THE RAILROAD TO MECCA.

SULTAN OF TURKEY FINDS IT A DIFFICULT WORK.

Now Looking to the Infidel for Funds to Carry It On—Offers Medals to Contributors, but the Results So Far Have Been Small—French Competition.

The Sultan of Turkey finds many impediments in the way of building the railroad to Mecca, which was undertaken last year under the direct control of the Turkish Government. This project has been heralded throughout the Mohammedan world as a facility to be provided for pilgrims to the holy city, giving them quick and easy transport across the thirsty desert of Arabia to the sacred place that all the faithful desire to visit.

The construction of the railroad began last year. It is to extend southward from Damascus through Medina to Mecca, a distance of 1,600 miles. Following the valleys stretching north and south, and crossing the comparatively level waterless plains of western Arabia, no large technical difficulties are involved. The undertaking is perfectly practicable. It would undoubtedly be a great convenience to many thousands of pilgrims in the Turkish Empire and Persia. It would save many weeks of tedious, painful plodding through arid Arabia. The railroad should be welcomed by all Mohammedans because it will enable the pilgrims to visit both Mecca and Medina, one the burial place, and the other the birthplace of Mohammed. Few are now able to bear the expense and withstand the fatigue of visiting both places.

The Sultan asserted, when he placed the project before the faithful of all countries, that it was to be carried out solely in the interest of the annual pilgrimage to Mecca. It is well known, however, that in the past three or four years he has been much impressed with the practical and military importance of railroads, and it is believed that, in his present scheme of linking Damascus and Mecca, he is not considering the interests of the pilgrims so much as the desirability of strengthening his hold upon the Arabian provinces and facilitating the transportation of his troops where they may be needed, either north or south.

The northern part of the railroad was actually in course of construction last year, the roadbed having been prepared for nearly 300 miles; but a serious crisis overtook the enterprise before the year was out. It was the Sultan's belief that the necessary capital of $46,000,000 might be raised without great difficulty by subscription in which all Islam would take part. The result of the subscription thus far, however, has been most disappointing. The amount subscribed up to November last was $1,800,000, of which only $500,000 were paid in. All the money in the treasury was exhausted by Nov. 15, and work was suspended.

It was also reported to the Sultan that the quality of work done in preparing the roadbed was very poor, and also, that the nomad tribes along the route were embarassing the enterprise to a considerable extent.

The first thing to be done was to provide more money, and to this end the Sultan is now looking to the infidel. He has become convinced that the resources of Islam are wholly inadequate for carrying out the enterprise; a recent irade makes it evident that the assistance of the outside world will be tolerated. To stimulate the zeal of all subscribers, of whatever religion or race, medals will be distributed. Those who pay into the treasury from 100 to 1,200 francs will receive a nickel medal; subscribers of from 1,200 to 2,200 francs will be honored with a silver medal, and the medal to those paying larger sums will be made of gold. This expedient seems unlikely to make much impression in Wall or Lombard streets, although the Sultan seems to regard it as a bright business idea.

Meanwhile the French company that is building railroads in Syria has a grievance. It completed the line from Damascus to Mezarib in the south at a cost of $2,150,000, and is now extending the road north of Damascus, through Hama to Aleppo. The project will add a great deal of territory in the interior of Syria to the region already tributary to Beirut, the port of Damascus. Turkey refused to utilize the French line as the northern part of its road to Mecca, and has been building a parallel line. This, of course, will injuriously affect the business of the French railroad. The company appealed to the French Government to protect its interests, and the result of the diplomatic correspondence thus far is that the Turkish Government has agreed for the present not to resume the building of its Mecca line, so far as it parallels the French road, but to confine its attention to sections further south.

The Moslem world undoubtedly needs a railroad to Mecca, and in some way or other the road will be built. It is another sign of the progress of the times. Influences that have prevailed at Timbuktu, Harrar, and other strongholds of fanaticism, opening those places to western ideas and commerce, will be all powerful to do so at Mecca, and its gates will be unlocked never to be closed again upon any creed or race.

MYTHICAL BABY FOOLED 'EM.

Tale of an Independence Day Racket Spoiled in Bay Ridge.

In a certain block in Eighteth street, Bay Ridge, there was a phenomenally quiet celebration of Independence Day this year. But there won't be next. If only certain residents stay the year out there will be such a racket next Fourth of July in that block as will be heard across the East River. The only trouble is that July 4 is so long off.

The certain residents comprise one family, only, and it is the unanimous opinion of their young American neighbors that in the words of Bret Harte's Westerners, "they played it low down on the other residents it happened in this way.

