

Receipt *Sumpter*

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England & Hilliard are installing their drag-
line dredge below **Hershel** in lower **Sumpter**
Valley. The equipment was moved from **Boise**
Basin in Idaho.

Many Placers Running Now

The [redacted] company, of which Robert [redacted] of Montana is in charge, has set up an office on Washington street in Baker with Don [redacted] as bookkeeper.

This new company has three crews to work the [redacted] and above Granite [redacted] in other tentative locations.

Another operation this year is the place of Norman Parker of California on Elk Creek west of Baker. [redacted] worked out grounds on [redacted] and now has two showings of capacity and a washing [redacted] operation on Elk Creek.

Only [redacted] of the England and Hilliard [redacted] on ground near [redacted] lower Sumpter valley, [redacted] being tested by Don Gibb. This is the third such equipment to get into production in this valley recently.

Lack of definite information on the [redacted] law, but rumor that relief could be expected from Washington has boosted the prospect of activity in this section. Assessment work will be required, most local men predict.

Norman Parker
Don Gibb

DOODLE BUG IS MAKING PLACER MINING BOOM

Third Doodle Bug Being
Installed in Lower End
of Sumpter Valley

ENGLAND & HILLIARD MOVE IN EQUIPMENT

Modern Placer Mining
Calls for Machinery,
Dredges First Used in
New Zealand.

That Eastern Oregon is developing quite a placer mining boom is becoming more evident from day to day. The boom might be called a "doodle bug" boom. "Doodle bug," or floating plant and dry land plants used with dragline operations are being installed and testing of gravel deposits are being made for other like operations.

The latest of these is a plant the equipment for which is being delivered this week in lower Sumpter Valley for England and Hilliard. The plant will work below Hershel.

Don Gibson, of California, who has been recently testing ground near the head of the Grande Ronde river, did the testing for this operation and a few days ago moved his equipment to Trail creek in Grant county where he will drill and prospect placer lands he has under contract in that locality.

The new plant in Sumpter valley will make the third doodle bug in the Sumpter valley section. One of these is the plant of Max Hoffman, working on Cracker creek above Sumpter, which was started in May. The other is below Sumpter on Powder river where R. L. Harris has been working with his plant three or four years.

Placer mining—the washing of gold from gravel deposits—is one of the oldest of mining methods. But it remained for the modern miner and engineer to develop new ways of recovering gold from gravel where the operation could not be made an economic success in the old way. The result first was the bucket dredge first worked out in New Zealand and later to spread throughout the world.

Today we have the Doodle Bug—this is a power shovel on a caterpillar tread and a washing plant—which is becoming more popular every day. The doodle bug has the advantage of requiring less investment and being mobile so that it can be moved from one location to another with but little delay and at much less cost than with the dredge. While usually the cost per yard in handling the gravel is greater than with the old type dredge, the doodle bug is better adapted for working ground that is not so adaptable to dredging.

The dredge of the **H. F. England and Company** which was recently moved from the Boise Basin in Idaho is now in operation on the Mack estate property in lower Sumpter Valley about 18 miles from **Baker**, in Baker County, Oregon. This is the ground which was recently optioned and tested by **N. M. Gibson** of Palo Alto, California, who is at La Grande, Oregon, at the present time. The equipment will handle from 2,500 to 3,000 yards of material daily.
