HOMESTAKE RESUMES MINING

OWNERS' PACT TO EMPLOY NO UNION LABOR ENFORCED.

Side Activities During the Tieup in the Black Hills—Assessment Expected on Davis-Daly Stock—Utah Mine Consolidation—News From Many Fields.

LEAD, S. D., Jan. 27.—The Homestake Mining Company has actively resumed operations in mill and mine and is gradually working up to its full capacity of 4,000 tons a day. The company is now handling about one-fourth of that amount. The cyanide No. 1, Amicus mill of 240 stamps, regrinding plant and slime plant, which has a capacity of 2,000 tons a day, have all been started and within a few days the Homestake mill with 200 stamps will also be reopened. The Ellison and Star hoists are being used. None but non-union men are employed, some of them coming from Joplin and the Coeur d'Alene district.

Interest is being taken in securing funds to resume work in the spring on the old Hidden Fortune-Columbus Consolidated ground near here. The settlement of all legal difficulties has removed the largest obstacle in the way of financing, as large Eastern capitalists who have regarded the ground favorably and been impressed with the numerous reports made by experts have withheld their support while the internal wrangling was in progress. The acreage of the company is about equal to that of the Homestake and the formations are not vitally different. It is strictly a low grade proposition like the Homestake and it is not reasonable to suppose that the immense bodies of ore running in regular veins end abruptly within the Homestake workings and do not continue north. In fact every indication is that they continue for some miles, reappearing at intervals on the surface. On the Columbus, which was merged with the Hidden Fortune, the grade of ore is somewhat higher, one of its claims, the old Roderick Dhu, having in early days produced much rich free milling ore. The company still has its sixty stamp mill below Deadwood that originally cost over a quarter of a million. With comparatively trifling improvements it will make an effective treatment plant.

DEADWOOD, Jan. 27.—Mining men in this section are paying some attention during the temporary period of inactivity to the Bear Lodge district northwest of here. This country has had a steady but quiet growth for many years. It never experienced any boom, although some rich gold ore has at times been uncovered, but the Bear Lodge men have gone ahead quietly. One company that is now pushing work vigorously is the Bear Lodge Gold Mining Company. The principal work is done on the Daisy group, where several veins carrying good values have been opened up. The gold is very fine and well adapted for cyaniding. On the Last Chance, west of the Daisy, the company is working in a vein of iron or hematite ore, which has been opened up to a depth of 160 feet and crosscut 60 feet. This vein varies in thickness from five to ten feet and its width is still undetermined. Assays from ore taken along the vein average $2.88 a ton. President L. R. Davis is negotiating for a cyanide plant.

Pending the settlement of the labor troubles and the approach of spring little is being done in the Maitland district. Among the larger companies, like the Minnesota and North Homestake, that are in the mine owners' agreement not to employ union labor, no move is being made. But some of the smaller companies not in the agreement, like the Echo, Gold Eagle and Fortunate, are figuring on resuming work just as soon as the weather will permit. The Gold Eagle is planning to install larger machinery.

MONTANA.

BUTTE, Jan. 26.—While the stockholders of the Davis-Daly Copper Company in Butte have long feared that another assessment call would be made on the stock they have hoped that the necessity for it would pass, so the apparently well founded report that an assessment may be expected is most unwelcome. The property has been developed down to the 1,800 foot level, and if reports from the mine can be believed at least one good vein has been opened. From this considerable ore was shipped to the Washoe smelter, so it was thought that the mine would at least pay its own expenses, but shipments were not long maintained. The reason for the suspension is not known, unless it be that the smelting arrangements with the smelter have not been advantageous. For some time the work at the Colorado has been confined to sinking and opening the 1,900 foot level. A new but small vein has been cut on the 1,800 level, and drifting is being done on it. The main vein on that level will not be reached for several months. The vein on the 1,500 is also being opened further and the ore blocked out. For some time the company has been trying to get a franchise from the city of Butte to build and maintain a railway track or tramway from the mine to the Great Northern railway; the project has been strongly opposed by property owners, but it now looks as if the franchise would be granted. If it is the company will immediately begin shipping ore to the concentrator of the reduction works at Basin.

The strike of railway switchmen, the prolonged intense cold weather and the consequent shortage of coal have hampered mining during the first half of the month, and the January production of copper will fall much below normal. An unusual amount of coal is required during the cold weather, owing to falling water power. The coal problem has been unusually serious in Butte this winter, and the Amalgamated Copper Company has been compelled to divide its own coal among several power companies and manufacturing enterprises to keep them from shutting down. It has also furnished coal for private use.

Conditions at the North Butte show no change, and the report from the mine is that there is no improvement on the 1,000 and 2,000 levels, and that the Jessie vein on the lower level, where it was recently opened, was no better and no more encouraging than is the Edith May vein.

