

Mohave County Miner.

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Mining Interests Saved All Others.

President Wm. L. Saunders, of the Ingersol-Rand company, large manufacturers of mining machinery, says in an interview published on Thursday: "Mining is somewhat like farming, in that it is a business that can always find quick cash markets for its producers. The mining interests of this country have saved all of us from what looked like a long period of commercial depression, as the most sagacious financiers saw the business prospect last year. Our gold production has exerted a most powerful energy in the uplift of the industries of the whole country.

"The quickening of business which is happily going on throughout the land is, in great part due to the results from the tremendous energies of our mine operators, who kept right on developing and marketing products despite the stormy financial skies of last year. Those men who kept right on adding enormously to the resources of the country demonstrated practical patriotism that everybody ought to appreciate.

"When silver mining was hit hard a few years ago, croakers said that the silver industry was almost destroyed. But the silver mine operators were made of sterling metal. Silver mining has a great future. The great silver using countries are making forward strides in population and increase of the purchasing power of units of population. The expansion of gold production is helping the silver, copper, lead, iron and other mining industries, and, in fact, is stimulating the increase of the material well being of people in all lands.

"It is remarkable that in a community like New York, which is most largely engaged in ordinary merchandising at very small profits, there are so many men who regard mining as a speculative business. Mining is an exact science, devoted to strictly commercial ends, and it is by far the most profitable business in the world. Speculation is a very small factor in mining. No other interest has paid or is likely to pay so well upon the capital invested as legitimate mining. Compare the results from investments in railroads for many years with the annals of sound mining, and it is easy to see that railroading, in comparison with mining, may be termed a speculative pursuit, whereas mining has made a record that places it among the steadiest dividend earners known in modern times."

Fast Time Being Made on Smelter.

"I expect that this smelter company will be buying ore in 60 days from this time," were the words spoken the first of the week by Jno. F. Loder, the builder for the Santa Barbara Co.

Returning travelers state that at the smelter site, a half mile below Nelson, Eldorado Canyon, the work is going ahead with all possible speed and the buildings now assuming large proportions. At night from a little distance off the many lights give the appearance of a large settlement.

The placing of the heaviest machinery in the main building has been accomplished and the frame work which was arrested for that purpose is now receiving the finishing touches. The sampler house is going up on higher ground adjacent to the smelter proper.

Many other buildings of considerable size has been completed, such as pump and engine house, tool house, blacksmith and machine shop and cook house. Also there are several minor frame structures. Road building and a hundred and one other details are receiving due attention.

A large number of properties in all stages of development, from the least to the greatest, have been heard from as indicating their desire to deliver ore at the earliest possible moment.

Mr. Loder, the manufacturer of the smelter, who, as before stated, will remain now on the ground to the blowing-in time, and further for the practical demonstration, has stated that the only unsolved problem is that of sufficient ore, and this feature now appears to be favorably solved.

Mr. Loder was formerly a smelter

man with the Guggenheim people and at the opening of this new enterprise he is assured of visits from their representatives as well as other representative mining men from the principal mining centers.—Searchlight Bulletin.

Rich Exhibits in Copper Queen Pits.

A remarkable rich exhibit can be seen in one of the big Copper Queen mixing pits. This pit is 12 feet deep, 30 feet wide and 700 feet long. It was full of what resembled rich mortar, about the color of chocolate, the result of mixing the rich Nacozari concentrates with flue dust, the whole mass wet down to the consistency of thick mud. The concentrates are the result of reducing 4 per cent. copper to concentrates, six tons into one, and therefore run approximately 24 per cent. The flue dust runs about 8 per cent., so the combination is about as rich as it looks.

The big steam shovel was handling this material into the charge cars at a very rapid rate, the charge train is then run under the coke bins for its share of fuel, and when fed into the big furnaces the converters soon have something to do, and the big rotary caster or molder was tossing the bars into the tank in rapid succession.

This is an intensely interesting process if one should take the trouble to follow the ore from the pit to the molds which only requires a few minutes. Judging from the volume of concentrates arriving every day, the new concentrator at Nacozari must be almost in full commission while the old one continues to turn out its share. The two, when in full blast have a capacity of 2,750 tons of ore per twenty-four hours. The stock of ore in the stock pile has been appreciably lowered of late.

The work of re-lining one of the big pits is progressing rapidly, the walls being constructed of tufa and mortar about four feet in thickness, put up along these lines of thoroughness for which the Copper Queen has ever been distinguished.

