GOOD YEAR IS RECORDED IN PIUTE AND THE UINTAH BASIN

Region About Marysvale Has Promise of Revival of Mining Interest in Coming Year.

Famous Annie Laurie Leads All in Productiveness, But Other Properties are Many From Which Much is Expected.

Speaking first of the Marysvale region, it presents many alluring features to the seeker after mineral wealth. The signs are so plain, the outlook, after careful investigation, so promising that it is astonishing that more capital has not been attracted this way. What conditions have brought about such a state of affairs that has held back this region so long is hard to determine.

One thing that has, no doubt, brought about the slow development of this section, is the fact that the greater part, if not all the most valuable ground is now located and held; in many instances the holder, for unknown reasons, keeping his ground year after year without a pick mark in it. It is hoped, and not doubted, that ere long those conditions which now obtain will be swept away and an era of real good, intelligent effort begun.

Taking that section embraced in the region lying between Ten Mile, say, and the great Annie Laurie mine, a distance of perhaps ten miles, a brief geological description will not, perhaps, be amiss, and may be highly interesting, especially to those familiar with mining peculiarities and formations.

The order of formation of the region seems to be of quartzite, limestone, shale, surmounted by trachyte of great thickness. In places this has been displaced by immense porphyry dykes, which traverse the country in a general northeast and southwest direction. Fissuring, caused by the intrusion of quartz veins and porphyry dykes, while in a sense altering the formation of the country, yet so small have been the effects, or, rather, so little have these displacements affected the region, that the continuity of the country is practically undisturbed.

In strict geological phraseology, it would be possible to trace the formations through their respective ages, but since such, to the uninitiated, there is very little if any meaning, it suffices to say that the continuity and permanence of the veins and ledges has been hardly affected. Although several faultings appear, yet the effect of their appearance has had little or no appreciable effect in the formation.

In the Gold Mountain section phonalite and rhyolite are the predominating cappings. Much as it is a pleasure indeed to dilate on this branch of these localities, the space allotted for this article being so small and the time in which to prepare it so short, it will be necessary to pass any further geological description and get into a general survey of the hills as they are at present, with a little look to the future that begins to look so bright.

New Capitalists Interested.

The past year marked the advent of new talent to the Marysvale section in the person of Dr. P. A. H. Franklin and his associates, mainly of the east. Dr. Franklin has mapped out and is pursuing a vigorous campaign on his Log Cabin and other properties, lying contiguous to, for the most part, Brigham peak, which lies about eight miles to the west and south of Marysvale.

The properties, or groups, operating at present are the Log Cabin and the Gold Development. The Log Cabin group consists of sixty-seven claims located so that for a distance of nearly three miles they cover the great Mt. Baldy mineral belt—"greatest on earth"—running north and south; also many of the lateral veins. An immense fissure vein runs through the property in a northwest and southeast direction. The work now being done on the Log Cabin ground consists of two tunnels, called respectively the Franklin, located on the Cottonwood side of Brigham peak, and the Elephant tunnel, on the Bullion side. The Franklin tunnel is to be 3,200 feet in length when completed, and runs almost north, while the Elephant tunnel runs southwest and will be in 2,000 feet when it reaches its objective point.

The purpose of these tunnels is to complete such working as will reduce the economy of mining to a minimum and expedite the extraction of ore. The Franklin tunnel is designed to cross the immense ore zone, and when it has reached its objective point a few hundred feet north of the Edna crater, it will have attained a depth of 1,100 feet, while the Elephant tunnel, when it is completed, will have reached an estimated depth of 900 feet. It is calculated by running these tunnels that that immense ore zone which is so clearly seen traversing that section of country will be cut, and its treasures in shape for blocking.

The Log Cabin tunnel is located to the southwest of the Franklin tunnel and will be in about 900 feet when it reaches the Sunshine crater, which it will cut at a depth of 606 feet.

Work is progressing rapidly now on all these workings, about twenty-five men being employed. The tunnels are in several hundred feet and work now for the most part on ore, some of which yields good returns. Work on these properties is being watched with eager interest, as on their outcome depends more the success or failure of the Maryvale section than anything else.

