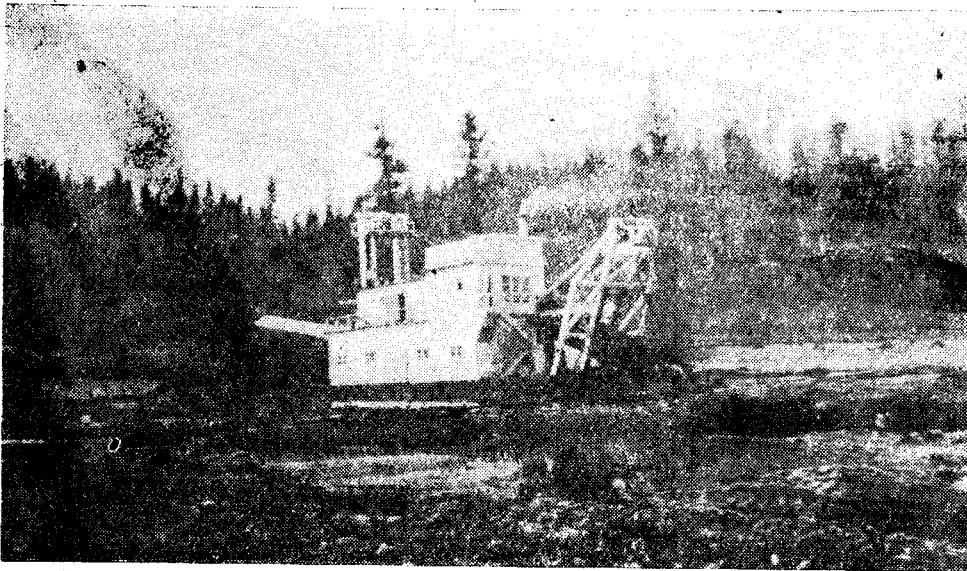


NEW TIMMS' DREDGE



Charles H. Timms is operating a new dredge, which has been placed in operation on the DeWitt ranch on the middle fork of the John Day river in Grant county.

TIMMS BEGINS DREDGING WORK 80,000 Cubic Yards to Be Handled Each Month

By H. E. HENDRYX,
Editor Oregon Mining Review.

A new gold dredge has been placed in operation on the middle fork of the John Day river in Grant county near Bates. It is the operation of the Timms Gold Dredging company.

"Our dredge is a new boat with four-cubic-foot buckets on the bucket line, and we expect to be digging 80,000 cubic yards or more per month," Charles H. Timms, president and manager of the boat, stated in announcing the new plant was getting into operation.

The dredge is located on the DeWitt ranch about 10 miles down the John Day river from Bates. Two hundred acres of the DeWitt ranch have been purchased by the company, and the testing, which was completed prior to starting construction of the dredge, proved sufficient yardage for five years' operation.

While the new boat is of standard type for this form of mining, saving the gold in riffles, Mr. Timms has added three "rocker pans." The rocker pans are the same as used on the Ferris and Marchbank dredge near John Day, and which have given satisfactory results on this dredge.



C. H. Timms

Electric power is used throughout on the dredge. The power is generated on the ground by a 280 horsepower diesel engine. Associated with Mr. Timms in the operation of the dredge are his two sons: Carl, assistant manager, and Howard, dredge master. The address of the company is DeWitt ranch, Bates, Oregon.

Mr. Timms is one of the oldest dredge operators in the country. He first engaged in dredging for gold 40 years ago when he built the first dredge in Grant county. It was built at John Day and worked over ground that had been worked by the early-day placer miners on Canyon creek between Canyon City and John Day. This was a profitable operation and was carried on for a number of years. Two other dredges are still working in the vicinity of John Day.

The new dredge is the sixth boat that Mr. Timms has built and operated, he states, and all these have been in Grant county. A year ago he closed a six-year operation of a 3½-foot boat at Galena after six years continuous operation. In constructing the new boat, he used part of the equipment on the Galena boat. The diesel power plant was also moved to the new location.

Mr. Timms came to Grant county 60 years ago. As a young man he became interested in the development of the county and spent the earlier years of his residence there in other work. He served as assessor of the county and gained during that time a knowledge of the resources of the county. Today, in his late 70's, he is still active and carries on the operations of his company with all the efficiency of much younger men.

His company also owns a large acreage of dredge land which has been tested on the Burnt river watershed near Whitney in Baker county, and it is Mr. Timms' plan to build a dredge on this land in 1940.