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Butte as a Producer of Zinc Ores.

Butte, Mont., May 7.—The completion of the custom zinc concentrator of former United States Senator W. A. Clark marks an epoch in the mining industry of Butte. This plant, the first of its kind in the Northwest, will mean the successful and profitable mining of large bodies of low-grade silver-zinciferous ores, in which the mines of Butte abound, and which, heretofore, have defied successful treatment. In fact, it is believed that the Clark method of handling zinc ores will in time bring Butte to the front as one of the principal zinc producing districts.

The Clark concentrator, the result of long and elaborate experiments, has begun receiving custom zinc ores, starting on shipments from the Butte & Superior and the Elm Orlu mines. The plant has a capacity of 300 tons of ore a day, and will produce about 125 tons of about 40 per cent zinc concentrates, carrying in addition about 25 ounces of silver, about 4 per cent copper and 1 1/2 in gold. About two or two and one-eighth tons of crude ore will be concentrated into one ton of product, the grade of the crude ore determining in a measure the degree of concentration.

The Butte & Superior company has about 200,000 tons of from 18 to 20 per cent zinc ore blocked out, and is now hoisting 50 tons of ore a day thrown down in the running of drifts. An agreement has been made between the Clark interests and the Butte & Superior company, whereby an immense tonnage of the zinc ore will be milled, enough to determine whether the Butte & Superior people will want to erect a mill of their own or enter into a longer time contract with the Clark interests.

All of the Elm Orlu zinc ores will be shipped to the Clark plant. The Elm Orlu mine is owned by Senator Clark and his son, W. A. Clark, Jr. This property adjoins the Butte & Superior on the west and south, and the zinc belt extending through these two properties is not exceeded by any zinc deposits in the United States, the silver contents and the absence of lead imparting values to the Butte zinc ores not in evidence generally in other zinc-producing districts.

The zinc belt of Butte lies north of the city and extends east and west for a distance of about two miles and is several hundred feet wide, with big copper bodies interspersing at different points. In this belt zinc bodies ranging in width from 10 to 30 feet are to be found, with zinc values running from 15 to 25 per cent. Many Butte properties have been rendered practically worthless by the predominance of the zinc and the inability to mine the ore at a profit.

All of the concentrates will be shipped to the Beer-Shonheim company of New York under a three-year contract. The zinc smelter of this company is located at Bartlesville, Oklahoma, where natural gas is used in the reduction of the ores.

Company Takes Over Old Yarnell Mine.

A company capitalized at two and a half million dollars was formed at the Hotel Adams recently to take over and work the Yarnell gold mine a few miles east of Congress Junction. The president of the new company is C. J. Price, a mining expert from South Africa, where he has been engaged for the past fifteen years in treating low grade ores such as the Yarnell property is chiefly composed of.

Thomas J. Sparks will be the general manager of the company and on the board of directors will be C. B. Stewart of Kansas City, G. D. Lytle of Topeka and T. G. Norris of Prescott, who will act as counsel for the company, and Lewis A. Dunham of New York, Mr. Dunham and Mr. Price will superintend the engineering work which the company proposes to put in at once.

The new development work of the company will consist in the enlargement of the twenty stamp mill which is now on the property and the installation of more modern and efficient machinery. According to one of the

directors there is now in sight over 150,000 tons of ore and this will be treated after the most approved and modern methods.

The Yarnell mine, up to a year ago, had not been worked for twenty years. Before that time a good lot of ore was taken out with remarkable showings in spots. The ore averages about 7 1/2 a ton and the cost of reducing it was one of the reasons why work on the mine ceased. With better machinery it is thought that it can be made a valuable paying proposition.

Mr. Sparks has had control of the mine since a year ago and in that time has had a force of men at work on it and has taken out a good deal of gold. The force will now be increased and everything done to make the company a dividend paying corporation.

Mr. Price came to Arizona a week ago to look over the property and after a careful examination decided to enter the directorate of the company and take charge of the engineering work. —Arizona Republican.

Austin to be a Great Producer.

The Austin correspondent of the Tonopah Sun says: Austin ores can be treated in a local mill at a cost of 28 per ton. It costs from 15 to 21 1/2 a ton to ship and treat this same ore at Salt Lake City. What this means to Austin and the great mining region on both sides of the Tolyabe range is more vividly impressed on the mind, when it is authentically stated that the 50,000,000 and more that came from the Austin mines in the past has been made from less than 30 per cent of the mineral contents of the veins worked.

The other 70 per cent of the ores of this camp have heretofore been a source of expense. This great tonnage is now to be transformed into an element of profit. A profit will not only be made from the mining of high grade ore in the future. This solution of the Austin milling problem makes immediately available a vast tonnage of low and medium grade ore that has accumulated from mining the enormous quantities of high grade during the past fifty years, all of which is now contained in the dumps, or used as filling in the mines.

The best evidence that the new regime in Austin has approached its task in a conservative, business-like manner is shown in the work done in the past ten months in solving the problem of ore reduction in a local plant. This work has been done by D. C. Boley of the Black Hills.

It is safe to say that there is no other point in Nevada which has within a shorter radius more mining properties opened up and ready to break ore. The halt in operations was called when bills for shipment and smelter charges came in. Cheaper milling at home will end the era of idleness for Austin's milling plant will handle custom ores.

Options Taken on Christmas.