Outside of the larger propositions much other work is being done.

Gold Vein's Property.

The Gold Vein Mining company, part of whose holdings consist of the Wedge mine, are operating right along, a force of men being engaged steadily. During this fall this company, for experimental purposes, leased the old Dalton mill for test runs. In a sluice the outcome was satisfactory, but inasmuch as the machinery was inadequate for handling the ore properly, the real purpose of the trial run, i. e., to test the ore and obtain results, was not all that could be desired. However, the company is working right along, opening new territory, and, in many instances, opening good ore bodies.

The Bradburn Mining company is operating a most likely group of claims to the south of Bryham peak, and while they are saying little and "sawing wood" the results are more than satisfactory.

It is impossible to enumerate all the properties on the hills; some are working and some preparing for work.

Among the properties in the Marysvale region at present called to mind, either working, work done until spring, or preparing for work, are: The Mt. Baldy Mining, Milling & Water Power company; the Aldebaran, Perjue-Surprise, Wedge Extension, Sixteen to One, Bodie, Standard, L. & N., Leo Vernon, Hope, Silver Tip, Great Ontario, Bushby group, Mountain Star, Sunny Slope, Miner's Pride, I. X. L., Outzen group, Dalton, Monitor, Cumberland, and a great many others not now called to mind.

In the Gold Mountain district a great deal of work has been and is going on.

The famous Annie Laurie is, of course, the star of that region at present, but that her greatness will be matched or beaten none familiar with that region will deny. The mine is turning out ore right along that the mill is as busy grinding up into gold bullion. A larger force of men are at work, new ore bodies being constantly opened up.

New Companies Organized.

There have been a large number of new companies organized in that section this year, prominent among the others being the Boston & Gold Mountain Mining company, which owns a most promising group of claims to the south and east of the Trapper's Pride. A 250-foot tunnel, which opened up an eight-foot vein of ore carrying good values, was part of the work done this year. This property is backed mainly by Massachusetts capital.

The Annie Laurie Extension is another new company, operating property south of the Annie Laurie; the Trappers' Pride is working right along, as is the Signal Peak, Mammoth, Tribune, Advocate, Lone Tree, Holland, Surprise, Golden Treasure, Hidden Treasure and scores of others.

The indications are most promising, and that this section can boast of more embryonic bonanzas than any other region of its size in the west cannot be denied.

The Sevier Consolidated, too, has completed its mill; working right along, and the outlook is most encouraging.

In fact, a retrospective glimpse into the year past presents a more than satisfactory picture.

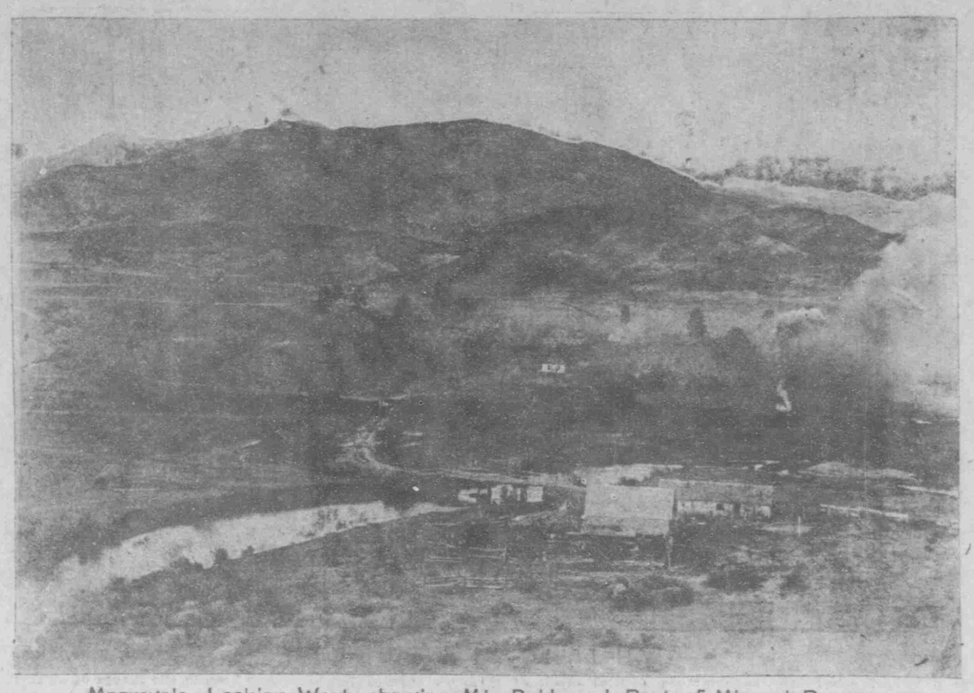
New blood, capital, energy and all those things that go to make up great mining regions, are beginning to make themselves felt.

