

MINES AND MINING

LIKE A BOONANCE IS MINING STORY

HOW FRED BIRNEY FOUND GREENWATER DISTRICT

Spokane Prospector Discovered Gold
Accidentally and Drove Off Claim

Jumpers at the Point of a
Revolver

Intensely interesting is the story of how Fred Birney of Spokane discovered the Greenwater copper district in Inyo county, California, where Patrick Clark, also of Spokane, and a number of eastern capitalists are now developing rich properties. Birney is living quietly in Spokane. While he has passed more than a dozen years in the mining camps of the inland empire and California and Nevada, he does not look the part of an experienced prospector. He came to this country seventeen years ago from Belfast, Ireland, where his father is a shoe manufacturer.

It was he who first located the properties now owned and operated by the Furnace Creek Copper company.

Mr. Birney, who was accompanied by Phil Creasor on the prospecting trip to the Death valley region of California, has told the story of the "find" in these words:

"Phil Creasor and I left Goldfield, Nev., December 13, 1904, well outfitted for an extensive prospecting trip into the desert. We had nothing particular in view. Our only purpose was to get into some part of the great desert which had not been previously prospected.

"We loaded our outfit on four large Spanish burros and struck out for the south. We prospected along from one camp to another until we came to Ash Meadows on the Amargosa river. We found there an Indian family in camp and one of the Indians, Bob Black, who could speak a little English, told us of a section of mountain and desert thirty-five to forty miles away that had never been penetrated by white men. Two days after the Indian gave us this information he murdered his squaw, his brother and two white men.

Tip by an Indian

"We loaded the burros with as much water as they could carry in five gallon cans, 160 pounds of water to each animal, set out for the region described by this Indian. We had to put the burros on short rations of water. We gave them one drink a day, two gallons to an animal; but hobbled them and let them rustle for the night.

"We worked our way up to the dry mountains and made camp one night at a point about six miles from the discovery. We were up at daylight the next morning, and about 4:30 o'clock I discovered some little pieces of copper, not larger than that of my thumb, which had evidently drifted down the dry bed of what occasionally had been a large torrent from cloudbursts. I said to Phil Creasor that I would go on ahead and prospect this wash, leaving him to follow after with the animals.

"I worked my way up the wash for five or six miles, tracing the float at different places until I came to a point where I could find no more float. This was up near the summit. The pieces of float had been getting larger and then disappeared altogether. At that point I went up over a hogback down into a little draw and there found big boulders of copper ore, and twenty or thirty feet away was the ledge, standing out like a wall. I ran back and called Creasor and we staked off six claims.

"We then walked across Death valley, Lost valley and the desert to Keelley. Our way ran across an unknown country, and we set our course by the compass. We went back a few days later and staked off sixteen more claims. As there was nobody in the country, we prospected in a leisurely way and took the cream of the district.

Luck and Destiny

"In prospecting there is a great deal of luck and destiny. I suppose I might have passed over the same route 100 times and never noticed the float if my eye had not casually fallen upon it that morning at daybreak. That country is so dry that the rocks show like salt in the copper ledges. The float I discovered that morning was undoubtedly washed down by cloudbursts.

"Mr. Creasor is one of the best prospectors in America, and no man better understands the correct way in which to stake claims.

"It is a remarkable fact that when the surveys were made later, we did not lose a foot of ground in our original locations. So carefully was all done that we have never had a contest on any of the claims.

"The nearest approach to that occurred one day when my partner had gone out for mail and I was left alone in the camp. Three adventurers came upon the ground and declared their purpose to stake some of it. They undoubtedly thought that when the surveys were made some fractions would be revealed and they would get them; but I was determined to prevent any clouding of our well earned title. We had worked three months in that desert and I felt that we were entitled to all we had discovered.

"The men had laid down their arms preparatory to staking a claim, and I was desperate enough to grab my revolver, get a drop on them and begin my argument. They promptly acquiesced in the justice of my position. I told them that I had no objection to telling them where they could stake some ground that might be available. I guided them to a point five or six miles away, which afterward was found to be quite valuable."