Eighteth street is patriotic and its younger tenants especially so, and it was ready to celebrate Uncle Sam's birthday with the noise appropriate to that occasion. But just as the celebration was beginning a message came out from this particular family, which was new in the neighborhood, that the festivities were interfering with the repose of a sick baby. Would the celebrants mind shooting crackers somewhere else?

Now young America in Eighteth street is gentlemanly. It quit sending off cannon crackers much to its regret and there wasn't any real Fourth of July around there in consequence. But somehow suspicion arose about that baby and the detective instinct being set working has made a discovery since. The baby was a myth. Also the family which desired quiet so much is English and that was the reason it didn't enter into the spirit of a proper Fourth of July.

That is why there'll be such a racket in that part of Bay Ridge next year. It is a long time off, but the small boys on that block are saving up already to buy the biggest cannon crackers that the fireworks makers can supply.

Capt. Nally Makes a Raid.

Police Captain Nally made the first raid he has personally conducted since being appointed a captain, last night. The place invaded was a resort known as the Whitehouse at South Beach. With the captain were Reinsman O'Brien, Detectives Cherman and Fiegel and Patrolman Fox. The alleged proprietress, Mrs. Sophia Nyrsen, and two inmates were arrested.

A LEARNED JEW ON LEARNING.

Why Dr. Schechter Says He Is Not a Scholar.

Dr. Solomon Schechter, the learned Jew who has been called to this country to become President of the Jewish Theological Seminary founded by Jacob H. Schiff and others, and is regarded as one of the most learned Jews in the world, would be classed by most persons, generally speaking, as a scholar. With this idea in view, he was asked to tell something about the life of a scholar.

"But I am not a scholar, I have never so regarded myself," replied Dr. Schechter. "I look upon myself as a student, always.

"According to the Jewish way there are very few who have the title of wise man; it is always that one is a disciple of a wise man, of a scholar, of a philosopher—who is a friend of wisdom. So I am a disciple, I hope, a student.

"It is no modesty which impels me to say this. I should be sorry indeed to think that I had not learned something in my studies, but if for one moment I regarded myself as having attained the wisdom which is final knowledge I should know that I was an absolute utter failure. So I say that I am a student, studying always and hoping to do so, but not a scholar.

"I have sometimes thought that it would be an interesting thing to know how many books perish in a life-time. I do not mean how many are worn out or cast away, but how many of those books which came out with much advertisement and acclaim and made a sensation by their supposed revelations become useless and discredited by later discoveries or more accurate perceptions.

"The thought has occurred to me in the British Museum, where, you know, the books which are in most demand are near at hand, while those for which there is a diminishing call are put farther away, in ever widening circles as it were, until the useless ones become inaccessible on the brink of destruction. You hear a rattle of dry bones. It is the dead books that once were the repositories of positive knowledge, pushed off by later discoveries.

"But of course I cannot tell how many such go in a lifetime. I must die myself and how can I be sure of what I thought was knowledge? I remarked once in a lecture to some young students that it would be a most comfortable thing if there were only some way of insuring what we call knowledge, so that we might rest certain that it was the truth. Insurance of that kind would be worth while.

"Now, you may have gone on for years with your hypotheses, your beliefs, for you have believed them truth, and a palimpsest is found which shows them to be altogether wrong.

"Or an archæologist finds a buried brick He throws it into the world, and all the castles of air of scholarship are shattered. With consciousness I have little patience."

Dr. Schechter is affable and highly entertaining in conversation. He speaks with a marked accent and with his rapidity of utterance in English, it requires keen attention to follow him exactly in verbiage, but the crispness of his ideas and his luminous rhetoric make listening a pleasure.

He is not a rabbi, but his appearance suggests one. He has taught and lectured and studied, and gone extensively into original research. He is Roumanian-born, and has pursued his mature studies in Italy and Egypt, as well as in England and elsewhere.

He thought that he had some forty thousand manuscripts to present to Cambridge University, in whose behalf he went to Egypt in 1896, when he made his famous "Genizeh" discoveries at Cairo. Many of them are original Jewish manuscripts and others are Jewish with Greek initials. There turned out to be in reality something like one hundred thousand of them.

A few of these he brought here with him to continue work upon them, and others will be sent over to him when he has a place to put them here in accordance with the terms under which he gave them to Cambridge, which had a moral right to them. The conditions were that Dr. Schechter should at all times have access to and the use of them. So he will continue his work on them here, and the manuscripts will remain in his possession so long as he requires them, returning to Cambridge as the property of the university upon his death.

Among the relics he brought here with him is an autograph of Maimonides. Two of Dr. Schechter's latest works are shortly to issue from the press. One is "Aspects of Jewish Theology." Another is "Constitutions of Certain Heretical Jewish Sects."

"The heretical sectaries have all disappeared," said the doctor. "There are no more of them, but their constitutions have survived."