Where before a dormant feeling of self-content held claim owner in its power; where they were content to wait and watch, new people are bringing changes.

The lassitude of inertia is making way for energy and work, and if the next one or two years shows as great an increase in activity as the past, the future success of these regions is assured.

It is with no desire to paint any roseate pictures that these views are given, but with the only determination in view to speak of things as they are, and will be.

However, there is one paramount point that must not be overlooked for fear of leading any unwary ones astray, and that lies in the fact that this entire section is not, unless conditions greatly change, a poor man's country. There are good opportunities for the prospector, but it will take money to open these properties properly.



Marysvale, Looking West, showing Mt. Baldy and Part of Mineral Range. Bullion Creek to the Extreme Left. Photo by R. N. Adams.

Success of Continental Alta Mines

Among the successful candidates that have presented themselves in Utah within the past year for recognition as meritorious and well managed mines is the Continenal Alta mines, owned and operated by the Continental Mines & Smelting corporation and located at Alta, in the southeast corner of Salt Lake county. Although this property did not pass into the hands of the present management until a few months ago, and the work of improvement and development did not begin until the middle of July last, yet the progress has been such that the wonderful performance has been accomplished in that incredibly short time, of supplying fifty tons of ore daily from the mines to the smelter in the valley below. The production has been of a gradual growth for four months, while the ground was idle, neglected and out of repair at the time it was purchased.

This corporation was recently organized under the laws of the state of New York and is capitalized for $5,000,000, with offices in New York City and Salt Lake. Henry M. Crowther, the well known young mining engineer of Salt Lake, is president and general manager of the corporation. Its object is to acquire and operate producing properties only, or those known to be capable of production at the time of purchase. No properties are to be taken under bond or lease, but the payment is to be made outright, with the title undisputed and absolute. A limited number of mines of this character are to be secured in this manner in different parts of the country.

First Venture in Alta.

The corporation's first venture was to obtain the group of claims at Alta, which has since been named the Continental Alta mines, and which has responded so well to the initial efforts. To secure this result one-fifth of the capital stock was issued, and while the time allowed for making payment extended over a greater part of a year, the payments were all completed within two months after the terms of sale were agreed upon. These holdings consist of a number of noted properties, in a famous camp, and with a combined record of having produced fully one million dollars in high grade ores, carrying silver, lead and gold, without any attempt to handle the vast tonnage of milling ores, and by avoiding the rich copper ores, that at present form the greater part of the mine's reserve. Copper ore was but little mined in Utah at a profit prior to some five years ago, when the local smelters were first equipped for reducing that product and allowed payment for it. In consequence that class of ore, which is now so much desired, was formerly not only without value, but was a detriment to the shipper.

Area of Property.

The area covered by this group approximates 250 acres in a contiguous body on most of which patents from the United States government was long ago obtained, and on the remainder title will be perfected as rapidly as circumstances will permit. These acquisitions include the former possessions of the Grizzly and Lavinia Mining company, the Regulator Mining company, the Darlington Mining company and other outlying claims. The Grizzly and Lavinia was a sub-corporation of the famous old Emma Mining company, (limited) of London, which bought the Emma mine, next to the Consolidated Alta mines. It was capitalized for $600,000 and was worked successfully for twenty-five years. The Regulator company was capitalized for $250,000, and was a producer for twenty years. The Darlington company was capitalized for $1,250,000, but owing to its ores being largely copper bearing, was not so successful on account of no sale for such ores in early days. The proximity of these properties was a source of litigation instead of a cause for co-operation. A series of law suits was inaugurated by the Regulator company against the Grizzly and Lavinia companies in which the former sued for $200,000 damages for ores alleged to have been wrongfully extracted from the latter's ground. This battle royal was finally ended by the interests of these contending forces being purchased by the Continental corporation and as a result the Darlington company was so completely surrounded that it also passed into the hands of the Continental.