There is no change in the North Butte-Tuolumne situation. The latter company is engaged in running a surface drift on the vein in controversy, hoping to demonstrate that the vein belongs to the Tuolumne and not to the Jessie of the North Butte company, and that if there had been any trespassing it has been done by the latter. The North Butte is also carrying on development work in its portion of the disputed territory.

President P. H. Nelson of the Butte-Balaklava Copper Company is a strong advocate of the Guggenheim scheme for Government control of the copper mining industry. "A plan should be formulated," he says, "that would prevent the waste of the great copper deposits during periods of panic and depression, when the metal is sold to foreign speculators at a price that barely pays the cost of production." At the Butte-Balaklava mine the new steel gallows frame has been completed and the shaft enlarged. The mine is now in condition for largely increased production. The foundation has been laid for a new electric hoisting engine, good for a depth of 2,000 feet. As the manufacturers are overcrowded with work the engine will not be received before the end of the month, but mining will be continued with the present engine.

The Butte Coalition Company is still operating at a reduction, owing to coal shortage.

The East Butte Copper Mining Company is rapidly developing the new vein recently cut 1,000 feet north of the old workings on the six foot level, and an immense quantity of ore is being blocked out. Fully three tons are left in the mine to one taken out.

Announcement is made that the Butte Central Copper Company, owner of the Belmont mine in Butte, will shortly resume operations. The new company is heavily backed by Canadian and Boston capitalists.

HELENA, Jan. 26.—At the property of the Three Forks Copper Mining Company, at the town of that name in Gallatin county, the shaft is now in a vien of high grade ore. Assays show nearly 20 per cent. copper, with small values in gold and silver. A carload of ore is ready for shipment from the previously reported strike, whose values are in copper, gold, silver and bismuth.

A good vein of chalcopyrite has been encountered in the property of the Corbin-Montana company, at Corbin. A good strike is also reported in the Robert Emmet, in the same district.

The directors of the Corbin-Montana Copper Company have decided hereafter to call their concern the Corbin Metal Mining Company. At the meeting Manager Hoy submitted a verbal report. The company owns eleven claims of about 180 acres, surveys for patents of which have been completed. An electric compressor of 1,000 feet capacity has been installed. The double compartment shaft is now down 275 feet and its entire bottom is in ore which runs 2½ per cent. copper, 18 to 84 ounces of silver and from 40 cents to $2 in gold. The vein is 125 feet wide on the surface and is covered with a limonite gossan, which is regarded as an index to the deposition of vast bodies of copper. The property lies southeast of the Alta, and the same characteristics are found as in that property. The vein system extends throughout the ground a distance of 6,000 feet, and five veins have been tapped, varying from 10 to 125 feet in width. It is the purpose of the company to push down to a point that will expose the concentrated values, as surrounding the property are evidences on every hand of the action of the acid waters that are constantly at work on the sulphide ores, thus bringing copper from depths in the form of sulphate and redepositing nearer the surface as native copper. The action of the water, according to the statement of the manager, indicates that as depth is attained large bodies of enriched ore will be encountered. The property is owned chiefly by residents of Pittston, Pa.

The trial run at the property of the Pioneer Mining Company in the Big Hole basin of Beaverhead county has been satisfactory. The cleanup amounted to $38.75, with hardly sufficient water to keep the plate clean, the water having been pumped from the sump. The running expenses were $12.24, leaving a net profit of $26.51. It is thought the cyanide tanks will make a still greater profit than the mill.

A deal has been closed at Spokane whereby Montreal capitalists become the owners of the Goldflint and Keystone mines at Sylvanite in western Montana. Two mills are included. The price was $75,000. The new concern is known as the Lincoln Mining Company.

A meeting was held in this city of the stockholders of the King Solomon Mining Company, operating south of Helena in the Clancy district. I. N. Moreland was re-elected president and manager and G. Bullard, secretary treasurer.

The Oro Cache mine in Madison county, which for several years in the late sixties was declared to be the richest gold mine ever found, is again attracting attention. It is owned by C. D. McLure of St. Louis, but is being operated by leasers. Their initial shipment has resulted satisfactorily and it is thought the property will again become a regular producer. The Apex mine, also in Alder Gulch, has also joined the producing list, its output being a high grade gold ore.

UTAH.

SALT LAKE, Jan. 26.—A consolidation has been effected of the old producing mines of Stockton into one corporation, known as the Bullion Coalition Mines Company. In the consolidation are the Bullion, Honerine Mining, the Honerine Tunnel and Milling, Honerine West Mining and Honerine Extension Mining companies. The properties cover about 1,500 acres, all on the Honerine vein and contiguous to one another.

A new face of four feet of galena ore carrying 66 per cent. lead and nine to ten ounces of silver to the ton has been opened in the Butler Liberal section of the North Utah Mining Company of Bingham. The strike is 180 feet south of any other of the company's rich finds.