Dr. Schechter has given his life to his studies. His life has been, too, chiefly an indoor one, particularly during the last fifteen years, in which he has given the greatest attention to manuscripts.

To study these, to decipher palimpsests, requires daylight, and this work has demanded practically all of the daylight hours. The doctor's physicians have not wanted him to go about at night much out of doors, so he has given little regard to outdoor recreation.

Until he went to Cairo he had robust health, but the dust of centuries and of generations inhaled there gave him a throat affliction which has caused him much annoyance.

His recreation is largely novel reading. He is a great reader of novels.

"They give me amusement," he said. "So, sometimes, does history."

MRS. SEEBACK'S SUICIDE.

Coroner Ruoff Thinks There Is More About It Than He Yet Knows.

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The Coroner was notified on Saturday that the woman had committed suicide by drinking carbolic acid. Early yesterday morning he was told that there were suspicious circumstances surrounding her death.

After working on the case for two hours the Coroner said that he would not be able to clear it up until to-morrow, when he will hold the inquest.

"So far," said the Coroner, "I have learned that Mrs. Seeback went away from her cottage at Seaside on Friday night when she was seen driving along the Boulevard in the company of a man. She did not return home until 4 o'clock Saturday morning. Then, I understand her husband demanded to know where she had been.

"Later in the day she called to one of her favorite servants, Margaret Jenkins, and asked the girl to bring a cup of coffee to her room. When the girl reached the room she learned that Mrs. Seeback had drunk carbolic acid. The acid had been purchased by one of the sixty boarders in the house who had a cut hand, and who bought it to use on the wound. Still there is something else which I have not learned about the case, and which the servant seems to be holding as a secret."

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Mrs. Mary Niebuhr of Troy, who is visiting relatives at 246 West Eleventh street, fell from a Broadway car at Sixteenth street, last night. Policeman Fields called for an ambulance. While he was waiting for it, he says, the Union Square hackmen tried to steal the injured woman away. She was finally taken to the New York Hospital.

Ocean Club Not Sold.

WEST END, LONG BRANCH, N. J., July 6.—The reported sale of the Ocean Club at this place, the property of the late R. J. Slater of Baltimore, to Sam Wallen of Montana, has not been yet effected. Mr. Wallen was here to-day but he said the deal had not been closed.

LIVE TOPICS ABOUT TOWN.

The fact that buildings are put up in this city to stand only a comparatively short time is always a matter of surprise to strangers who are never able to understand the prosperous economic conditions that make it possible to destroy a recent edifice like, for instance, the Plaza Hotel for the sake of erecting another building on the spot. They do not, of course, take into consideration the great value of real estate here which makes it necessary to put on a site the sort of a building that will produce an income proportionate to the value of the property.

One striking instance of the New York tendency to tear down buildings after a few years of use is shown in the case of a certain office site in lower Broadway. Three buildings have stood on it during the past twenty years. All of them were torn down to make room for their successors, and two were built by the same contractor. They were put up by him, moreover, after he had become a well-known builder and was a man well advanced in years. Brief as the existence of buildings is here, it rarely happens that one builder lives to put two fine edifices on the same site. The second was, of course, made necessary by the increased demand for office room which only a very high building made possible.

Calling the doctor by telephone has its disadvantages in spite of the popularity of the method. Its new danger was made plain the other day by a woman who wanted her husband's physician to call on him at a certain hour. She called for the doctor giving the number in the telephone book. She observed every requirement of telephone etiquette to the extent of asking if she was speaking to the right house and then asking for the doctor to come to the telephone.

The answer came back that the doctor was not at home, but was expected at a certain hour and the message was taken for him to call at a certain hour. In every case the name of the doctor was several times mentioned. At the appointed hour an entirely strange physician arrived. His name did not in the least resemble that which had several times been spoken over the telephone and there was no obvious ground for confusion. But the visitor insisted that he had been called by telephone to visit at this house at a certain time.

Whether some operator was in league to increase this doctor's practice by diverting patients to his office will never be known or whether the whole incident was the result of a mistake the persons interested were never able to discover. The most noticeable fact in the affair was that the entire lack of similarity between the name that was called for and frequently mentioned and that of the doctor who actually arrived.

The street fight between two women the other night in the Tenderloin was an incident of uptown life that is fortunately rare and it is not native. It may reasonably be considered as the sore phase of life in that quarter imported from London. And more than any of the others that occur in it it may bear the mark of foreign origin, it should not be allowed to flourish, or even to take root here.

There are already sufficient reminders of Regent street and some other London thoroughfares in the street of Broadway that ends now at Forty-third and certainly the typical crowds of these London streets at night—the fights between women, may be dispensed with. One of the witnesses of the scramble on the other night said that it was evident from the conversation of the two women that they as well as the companions who abetted them and encouraged them to settle their differences in this way were of foreign, moreover, of Continental birth.