Litigation All Ended.

These transactions together accomplished the much desired object of forever quieting this contention regarding the rights to the veins and ore bodies. The move was a practical business stroke and one of untold benefit, not only to all the lands in question, but to the entire camp of Alta. It made an aggressive unit from discordant fractions. It was in keeping with the recognized methods of successful modern mining, in securing a territory large enough to lay the foundation for a mine of magnitude and in preventing and avoiding law suits that are frequently so disastrous to properties of undisputed merit.

View of Continental Alta Mines.

Alta is not a misnomer to this particular locality. A stake at the lower end of these mines recently set by representatives of the government geological survey shows the elevation to be 9,394 feet. The territory then extends to the north and east, up a steep mountain side to the divide between Little and Big Cottonwood canyons, where the altitude is considerably over 10,000 feet above sea level.

This summit of the range is celebrated for its scenic beauty as well as for its mineral products. The porphyry dyke that can be traced on the surface extends to the mineral belt at Park City, and those best acquainted with the geology of that country are positive of unbroken mineralization between the two points. On both sides of this divide formerly great riches were extracted, and on the apex was once located a saloon and dance hall, in which were blended together the hilarious elements of the camps of Big and Little Cottonwoods. Two miles to the east is located the famous summer resort of Brighton, while at a similar distance to the south, over the next range, reaches into the American Fork mining district, a newer but none the less promising locality.

Great Ore Bodies.

From the topography of the Continental grounds it will readily be seen that they can be worked through tunnels to a vertical depth of 1,600 feet from the upper working, while on account of the small flow of water farther down the gulch, with a moderate sized pumping arrangement, the work can be continued to almost any desired depth. The ore occurs in fissures that are well defined, forming bodies in the lime, and are nearly half a mile in length, with a width varying from twelve inches to forty feet, the average approaching the latter rather than the former figure. At one place on the bottom of a drift the ore body, of sand carbonates, is thirty-five feet wide, with the walls extending upward and outward like the ribs of a fan. The result of many hundreds of samples taken when the property was purchased, as well as subsequent shipping records, from another place show a width of thirty feet of ore, carrying 4.75 per cent copper, $1 in gold and twelve ounces of silver to the ton. These ores can be marketed in a crude state at a good profit, but by screening at the mine the values are nearly doubled. Another body, thirty-two feet wide, yields 11 per cent lead, sixteen ounces silver and $1 gold per ton, which may also be doubled in value by screening. Many places that show one to five feet of ore carry values of from $25 to $60 per ton. The oxydation has been complete, but water level has not been reached, which point is expected to reveal sulphide, or unaltered ores. The iron in much of these ores predominates over silica and there is but little zinc, or other undesirable mineral to affect simple, cheap smelting. There are twelve veins in number, three of which are main ore fissures, while the balance are of minor size and perhaps feeders, but all bear ore.

Development of Mine.

When this work was begun a few months ago the mine was already developed by five tunnels, numerous upraises and drifts, and presented a wonderful showing. The only drawback was the careless work of leasers and the decay of ladders and tracks. Since beginning work the Continental has put in new cars and tracks, cleaned out most of the old workings and performed over 2,000 feet of work in tunnels, shafts and upraises; has built a bunk house, three stories high, 64 by 24 feet, with accommodations for 100 men; a blacksmith shop and a surface chute, with automatic screen, extending over the mouth of the various tunnels, substantially covered for protection against snow, has been completed to the ore bins, also recently erected at the bottom. The large building, as well as the other improvements, is of a decidedly substantial nature and also contains an office and reading room provided with current literature for the help.