The trial run of a new mill employing a leaching process is to be made soon by a syndicate which is operating at Utland on the Green River. Large deposits of ore, some of it running as high as 35 per cent. copper, are found but no economical method of treatment is known. The vast deposits will average about 5 per cent., it is said, and the Utland company believes it has a steam shovel proposition. It owns 960 acres, nearly all of which can be worked by the steam shovel method provided the process for treating the ores proves successful.

Three Tintic mining companies—Colorado Mining, Sioux Consolidated and Iron Blossom—decided at directors' meetings during the last week to pay dividends quarterly instead of monthly. The change is to lessen bookkeeping and prevent stock fluctuations.

A new smelting contract will enable the Iron Blossom of Tintic to ship seventy-five tons of ore daily from its south workings. Production from that part of the property was suspended several weeks ago on the expiration of a smelting contract for the low grade silver-copper ore there found. Production of silver-lead from the north workings has not been stopped. Sinking the No. 3, or north, shaft of the Iron Blossom is under way.

The crosscut tunnel of the Big Nebo which is being driven to tap the Eva vein, in which handsome showings have been opened north and south of the Big Nebo by the Union Chief and Eva companies, is getting into vein matter at 270 feet from the portal. The outcrop of the vein is 100 feet wide at the surface and shows considerable high grade carbonate and galena ore. In the Eva, which is higher up the mountain side, a fifteen foot body of shipping ore has been opened at a depth of 400 feet, some of it running as high as 700 ounces in silver and 60 per cent. lead. The Eva has been making shipments, but is planning a tramway to replace the burro method now in use.

COLORADO.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Jan. 26.—The Apex Copper Company of Colorado Springs, operating in a district northwest of Lake George, appears to be in a deposit of flour gold carrying $34 to $43 gold a ton. A drift 622 feet long in search of copper has been run through immense deposits of quartz schist and hornblende schist in which the gold values are found. Assays by a new process show that every foot of the 250 foot shaft has been sunk through $34 gold ore. At the bottom of the shaft a 600 foot crosscut has been run to find the other wall, where copper values are expected. For years the Lake George district has offered no values except in flour gold, which were lost by fumes and gases of old fire assay methods. The present method is a combination of fluxes and fire. The ore is crushed to go through a screen of 100 mesh fineness. A special form of concentration has been invented by which none of the values escape. J. K. Van Atta is president.

The Jennie Sample Mining Company, Cripple Creek, has passed to control of J. F. Burns. The leasing system will be continued. The Raven Hill properties will be examined and may be operated on company account.

The Frank Clay lease on a block between the tenth and eleventh levels of the Findley main shaft is in a rich ore shoot on the main Findley vein and is saving $40 ore. It is found next the hanging wall of the vein. Specimens of the quartz show the greenish tint associated with roscoelite, frequently associated with rich gold ores; also a liberal distribution of calaverite in cleavages of rocks. About eight feet of vein matter is being taken out.

The Golden Cycle Gold Mining Company, whose mines and mills are reported under option for $6,000,000 to $7,000,000 to London capitalists, is owner and controller of approximately 500 producing acres of Cripple Creek gold mines; also of the Golden Cycle mill, treating 23,000 tons of ore monthly. The company has paid $1,000,000 in dividends. Its monthly output is 3,000 tons of $20 ore.

A crosscut tunnel is being pushed to cut the Black Beauty vein in Long Gulch near Wall Street at 200 feet below the surface. At thirty-five feet depth the vein yielded $285 a ton gold ore at an early day.

Much prospecting is planned between the Colorado Prince and the Bald Mountain faults, extending from Red Cloud shaft in Big Evans Gulch to near the head of South Evans Gulch, Leadville district, in search of the St. Louis vein.

New work started since January 1 in Leadville includes sinking the Cleveland shaft 200 feet, sinking of the Tucson shaft of the Iron Silver Mining Company from the Cambrian quartzite to the granite, sinking 200 feet on interior shaft of the St. Louis tunnel, unwatering and sinking of the New Monarch shaft, unwatering of the Colonel Sellers shaft, and resumption of work on the Big Six. Leasers have started several long idle claims on Carbonate, Iron, Breece, Fryer and Yankee hills, and in California and Iowa gulches.

Driving to the wall in the St. Louis vein, Leadville, continues after penetrating eight feet of mineral. Daily samples show uniform values.

George F. Campion and associates have obtained a lease on the Little Bob, 200 feet below the St. Louis tunnel, Leadville; also 750 feet of the north end of Fanny Rawlings, and the Volunteer. The Bob shaft, 350 feet deep, will be connected with the St. Louis vein by a drive to the northwest.

The Newhouse tunnel was driven 3,300 feet in 1909.

The increase in the price of tungsten to $7 a unit from $6.50, beginning January 1, has led to activity in the Nederland district in Boulder county. The Wolf Tongue Company has completed installation of machinery at $7,000, designed for value saving at its ore treatment plant. The electric plant will be enlarged at $30,000 cost. During December the output was three cars of concentrates, making $100,000 total for 1909. The company will buy ores from small producing mines and thus compete with the Primos mill. Ores will be concentrated and shipped to Pittsburg principally. The Tungsten Mining, Milling and Exploration Company, which has long been idle, plans resumption. The year's total tungsten yield may reach $1,000,000.