It is the ambition of every lodging-house keeper in this city to become so well established that his rooms or apartments, in any form, may be rented by the year. That is the first indulgence that every landlord allows himself.

Already some of the city hotels that shelter many transient guests let certain of their apartments on leases by the year in just the fashion of the regular apartment hotels that will now allow few of their tenants to come for any less time than a year. But the renting of rooms in ordinary lodging houses by the year is a new phase of the matter of renting that has only come into vogue, but is already so popular with the landladies that they impose it in every possible case they can and look forward to as the ultimate result of a demand for their accommodations.

Young Man Killed Was J. W. Conion.

ELIZABETH, N. J., July 6.—The young man whose dead body was found on the tracks of the Pennsylvania Railroad at the North Elizabeth station yesterday afternoon was identified by his father as John W. Conion of Nineteenth street, Brooklyn, to-day. The father and son had come to Elizabeth on a visit. The young man said he would go on to Waverley and visit a man named Schultz. He jumped on a freight train and soon afterward fell off. His father said the boy had never ridden on a freight train before and he did not know why he did so on this occasion. He said his son was an insurance clerk in an office in New York city.

ROWING.

Nassau Boat Club Men Jubilant—The Henley Regatta Drawing.

Members of the Harlem rowing clubs who took part in the Philadelphia and Shrewsbury regattas on Friday and Saturday were seen at their native moorings yesterday and while a majority showed some inclination for a day's work, not a few contented themselves with a day's rest. In view of the Long Island Regatta next Saturday a big crowd turned out to see the practice of the crews, but the spectators were doomed to disappointment so far as a majority of the crafts were concerned. There was gloom around the quarters of the Harlem Rowing Club for the senior eight, the pride of the river, had its colors lowered on the Schuylkill on Friday. It was said that the turn bothered the Harlemites as they had no experience at such an apparently absolute method of aquatic competition. They are full of fight, though, are the Harlems, and even with the defeat still rankling they are ready for another tussle and may spur the blue and white colors at the National Regatta.

The most jubilant crowd on Scullers' Row were the Nassau Boat Club members over the doings of their men at Philadelphia and at Red Bank. Their success is entirely attributed to the wonderful prowess of Nassau bone and muscle, and but a little was heard about the coaching of Jack Smith who showed the boys all they pretend to know about handling the ashen blade. The great Atalanta junior eight celebrated its row over on the Shrewsbury, and the crew is so full of rowing that it has sworn not to miss any other available event for the remainder of the season. The defeat of the Atalanta four by the Rosedale Boat Club has disheartened the veterans, and old Jimmy Hughes and his equally seasoned comrades may never be seen in a racing shell.

One of the topics thrashed out on the Harlem yesterday was that Titus of the Union Boat Club and Scholes of Toronto should be drawn against each other in the preliminary heat of the Diamond Sculls at Henley next Tuesday. An oarsman who has had considerable experience in English rowing said:

"It happened that the Americans were drawn together, and I believe it to be a bad thing for their chances. It matters little who it will win the heat, as I think neither is good enough for the finals. I should fancy Dudley Ward, the Cambridge coach, or Etherington-Smith, with a strong leaning toward the latter. Both, of course, may be beaten by some dark horse, but very certainly either who passes his shell in front of this pair will know that he has been in a sculling race. The chances of the Argonauts are good, but Leander should show the way to the Canadians."

The Palisade Boat Club of Yonkers will be represented in the Long Island regatta by a junior four-oared gig. John Fitzpatrick, who is coaching the crew, has named the crew as follows: J. McAuliffe, stroke; E. H. Jackson, No. 3; W. Stilwell, No. 2; H. Fitzgerald, bow; J. M. Fitzgerald, coxswain.

The Nautilus Boat Club of Bath Beach will have two crews in the Long Island regatta, a junior eight and a junior four-oared shell. Capt. Ahrenbrandt and Coach Hitchcock have decided to row the following men: Senior four shell: Walter Goetzelmann, stroke; J. W. Hartman, No. 3; E. H. Le Roy, No. 2; John Haverstick, bow, and in the eight: Herpler, No. 1; Buchenberger, No. 2; Hood, No. 3; Haverstick, No. 4; Le Roy, No. 5; Hall, No. 6; Goetzelmann, No. 7; Duffell, bow, stroke; Armstrong, coxswain.

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HEAVY IRON ORE SHIPMENTS.

NEW RECORD IN THE LAKE DISTRICT LAST MONTH.

Nevada's New Gold Camps Growing Rapidly—Mine Sold to London Syndicate for $5,000,000—Thousands Prospecting in the Thunder Mountain District.