W. G. Scott, late of British Columbia, is superintendent of the mine. The ore being soft, ten men break down fifty tons a day, the balance of the miners doing development work. Ore is being shipped carrying from 21 to 30 per cent copper, twelve to fifteen ounces silver and from $1 to $2 in gold to the ton. The second-class shipping material is averaging $18 per ton in gold, silver, lead and copper. A desirable contract has been obtained from the American Smelting & Refining company whereby ores can be shipped at a profit that heretofore could not be moved. Recently in three places new bodies of high grade copper were encountered and in an upraise ore was obtained that carried as much as 70 per cent lead and 196 ounces in silver. The output from this property it is claimed could easily be increased to 100 tons per day, but active development work is being continued with a view of exploring the deeper bonanza stopes which have as yet not been reached, owing to caved ground.

Water for the building is obtained by hydraulic ram, which raises an inch flow 300 feet through 1,200 feet of pipe line. It is conveyed into a tank, which gives fire protection by gravity.

Cost of Production.

By the consolidation and the improvements installed the ore can now be produced at a cost of from $2 to $5 less per ton than under former conditions. The low grade ores in this property respond well to the common methods of concentration, and a mill for that purpose is now in contemplation. For the purpose of obtaining power for this mill, as well as for operating the mines, an appropriation of water in Little Cottonwood creek, at Wasatch, eight miles below, has been perfected, and the surveys and plans are finished. Here will be erected an electrical power plant which will generate some 600-horsepower, to be conducted to the mine by wire. Mechanical transportation over this route and also to the smelter, a total distance of twenty miles, is being planned. The grade for a tramway, now out of commission, which formerly ran from the camp to Wasatch, still remains, as does also a grade from Wasatch to Sandy on the Salt Lake route under an abandoned broad-gauge track. With these facilities installed, the cost of obtaining fuel will be practically eradicated, and that of taking up supplies and conveying the ores down the mountain will be reduced to a minimum.

The camp of Alta is now attracting probably a greater share of interest than any other district in Utah, and this result is largely due to the work that has been done and the encouraging results that have been achieved by this corporation and the Columbus.

By an unfortunate combination of the decrease in the price of silver (1892) numerous bitter and prolonged lawsuits and the finding of ores in other places to which access could be had over more inviting roads, Alta has been sadly neglected during the past ten years, until the camp had become a veritable relic, but on account of its proximity to smelters and a base of supplies, its past marvelous performances, the inviting showings and the regularity of its formation, it has recently attracted thither some of the very best talent in the development of this great industry, and with united capital behind them the indications are most assuring that the place will again soon be accorded the position which it deserves among the great camps of the state.

YEAR'S WORK IN DEEP CREEK

It has taken many, many years to accomplish it, but the men and companies who have pinned their faith to the Deep Creek mining region, west of the desert, in Tooele county, have at last reached the conclusion that railroad connection with the markets for the product of their mines is in sight. They have received assurances that the Western Pacific will reach the region named during the coming twelve months and, as a result, work is being pushed as never before in all directions.

The Deep Creek country, so called, covers the Ibapah range along the extreme western borders of the state for a distance of approximately twelve or fifteen miles wide and forty miles long. It includes the Clifton, Willow Springs, Trout Creek, Spring Creek and Fish Springs mining districts, with Dutch Mountain as the most northerly portion and Spring Creek as the most southerly section of the wonderful mineralized zone. Great ledges carrying gold, silver, lead, copper and other minerals course through the region and at intervals crop to the surface and assert their presence possibly more boldly than in other sections of the state. But, so far removed has the country been from railroad transportation that up to date it has been a hard matter to persuade capital to lend the assistance necessary to make mines of the almost endless number of fine prospects which have been discovered and, in a modest way, proven their worth.

Work in All Districts.

That more will be accomplished during the coming year than has been accomplished in many years is guaranteed by the large amount of earnest and telling work now under way in nearly all of the districts. The greater activity exists in the Clifton and Spring Creek districts at the present time, because these are the districts in which the greatest efforts have been made in the past to get the ball rolling.