The Market crosscut tunnel has intersected a three inch streak of ore in the Ramsdell mine on Lincoln Mountain, Georgetown. Values reach twenty-three ounces gold a ton. The streak is probably an extension of the Golden Jack vein.

The Marshall-Russell Gold Mining Company is driving a tunnel, now in 4,000 feet, to intersect veins in its sixty locations on the southern slopes of Miller Mountain, Empire. Veins already cut assure large tonnage of good milling ore. Richer ores are expected in a more thoroughly mineralized section of the mountain. Five hundred feet additional will carry the tunnel to a junction with Covode Mountain lodes, where fine smelting material is expected.

The cyanide mill of the Blue Flag Mining and Milling Company, on Raven Hill, Cripple Creek, has been restarted after a brief suspension with capacity of forty tons a day. The Morning Star mill at Ward, Col., has been started on a test. It sayes concentration and amalgamation. It is working satisfactorily on Morning Star ores.

Silverton shipments for December were 4,000 tons of concentrates and 850 tons of crude ore. Gold King mine led in concentrates with 1,850 tons, and Gold Tunnel in crude ore with 275 tons. The January shipments will be curtailed on account of snow blockade.

The new mill of the Intersection company in Maggie Gulch, Silverton Col., has returned $3,000 from a run of fifteen days. The tailings are rich and a cyanide mill is planned.

In the Champion mine on Sultan Mountain, Silverton, the Pittsburg tunnel has cut the Champion vein at 600 feet below the workings. Drifting in two directions has resulted in intersection of the Last Chance vein to the south, which leads after 115 feet to the Champion vein into which it is merged. The vein is three to five feet wide with cross vein values of $16 to $20 a ton, in gold, silver and lead.

NEW MEXICO.

SILVER CITY, Jan. 26.—The syndicate of Cripple Creek, Col., men who recently acquired the Empire and Bonanza group of mines, in the Hillsboro district, have inaugurated extensive development work. The mines are the American, Empire, Bonanza and Opportunity.

The Polar Star and Webber mines, a few miles north of Fairview, in Socorro county, were sold recently by R. A. Harris and associates to a syndicate of Colorado men. The new owners will erect a 50 ton reduction plant. The ore is said to average about $40 gold to the ton.

The Chino Copper Company is erecting a 2,500 ton mill at its mines sixteen miles from Silver City, to treat copper output. It is reported that this company and the Gila and Ray copper companies are preparing to consolidate their holdings in the Santa Rita district. The churn drills which the Chino Copper Company has had in operation for some time have disclosed more than 7,000,000 tons of copper ore, averaging nearly 2½ per cent.

The Knickerbocker mine, in the Sylvanite district, has been acquired by James Wickes of Deadfield, N. Y. It is said that this mine was worked profitably in the '80s until the Apaches under Geronimo made a raid on the camp and killed the owners and all the employees.

Rich ore has been opened up in both tunnels in the Ben Nevis silver mine, owned by Charles Schreiner of Kerrville, Tex., and situated in the Organ Mountain district.

A six inch streak of ore that runs high in gold was recently encountered in the Sunol mine, in the Black Mountain camp.

A vein of rich ore of native and horn silver has been struck in the claims of Smith Bros. of El Paso, in the Quartzite Mountains.

NEVADA.

GOLDFIELD, Jan. 26.—State Bullion Tax Collector Haley is authority for the statement that 1909 was more prosperous in a mining way in Nevada than 1908. During 1909 the mineral production of the State amounted to 2,389,679 tons of $24,067,864 value. From this the State collected $227,465 as bullion tax. The 1908 production was valued at $14,373,354.

Goldfield Consolidated held its annual meeting at Evanston, Wyo., on Monday. The report of President George Wingfield shows that during the year the company's properties produced 194,479 tons of ore of an average value of $37.98 a ton, or $7,386,450 gross, from which it realized a recovery of 92.5 per cent., or net returns of $6,832,652. This was accomplished at a mining, milling, transportation and general expense of $4.83 a ton and a development expense of $1.94 a ton, making a gross operating expense of $6.77 a ton. Its gross earnings for the fiscal year, including lease, royalties and miscellaneous earnings, were $6,598,870. Its gross expenses were $1,572. Its net profits were $5,026,619. During the year three dividends of 30 cents each a share and a fourth at the same rate with an extra of 20 cents a share were paid, making a total of $1.40 a share, or approximately $5,000,000. At the close of the year there were $1,385,524 cash on hand and bullion and concentrates in transit worth $479,341. Improvements are under way to increase the company's milling capacity from 650 to at least 850 tons a day, and it is said that in the event of the ore bodies, especially the bonanza shoots in the Hampton and Clermont stopes, continuing to hold their strength at depth the building of a second section of the mill will be advisable.