SAN FRANCISCO CONVENTION

Los Angeles Delegates to Meeting of the State Association

Possibly the 1907 convention of the California State Mining Association will be held in Los Angeles.

Frederick E. Dilberger, 31 E. vice president of the Ethelwyn Gold Mining company, is working actively to secure the big meeting for Los Angeles.

The annual meeting will be held in San Francisco December 2-4. The Los Angeles delegates appointed by the chamber of commerce are: Capt. H. Z. Osborne, W. G. Bradshaw, C. A. Canfield, George W. Parsons and Byron Erkenbrecher.

Officers of the state association are Alfonso A. Tregidgo, president; C. H. Dunton, vice president; F. J. Behne-man, treasurer; E. J. Ensign, acting secretary.

THE WORLD'S GOLD PRODUCTION.

In Moody's Magazine for November appear interesting comparative statistics on the world's gold production.

The world's total production in modern times has amounted to over 10,000,000,000. Figures recently compiled by J. P. Hutchens indicate that the gold production of those countries in which statistics have been kept is as follows:

The United States	1792-1905	\$2,860,854,000
Australia	1851-1905	2,539,117,000
Russia and Siberia	1814-1905	1,434,679,000
Colombia	1537-1905	895,735,000
Brazil	1691-1905	720,902,000
Africa	1887-1905	711,246,000
Mexico	1521-1905	307,161,000
Canada	1858-1905	237,202,000
Bolivia	1545-1905	199,611,000
Peru	1533-1905	119,389,000
British India	1884-1905	115,116,000
Austro-Hungary	1493-1905	70,242,000
Chile	1545-1905	33,266,000

Total \$10,244,520,000

Record Output of 1905

The world's gold production in 1905 amounted to \$379,635,413, and showed an increase of nearly \$30,550,000 or 88 per cent above the output in 1904. This increase was due chiefly to the large yields in the Transvaal.

The world's production 1903-5, arranged according to countries, is as follows, the Russian output being included under Europe:

	1903.	1904	1905.
North America	\$105,106,409	\$111,192,642	\$118,176,774
Australasia	89,206,739	87,241,662	85,970,779
Africa	68,036,433	86,249,936	113,226,971
Europe	29,132,342	29,808,900	27,668,111
Asia	25,134,755	24,839,368	24,446,336
South America	11,348,805	9,255,745	10,069,942
Other Countries	1,500,000	1,500,000	76,500

Totals \$329,465,483 \$350,088,253 \$379,635,413

COPPER STRIKE AT SEARCHLIGHT

Old Prospector Makes a Lucky Find in Nevada—Electric Lights Glowing—Another Strike at Manhattan

Herman Wesselhoff, an old desert prospector, has struck a copper deposit on the Colorado river, four miles from El Dorado canyon, which has caused considerable excitement at Searchlight. He first heard of the deposit through some Indians living in the locality about two years ago, but the story was never investigated until lately. A number of miners have visited the find and report very favorably. Recent assays run as high as 45 per cent copper. It is necessary to go by boat some distance on the river in order to reach the camp, there being no other means of transportation available and the country is so mountainous that wagon roads or trails have as yet been made. This country is all tributary to Searchlight and the outfitting is done there. Local parties are building small boats at Searchlight to use on the river in transporting their supplies to the new camp. As the country referred to has never been prospected to any extent much interest is displayed in the new strike.

Will Use Diamond Drill

The Searchlight-New York Mining company, F. W. Mitchell, president, and W. W. Hurt, general manager, both of Denver, have ordered a prospecting drill with which to prospect some of their thirty-three claims, a portion of which adjoin the town of Searchlight. A diamond drill has never been used in this district and interesting developments are looked for in the course of operating the drill after installation is \$2 per foot in the ordinary formation.

The Le Roy Mining company at 220 feet has encountered plenty of water, together with the good body of ore. It has ordered a pump with a capacity of 300,000 gallons of water per day.

New Era Mining company is down 150 feet on its American drill group. Workmen have not struck paying ore as yet, but are putting up substantial buildings and preparing to continue work indefinitely. If they have the similar experience to that of the properties adjacent to water level, which is ordinarily 250 feet.