DULUTH, Minn., July 3.—For the month of June ore shipments from Minnesota mines have been heavier than in any preceding month on record, amounting to 2,153,000 gross tons. This is for three railroads in twenty-six working days, no ore being moved on Sunday. It is likely to be exceeded by the present month, for there were several delays in June that are not expected to recur. For this season to July 1 the mines of Minnesota have sent down a fourth as much iron ore as all the mines of this State and Michigan and Wisconsin did all last year. All Lake Superior mines have this year shipped to date about 8,000,000 gross tons.

Sales of ore are still being made in small tonnages, and at the prices that have prevailed all along. These are mostly for piecing out furnace stocks that had been tagged. By this time about all ore that can be shipped this year has been sold.

Two steam shovels are working day and night at the Stevens mine of the United States Steel Corporation, in an effort to make it a shipper this year. More than 25,000 cubic yards of earth and boulders will be moved this year, and many times that much before the mine is stripped. The Stevens is said to have about 4,000,000 tons in sight. At the Stevenson, at the other end of the Mesaba range, a third 96-inch shovel, the largest in use in mining operations, is being added to the equipment in order to hasten production. This mine and the Mahoning, Mountain Iron and Fayal, all of the Mesaba range, have each shipped more than 450,000 tons this year.

New ore is being found in explorations a mile or two south of the Stevens in sections 3 and 4, township 58-19. Several exploring syndicates are at work with fair success.

The new Buffalo Steel Company, which has recently secured several mines in this district, is to commence opening the Albany at once. This mine is close to Hibbing and contains about 4,000,000 tons of good ore. Other mines to supply this new steel-making concern with its raw material, will be opened as occasion warrants. The blast furnaces at Buffalo will be running before another year and several mines will be required to supply them. This is an independent company, and to a certain extent a rival of other steel-making interests.

Ore has been found under the village of McKinley, where there is a mine owned by the United States Steel Corporation, and the village will be removed to higher ground adjoining. Explorations under the village found ore at a small depth. The village of Eveleth has already been moved from the original site because of ore found beneath it, and Hibbing will have to travel very soon. This latter town has no nearby place to move to, for ore exists in quantity on all sides of it.

The Oliver Iron Mining Company, which owns most of Section 21 mine at Ishpeming, has proved that mine to be far larger than was suspected. This mine will be one of the big propositions of the Steel Corporation. This fact is especially important because it is not a new mine, but has been operated twenty years.

The old Felch Mountain mine, with several adjacent properties, has been projected by G. A. St. Clair of Duluth, who has found there a large bessemer ore deposit. These mines were abandoned in 1884 after shipping about 129,000 tons. They are in the Felch Mountain region, the railroad to which was torn up many years ago, on account of the universal belief that no mines of value existed there.

MONTANA

BUTTE, July 1.—The annual report of the Government assayer for Montana shows a considerable decrease in the mineral production of the State during 1901, compared with 1900. The decrease in the quantity of copper alone was 17,966,962 pounds and $1,125,297.34 in value.

The total mineral output for 1901, according to the report, was: Gold, 232,231 fine ounces, value, $4,802,711; silver, 11,195,345 fine ounces, average rate value, $.6153; gold, 228,931,583 fine pounds, value at $10.12 per oz., $4,641,253.87; lead, 11,534,802 pounds, value at $4.34 per cwt., $498,627. Total of all values, $60,087,819.

The production for 1900 was: Gold, 239,114 ounces, value, $4,856,274; silver, 12,294,308 ounces, value, $10,487,211; copper, 245,898,066 pounds, value, $30,527,135; lead, 16,044,751 pounds, value, $701,155; total, $63,746,726.

Of the total copper produced by the State in 1901 there are credited to the Butte district 227,742,292 pounds. The gold product of the district was 47,187,45 ounces, valued at $974,921. The silver product of the district amounted to 9,638,071 ounces, valued at $12,461,344. The gold and silver output of the Butte district is almost entirely a by-product of the copper ores.

The stockholders of the Basin and Bay State Gold Mining Company have received an offer for their holdings in their property at Basin, including the Kane mine, a good property of low grade. The property is about twenty-two miles from Butte and has been in litigation for a number of years. The proposition comes through Edward W. Beattie, representing the Amalgamated interests, who offers to pay for bonds at the rate of 85 per cent flat and for stock $3 a share. These payments are to be made providing Mr. Beattie can secure 7,500 shares of the stock and $275,000 worth of the bonds. It is also agreed to pay interest on the bonds of 6 per cent to cooperate in the deal from Jan. 1, 1901, to July 1, 1902, at which will net the bondholders 97 on the bonds.

