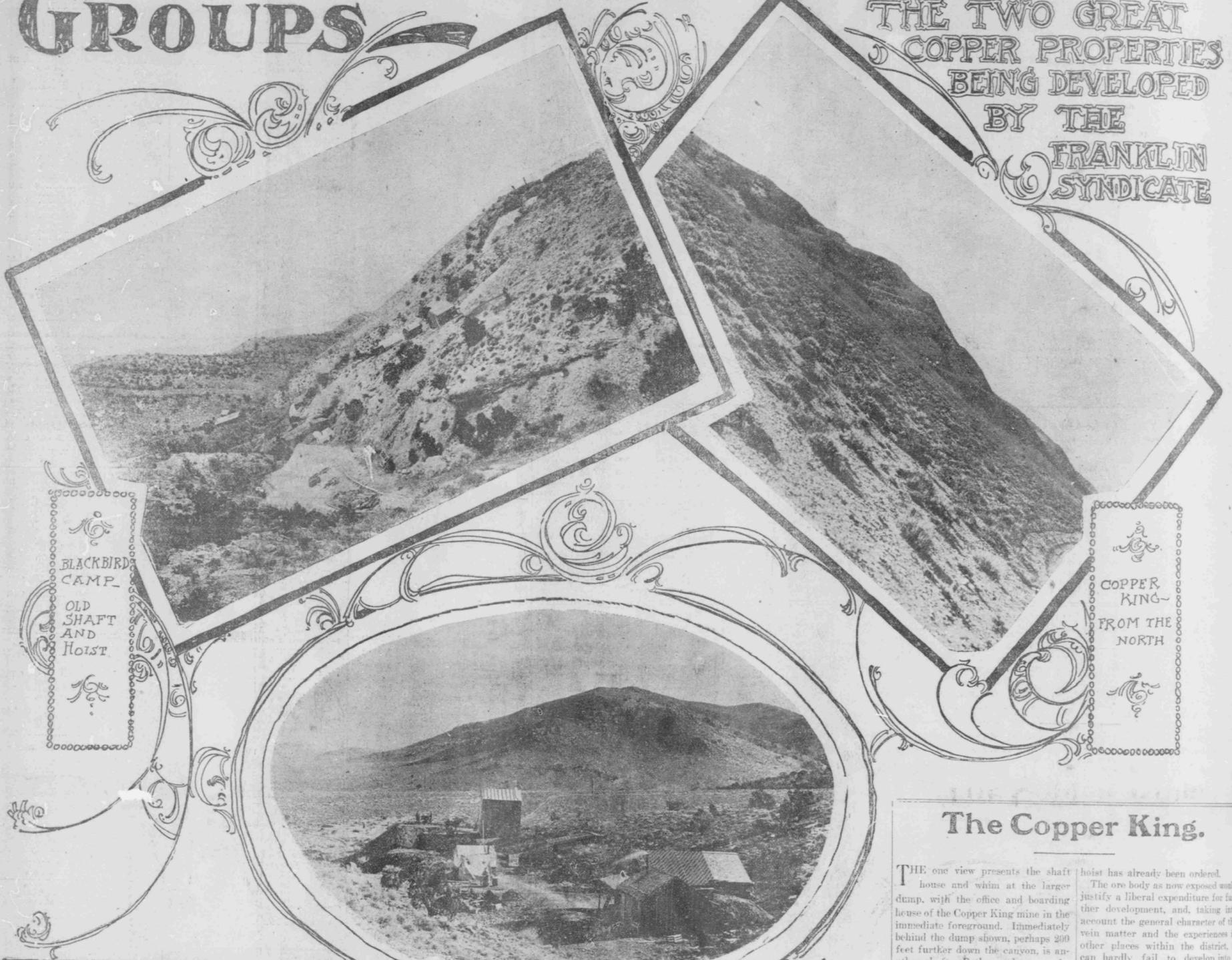


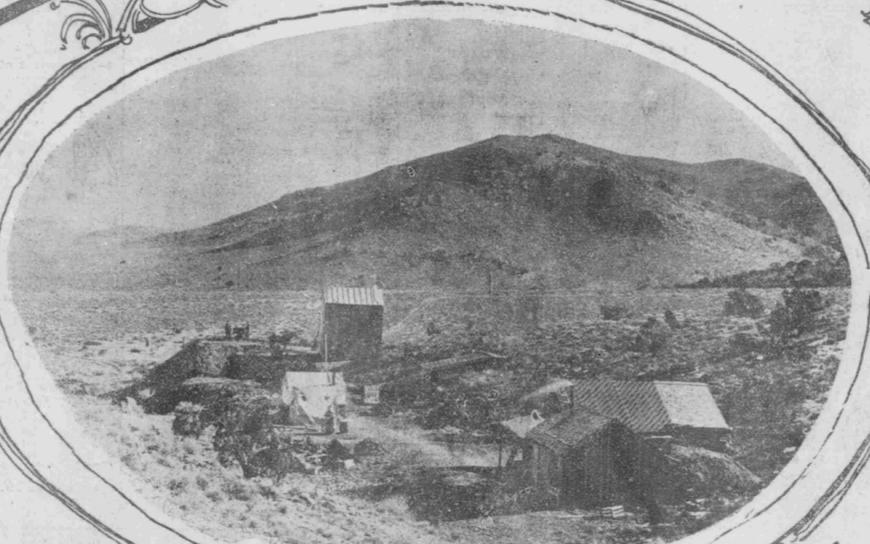
# BLACKBIRD AND COPPER KING GROUPS

THE TWO GREAT COPPER PROPERTIES BEING DEVELOPED BY THE FRANKLIN SYNDICATE

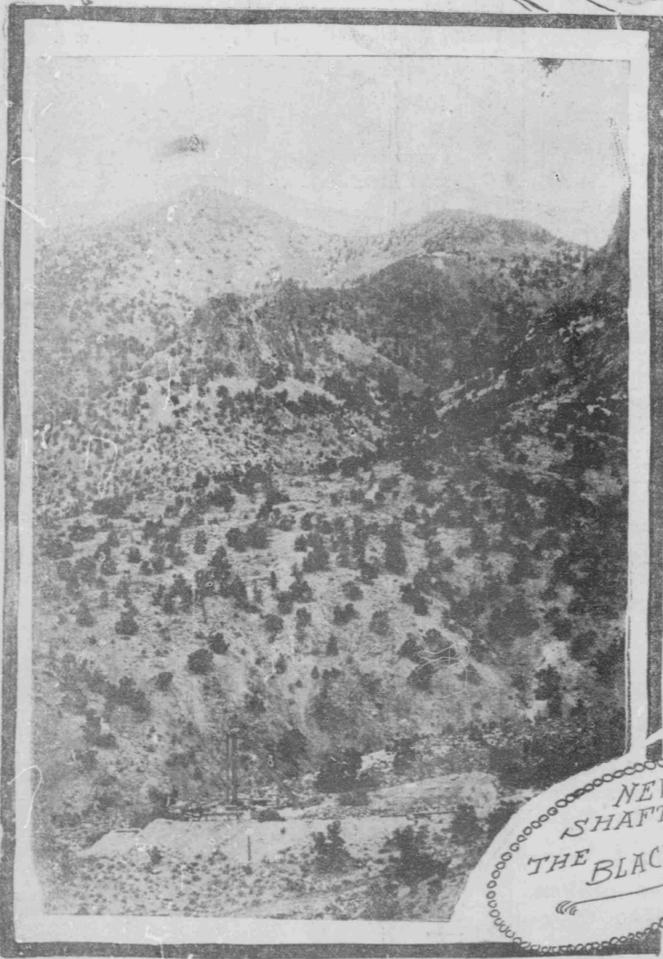


BLACKBIRD CAMP. OLD SHAFT AND HOIST

COPPER KING FROM THE NORTH



COPPER KING CAMP AND WHIM HOIST



NEW SHAFT OF THE BLACKBIRD

## The Copper King.

THE one view presents the shaft house and whim at the larger dump, with the office and boarding house of the Copper King mine in the immediate foreground. Immediately behind the dump shown, perhaps 200 feet further down the canyon, is another shaft. Both are down on the vein and a drift was being run at the time of our visit to connect the two. The vein is directly on the contact between lime and granite, which extends across the foot of the mountain, crossing over a sag between that and the adjoining range a little to the right of the margin of the picture. The distance as shown here is about one mile. The property of the company includes fourteen claims, twelve of them lying in a compact body and two of them attached at the north, but running in a different direction. The general course is northeast and southwest.

The Copper King was located in 1871 by James Forgie and John Drum. Between 1875 and 1880 shipments were made from it to the smelter at Milford to the extent of about 2,000 tons of iron ore, and 1,000 tons were shipped, yielding from 7 to 20 per cent copper, from eight to thirty ounces of silver, and from \$1 to \$3 in gold. This ore was shipped to Colorado, and, after paying \$14 freight, realized \$13 per ton. The vein filling carried a very high percentage of iron and of the ore mined the whole mass will