The Searchlight Mining and Milling company is pumping 35,000 gallons of water per day. This is not enough to interfere with the work on the contrary facilitates the operation of the mill and cyanide plant. This property is in a very prosperous condition, running day and night with a force of forty-eight men employed.

Electricity in Use

The Santa Fe mine's entire electric lighting plant is in operation at Searchlight. The engine is 120 horse-power and the generator has a capacity of 2300 volts. This plant will furnish the town of Searchlight with about 5000 lights, besides furnishing a number of the mines with light and power. F. Keegel, electrical engineer, had charge of the construction and installation of the machinery, the same being owned by Carl Leonard and Ben McCready of the Santa Fe mine. In the shaft on this property they are down 240 feet, with plenty of water. They use a Fairbanks-Morse twenty-five horse-power engine for compressing, hoisting and pumping, but are preparing to put in a larger pump.

Strike at Manhattan

George M. Manly of Manhattan states that an important strike was made in the Manhattan district this week. A four-foot ledge was uncovered near the surface on the Consolidated Independence property, the pay streak of which assays \$2000 to the ton in gold. Considerable importance attaches itself to the find, in consequence of which there is considerable excitement in Manhattan.

The independence is controlled, it is believed by the owners of the famous Treadwell mine in Alaska. W. O. Pray, one of the leading mining engineers of the property, is general manager of the property. It was upon a report of the property made by Pray that it was purchased from the original locator, Bert Kopenhagen, for \$15,000 cash.

Some of the rock shown is, to use a mining expression, "alive" with gold.

Homeless children received and placed in houses for adoption. Apply Rev. O. V. Rice, Superintendent Children's Home society, 334 Broadway building, Los Angeles.

Every classified page. You will find in it classified page. One cent a word.

MINERS FLOCKING TO GREENWATER

INTENSE INTEREST IN THE NEW ELDOORDO

Town in the Copper and Gold Section
Is Growing—Mountain of
Jasper Is Near

Barstow

Much interest centers in the development of the Greenwater district in Inyo county, Cal., and by the use of picks and machinery speedy results for the increase of the wealth of the world, and incidentally the further expansion of Los Angeles, are anticipated. Many companies with ample funds have been formed and new claims are being located for development.

New Town of Greenwater

Greenwater has a newspaper, eighteen brick mining companies, several stores and saloons, lumber yards and a drug store.

The Times is the name of the newspaper. James Brown and Frank L. Reber are the publishers. They admit in their salutatory that the seat of the town has been dry, but declare it is the possessor now of moisture.

The Schwab mining interests are represented throughout the Greenwater district by Charles P. Brady, formerly of Goldfield.

Malcolm Smith, formerly of Butte (where he had charge of the Pittsmead copper mines), is in charge of the Greenwater estate of the Greenwater and Death Valley Copper company.

Mrs. Arthur Kunze was until recently the only woman in the entire district, but the newspapermen declare many other women have now joined the colony.

Robert Broglemann has installed himself in the general merchandise business and has his goods housed in the only "all-frame" structure so far erected, but many other buildings, however, are to be built as soon as the lumber can be secured.

Among these are to be a hall and headquarters of the Western Federation of Miners, who have been presented by the Greenwater Townsite company with a first class building lot at the point where the principal business center is expected to be located. The federation is also contemplating the early erection of a hospital building. G. M. Smith and W. Owsley have the newest saloon, in a building 20x20 feet in size, and the editors of the Times declare this structure has a shingle roof and looks quite metropolitan.

E. L. Phillips has his saloon in a boarded tent, and has contracted for two buildings "across the street." That is a way they have in Greenwater of describing things. Tom Murphy has an elegant line of gents' furnishings on the way to his tent, and is also trying to rustle together enough boards to house them in by the time winter weather comes along.

One of the most interesting items in the entire list of news which the Times prints is the following: "The stone quarry of McDonald & McPherson with their water tank assures us of an unlimited supply of aqua pura, all of which leads to the belief that either the Greenwaterites use little of the stuff or the McPherson-McDonald tank is a whole of an affair, containing many thousands of gallons."