There is some stir in the Basin district just now. The Buckeye concentrator on the Buckeye property, near Basin, is being put in shape for many months to be operated in connection with the concentrator. Work is going on in the Ady claim, which was sunk down for some time. The owners of this property intend to give it a thorough development. A large ledge of quartz has been discovered in this district by some Basin men, which can be traced for miles. The discoverers have staked the entire country surrounding the find. This district had been well prospected but it was found worth while taking for decomposed granite and considered worthless. The find was a mere accident.

Very favorable reports are coming in from North Moreauin district in Fergus county. On the Red Rock slope the veins are said to be large and very easily worked. Assays show $20 per ton in gold, while some of it runs up in copper and galena.

HELENA, July 1.—Eastern capitalists have purchased for $50,000 a group of seven claims near Jefferson City. The name of the corporation is the Jefferson City Mining Company and it will be incorporated under the laws of New Jersey. The ore runs about $15 a ton in gold. It is understood that the purchaser will erect a mill and concentrator.

Another large deposit of corundum has been found on the West Gallatin River in Gallatin county. The country for miles is covered with corundum.

The new strike in the Elkhorn mine is larger than was at first reported. The ore shoot has widened to eight feet and has now fourteen inches will yield $50 per ton in silver to the ton. Men are under bond shipping ore averaging sixty ounces to the ton.

CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO, June 29.—One of the great tunnels in the State is being driven by Supervisor Jones of the Union sine gravel mine, near North Bloomfield. The tunnel is now 4,000 feet and will be carried about 1,015 feet further before it will strike the rich gravel channel.

Deep mining on the mother lode has received a big boom by the application of electric power. The Kennedy mine, Amador county, has just put in a new hoist over the east shaft that is capable of extending the works to a depth of 3,000 feet. A twenty-stamp mill will be put in for the shaft, to be increased later to sixty stamps. At the Fremont mine nearby a gallows frame is being erected that will hoist a three-ton skip 2,000 feet. Grading for an eighty-stamp mill has been begun.

Some sensational stories have been printed this week of the salting of the Sweepstakes gravel mine in Trinity county, but old miners who know the property well declare that these reports are baseless. They say that a large amount of dead dirt must be removed from the Sweepstakes before hydraulicking can begin on the rich lower gravel. The returns from this clearing off of the dead dirt will be small and it is these poor returns that are taken as a criterion of the value of the gravel. Nothing could be more unfair. So heavy is this surface dirt that it is estimated all this working season will be consumed in removing it. When the real gravel is reached next year it is predicted that there will be no more talk of salting on the Sweepstakes and then take its place among the great gold producers of the state. The Philadelphia syndicate which has spent large sums in bringing water to the mine is confident of ultimate profits and is not alarmed over the poor showing of this first season's work.

Drilling machines are at work in the bed of the Tuolumne River near Latrobe, and the gravel brought up is so rich that a dredging company has secured rights to lands along the river. As the Tuolumne River bed is found to contain so much gold similar prospecting will be done along the bed of the Merced River into both these rivers the placer and hydraulic miners of early days worked their taling, and as the methods in use then did not save more than three-quarters of the fine gold, the refuse was pretty rich in precious metal. With the improved dredger practically all the gold is saved.

NEVADA

RAXO, June 29.—The largest mining deal made in Nevada in some years is the transfer of the De Lamar mine in Lincoln county to the Venture Corporation of London, England, for $5,000,000. The purchasing corporation will incorporate in England and place the stock on the London Mining Exchange. Although the property was offered eighteen months ago for $2,000,000 development work since then has shown that the property is far more valuable. S. Longstreet of Salt Lake is understood to be one of the principal members of the syndicate that bought the mine. He is personally familiar with the mine and knows what the recent developments mean.

Reports from the mining camp of Weepah, near Tonopah, say that the place is growing very rapidly. The town now has thirty tents, an assay office, two saloons, two stores and a restaurant. Water is supplied from two springs at the south end of Lone Mountain and from two wells six miles from the camp. Wood is very near. Free milling ore which assays $20 a ton can be hauled to the Silver Peak mills and milled for $10 a ton.

Tonopah is growing rapidly. It has now 3,000 inhabitants. Three stages run to the camp bringing in about twenty people every day. Many new and substantial buildings are going up. Lumber is $90 a thousand and even firewood is $15 a cord. There are thirty saloons. Faro and roulette and other games run wide open day and night and the play is heavy. The town has a good public school, a free library and reading room, the best lodge room and public hall in Nevada. The Tonopah Mining Company, which owns all the best mines, is working 200 men now and will have 1,000 at work in July. The Midway, the first one discovered, has produced over $100,000 in ore and has paid out a dividend of $10,000 and has been closed out. The ledge ten feet from the surface produced $100 ore and the ledge grows richer as it is sunk deeper.

