



THE SUMPTER MINER

SUMPTER SMELTER'S NEW ORE CONTRACTS

The United Elkhorn.

Manager Fred D. Fuller, of the Sumpter smelter, is home from Baker City, where last Saturday he closed a contract with the United Elkhorn mines, eight miles from Sumpter, for the entire output of that property for two years. The Elkhorn, since its recent rehabilitation by J. P. Hayes, of Pittsburg, has been one of the heaviest shippers to the local smelter. The sorted ore and concentrates marketed have been of exceptionally high grade, and of a character required by the smelter. The output of the Elkhorn is to be immediately increased, a new concentrating plant having arrived. The electric machinery for operating the

entire mine has been shipped from New York and is due to arrive this week. The shipment consists of two transformers of 150 horse power each, one fifty horse power motor, a twenty-horse power motor and a fifty-horse power electric hoist. An addition to the five Wiffley concentrators in the shape of a new table has been made, and one more Bryan mill has been added to the two already in use, giving a treating capacity of 110 tons per day. Three eight-hour shifts are driving a 6000-foot crosscut tunnel to tap the main Balsley-Elkhorn vein at a depth of 1,500 feet, and to open other known veins at still greater depth.

The Eureka and Excelsior.

The Oregon Smelting and Refining company, which is the corporate name of the Sumpter smelter, has entered into a contract with the E. and E. mine to buy all of its concentrates and shipping ore. The smelter has been treating its output for some time past, but not under contract. The instrument was signed yesterday.

This is the third important contract which General Manager Fuller has succeeded in closing within a week; the two others already reported in these columns being the Badger, in the Susanville district, and the other the United Elkhorn, in the district bearing its name. The securing of the Badger output is pregnant with important significance, inasmuch as the property was bought by those who control the Tacoma smelter, more for the purpose of securing the ore for that plant, than for the profits in operating the mine. It means that the smelter here is a recognized success, both from a scientific and financial point, under its present able management; that it occupies a commanding position so far as the gold fields of eastern Oregon is concerned, that this position is conceded by possible competitors; and that a friendly agreement has been reached, which insures the future of the institution from annoying complications.

The fact that the E. and E. management has seen fit to enter into this contract is of equal beneficial importance. For a year or more past it has been known that the mother lode mines were not saving a satisfactory per cent of their values. As greater depth has been reached, more difficult has become the treatment problem. Cyanide has been tried, but it is understood that that process has also failed to get all there was coming. The Golconda and North Pole have for a long while past banked its tailings, waiting for some plan by which the gold therein could be extracted. The smelter here solves the problem. Men learned in ore treatment now agree, practically unanimously, that coarse concentration and smelting must be adopted, in order to get the best results. By the adoption of this method, the bullion output is going to be largely increased and the saving in the way of costly experiments in reduction plant construction will amount to an enormous sum.

Again, the securing of Cracker Creek ore insures a continuous and ample supply for the smelter to run at its full capacity, and together with ores secured from other districts, will at an early day necessitate the enlargement of its capacity. A new era in eastern Oregon mining has been inaugurated.

The Badger at Susanville.

Hereafter all the rich ore and concentrates shipped from the Badger mine, at Susanville, will be treated by the Sumpter smelter. A contract to that effect was signed this week by General Manager Fred D. Fuller, of the smelter, and Gen-

eral Manager Fred W. Bradley, of the Badger. The latter gentleman was in Baker City this week and after a conference with Mr. Fuller closed a contract to deliver the Badger's yield to the local plant hereafter instead of shipping Tacoma.

The Badger mine was taken over by Fred W. Bradley about two years ago, while acting as general manager of the Bunker Hill and Sullivan mines in the Coeur d'Alenes, which company practically controls the Tacoma smelter. The smelter end of the company announced to Mr. Bradley a desire for heavier shipments of high grade gold ore, in order that its matte might be brought to a higher grade, and to work against the silver-lead ores from Coeur d'Alenes. Bradley looked over the Northwestern mining field for a high grade gold property, capable of yielding ore of the character required. His choice finally settled upon the Badger mine at Susanville, then controlled by Colonel Selby, the California smelter man, to whose plant heavy shipments of crude Badger ore had been made. Under Bradley's management the Badger was developed on a big scale, a concentrating plant was erected, and shipments were made to Tacoma via Pendleton, entailing a wagon haul of over 100 miles. Lately the mine's output has been sent to the Sound via Tipton and Sumpter. Hereafter this valuable traffic will stop at Sumpter.

Manager Fuller is to be congratulated upon securing this prize in the Oregon ore field.

MINING NOTES.

Ore is being extracted and stored at the Adelene, on Rock Creek, until a shipment is made up for the Sumpter smelter.

Prospecting for pay gravel on Canyon creek, below John Day, is still being carried on with a diamond drill by the Empire Dredging company.

A. A. Denny says that if that road is built from the Overland to the Constellation, it will run within 100 feet of a property which he owns, from which he can begin shipping ore at once.

L. G. Lilly returned last evening from the Baby McKee. He says that in the crosscut now being driven for the big vein, the granite country rock is heavily mineralized, chalky seams are being encountered and he, therefore, hopes to encounter the ledge at no great distance. The Baby McKee will probably ship to the smelter here before the coming winter is over.

H. H. Ames, one of the principal owners of the Morning Mine, in the Greenhorns, is in Sumpter today. The Morning recently passed through a period of costly litigation, which was only settled through the Killen-Warner, Stewart company, arranging to finance the new company. Eastern advices from the representatives of that company are to the effect that success is assured.

ED HAUSER HAS STRUCK IT RICH

E. E. Hauser and Charles T. Raht, the assayer, went up to the Astoria mine on Little Cracker creek, this morning. Jimmy the barkeep maintains that Hauser was called to comb the whiskers on the face of the tunnel. Jim Duckworth knows differently. Jim visited the Astoria last week and brought down a specimen of free gold ore, found beneath the face of the Astoria crosscut. When Hauser saw it he started up the canyon on the dead run. It was a pronounced case of gold fever. He was overtaken by considerate friends in an automobile, and told that the tunnel could not escape. Thus calmed down, Hauser returned and invited the entire population to have a drink.

Early this morning he hit the trail for the hills. As he crossed the city limits he confided to a Miner reporter that "Jim Duckworth is either my best friend or the biggest liar in Oregon."

"Hauser has something mighty good up there on Little Cracker" said Jim Duckworth to the Miner man this afternoon. "A crew of men under Al Wels has been cross-cutting for the ledge for the past month. Last Saturday they ran alongside what I believe to be the hanging wall. A black coating covers the quartz—a sort of serpentine—exactly similar to the indications met with when Al Geiser opened the big pay shoot in the Bonanza mine seven years ago. I picked up a sample from beneath the Astoria crosscut's face, and here it is."

Mr. Duckworth exhibited a sample of quartz about as big as a marble. It was shot full of gold.

"I don't know how much more of this stuff there is in the Astoria," explained Duckworth, "but it wouldn't take much to make it a mine."

Wants to See Buckeye Books.

A Milwaukee, Wisconsin, special of October 21, says: "Mrs. Louise Koester, of Baker City, is in Milwaukee to get a look at the books of the Buckeye Mining company, in which she says she owns 294,576 shares of par value of \$1. Today she obtained a writ of mandamus against O. E. Kuehn, president; B. Krohn, secretary; Arthur Luebke, treasurer, and William Kieckhefer, director, ordering them to bring the books into court without changing their contents. All the mining company officials are prominent business men."