

TONOPAH MINING COMPANY BUYS COLORADO PLACER

Acquire 3,000 Acres for Dredging Purposes in Summit County

STRANGE WOMAN DIES SUDDENLY IN FRIEND'S HOUSE

VICTIM OF ACUTE ALCOHOLISM, BUT AN INQUEST DEEMED NECESSARY.

Mrs. Earl Cronney, wife of Earl Cronney, described as a sergeant major in the ninety-third company, United States coast artillery, stationed at Fort Stevens, Ore., died at midnight after visiting Miss R. Morris at her place on Corona avenue.

Acute alcoholism is given as the cause of death. The deceased was a woman of magnificent physique, weighing 200 pounds, and of some pretension to beauty. She had fine features and flashing black eyes, with a rather heavy nose.

Both women came to Tonopah last Monday and registered at the Mizpah hotel as "Miss N. Holt and Miss R. Morris, Reno." Neither of them belonged to Reno, but they put down the name of the first place that came to their minds and were assigned to room 48.

It soon developed that Mrs. Cronney, who registered as Holt, was addicted to the free use of liquor, and her friend explained that she had had family trouble and had been drinking to excess for a month.

The Morris woman rented a cabin in Corona avenue. Yesterday afternoon she was visited by the dead woman, who appeared in an advanced stage of intoxication, having come from a saloon in the neighborhood, and was induced to go to bed. She managed to secure a couple of hours of sleep and, on awakening, said she was going to the hotel. Instead of doing this she went to several saloons in the vicinity, and eventually returned to her friend's cabin, so far gone that she had to be assisted. Late in the evening Mrs. Cronney began groaning and she gasped as though in pain. Then her face turned livid and Dr. Grigsby was summoned. He gave an injection of salt water, which seemed to bring the patient to her senses, but the relief was but temporary, for she fell back into a comatose condition and expired.

Coroner Dunneath was notified and Undertaker Cavanagh took charge of the remains. A telegram was sent to her husband and an answer is expected this evening.

Soon after arriving at the hotel last Monday both women hired an auto to take in the town, and after the ride both said they thought they were in a live place, and would remain. Mrs. Cronney applied to the real estate firm of S. R. Moore & Co. for a small house and engaged a cottage. When the receipt was made out in the name by which she registered, she remarked: "Nothing doing. You must make that out in my right name." Then she told Arthur Keenan that her name was Norah Kelly and that she wanted a quiet place to live until she decided what to do.

She showed a receipt for a safe deposit box in the Nevada First National bank. That she was loaded with diamonds is admitted, and at the time of her death she wore a profusion of jewelry. These gems were taken off after death and turned over to the coroner.

Miss Holt was reticent about the dead woman, whom she said was an old chum of hers, but she refrained from saying where they met. She added that Norah was from a good family in Corvallis, Mont., and that she had married a "top soldier" in the ninety-third artillery, now stationed at Fort Stevens. From her description it is inferred that Cronney is a sergeant major.

The coroner's jury, after viewing the remains and hearing the testimony of Miss Holt, returned a verdict that deceased came to her death from excessive use of liquor, without suicidal intent. The jurors were Dave Jones, Pete Petroni, Bob Gilbert, Paul Whaley, Tom Dwyer and A. J. Jingles.

A wire from the husband at Corvallis, Mont., instructed the undertaker to prepare the body for ship-

Send Out Bullion From the Mills

The West End sent out its regular bullion shipment last Sunday, aggregating 21 bars, weighing 34,340 ounces, valued at \$26,998. The MacNamara also sent out nine bars, weighing 890 pounds, valued at \$10,822.

A private wire to Harry Epstein this morning stated that the North Star had a balance of \$52,000 in the treasury on the 1st of November.

TONOPAH HELPS SISTER CAMP IN CHARITY BALL

GAMES GOING ALL NIGHT AND DANCING CONTINUED TO DAYLIGHT.

Tonopah joined the merry throng that journeyed to Goldfield last night to attend the charity ball of the Goldfield Elks. The affair was held in the Elks' lodge rooms, where several new features were introduced for the edification of those in attendance. The stars of the Northern circuit who appeared first in this camp at the Elv entertainment gave their original performance in Goldfield.