PIOCHE, Jan. 26.—On the 500 level of the Pioche Golden Prince 125 feet of material in beds and fissures has been crosscut which, Manager George W. Cox says, will average $12 a ton in values, including a five foot body of shipping ore.

BANNOCK, Jan. 26.—A body of ore giving assay returns of $50 a ton in gold has been encountered in a crosscut in the Nevada-Omaha Company's mine at a depth of 100 feet. The leasers on the Mayer-Reber block, adjoining the Nevada-Omaha, have also reached well mineralized rock in the tunnel they are running to tap the ledge carrying $80 gold ore which was cut in their shaft.

RHYOLITE, Jan. 26.—The mill at the Keane Wonder mine, in Bullfrog district, running half time in December, produced $15,000 worth of bullion. In November $25,000 worth of bullion was produced with the mill in constant operation. In October the output was $17,000. The shutdowns in December were due to freezing of pipes.

WINNEMUCCA, Jan. 26.—The *Silver State* here publishes a story that the Black Hole mine of the Chafey Mines Company has been closed down with the miners threatening to attach the company's property for back pay. The Black Hole mine came into prominence about three years ago when Chafey discovered a surface deposit of $15 gold ore, from which he took out something like $200,000 in a few months. The high grade had been worked out the ore in place became relatively low grade and milling facilities had to be provided. An old mill was remodelled and the mine has been making a fairly good production, but it is suspected that the saving was low and the expense of operating high. An attempt was made about a year ago to finance the property, but though the engineers' reports were favorable the undertaking failed.

ARIZONA.

BISBEE, Jan. 25.—The T. E. Mumme Mining Company is making regular shipments from one of the veins in its Welland group of seven claims in the Patagonia district. This ore averages 11½ per cent. copper, with some gold and silver values. The vein is four feet wide and was encountered in the 280 foot tunnel. Another vein was also struck in a shaft at a depth of thirty-two feet. The latter is three feet wide and is yielding ore averaging 21 per cent. copper, $4.50 in gold and 20 ounces of silver to the ton.

The Ivanhoe Mining Company is building a wagon road two miles long to its copper and silver mine in the Patagonia district.

A tunnel which the Duquesne Mining Company is running in its mine in the Globe district encountered recently a large vein of rich gold ore.

The Warrior Development Company is exploiting its property in the Bisbee district with churn drills. It is shipping about seventy-five tons of ore daily to the smelter at El Paso. The ore averages about 10 per cent. copper.

H. B. Fish discovered recently a large deposit of asbestos about twenty miles from Yuma.

The San Antonio-Arizona Mining Company is sinking several shafts upon its sixteen claims in the Patagonia district and large bodies of rich ore have been uncovered. In one of the shafts at a depth of 110 feet the ore assays 186 ounces in silver and 15 per cent. copper.

A rich strike of high grade copper ore was made recently in the Arizona-Colorado mine in a crosscut on the 800 foot level. Samples assayed 27 per cent. copper and $4 to $6 silver to the ton. The mine is in the Copper Hill district. Some of the ore now on the dump awaiting shipment runs 30 per cent. copper, it is said.

The 25 ton mill at the Gold Belt mine, about four miles west of Morenci, cleaned up $768 in its first five days run. It is in regular operation and is said to make a saving of 90 per cent. of the gold values of the ore. The Gold Belt is operated under lease by J. Backstein and Archie Morrison.

The New York-Arizona Gold and Copper Company has taken steps to erect a 10-stamp mill and tramway at its mines in the Morenci district. This company has done a large amount of development work upon its thirty claims and has enormous bodies of both low and high grade ore blocked out. Upon its Lillian claim it has a tunnel 1,400 feet long, showing pay ore nearly the entire distance. The mines are in the heart of the Morenci gold belt.

MEXICO.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 24.—The Guanajuato Reduction Company recently placed in operation its electric railway that connects its dump at the Rayas with the mill. The power is obtained from the Guanajuato Light and Power Company.

Dr. W. Tangye, who has extensive mining interests in the Guanajuato district, Dr. W. Hyslop and S. S. Gates compose a syndicate that has acquired about thirty acres of mineral bearing land in the Autlan district of Jalisco.

A well defined vein carrying values in gold and silver, situated on the Hacienda de Ramos y Promontorio in the Inde district of Durango, has been denounced by Dr. E. Stadelmann of Inde.

A French-British syndicate represented in Mexico by Paul de Vilaine has obtained an option to purchase five of the principal mines in the Bramador district of Jalisco at $300,000. The Refugio mine in that district was recently purchased by Mr. de Vilaine for $40,000.

Richard Honey, Jr., has denounced about 600 acres of mineral land in the Zimapan district of Hidalgo. The property contains outcroppings of gold, silver, copper and iron. He has named the claim La Victoria.