IDAHO

BOISE, June 29.—A short time ago considerable stir was created by a report that the Sunnyside group of mines in Thunder Mountain district, and owned by a Pittsburg company, had been sold for a million, just to prove the district says that the report is untrue. He says that a prospector located a claim adjoining, and that in putting up his stakes he overlapped one of the claims of the group, but with no intention whatever of jumping the ground. He says that the Iver, Sunnyside and Fairview mines are working good forces of miners and will increase the number as soon as men can be had. Supt. Irwin of the Dewey group has arrived in camp and is getting ready to put men at work.

There are now 2,000 or 3,000 men in the camp and as many more scattered through the adjacent country, and prospectors are still going in by the hundreds. Central Idaho will soon be crowded with prospectors.

A rich strike was lately made in the Klondike mine, Elmore county, owned by a Connecticut company and operated by N. Muzzy. There is a vein twelve inches in thickness that is the richest ore ever discovered in the camp.

It is reported that several discoveries of very rich veins have lately been made on Miller Mountain, in Boise county. This district is at the east of the wagon road leading from Boise City to Thunder Mountain. The Marsh group of mines, 30 miles under bond to Col. George A. Williams and Ex-Gov. Frank Steunenberg, are said to be improving with every foot of development.

A large boiler has been installed and a hoist erected at the Black Pearl mine in Neal district. A contract has been let for the sinking of a shaft to the depth of 200 feet and running 500 feet of drifts. Three shifts are now at work. The ledge is twelve feet wide.

COLORADO

COLORADO SPRINGS, July 1.—The properties of the Rebekah Gold Mining Company at Cripple Creek were sold on Monday for $67,000 to satisfy a judgment for $78,437.88 against the company. Improvements and machinery W. S. Stratton of Colorado Springs and Attorney N. B. Carpenter of Denver, who represented the creditors, were the only bidders. The property was sold to Carpenter, but it is believed Mr. Stratton is the real purchaser. He owns all the adjoining properties. The Rebekah and C. O. D. mines, which were sold, are important to the plats. Seven years ago the properties were sold for a big sum to Eastern capitalists. They were then in bonanza ore. The veins soon pinched out and the mines were closed. They are promising prospects and may become shippers any day.

President Roosevelt, Attorney-General Knox and Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock have refused to reopen the Hill City case for re-hearing on the patentees. The decision that has been denied recited that fraud had been committed to secure patents for the Independence Lode and Mining Company which owned the Ute and Ulster and Creek Consolidated Company, the prosecutor, asserts that a bribe of $10,000 had been paid to secure the patents. The two companies finally consolidated under the present title. James A. Garfield of Colorado Springs has worked hard to reopen the case. He secured an interview with President Roosevelt, with the result stated. The case has cost $500,000. The property has been worked out to 1,000 feet depth.

John H. Cameron, a South African miner of considerable experience, has made a good strike on the north side of St. Peter's Dome. The vein is two feet thick and carries fine gold in a fine, cross vein values. A tale seam has been encountered in the vein which carries $300 a ton values. The mine is in the Mount Baldy district, newly opened by Cash Street and others, on the Short Line road to Cripple Creek.

The Stratton's Independence mine is producing at present $175,000 monthly.

IN THE BLACK HILLS

LEAD, S. D., July 2.—The Pluma Mining Company is getting ready to start its twenty stamp mill at Pluma station, a mile from Lead. The shaft in northeast Lead is still going down at the rate of a foot and a half a day. It is now something over 700 feet deep, and is showing a good quality of ore, which resembles the ore from the 700 foot level in the Homestake. The company's property adjoins the Homestake. In addition to these vertical ore measures the Pluma company also has a large body of quartz conglomerate in the upper flat measures. The gold is found in the free state, and it can be handled at a profit by simple milling. It was worked for a number of years in the early days, the ore being treated at the Pluma stamp mill.

The work of enlarging the Dakota Mining Company's cyanide plant in Deadwood is to be started at once. The plant will be able to treat 200 tons of ore a day.

The consolidation of Old Fish and Red Cloud Mining companies have been consolidated and the new company is called the Gladiator Consolidated Mines and Milling Company. It has a capital stock of $4,000,000.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX, June 27.—The long-talked-of consolidation of the Manhattan Copper Company and the Troy Copper Company, whose properties are situated at and near Troy, Yavapai county, is likely to go through. The combined company will be managed by a board of thirteen directors, a number of whom are prominent Eastern capitalists. It is expected that by the end of June a sufficient amount of stock will be deposited to insure the merger. A 150-ton smelter was recently built at Troy and is now ready for operation.