It is impossible to give more than passing notice to any of the properties in this brief resume, but the seeker after a profitable field in which to cast his lot will be able to pick up a world of valuable data by visiting Clifton, for instance, and note what has been done and what is still being done at the following properties: The Young Bros.' Gold King, the Midas, the New York Giant properties, the Clifton Copper Belt and Lucy L. company's mines, the Ericson and Mary Anderson groups, the Bully Boy, J. P. Gardner's mines, the Johnson property near the Minnehaha springs, the Pole Star, Hudson Bros.' and Richards properties. These, and a great many other promising properties have either been developed into mines already or have been sufficiently opened to convince the most skeptical that they have the making of mines within their boundary lines.

In Spring Creek District.

In the Spring Creek district is located the already quite famous Queen of Sheba gold property, the Jumbo, the Bill Nye, L. C. Karrick and other mines. This district, like Willow Springs, boasts of wonderful natural advantages in the way of great forests of timber, an abundance of water and a topography peculiarly adapted to deep mining by inexpensive tunnel methods. At Willow Springs are the Apex, Wilson Bros., Colgreen and the Lyon patented properties. Some of them are noted for their rich precious metal ores, while others carry copper as the characteristic metal. At Trout Creek the Trout Creek Mining company has a very valuable high grade silver proposition, while away to the north, at Dutch Mountain, M. R. Evans and a number of other Salt Lakers have some very extensive and valuable properties.

For more than a year past experts representing refining and reduction companies and investment syndicates have been systematically and exhaustively looking into the merits of the region so incompletely described and, while their reports have not, in any instance, become public, the fact that they have been made leaves no doubt in the minds of the posted that something will be doing out there during the year about to dawn.

One Thing Lacking.

(Chicago News.)

"Dis'll be a easy goin' world when dey gits dem airships perfeckted," observed Meanderink Mike.

"Yes, I don't tink," rejoined Tired Timothy. "Why, all de pieters uv dem flyin' merceneens wot I've seen ain't got no trucks."

Asphalt Output Measured Only by Ability of Companies to Get it to the Railroad.

Coming of the Moffat Road and Approaching Opening of Reservation Stimulate Mining Generally Throughout Eastern Utah.

From the Uintah mountains on the north to the Book Cliffs on the south, and from the Wasatch range on the west to the Blue mountains on the east is a stretch of territory that is generally known as the Uintah basin, which includes the greater portion of northeastern Utah.

This particular section of the state, while not yet famous for its production of the precious metals, is fast becoming famous throughout the civilized world through its production of gilsonite, elaterite, ozokerite, asphaltum and other kindred minerals.

The hydro-carbon deposits of the Uintah basin are without doubt the most extensive and valuable in the world, and there is every reason to believe that the bulk of the world's supply of such materials will in the future come from the innumerable veins that traverse this section of the state. From an occasional shipment now and then, the demand for gilsonite and elaterite has expanded until the output at present is governed entirely by the available means of transportation.

Shipments For Year.

The Gilson Asphaltum company during the year just closed shipped close to 5,000 tons and was never at any time within sight of the demand; but, on the other hand, was obliged to cancel orders because of its inability to get the ore to the railroad, a distance of 125 miles. During the year the company has had several big outfits on the road of it own, and has loaded every available team that could be mustered into service. All freight teams loaded out for any point in northeastern Utah are loaded on the return trip with ore either from the Gilson Asphaltum company's mine at Duchesne or the Pariette mine at Castle Peak. This latter mine is owned and operated at present by eastern people, having been sold out by the former owners, the Culmers of Salt Lake. Under the recent management of James O'Neill, foreman at the mine, the property has greatly increased in value, as the vein now shows up with three feet of first-class ore instead of eighteen inches as formerly. This company has not been shipping as steadily as the Gilson Asphaltum company recently, because of a war between the two over prices, which have been cut far below the regular price, and the war still goes on.

The owners of the Pariette mine, who are in the main Michigan men, utilize considerable of the output at their own factory, where it is used in various ways, and the shipments have been confined to this demand for the past six months. The Gilson Asphaltum company, on the other hand, has been straining every resource to increase its output to meet the increasing demand.