Alexander G. Dixon of San José del Oro, Hidalgo, has acquired title from the Government to about 1,600 acres of mineral bearing land in the Zimipan district.

The new twenty ton mill and concentrating plant at the Certuchena y Anexas gold mines in the Ahuacatlan district, Territory of Tepic, were recently placed in operation. A. R. Byrd of San Antonio, Tex., and associates, who own these mines, expect to erect a cyanide plant and install an air compressor and drills. There are fourteen mines. Some of them contain ancient workings.

It is reported that the Seguranza mine in the Zacualpan district is in a body of high grade ore which runs as high as fifteen kilos silver to the ton. Large bodies of low grade ore have also been disclosed. George A. Waddell of San Luis Potosi is the chief owner.

The Zaragosa Mining Company is working two veins, the Zaragosa and the San Ernesto in its mines in the Zacatecas district. Although the work is confined to blocking out the ore the production averages three cars a week shipped to the smelter at Aguscalientes. The ore runs high in copper and contains good silver and gold values. The company also has a sixty ton concentrating plant in operation.

A group of mines called La Vaca, situated in the San Juan de Guadalupe district near the border line between Durango and Zacatecas, was purchased recently by James E. Boland and O. T. Mattox. Some of these mines contain ancient Spanish workings said to have yielded quantities of rich ore. The veins are from three to four feet wide and carry $50 to $60 gold a ton.

Frank H. Sistermans and associates, who own the San Martin mines in Oaxaca, have given an option on them for $500,000.

WASHINGTON.

SEATTLE, Jan. 24.—Considerable claim "jumping" was done in Chinson district on New Year's morning. At least four companies are out because of neglecting to do their assessment work for 1909. The Saranack group of five claims was one of the most important properties to change hands; others were the Jumbo, Old Germany and Star Fraction. The Saranack was equipped with a compressor plant and power drills.

The Duluth-Toroda Company, operating the old Bodie mine, has mined some very rich ore since the new organization took charge a few months ago. The stamp mill saves about 95 per cent. of the values on the amalgam plates and by cyaniding process. Sacked ore is now being shipped to the Grand Forks smelter. It is said to be the richest ever shipped out of Okanogan county in any quantity. The property is situated on Toroda Creek, about fourteen miles southeast of Chesaw and about twelve miles from the railroad. Selected samples assaying over $1,000 are common.

Two crews are being worked on the property of the Florence Rae Mining Company, four miles up the north fork of the Skykomish. This property shows a fine ledge of high grade chalcopyrite ore. The company also owns the local telephone line.

Work will be prosecuted diligently this year on the Owasco claim in the Okanogan. The holdings of the Owasco company embrace the old group of claims on the north bank of the Similkameen River, a couple of miles above Oroville, formerly known as the Okanogan free gold mining country. It is the only mining property in Okanogan county that has ever paid a dividend, a small dividend having been declared and paid just ten years ago. Much prospecting has been done on the claims in past years. A ten stamp mill was erected. There is a large quartz exposure under as well as over ground, and recently the new company employed an expert to make a thorough examination and test of the quartz. His report was submitted at the Monday meeting and it shows that conservative sampling shows an average value of $13.50 in gold to the ton.

A four foot streak of solid galena ore was broken into this week in the shaft of the Kettle River mine.

The Tom Thumb mine is shipping an average of one car of ore per day to the smelters. While some exploration work is going on, most of the men are engaged in stoping ore at the 200 foot level.

A force of forty men is stoping ore from the New Republic mine above the No. 4 tunnel level. Regular shipments are being made. The expectation that the New Republic would equal the Old Republic in the quality of its product is being realized.

ALASKA.

SEATTLE, Jan. 24.—A despatch from Fairbanks says reports received there from the Koyukuk district, east of Norton Bay, go far toward confirming the advices brought in a few weeks ago of an unusually rich gold strike. Straggling prospectors brought word last December that several good strikes had been made and despite the lateness of the season quite a number started out for the new diggings. The word now brought in is that several cleanups have been made from winter dumps and in some cases $400 to the pan was washed. Everything points to a stampede.

Men returning from the Iditarod declare that section to be a false alarm, pay rarely running more than 6 cents to the pan. Prospectors who have been well over the ground characterize it as spotted in the extreme.

Despite recent statements from Nome and Fairbanks characterizing the Iditarod district as a false alarm a number of parties are outfitting at Cordova to strike out for the new country early next month. Most of them will go up to Susitna and from there follow an almost direct route to the diggings. A number of old time prospectors are at Cordova and they are inclined to characterize the reports coming from Nome and Fairbanks as attempts to hold back a stampede.