In the restaurant department the floor space was arranged in a cabaret with tables at the side and all around the room. Old-time tables and games were resurrected from storerooms and lofts, where they had laid covered with dust since the banishment of legalized gambling. There were games of faro, roulette, "21" and craps, while somebody succeeded in raising a keno outfit, which proved a popular go with the ladies. Of course, no money was taken in, but every person entering the room bought checks that were good for only a certain purpose, and that purpose was to swell the treasury of the order. The players were not allowed to get away with any profits, and there is not a case mentioned where there was any serious objection to the management. It is estimated the receipts were over \$1200.

Among those who went to Goldfield were: Mr. and Mrs. Ed Malley, Mr. and Mrs. Jules Smith, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Amigo, Mr. and Mrs. Albert O'Connell, Mrs. Julius Goldsmith, Miss Irma Foltz, Miss Catherine Hefferon, Mrs. Puddy Grimes, Messrs. McIntosh, Grimes, Fred Amigo, Ray Harris, Louis Amundsen, Walker, Fred Burnham, Wittenberg, Baer, Fife and many others.

GRAFT ALLEGED IN CANAL COMMISSARY

IRREGULAR DEALINGS BETWEEN EMPLOYEES AND DEALER IN SUPPLIES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The government began investigation of the charges of "irregular dealings" between John Burke, commissary manager of Panama canal work, and contractors who furnish the supplies.

CONTRACTS AWARDED.

The county commissioners of Clark county, at a recent adjourned meeting, awarded to a Sacramento firm the contract for the construction of the new courthouse building at Las Vegas, under a bid of \$56,500, and that for the heating and plumbing systems to be installed in the structure to a Reno concern for \$4426.

This message referred to the woman as Grace L. Cronney, T. Wilbers of Portland, Ore., whose association with the case cannot be understood also telegraphed that he would come at once.

On November 26, 1913, the dead woman had on deposit at the Ladd & Tilton bank, Portland, Ore., \$2513.12, according to a bank book found in her trunk.

RAILROAD ACCIDENTS TRACED TO LONG HOURS OF EMPLOYEES

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—"Violations of the law limiting the service of train employes on American railroads to sixteen consecutive hours go to the very heart of the efficiency and safety of train operation," said Commissioner Charles C. McChord, commenting upon a statement issued today by the interstate commerce commission analyzing the monthly reports of interstate railroads on hours of service during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913.

Nearly 200,000 violations of the sixteen-hour law were reported by 269 railroads during the year, the roads submitting various reasons why such violations were necessary. The commission's analysis points out, however, that while this figure may appear abnormal to the lay mind, it must be remembered that 251,111 men were employed in handling trains during the year and that the excess service probably would not exceed one instance to each employe.

"The difference in efficiency and safety of operation between various railroad systems," Mr. McChord said, is shown clearly by the commission's analysis in the marked disparity between the ratio of excess service to mileage between railroads serving practically the same territory. For instance, one of the eastern roads, operating more than 5300 miles of tracks, reports 6224 instances in which trainmen were on duty for periods longer than those provided by law; while another road in the same territory, with a mileage of less than 3500 miles, reports 22,663 such instances.

"A comparison of the figures submitted by two other of the principal eastern lines shows, respectively, a mileage of 2258, with 5451 instances of excess service as compared with 2829 miles and 16,448 instances. In the prairie country, one road, with a mileage of 4755, reports approximately 20,000 instances of excess service, while another road in the same territory, with more than 7500 miles of tracks, reports only 2310 instances of excess service.

"In the southwestern territory, one road, operating less than 6400 miles of tracks, reports approximately 1700 instances of excess service, while another line, similarly situated, geographically, reports only 280 instances on a mileage of more than 7504 miles. A corresponding comparison between two roads in the northwestern section of the country shows a mileage of approximately 8800 miles with less than 800 instances of excess service, while another road, with less than 10,000 miles of line, reports nearly 6000 instances of excess service."

Commissioner McChord, within supervision comes the actual administration of the hours of service act, directed the preparation of the analysis.

The law provides a maximum of sixteen hours as the limit of continuous service for trainmen engaged in the physical operation of trains. This law admittedly is being violated continually by the railroads—many times unavoidably.

The analysis shows that derailments afforded the most prolific cause of excess service, 88,317 cases being attributed by the carriers to that generic cause. In 33,360 instances the delays were due to coupler and drawbar defects, while 17,753 cases were attributable to miscellaneous car defects. Landslides, high water and fire were reported by the carriers involved as responsible for 17,985 cases, and congestion of traffic resulted in 13,812 employees exceeding the limit of service. In 10,520 instances the excess service was caused by track defects and obstructions not resulting in collisions or derailments, while 9916 cases were due primarily to collisions.