Options upon the Saddle Mountain, London-Arizona, London Range and Ball Copper company properties in Christmas, Pima county, have been secured by Edward B. Kurtz on behalf of the American Finance and Securities company, of which he is president, and if the report of experts who are now making an examination is favorable, all will be purchased and consolidated under one management.

Mr. Kurtz was a visitor in Tucson for a short time today. He left this morning for the El Tiro mine. The American Finance and Securities company is interested in the El Tiro mine in this county, which it financed.

The four groups concerned in the deal are situated right at Christmas and comprise 3000 acres of land. This is one of the biggest moves in the Arizona mining field made since Mr. Kurtz's concern organized the Development Company of America to take over the mines at Tombstone, Silverbell, Poland and Congress.

Mr. Kurtz arrived in Phenix a week ago from New York. He was met by his brother, C. L. Kurtz of Columbus, Ohio, who has charge of the mines at Guansuato, Mexico, which the American Finance and Securities company owns.

"I never saw a district where the surface conditions were better than they are about Christmas," said Edward B. Kurtz. "The four groups upon which we have secured options all look good to me, but I am not a mining man and of course can't say what he will do about the consolidation we have planned until we have the report of our experts. They will be busy sampling for fully a week. If the properties are as good as we think they are, the deal is certain to be made and as soon as the P. & E. railroad is completed, we will erect a 1000-ton smelter. In the meantime we will do development work. Little development has been done upon any of the groups except the Saddle mountain." —Tucson Citizen.

Smelterman at Pioche.

William Bradley, a smelting man who makes his home in Spokane, is in camp for the purpose of looking up the matter of tonnage with the view of making this the location of a large smelting plant. He has visited a number of the principal mines of the district, including the Ohio-Kentucky, Prince Consolidated, Mendha and Day, and to the Record expressed himself as being well pleased with what he had seen.

"I have seen much more developed ore in your district," he declared, "than I anticipated I would. The results obtained in the newer mines, taking into consideration the comparatively short time in which they have been under development, is really marvelous." While Mr. Bradley had no hesitancy in speaking out as to what he thinks of the camp and believing thoroughly in its great possibilities for the future, he was unwilling to disclose the identity of the interests which he represents.

But the big smelting concerns in Utah have had their scouts out. James Breen, formerly connected with the Heinze mining interests in Butte, was here a few weeks ago and it was hinted at the time that his visit had something to do with the International Smelting company, which has become a potent factor in Breen's visit, it has been announced that Mr. Heinze had given up his lease on the Majestic smelter at Milford and that his contract for the ores from the Silver King Coalition mine at Park City and the Ohio Copper mine at Bingham, Utah, would be turned over to the International company, which is building a mammoth smelter at Tooele, Utah.

That the international company is seeking to come to Nevada too, there seems to be no question, and Pioche offers a better field than any other camp in the state. It is just possible that Mr. Bradley and Mr. Breen are working together. —Pioche, Nevada, Record.

Gratitude.

'Tis a rare dog indeed that will bite the hand which feeds him, for in his dumb way he realizes that kindness should be met with gratitude. But an ungrateful dog would be more excusable than an ungrateful human, and there are many of the latter who show their true colors in the mining business. It is so easy for the man some hundreds of miles away to frame up a deal on the fellow who is putting up the money in the city. In the performance of the annual assessment work there are so many ways for the owner of the ground to lose out owing to the negligence or crooked dealing of the party employed to do it. Often a man is hired to do the annual work on mining claims and is furnished the money necessary to do the same, but unless a close watch is kept the man in the faraway city is apt to find himself holding the short end. There have been many instances of this kind brought to our attention lately. It seems to be a growing evil which ought to be checked.

Of course the law will eventually restore property lost in this way, where good intentions are shown, but this often necessitates expensive litigation and wasted time, preventing many cases from being justly settled. An example of gross ingratitude lately occurred in a Nevada camp. A syndi-

cate of hard working men had been putting up for the work on a group of claims. The miner who had located the ground on a grubstake was in charge of the work, and failing to do the required amount, left the ground open for relocation the first of the year. It has transpired since, that he had opened up a big thing on the property, covered it up and waited until the ground would be open. He then had others file on the claims for him and has wrested the property from those who had put up their money in good faith. A lawsuit will probably result, but it will cost much and the outcome is uncertain. Claim jumpers of this sort are in the same class with horse thieves and should be accorded the same punishment. —Salt Lake Mining Review.

The Southern Pacific is one of the largest consumers of crude oil for fuel purposes in the world. It burns on its engines about 30,000 barrels of oil daily, which is equivalent to 10,000 tons of coal. It is claimed that the

road saves through the use of this oil as compared to coal enough to pay interest on its bonded indebtedness. These are facts which should be of interest to many. The coal necessary to equal as a fuel this amount of oil, at 78 a ton, would cost the road 70,000 a day. The oil costs but 18,000 daily, estimating the oil at its commercial price in large lots at 60 cents a barrel. The road owns large areas of proven oil lands and produces vast quantities of oil, but not enough to supply its demands, hence it is one of the largest purchasers of California and Texas oils. —Copper Era.

Cholera Morbus Cured.

This is one of the most severe and dangerous diseases. In almost every neighborhood someone has died from it. Mrs. W. E. Smith of La Marque, Texas, writes: "My little girl was taken with cholera morbus. The attack was so severe that I feared she would die. A druggist advised me to give her Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, which I did and three doses of it relieved her." For sale by H. H. Watkins.

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