"Conflicting reports are brought by four prospectors who are direct from Otter Creek and three of whom reached this city Sunday afternoon," says a letter from Fairbanks. "George Morley of Ester Creek, who was reported to have gone outside by way of Seward, was one of the three and he is far from discouraged. Mat Hollern and William Riley, prospectors, gave up two lays they had in the Iditarod and are back with no word of commendation for the new diggings and heartily discouraged. Gil Edgar, who sublet a 600 foot lay on the upper end of 3 below, Otter, and left the diggings in company with Morley, is at Hot Springs and will arrive in Fairbanks shortly. Messrs. Hollern and Riley came here from Otter in just one month, travelling via Diskaket and Nulato. From Russell, Chisholm and McLean they obtained a 400 foot lay on 2 below, Otter. They say they sank nine holes on this piece of ground and did not find even colors. In all they staked sixteen claims, some of which were on Little Caribou, Slate and Bonanza creeks. They sank one hole each on their Slate Creek and Bonanza Creek claims, getting nothing. They say nothing has been found of any consequence since last summer."

Quartz Creek presents a lively appearance this winter. Never before has there been so much work going on there. The whole creek, from Nos. 18 to 27 inclusive, is being actively worked. There are over fifty persons employed, and by the pannings reported this portion of Quartz Creek will have a golden harvest, according to advices from Dawson.

A correspondent writes that on the upper part of the creek many steam plants are at work and some excellent pay has been found in new ground. Good pay is being found in fresh places and there are some capital lays to be let on favorable terms which would suit men who are waiting round Dawson for "something to turn up." There are claims where men can go to work and take out excellent pay on the first day just ready for willing workers with an 80 per cent. agreement. There is not an idle man on the creek.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

SEATTLE, Jan. 24.—A copy of the Omineca *Herald* just received here says that work has been started on the Silver Cup on Nine Mile Mountain on the Skeena and a 200 foot tunnel will be driven on the property at once.

The Ethel Silver Mining Company, whose property is located a mile and a half from Trout Lake City, B. C., and which consists of two claims, 1500 by 1500 feet each, reports a shipment of a car of ore containing 838 sacks to the Consolidated Smelting Company at Trail, B. C. This is the first the company has shipped for some time.

The Velvet at Rossland continues to make regular shipments of high grade ore each week. This is found principally on the hanging wall and in ledges in the ridges. The high grade ore will run from $20 to $80 and more to the ton, with at times more than two ounces of gold and as much as 8 per cent. copper. The high grade ore represents only a small portion of the ledge matter, as there is a very large quantity of ore that will go $10 to the ton. What is wanted in order to ship this ore is a railway built up Sheep Creek Valley to the Velvet, a distance of about nine miles. Then a short aerial tramway could be constructed from the mine to the railway to convey the ore down the mountain side. With such transportation facilities the $10 ore could be made yield a profit. The formation is comparatively soft and the cost of mining is not great. The cost of mining at the Velvet does not exceed $1.50 to the ton.

Reports from Erie say that another mine in that camp is rapidly coming to the front, the Lucky Boy. Returns from the smelter are showing very high values and development work has opened up a large body of ore.

Some placer gold has been found on the bars of the Frozen River up to Clearwater Junction, also on some of the tributaries. In 1891 a modern dredge built by F. Satchill Clarke of Vancouver was operating twelve miles above Kamloops, but the work was discontinued owing to the shallow nature of the bar deposits. Several fair showings of mineral in place have been made recently on Jamieson Creek, on Lewis Creek and on Barriere River. Also a point in Rat River some quartz and galena have been found. Galena, zinc blende, pyrites and quartz with fair gold and silver values appear to constitute the prevailing ore.

LAKE SUPERIOR COPPER.

HOUGHTON, Jan. 28.—The discovery of the so-called Indiana lode has for the moment shifted public interest from the famous Lake bed. Already two new flotations are in prospect. The proposed companies will operate on land lying next northeast of the Indiana. It is expected the extension of the Indiana lode will be found.

On the Indiana property diamond drilling continues with three machines. A fourth will go into commission in the horizon of the new lode at a point approximately 600 feet from the No. 2 hole in which the discovery was made. The object of the new hole is a further test of values and to determine the dip and strike. Shaft sinking will begin in the spring. The peculiar character of the Indiana lode has made it quite impossible to determine its exact width. The drill after passing through forty feet of very rich ground entered poor ground alternating with further streaks of rich ground and now bottomed nearly 200 feet below the point where the lode was first entered in a sort of mixed sandstone and felsite.

During the last week Adventure has drilled from the bottom of the new vertical shaft into an amygdaloid lode. The new lode shows a width of 17 feet, exceptionally rich. The lode may be identical with No. 1 Adventure.

At the Lake mine copper ground of extraordinary richness is still found at all the points of attack. Drifting is in progress from the second to the sixth level inclusive. Diamond drilling at the sixth indicates that the extraordinary values revealed in the openings on the levels above persist to greater depth. The first regular weekly shipment to the Franklin stamp mill went forward late last week. The result of the last mill run was sixty-nine pounds of mineral to the ton of rock. The company expects to maintain regular shipments of about 1,000 tons weekly.

