

MINES AND MINING IN THE NORTHWEST

EDITED BY
B. E. St. Charles

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McQueen Addition

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A PONDEROUS PUMP

IT IS BEING INSTALLED AT THE 1200 OF THE LEONARD.

1000 GALLONS PER MINUTE!

Will Drain the Entire Group of Boston & Montana Mines at Meaderville—Its Lifting Power Great.

The Boston & Montana company is not resting wholly upon its ores while its smelter at Great Falls is being put in shape for another year's run. It is busy at both ends of the line. At the Leonard mine a mammoth pump is being installed at the 1200-foot station. This piece of machinery will throw 1000 gallons of water to the surface every minute, which is the modest quantity of 1,440,000 gallons per day, just enough to float a modern grubstake.

The company has long had in view the placing of a large pump at the 1200, but realizing that the work of getting the machinery down the shaft and putting it together below could not be accomplished in a day, it concluded to run along in the even tenor of its way until an opportunity such as the present presented itself. When operations in the mines are resumed, which it is thought will be some time next week, the ponderous pump will be ready for business.

All of the company's mines at Meaderville are drained through the Leonard shaft. The water from the East and West Colusas, Piccolo and Gambetta and possibly one or two others find a temporary level in the sump of that property by reason of the laws of gravitation. The flow is not infinitesimal, but up to the present time the smaller pumps have been able to cope with it. For years the company had a magnificent pump at the 600 station, but as the workings deepened it became necessary to employ greater force to keep the water out and the new one was ordered.

GOLD ORE IN THE EMPIRE.

Vein Is Said to Be 13 Feet Wide and Worth From \$7 to \$10 Per Ton.

A large body of free milling ore, averaging in value from \$7 to \$10 per ton, has been struck in the Empire mine, says the Great Falls Tribune. The Superior & Montana Development company recently pumped out the 85-foot winze, which was sunk years ago, a short distance from the tunnel in the Empire, and re timbered the drift. After this was done a cross-cut was run to the vein and a body of free milling ore over 13 feet wide was found. The plans of S. Howard Brady, the manager of the company, are to thoroughly prospect this property and develop it so as to put a large amount of ore in sight before the mill is started.

The chances are that although active development will proceed upon the property, no steps will be taken to start the mill for at least six months. The company is a very strong one, composed of the most skillful, practical mining men of the Michigan peninsula, and consequently they are going to develop the mine thoroughly and put a sufficient quantity of ore in sight before an attempt is made to start the mill. The operations of this syndicate are being watched with interest by people of Marysville and Helena, because its success means that a large amount of capital will go into the development of the Marysville camp.

The big 500-ton cyanide plant at the Empire mine is being tested. The first test will be made on one tank, so as to avoid any possible chance of a freeze-up. As soon as the property is thoroughly tested the full plant will be put into operation, if freezing weather does not intervene. Should freezing weather come, the starting of the plant will be delayed until spring. It is one of the most complete and finest cyanide plants in the northwest.

MORE COPPER ORE.

Reported Strike in Magpie Gulch Near Helena.

Two feet of ore assaying from 17 to 22 per cent copper has been struck in the long tunnel of the Canyon Gold & Copper Mining company on Magpie gulch, 20 miles northeast of Helena, across the Missouri river from Canyon Ferry, says the Helena Record. A short crosscut was made to the ledge 400 feet in the tunnel and six inches of high grade copper ore was found. The tunnel was then continued 25 feet, when it cut into the ledge proper. At that point, several other streaks of high grade ore were found, making 24 inches in all, in a four-foot shoot of concentrating ore. Drifting will now be continued on the ledge. The new strike was made at a depth of 180 feet. The gain in depth from now on will be about 75 feet in 100. The lead is strong, showing up on the surface for the full length of the company's property.

To Extend Snowshoe Tunnel.

A contract has been let by the Snowshoe Copper Mining company, of which Martin & Canoll are the organizers and managers, for 300 feet of tunnel on the McDonald group of four claims and a fraction on Snowshoe gulch, a short distance from Elliston and 30 miles northwest of Helena. The 300 feet will be a continuance of the tunnel which is already started, and will run in on the lead to a depth of 250 feet. When this contract is finished, the tunnel will probably be continued an additional 400 feet to strike another vein. The vein is 60 feet wide on the surface and is in contact between lime and granite for part of its length, but continues on through the granite.

Over 100 cars of high grade copper ore have been shipped, some of it in the early '60's, when it was hauled by John T. Murphy's freight teams to the Missouri river and thence shipped to Eastern smelters. This ore came from the surface and was a carbonate. There

is every reason to believe that with depth the ore will change to sulphides and large permanent ore bodies will be disclosed.