Mountain of Jasper

Richardson Bros., C. A. Janney and H. Jensen, all of San Bernardino, have struck it rich. While other prospectors in the vicinity of Barstow were hunting for gold and precious metals the quartet above named laid claim to a mountain of the finest building and ornamental stone ever found in that section, and this quarry promises to turn out an inexhaustible supply of the best decorative stone to be had anywhere.

The stone found in Richardson's quarry is jasper, laid with veins of opal. Of such excellent quality is this that it is said to be used for polishing to bring out the luster. The blue-white opal veins traverse the brown and red jasper in every direction so that a face can be cut to the best advantage without regard to the veins.

The stone is so hard that years of the hardest wear will make no impression on it. For soda fountains, bank interiors and similar purposes, for monuments, tablets and decorative work on house fronts it exceeds the expensive oxen mined in Lower California.

The quarry is located twelve miles from Barstow, on a good road, and is of such an extent that it promises to supply the demand in this part of the country for many years to come. The owners are contemplating the erection of a twenty-five company, and the quality of stone selling at \$10 a foot, the business promising to be profitable.

The California Promotion syndicate, the concern which promises to develop many of San Bernardino county's rich prospects, may take charge of the exploitation of the quarry. The members of the syndicate will go to Barstow to examine the property and form an opinion as to the value of it and determine the best method of procedure to get the stone on the market.

Mining Dividends

During the ten months of 1906 ended with October there had been paid in dividends by 119 companies engaged in the mining and treating of ores in the United States the magnificent total of \$77,193,336.

These are the figures carefully compiled by the Mining World of Chicago: Twenty-five copper companies declared dividends of \$48,517,927.

Seventy-four gold-silver-lead properties, including the American Smelting and Refining company, declared \$26,960,065.

Nine zinc properties declared \$1,081,484.

Thirty-seven, or about one-third of the properties paying dividends, have already returned their capitalization.

Among the copper companies the greatest dividend payer is the Calumet & Hecla, which has paid \$5,000,000 this year on an outstanding capitalization of \$2,500,000, and whose dividends to date aggregate \$97,350,000. The market value of the property on October 27 was \$85,000,000, or thirty-four times its authorized capitalization.

The amalgamated company of Montana paid \$10,716,153 during the ten months this year on its outstanding capitalization of \$153,087,900, and has paid since organization in 1899 a total of \$45,417,250.

The American Smelting and Refining company's dividends this year have aggregated \$7,000,000, and it has paid since organization in 1899 a total of \$21,331,553 on a capitalization that

has been gradually increased until it is \$100,000,000.

The Homestake gold mine at Lead (Black Hills), S. D., owned principally by J. B. Haggin, and Mrs. Phebe Hearst (mother of the New York editor) paid in dividends during the first ten months of this year a monthly dividend of 50 cents per share, aggregating \$1,000,000, and has paid a total of \$15,425,150 since the company was formed.

The Alaska Treadwell mine, at Douglas Island, Alaska, paid \$800,000 in the last ten months on a capitalization of \$5,000,000, and has declared to date a total of \$8,283,000.

Conspicuous among the silver-lead producers is the Bunker Hill and Sullivan of Wardner, Idaho, which has paid \$1,320,000 in dividends so far this year on a capitalization of \$3,000,000, and the total dividend record of this property to date is \$7,146,000.

New Mining Company

Incorporation papers of the Boston-Johnnie Mining and Milling company have been filed at San Bernardino. The company is capitalized for \$1,000,000, of which sum it is alleged that \$600,000 has been actually subscribed. W. D. Wilson is president; Walter R. Wheat, vice president; J. R. Wagner, secretary, and George W. Stewart, H. C. Foster and E. E. Bennett, directors.

Wilson and Wheat have operated in the Los Angeles oil fields, Bennett is a well known mining man at Johnnie, Foster and Stewart are Chicago men, who have dipped into Southern California and Nevada mining propositions, and Wagner has cleaned up quite a little money in beach lots during the past four years.

They have been securing a number of mining properties on the desert. They claim to have some promising ledges, and can show any kind of mineral, from gold, copper and silver to iron and lead.