yield 40 per cent iron. Copper is distributed through the vein at an average of 4 per cent, with bunches of high grade at frequent intervals. In drifting for the purpose of developing the mine at the present time and opening connection between the two shafts for the purpose of ventilation, they are taking from the mine ore running 40 to 50 per cent iron and 4 per cent copper. The percentage of iron is so heavy that it will hardly bear concentration to increase the gold and silver values enough to bear shipment, and to use such ore it will necessarily have to be smelted close to the mine. The deepest working is 100 feet. The shaft is down 110 feet and the level is run from that point with a winze fifty feet deeper at some distance to the east. The vein dips to the south at an angle of 70 degrees from horizontal and the shaft struck the foot wall at its present depth.

The group of claims was sold to the Franklin syndicate in August last, since which time they have been working ten men, drifting from the old workings, with the primary purpose of choosing the best location for a compartment shaft, for which a hoist has already been ordered.

The ore body as now exposed would justify a liberal expenditure for further development, and, taking into account the general character of the vein matter and the experience in other places within the district, it can hardly fail to develop into a great ore body. The policy that is being pursued in the development of this property is that common to the general management of the Franklin syndicate properties—to make thorough development before deciding upon a definite location of a working shaft, taking abundance of time to learn the extent and nature of the ore bodies.