The tunnel on the Argo claim on Hellgate, across the river from Helena, is now in 510 feet. The ground is growing softer and a flow of water has been encountered which indicates the approach to the lead. In the upper tunnels copper pyrites and carbonate ores are shown in a wide vein, well mineralized with copper for upwards of eight feet. Six men are working in two shifts driving this tunnel as fast as possible.

Mining on Warm Spring Creek.

C. J. Clark, deputy county clerk and recorder, has men at work developing a gold, silver and lead property which he has taken under bond from Frank Willard, on Warm Spring creek, 15 miles south of Helena, on the Great Northern road.

The White Pine group in the same district, also a gold, silver and lead proposition, is being developed by a syndicate of Helena men. The tunnel is already in upwards of 100 feet and kidneys of galena ore carrying gold and silver in quantities are found. The indications are considered good, although sufficient depth has not been reached to determine the value of the property. The lead is a wide, true fissure, strongly mineralized and shown to continue for a long distance through the claim.

MINE IN A CITY STREET.

Western Methods Employed in Building Gotham's Rapid Transit.

To discover mining operations conducted on a large scale in the streets of a city gives striking indication of the magnitude of the engineering problems entailed by the new Rapid Transit Subway in New York.

Far uptown, at the corner of 168th street and the Boulevard, in New York, on a rocky hill of the same material as the Palisades across the Hudson river, stands a little building recognizable by one who knows mining as a shaft house.

Up at 181st street is another. Inside each is an engine and a drum; outside is a framework for two elevators that run alternately up and down a great square shaft—the mine.

In no essential particulars do these mines, with street cars running 100 feet above them in New York city differ from the mines of Michigan and Colorado. Where timbering is necessary it is regular mine timbering.

The tunnel has become the home of an army of rats; no mine is lucky, miners say, unless it harbors rats.

The four miles employed in each tunnel are stabled there below near the bottom of the shaft. Never going up to the surface, they plod steadily along the tramway with their carloads of rock.

With all the manifold activities of an Eastern city above it, pleasure carriages on the Boulevard, rumbling wagons on the pavements of Amsterdam avenue a stone's throw away, the erection of new buildings that will soon bid out the greenery that still exists in the region, the mine a hundred feet below is typically Western.

A trip down the elevator shaft at 168th street—a trip that hundreds will take when the Subway is finished—is like an Arabian Night's transformation; one moment the bustle and sunlight of a busy New York suburb, the next a Black Hills sump.—World's Work.

ORE FOUND ON A FARM.

It Is Low Grade on the Surface, But Better Below.

There is a copper prospect within 25 miles of this place that promises to develop into a great mine. It is in the granite near the contact between granite and slate. There are half a dozen parallel leads. The outcrop though strong for a thousand feet or more indicates that the veins are only about 18 inches in width, but development discloses fully three feet at some depth. The ore is low grade, carrying copper, silver and gold, with occasional kidneys of rock that goes 50 per cent in copper. This prospect is on tiled land and there is no vacant government land in that vicinity, hence it is no field for the prospector, but it is a nice showing for the capitalist. The fact of its being situated in granite inspires the confidence of old-time miners and the existence of parallel leads gives evidence of permanency. This new camp is on the Smith river watershed and is to be developed to a considerable extent within the next two years. We do not look for anything from it in the immediate future, but are assured that it will some day prove one of the valley's sources of wealth.—White Sulphur Springs Husbandman.

Nuggets in Dress Parade.

One of the interesting minor incidents of the convention of the California Miners' association was a display of striking nuggets of almost pure gold, combined with a small percentage of quartz, made by John Schroeder of Mariposa county. One nugget carried over \$700 worth of gold. The specimens came from the Schroeder mine on Saxon creek near the town of Mariposa. Similar rich nuggets have come from the same mine in the past.

Small Boy's Desire.

Clifford was a good sized boy, but was still in knickerbockers. He had lost a near and dear relative, and was heart-broken. A wealthy uncle, on a visit to the family, undertook to divert his mind. "Clifford, my boy," said the uncle, "we'll go downtown pretty soon, and I want you to think up something you would rather have than anything else in this world. Make up your mind now, and we'll get it, no matter what it is." Clifford reflected for several minutes. Then his face brightened. "Get me a pair of suspenders, uncle," he said.—Chicago Tribune.

Refreshing His Memory.

The Philadelphia Record thus quotes a business man: "Unless a man has specially schooled himself, memory is bound to be treacherous sometimes. I don't trust mine at all any more. It has gone back on me too often. Besides, a postal card only costs a cent, and I always carry a lot of them around with me. My end of the business calls me

away from the store a great deal, and no matter where I may be—riding on a streetcar, walking, or in one of the numerous places of business which I frequent—when an idea occurs to me that requires my attention I jot a memorandum of it down on a postal

card, address it to myself and drop it in the nearest letter box. Some days I will send a dozen postal cards to myself, and the next morning they are on my desk awaiting me. I have been doing this for two or three years, and I think it's a pretty good system."



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