The American Asphalt association is a new rival in the Uintah field of the other two companies, and bids fair to be a very lively one, too. This company has its head offices in St. Louis and is under the management of S. P. Barron, who conducts the business from that end. The company's mine is located on the famous Cowboy lode, on White river, and shipments are made to Rifle, Colo., a distance of 120 miles, by wagon. There are now, according to the statement of T. W. O'Donnell, the Vernal agent of the company, over 100 four and six-horse outfits transporting ore to the railroad from the mine, and more are being added to the number as fast as they can be secured. The Cowboy vein, from which the ore is mined, is eighteen feet in width, and the supply is inexhaustible. The company only began shipping late in the summer and experienced some difficulty in procuring teams, but despite this the shipments have aggregated well up towards 2,500 tons. The Gilson Asphaltum company's shipments from its Duchesne mine for the year is close around 5,000 tons. The Pariette mine shipped something like 3,000 tons, making a total of 10,500 tons. When it is considered that this ore must be hauled in wagons a distance of not less than 120 miles over mountain roads, a fair idea of the amount of labor involved can be imagined.

The Demand Increasing.

The demand for commercial gilsonite is rapidly expanding. It is being put to new uses every year. As a coating for barbed wire, bicycle frames and metal work of all forms it is fast becoming indispensable, and it is no idle dream that in the future, throughout the civilized world, one can place his hand upon the product of Uintah county's famous hydro-carbon deposits wherever he might chance to be, for the demand is not limited to the United States by any means, but even now comes from all parts of Europe. The peculiar fact that practically all of the commercial gilsonite exists within the lines of the Uintah and Uncompahgre reservations has been a serious check upon the development of this branch of the mining industry, as in every instance congress had to be appealed to for special legislation before anything could be done in the way of development work. The passage of what is known as the Uncompahgre amendment by the last congress, which validated all claims located upon that reserve prior to the year 1891, has at last opened a way by which means the future demand for gilsonite can be met.

The Gilson Asphaltum company, by the terms of that amendment, is now able to patent about forty claims along the Cowboy, Bonanza, Rainbow and Black Dragon veins. These veins run all the way from five to twenty feet in thickness, and show an outcrop of many miles.

It is probable that someday trains will be running right along on these immense dykes of the purest asphaltum known to the commercial world in that form. Immediately upon the passage of the legislation referred to, the company set about devising means of getting the product of its White river properties to the market, and with this object in view surveys were made from Crevasse, on the Denver & Rio Grande railway, across the Book Cliffs to determine the feasibility of a road, upon which it was the first intention to use traction engines, thereby considerably increasing the present output. The road was surveyed to the Black Dragon vein, on the head of Evacuation creek, and during the past summer considerable work was done on it; but heavy rains that fell in the latter part of the summer carried away much of the work done, and it was decided to abandon the idea of a traction scheme and the question of building a branch railroad was taken up.

Contracts For Road Building.

The contracts have now all been let for this work, and the grade is being built as fast as men and teams can do it. There has been some question as to whether the company is acting independently in the building of the road, or whether the Rio Grande is behind the move. The Gilsonite people state that they are pushing the matter independently of the Gould interests, and that the General Asphalt company, which is another name for the asphaltum trust, is the moving power in the scheme. This road will reach the Black Dragon vein in about fifty-two miles, and with forty miles additional can top the bulk of the claims owned by the company. When this road is completed it will be a well equipped narrow gauge line, and will place the company in a position to meet all demands and will give it practical control of the business.

It is now pretty generally believed that the Moffat road will pass to the north of the gilsonite field and down the Bear river canyon, and the company no doubt figures that it will be left in control of the situation, as there will not be heavy enough interests independent of theirs to justify a competing branch from the through road. The completion of the road will mean big things for this section of the state, as it is estimated that the gilsonite business alone will amount to millions of dollars annually in a few years.

Promising Oil Lands.