CHINATOWN IS HAVING BOOM

HANDSOME NEW BUILDINGS BEING ERECTED

Merchants There Are Waging War for
Cleaner Streets and Swaying War for
Want Other Improve-
ments

In an attempt to bring the Los Angeles Chinatown to the front as one of the most spectacular and picturesque of local attractions, George Lem, the most prominent merchant of the Chinese settlement, has organized a company of promotion with himself as head and chief director.

Mr. Lem has been recognized as the most consistent worker in the city for the betterment of the Chinese in this city. He is a native of China, but has spent the last thirty years in this country, amassed a fortune and, unlike his countrymen, has no intentions of returning to China to spend his last days there.

The little sentiment on Apalassa and Massachusetts streets has recently taken on a new color. New buildings are springing up. The old shacks are being torn down and with their wealth of tragedy and romance are being consigned to the waste pile.

Is Working Wonders

Mr. Lem as president of the Chinese chamber of commerce is doing wonders in Chinatown. His word was the momentum which started the fund to build the fine Bow Wog Wui building on Apalassa street. He is also the chief agitator in an attempt to found a fine Chinese hospital in the settlement.

Recently Lem presented a petition to the city for assistance in helping to clean up the Chinatown streets. Those streets have been at their worst during the Chinatown new year period, when hundreds of tourists from all parts of the country throng the streets of the quarter and take thousands of pictures to be sent to nearly every city of the United States.

The latest attraction to be produced by Mr. Lem in Los Angeles is a great dragon, brought from China for exhibition here and valued at \$10,000.

The dragon was built at the Portland exposition and exhibited there and now has been brought south and will probably remain here. It is on exhibition at the Bow Wog Wui hall, and if all plans are carried out that monster dragon, manipulated by two hundred Chinese, may grace the next Fiesta parade.

Want Better Streets

"What I want to do is to get the tourists and visitors to Los Angeles interested in Chinatown," said Mr. Lem yesterday.

"The settlement should be one of the most picturesque in the country, especially since the San Francisco settlement has been wiped out.

"There is only one way to get the people here and that is to make the district attractive. New Year's, when the people flock here by the hundreds, we do the best we can to entertain them. We spend much money on decorations and lights and dress up the children in their best clothes and that helps a whole lot. We want better streets, however, and we are going to fight until we get them.

"I have worked hard for a cleaner town and a number of the old shacks have been torn down. We are building fine new buildings in many spots in the quarter and we hope to make many improvements, but a Chinatown without some grease and dirt would not be a Chinatown. So we are going to leave scores of the old dens and places which furnish as many attractions for the visitors as possible.

"I brought the dragon here to make the people come to the settlement. What we want here is something to interest the visitors and in another year the local Chinatown will undergo a wonderful change."

MAN STRUCK BY CAR
AND BRUISED ON BODY

Becoming confused in his efforts to escape a street car and a wagon going in opposite directions, J. Burk, aged 28, a carpenter living on Piedmont avenue, was struck by a street car at First and Main streets yesterday afternoon about 3 o'clock. His injuries were very painful bruises on his face and body.

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Why don't you come here and buy on credit? Get your winter clothing right now—pay while you wear—a little each day.

Ladies' Suits . . . \$9 to 32
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Boys' Overcoats . . . 5 to 12
Boys' Suits . . . 2 to 12

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This means a direct saving of nearly \$100 to every one who gets one of these fine instruments. You can buy on our usual liberal terms of selling.

Here's a splendid opportunity to make your family a Christmas present of a fine new piano. See us today.

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California's Foremost Piano Sellers.

"I have worked hard for a cleaner town and a number of the old shacks have been torn down. We are building fine new buildings in many spots in the quarter and we hope to make many improvements, but a Chinatown without some grease and dirt would not be a Chinatown. So we are going to leave scores of the old dens and places which furnish as many attractions for the visitors as possible.

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Thanksgiving Excursions

Via Salt Lake Route

REDUCED RATES November 28 and
R 29 between stations on this line in California and in Nevada. Return limit Monday, December 3. Full particulars at 601 South Spring Street and First Street Station.

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