The other view of the Copper King is taken from the valley below, something more than a mile away from the camp, and is intended to show the general topography of the district. The group of claims includes a considerable part of all the lower portion of the mountain shown.

**"LOST FORTY" HAS NO OWNER**  
Land in Illinois That Belongs to No One—Has Few Attractions.  
(Chicago Daily News.)

Bloomington, Ill.—Forty acres of land in Illinois without an owner and no one attempting to secure a title. This apparently impossible condition has existed for nearly half a century and from all present appearances is likely to continue indefinitely. The tract in question is known as the "lost forty" and is located along the Mackinac river just north of Lily. It is claimed to be the wildest land in the state and resembles an African jungle more than anything else. It is a continuous series of abrupt and deep ravines and not over three acres of the tract could ever be cultivated. The ridges are full of fox dens, wolves are occasionally found and turkey buzzards hover over it in large flocks. Even people familiar with the country have been lost within its tangled fastnesses.

For all of this it is a beautiful spot in summer and at that time is well worth a visit. It is then in the full glory of foliage. Except as a summer resort the tract would not be worth \$1 per acre. A heavy growth of timber covers it, but with the exception of a few giant oaks the wood has no commercial value.

Years ago this tract began to be used for trading purposes and unwary persons at a distance have advanced money upon it and taken mortgages for various sums from \$500 up, only to find when it was too late that their money was gone and that all they had was a questionable title to a worthless piece of land. They got out of the deal as best they could and the "title" soon reverted to some one else. On the tax books of Tazewell county the tract is always been marked as "owner unknown." But some one has always claimed it at the tax sale. Last year the taxes amounted to \$4.00 and some person paid them before the days of grace had elapsed.

**Prosperity.**  
(Judge.)  
Solomon—Got much pines on hand these days?  
Einstein—Yes, lots of it. Vy, I have pines to burn.

full claims, extending for something more than three miles in length along the top and the western slope of the San Francisco mountains. There are claims enough and mines enough, if developed as they should be, to make fortunes for a score of syndicates. As located, they entirely surround the Cactus group, which is in Copper gulch, and which is being developed with such magnificent prospects by Samuel Newhouse.

That the mines where the principal work is being done are in a position where should be found an extension of the ore bodies in the Cactus is also certain. But independently of that there are a score of locations within the Blackbird territory where it may be reasonably expected that other large bodies will be found. As far as the prospecting has been prosecuted along the range rich mines are found, and the ore veins come to the surface through all sorts of formations, even cutting for hundreds of feet in depth and for miles continuously through granite and quartzite alike.

In the view showing the camp, the older workings, which were started three years ago, are shown to the right hand of the picture. A shaft has been sunk nearly 300 feet deep, but work having ceased, it has partially filled with water. In the other view, showing the new shaft, the point chosen is the point of a ridge where a gulch comes down from the top of the range, uniting with the Copper gulch proper a short distance below the old mill of the Cactus property, and directly opposite the smelter.

Here they are sinking perhaps the largest shaft in the state, 7x18 feet, one compartment being amply large to lower a mile into the mine, if necessary. This shaft has been sunk

to a depth of about 145 feet, under the superintendence of Mr. G. L. Hutchings, the muck from the lower portion being sent out through a tunnel about 100 feet below the collar of the shaft.

The structure was nearly ready at the time of our visit for the new hoist, and a powerful steam hoisting plant was on the way from the manufactory.

While there is a scarcity of water in all the San Francisco range, this shaft, which is going down in porphyry, has already encountered a limited flow, and it is not at all unlikely that at a greater depth there may be a considerable supply obtained from it. It is believed that with what can be obtained from the old shaft and the new, there will be ample for all steam purposes.

The outlook for all this district is of the brightest, and under such management, with abundance of capital at command, it may reasonably be expected that the Blackbird group will become one of the most important in the entire country.

**It Depends.**  
(Washington Star.)  
"What is a captain of industry?" asked the boy who is going to be very wise some day.  
"It is a term that is applied to the head of a great monopoly when he is at a banquet."  
"And what is a robber baron?"  
"It's the same man when he is in politics."

**It Made a Difference.**  
(Judge.)  
House Agent—Have you any children?  
House Hunter—Yes, but they are very quiet and well behaved.  
House Agent—Oh, but I mean have you any children living, ma'am?

**He Wanted to See.**  
(Tit-Bits.)  
Little Pitman—(at the pantomime)—  
"Ah! so come all the way frae Der'm, and cannot see a haphorth o' the stage."  
Big Woman—Hoops! Ye little foaks is ails growin'. Just keep your eye on me, and laugh when sa laugh.

## The Blackbird Group.

WHEN asking the superintendent of a group of claims in one of the districts not a thousand miles

from the famous O. K. mine how many claims there were, he answered, somewhat impatiently: "Oh, a—1,

there were 205 acres!" The remark was distinctly recalled when the writer asked a similar question in regard to the Blackbird group. In this case, however, we were answered that there were 103