The power house now has twenty-four engines, and it is as clean as a parlor, and Master Mechanic Adamson, concurred in the suggestion that it was the finest in the west.

One new engine was started off February 22, and has never stopped since, and the master mechanic said he did not know whether it could be stopped or not, it has got into such a habit of running. The reverberatory was started again and is running satisfactorily.—American.

The Pearce Mine.

Last Sunday the Commonwealth mine at Pearce, which is connected with the main line by a branch running south from Cochise, 32 miles east of Benson, shipped ten bars of gold and silver bullion, worth about 18,000\$. This mine ships bullion every two weeks, and must be producing considerable more than 1,000\$ per day, with about 125 men on the pay roll, working in the mine, mills, etc.

This mine is said to have produced over 32,000,000\$ since its discovery. Last year the sworn statement given in as a basis for taxation was 262,227.86\$, and the output appears to be increasing. It has only been sunk about 700 feet deep, and good ore was taken from the bottom, where water requires to be pumped. At present the output comes from the 400 foot level. Both stamp mill and cyanide tanks are used to extract the values, which at present are about five times the value in silver to one in gold. At the surface the value was principally gold. Messrs. Swatling & Smith are working the mine under a lease.—Benson Press.

The federal railroad commission has not yet acted on the matter of raising freight rates on coal, but according to news from Mexico City that body will probably act in the next week or two. The smelter, mine and manufacturing interests have been putting in strong protests against the raise asked for by the railroads. Fuel of all kinds are so high in Mexico that it is the general consensus of opinion that if the freight rates are raised many industries will be crippled, mining particularly.—Chihuahua Enterprise.

Quartette Co. Installs Larger Cornish Pump.

He who runs, or makes observations from the hill top, will note the decidedly progressive condition at the Quartette mine. Of most importance, and far reaching at that, was the dropping down the shaft this week of a big Cornish pump. This plainly is the forerunner of additional sinking below the 10th level. At this lowest level there is an 18 foot sump where the water flow calls for a double shift of pump men.

This increase of water down below is of great benefit. Not long back it was a mooted question, in general discussion, if with the extra water requirements of the recently installed cyanide plant would not cut down the operation of the usual number of stamps at the mill. The contrary has been true, and 30 to 35 stamps are now the number in action.

During the past 30 days there have been two clean-ups of the plates. This is not uncommon and also spells progress. The continuous operation of even 30 stamps is a tidy production, meaning, approximately, 100 tons daily of ore. In the mine production this does not take into account the high-grade, regarding which the mine management is never discursive. Rawhide may rave, and Goldfield may gloat over their wonderful specimen rock, but the Quartette, in a class all by itself, recks not and is superlatively silent. Only, it is common knowledge that there is, undoubtedly, more handsome jewelry shaped about Quartette specimens than of any other in Nevada.

The new cyanide plant of 150 tons daily capacity is one of the best in the country and equipped with all the most up-to-date features. Six mules are kept busy on the big dump rustling dirt to the conveyor.

There are upwards of 100 men on the mine pay roll, and all signs point to a steady increase, particularly with the installation of pumps and machinery, now going on, to explore greater depths.—Searchlight Bulletin.

Electric Pump a Failure.

Salt Lake City, Oct. 2.—According to a prominent stockholder in the Swansea Consolidated, the electric pump recently installed in that mine has proved something of a disappointment. A sinking pump that declines to perform its functions when it gets wet, he says, is not just the thing with which to undertake the unwatering of a mine. The mine is equipped with a Cameron steam pump and the new electric sinker. The former is being operated at its capacity, but that is not great enough to make any material gain on the water, and the electrical pump is practically useless as a helper because "every time it gets wet it burns out." An electric station pump might work all right, but results are not being obtained in the efforts to reach the bottom of the mine with the electric sinker.

"I see the impression has got out," said the stockholder, "that the mine is not capable of supplying enough water to the Knight smelter. That is a mistake. The Cameron sinker alone handles much more water than the smelter has any use for, and the fact that it has been so far impossible to lower the water to the bottom of the mine indicates that the ground can be depended upon to always supply the smelting works with all the water needed, even after the present capacity of the works is more than doubled."

No word has been received concerning the development of the new ore bodies in southern country on the level, but the belief is expressed by those familiar with the mine that the strike is going to prove an important one, both as respects the quantity and quality of the ore.

