Dr. Anderson.

#### Ledge 100 Feet Wide Rich in Gold.

M. J. Chambers, proprietor of the Elkhorn hotel, of Canyon City, in company with Fred Page and Oliver Peone, have discovered and located three vast quartz deposits on the very summit of Canyon mountain. The main ledge is fully 100 feet in width and the ledge can be traced by croppings the entire length of the claim, and prospects well in gold, silver and copper. At the east end of their claim the ledge is crossed by a canyon a

hundred or more feet in depth, which affords an excellent place to develop the property at a great depth at the smallest expense. Mr. Chambers has secured assays on the surface quartz from the different locations and has returns showing a value of from \$12 to \$18 per ton.—Baker City Democrat.

#### Vinson's Addition on the Market.

Today W. L. Vinson announces through four columns of THE MINER that his addition is on the market. He deals in plain facts plainly spoken. The business district of this town is growing in every direction. A part of this addition is a direct extension of the principal business street of the camp, Granite, on which for years all the business houses were located. It commences less than 400 feet from one of the best corners in town. A movement in that direction, once started, will result in a stampede. As soon as the bridge across Powder river on Granite street is finished, travel to the mines will be diverted through this property. Watch out for a real estate boom on the west side.

#### Frightened Into Spasms by a Tramp.

Dr. Brock was called Tuesday to attend Mrs. H. J. Smith, who lives ten or twelve miles down the valley. A tramp called at the house and asked for something to eat, though he is said to have made no hostile demonstrations. Mrs. Smith is eniente and consequently very nervous. She was very much frightened and went into spasms. The doctor says she is dangerously ill and her recovery is doubtful.

#### Townsite Company's First Ad.

In THE MINER today appears the first display advertisement which the Sumpter Townsite Company, Limited, has ever had published. And, as is the policy of the company, instead of singing the praises of its own property exclusively, it tells of this wonderful mining district, the great advantages which the town of Sumpter possesses over all rivals, in Oregon and elsewhere, of the present prosperity and the basis of its permanency.

#### Of Interest to Mine Owners.

A. M. Grant, representing the Mine and Smelter Supply company, of Salt Lake and Denver, manufacturers and dealers in stamp mills, engines, boilers, pumps and general mining supplies, is at the Capital hotel, where he will remain for the next ten days, during which time he will determine the feasibility of establishing permanent quarters in the district.

#### Noble Outcast, January 26.

The local talent who will present the play of "The Noble Outcast," for the benefit of the hospital fund has so far progressed as to be able to give a dress rehearsal and announce Friday, January 26 as the date of the production at Ellis Opera house.

#### Call for Bids.

Sealed bids will be received for the construction of a hospital in Sumpter, Oregon, up to and including the 25th day of January. Plans and specifications may be had at the office of Johns & Co.

#### BY ORDER OF COMMITTEE.

Every piece of type in THE MINER plant is new and strictly up to date. A back number job can't be done in this office.

Desks and office furniture at Case, Looney Co., incorporated, opera house block.

The celebrated Jed Clayton brand of whiskey at the Mint saloon, corner of Center and Sumpter streets.