Mohawk's first crosscut in the new No. 6 shaft has penetrated the lode twelve feet, exposing copper ground of exceptional richness. The entire face of the crosscut, sixteen feet wide, reveals ground fully as rich as that noted in the best drifts in the Ahmeek mine next adjoining, ground that will probably yield 2 per cent. mineral. The new shaft commands 3,500 feet of the strike of the Kearsarge lode.

Centennial has temporarily ceased shaft sinking and is confining all activity on the creation of lateral openings. The situation at and below the twenty-fifth level was never so good as at present.

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CONFIDENCE.

Unusual interest in American securities is again manifest throughout the world. Technically the American stock market is again sound after the Rock Island episode and the scandalous, keen manipulation of Hocking Coal and Iron. The governors of the New York Stock Exchange can be trusted implicitly in their work to make such further campaigns of destruction impossible, and I believe that Governor Hughes has also full and complete faith in their determination to work for the public good.

The remnants of ruinous Rooseveltism are in the hands of the country's highest tribunal. How that seven year long unjust, unfair, vindictive campaign against business and vested rights in America by its strenuous, youthful first Executive will be treated by the sober, mature Judges of the highest court is of momentous importance to capital here and abroad, but especially to labor at home.

The prosperity of the laboring classes in America is more dependent upon the confidence of domestic and foreign capital in fair treatment of corporations by a strong and sane government than that of any commodity offering itself for sale.

It was the injudicial, untenable ROOSEVELTIAN-LANDIS DECISION fining the Standard Oil Company $29,000,000 which, by scaring capital, put America's labor out of business in August, 1907, resulting in the historical ROOSEVELT PANIC of October that year, wrecking thousands of homes. It was the remittance of that befogged, deliberate attempt at socialistic confiscation, that sound, scathing, reversing opinion of the Supreme Court which encouraged capital to begin again the employment of labor because of returning confidence in the judicial branch of America's government.

The vote to return the executive branch of the government into trusted hands gave further impetus to business by the election in November, 1908, and the final exit of Roosevelt on March 4, 1909, gave to labor at once full employment, because capital then also regained absolute confidence in the executive branch of America's government after reading President Taft's first message to Congress.

President William Howard Taft could have received no higher compliment, but also no higher responsibility, from the people. Has President Taft proved worthy and will he continue to prove worthy of the compliment and the responsibilities intrusted to him by the American people on March 4, 1909, by full employment of labor? To this I feel confident that we all must answer yes with emphasis. President Taft by word and deed has proved worthy of everybody's confidence.

But the remnants of Rooseveltism, the Tobacco case, the Standard Oil suit, as well as the suit against Union Pacific, are soon to be weighed in the scales of justice by the highest tribunal of our land.

In spite of the upholding of the lower courts' judicial opinion in the Northern Securities case, as well as owing to the reversal by the Supreme Court of the infamous Landis decision, both of which fair and deliberate Supreme Court judgments greatly benefited the securities of the properties involved, we witness to-day hesitation on the part of holders of securities of all kinds owing to the temporary uncertainties thrust upon the possessors of the valuable equities, entangled into lawsuits by Rooseveltism, now soon at an end even in name.

Is there any more reason to-day to fear the ultimate results of the highest judicial branch of our government in deciding wisely the cases of Tobacco, Standard Oil or Union Pacific for the benefit of all concerned than there was before? To this question I take the responsibility of answering decidedly—No.

Not only Mr. Hill, who has been through the racket before and who learned that two certificates—a blue and a red one—were more valuable than one green one, but Mr. Duke, Mr. Rockefeller and Mr. Morgan—in fact, all the great men of our country, who have showed us how to make money and how to keep it—all these men well understand that no confiscation of property or stoppage of business will take place, no matter which way the Supreme Court kills the last puffs of Roosevelt. The Supreme Court has proved even for a much longer time as worthy of its trust as has President Taft of his, and it is with gratitude toward those two safe, strong branches, the judicial and executive ones, of our government that we may henceforth look with hope and even with confidence toward future improvement in the third branch of our government, that of our legislative.

Thanks to the firm, fair example of the Supreme Court and President Taft I feel confident that blatherskite legislation is nearing its end in America. The people—the real court of absolutely final resort, THAT OF PUBLIC OPINION—is sick and tired of the tax, the expense and the intolerable burden of paying lawyers for fooling the people in order to make their living. The people will henceforth frown upon any further attempts of enmity from its own government against their business interests. The people at last understand that seven years of Rooseveltism was the ONLY MONSTROUS COMBINATION IN RESTRAINT OF TRADE, ending in paralysis and starvation. The Return from Elba Club will have to dissolve for lack of dues to furnish their members with luxurious living in gilded halls.

With the flickering out of the candle of Rooseveltism capital all over the world will at last have regained complete confidence in all three branches of America's government. What this influence means for commerce