Uncover Big Zinc Deposits.

A writer in the Goldfield News tells an interesting story of the discovery of zinc in the southern part of Lincoln county 45 miles southwest of Las Vegas. The metal comes in the form of zinc carbonate. As illustrative of the limitations of ordinary human discernment, the true character of these great deposits was utterly unknown until

about two years ago. For the past 25 years this locality has been prized for its lead. Though far removed from railroad and smelting facilities, this metal has been mined and the best of it shipped, in a fitful way, ever since 1893. Accompanying this lead were extensive dykes of a light brittle yellow colored material, that was contemptuously flung over the dump as worthless ledge matter or "casing," until some restless fellows took the pains to have it analyzed. It reminded them of something they had seen in Mexico. The returns showed a large percentage of zinc. Then everybody got busy sending away samples, and it was soon found that Goodsprings had ten tons of zinc to one of lead.

Now, when a big discovery is made in gold or silver, there straightway comes the inevitable stampede—and another Tonopah or Goldfield. But it didn't prove that way at Goodsprings, for the simple reason that under existing conditions all this zinc ore was as valueless as that many piles of dead cactus.

Happily some of those who found themselves possessed of this new discovery gamely concluded that since all industries must have a beginning they would go ahead and see how much of a tonnage they could develop, believing that reduction facilities would inevitably follow the opening up of sufficient quantities of a metal that the world wanted and was paying a good price for.

This work has been going quietly on at the Potosi, Rover, Green Mountain, Monte Cristo and a number of other properties until today there are opened up ore bodies which would furnish a tonnage of 200 or 300 tons a day for a considerable length of time, and more are being continually developed. Quite a number of cars have been shipped to the zinc smelters in Kansas, more as a test than anything else, and the general average was over 40 per cent. The high freight rate, however, absorbs about all the profit.

Smelter Sale Delayed Three Weeks.

The Journal-Miner says word received from New York is that the property of the Consolidated Arizona Smelting Company, the 17,500,000\$ concern in which Chas. W. Morse was heavily interested and which failed a few months ago, which was to have been sold last Monday by J. Kearney Rice, the trustee in bankruptcy.

The highest bid previous to today was 150,000\$, the purchaser to settle two mortgages aggregating with interest about 250,000\$. A higher bid of 165,000\$ was made today and after that bid had been recorded, the trustee

was notified that a syndicate composed of Chas. W. Morse, Ladenberg Thalmann & Co., the Assets Realization Co., which is acting for Mr. Morse, and the National Bank of North America, would make a still higher bid. The sale for that reason was put over for three weeks.

The National Bank of North America holds a 500,000\$ note of the smelting company with stock as collateral. This note is a part of the bank's paper that Receiver Hanna has marked off as practically worthless. The intention of Mr. Morse and his associates to secure the property indicates that he has some plan in mind to realize at least a little something on the note.

Thomas W. Lawson holds a quantity of the consolidated stock as does Chas. G. Gates.

Directors Close Up Fulton Plant.

San Francisco, Sept. 29.—The directors of the Fulton Iron works, one of the best known concerns of its kind on the coast, today announced their determination of closing down the plant and going into voluntary liquidation. A lack of business in their line is declared to be the reason for the action taken.

It was stated that the directors believed it more prudent to cease operations than to attempt to continue business at a loss. The assets, it is said are more than enough to pay the obligations. A committee of creditors, headed by Frank P. Anderson, vice president of the Bank of California, was appointed to convert the property of the corporation into cash.

The Fulton Iron works during the fifty years it has been in existence, has built fully 500 vessels, including many now afloat on the bay and along the coast. By its present owners it is valued at 1,000,000\$. The company was controlled by a close corporation composed largely of the members of the family of James Spiers, general manager, and by far the largest stockholder. The plant was established in 1858 by D. D. Hinckley & Co., as a small foundry.

A Rubber Territory.

It is reported from Rio de Janeiro that a highly important discovery of rubber-bearing territory has just been made on the river Picaju, and the discoverer is of opinion that the rubber is practically inexhaustible, even if 2,000 men are employed on working it for the next twenty years. The mouth of the Picaju is only a few days' sail by steamer from Belem, otherwise known as Para, the seaport and capital of the Brazilian province of Para, which is traversed by the lower Amazon.—Boston Commercial.

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