A new mining camp has sprung up in Pima county, a few miles from the railroad, and has been christened Gadville because the mineral formation is similar to that of Leadville. Considerable work has been done.

Earnest efforts are being made just now to locate oil in central Arizona to furnish a cheap fuel for the development of the mines. An oil supply from the great fields is prohibited by freight rates.

BISBEE, Ariz., July 1.—The Lake Superior buyers of the South Bisbee Townsite and Development Company have taken possession of the property and commenced to unwater their shaft. One of them is down 300 feet. The new buyers have paid $200,000 down of which $150,000 was to go to the former owners, and agree to pay an additional $1,000,000 in two years. The distribution of the $150,000 is made by Bisbee stockholders by a flat refusal to take the money. They say they have received an offer of $2,000,000 cash since the sale. There is a big fight on among the stockholders of the old company, some of whom say that $3,000,000 in treasury stock has been stolen, and they demand an accounting. The new owners are not interested in this.

A find of ruby copper, running up to an enormous percentage, has been made in Calumet and Arizona, which is owned by the same Lake Superior people. This company's 250-ton smelter is nearing completion and will be making copper in the fall. A second 250-ton smelter will be added immediately.

In Calumet and Pittsburg, owned by the same interests, together with Pittsburg and New York men, they have already sunk nearly 400 feet and are very much encouraged at the showing. It is thought a second Calumet and Arizona will be found there.

UTAH

SALT LAKE, June 30.—June showed the mining industry of this state in a healthy and promising condition. The dividends paid and ordered to be paid amounted to $240,000, while the output of the mines, as reflected in the ore and bullion settlements made, reached $1,036,000, without counting the Utah Consolidated and Bingham Consolidated, whose returns, could they be given, would send the total well over the $2,000,000 mark.

Disclosures made in the Consolidated Mercur, the new channel, over 100 feet in width, show a continuous body of oxidized ore. The strike is the biggest that has been recorded in the district.

ONTARIO

PORT ARTHUR, July 3.—The Foley mine in Seine River has been bought by the Protogene Gold Mining Company and is being reopened. It is equipped with a complete plant, including a 20-stamp mill and will become a producer on a small scale soon after the water is out.

Contracts have been closed between the Alice A. gold mine and a London syndicate by which the latter does a certain amount of exploration and development, in return for an option on the mine at a certain proportion of the value of the ore taken.

There is now not an active gold mine in the Seine River region excepting the Foley. Explorations for iron are being carried on in the district, however, and with some prospects of success.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

SEATTLE, Wash., July 1.—The Bosun mine in Slocan district is now shipping zinc ore to Belgium, where a good market has been found for it. All the ores in this district carry from 10 to 15 per cent of this metal.

The smelters of Trail and Northport are now contracting with the Crow's Nest coal mines for coke at a greatly reduced rate, making it possible for them to compete with any reduction plants in the country. This is brought about by the completion of the Great Northern Railway to the Crow's Nest coal fields. Additions are being made to the coking plants.

WASHINGTON

SEATTLE, July 1.—A shipment of 100 tons of ore from the California mine is being made that will average about $25 to the ton. This is the first shipment of any magnitude that has been made from this property, but the mine is now in condition to follow it up regularly, placing it among the leading producers of the Republic district.

Boston capitalists interested in the development of the Copper Hill mine, Index district, have secured options on adjoining properties, and appear well pleased with the property they have under working.

In Methow district there is considerable development work under way on all the gold properties, but no mines are under construction. This year, the owners having failed to interest capital in the construction of reduction plants. State Creek, the adjoining district on the west, has been more successful in this respect, and has two mills in successful operation. The gold output from this district this season promises to surpass any year in the history of the camp. The only disadvantage here appears to be the extraordinary depth of the snow, which prevents early operation.

ALASKA

SEATTLE, Wash., July 1.—St. Louis men have been making critical examination of the oil and coal fields along the shores of Controller Bay within the past month, and return well pleased with the result. They found the oil much better than represented, and the coal far beyond anything they had ever seen, the veins being from ten to twenty-five feet wide, solid, clean coal, eighty-seven fixed carbon, semi-anthracite in character, with sandstone roof and floor. The vein outcrops seventeen miles from the bay, while the oil extends from the water's edge several miles into the interior, coming to the surface on springs and on water courses in great abundance.

The Ives Investment Company of New Haven, Conn., is making an examination of its mines and industrial enterprises at Kassaw, Prince of Wales Island. It has just completed a pit carbon at a cost of about $100,000 and has it in successful operation, employing Indians, for whom they have built a village, erecting schoolhouse, church and dwellings. The company has one of the most flourishing places in southeastern Alaska.

Gold shipments from Nome continue light, but those who are in position to know say they will increase as the season advances and will exceed any two