But this is not all, for the section of country to be tapped contains some of the most promising oil lands in the state, where several wells have already been driven, in all of which oil exists in encouraging quantities. Along the state line and extending in both Colorado and Utah are extensive deposits of coal, some of the veins being fifteen feet thick. There is also vast deposits of sand asphaltum, which is heavily impregnated with oil, which it is figured can be made the basis for a paying proposition and will be.

Another branch of the mining industry that is gradually expanding is the elaterite mines of Indian canyon, upon the Uintah reservation, which are being operated under lease by the Raven Mining company. When first discovered this form of hydro-carbon was unknown, and, like gilsonite, its uses and commercial value had to be determined, and its first introduction into the commercial world was an uphill affair. The company lost money until within recent years, but now the balance is steadily piling up on the other side of the ledger, and the business bids fair to increase very materially in the future. About twenty men are now employed at the mines digging and sacking the ore, which is hauled by wagon to the end of the Colton branch of the Rio Grande railway and thence shipped to various parts of the country.

The construction of the Moffat road and the opening of the Uintah reservation will be an epoch in the mining history of this section of the state, as it will stimulate prospecting and result in the discovery of propositions that can be made to pay under these conditions, which would not now.

The Florence Mining company has men on the Uintah reservation prospecting for the supposed mineral wealth of that mysterious section. From reliable sources it is learned that while the fabulously rich gold deposits that were supposed to exist there have not yet been discovered, the company has located some valuable ground that will come into prominence when railroad facilities are at hand.

Colorado Men Interested.

Just now northeastern Utah is receiving considerable attention at the hands of Colorado mining men, in anticipation of the coming of the railroad. The Colorado Fuel & Iron company, the Moffat people and others have representatives in this section of Utah to spy out anything that looks good, and the many low grade propositions that are now lying idle are all being spotted with a view to future development.

The prospects are that this section of Utah has a real solid mining boom coming. The hydro-carbons alone will furnish the basis for a great industry. There are extensive coal deposits, oil lands and various other commercial minerals, aside from the precious metals. Of the latter there are many indications of low grade deposits of value. All along the lime belt are copper, silver and lead claims too numerous to mention in detail, but giving promise of developing into pay properties by intelligent work and expenditure. In the Red Creek and Jesse Ewing canyons, in the extreme northeastern corner of the state, no little interest has been aroused by the discovery of the existence of vanadium and uranium. This latter mineral has also been found in the Blue mountains east of Vernal, samples of which run as high as 18 per cent. There are also deposits of iron that are receiving attention from mining men, immense deposits of gypsum, etc., all of which will receive notice within the next two years. Altogether the prospects look favorable for the mining development of northeastern Utah, as with two railroads building to tap the country there can be no question that great activity will follow, as the railroad will bring an influx of mining men with the means and inclination to take hold of and develop the various mining propositions that exist in this undeveloped portion of Utah.

PHARAOH'S CORN A FAKE.

Crop Proves to Have Come From Seed a Boy Planted.

(Stray Stories.)

Some time ago there was a wonderful story in the European journals about certain grains of ancient Egyptian corn which had been planted in Germany and had come to life.

The grains, they said, had been found in an Egyptian sarcophagus and had been planted by a Dresden florist. Some days later the corn appeared above ground, much to the surprise of scientists, who did not suppose that there was any life in grains which were from 4,000 to 5,000 yearrs old. The corn, however, was certainly growing, and even the most incredulous among them soon became convinced that grains have a lease of life to which there is practically no limit.

Alas! A boy employed by the Dresden florist has now confessed that he planted some other grains in the same place where his master had planted the Egyptian ones, and only a few hours after the florist completed his work. This was sad news for the scientists and for the numerous journalists who had written enthusiastically about the miraculous qualities of the ancient grains of corn.

Wordless Dialogue.

(Chicago News.)

"——?" asked the originator of foo questions, lighting a cigarette.

"——" replied the fair daughter of Eve, shifting her gum to the other cheek.

"——" ventured the cigarette consumer, with a faint smile.

"——" she protested, with a shrug. The shrug was her specialty.

"——" he hazarded, as he started down the front steps.

"——" she said. It was a parting shot, and it hit the target.