"To the lay mind that contemplates the economic aspect of an industrial situation in which, during a single year, nearly 300,000 men should have been responsible for the operation of trains for periods in excess of those prescribed by law," says the report, "these figures may appear abnormal; but when cognizance is taken of the fact that 251,111 men were employed in train service alone during the year, in addition to the vast number

of telegraphers, and of the number of trains operated in order to provide employment for so many men, one almost marvels that the volume of traffic could have been transported with such a small proportion of excess service."

Up to November 1, 1913, the total penalties collected from the railroads because of violations of this law amounted to \$156,562.14, of which \$14,500 has been assessed because of failure of the carriers to report specific instances of excess service.

WIFE WITHDRAWS GRAVE CHARGE IN COMPLAINT

In the case of Carrie Penrose against Grant C. Penrose, the original charge of misconduct, alleged to have been committed four and a half years ago, was withdrawn, and a supplemental complaint of desertion was filed by plaintiff, on the ground of desertion. The original complaint was filed on August 2, 1913. The case was bitterly contested by the defendant, and after several hearings a compromise was reached between the parties to the case. Yesterday a decree was granted in the district court by Judge Averill, awarding the joint custody of the minor child to each party, together with \$25 for support of said child. Property rights were adjusted out of court by the respective parties.

REPUBLICANS REAPPORTION DELEGATES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Republican national committeemen resumed their conference today, striving to reunite the party and eliminate the mass convention of red tape, reduce representation from the south, which is regarded as hopelessly democratic, and reapportion the national representation for the 1916 convention. Many plans were suggested to reapportion the representation, and scores of details were debated. One radical plan would reduce the total delegates to 445, the south losing 153.

DIRTY TACTICS ARE SHOWN BY FUEL OUTFIT

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17.—David Powers, an important government witness in the prosecution of the Western Fuel company, has been arraigned on a charge of seduction under promise to marry Lena Caduff. He pleaded innocence and his bail was reduced from \$5000 to \$2000. A conspiracy to discredit the government's witness is charged as a result of the case. The Western Fuel trial was resumed. Testimony was purely technical.

PACIFIC OIL PLANT AT OAKLAND DESTROYED

OAKLAND, Dec. 17.—The Pacific oil refining plant was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$200,000.

TEMPERATURE REPORT. Highest temperature yesterday, 36 degrees; a year ago, 39. Lowest temperature last night, 25 degrees; a year ago, 30.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REVIVAL BOUND TO FOLLOW TONOPAH INVESTMENT IN ONE OF THE OLDEST DISTRICTS

The Tonopah Mining company issued the following statement this morning, which clears up a story that has obtained wide circulation since the Bonanza announced several months ago the purchase of a placer property. The statement is appended: "The local office of the Tonopah Mining company of Nevada is in receipt of advice from its Philadelphia office that the Tonopah Mining company of Nevada has acquired over 3000 acres of placer ground at Breckenridge, Colo., equipped with three dredges, machine shop, power plant, and ready for operations in early

spring, including valuable water rights. Stanley Revett, noted placer expert, will have charge of operations. The Tonopah Placers company has been organized to own and operate these properties."

The placers of Breckenridge are famous in the history of Colorado. They are situated in the Fairplay district, in Summit county, on the Blue river, at an altitude of 10,000 feet, and were operated in the early days, when the old camps of Montezuma and Dillon induced thousands to winter in the heart of that most rugged section of the Rocky mountain country. The placers have been worked

by dredges systematically for the last ten years, and the new manager of this division of the company's exploitation, Ben Stanley Revett, is recognized to be the one great authority on placering in the Centennial state.

The vicinity of these placers has given the world some of the choicest specimens of wire gold, which have taken the prize at every world's fair since the days of the Philadelphia exposition. These specimens have never been rivaled. They are pure gold, of a pale yellowish cast, and running into an intense yellow, with the mass held together with the most beautiful weavery of gold wires. These specimens have been taken out yearly for the last fifty years, but Farncombe hill, from which they were extracted, has never been developed on a large commercial scale. The placers of the Blue river have yielded, according to reports from Denver, at the rate of \$300,000 to \$350,000 a year, but the handling of the gold has never been brought to the high stage of development that Mr. Stanley Revett always looked forward to accomplish. In a measure, the operations of the North American Dredging company, controlled by Mr. Revett, have been carried on with some secrecy, owing to the remoteness of the location, which is seldom ever visited by any one save a stray prospector, or in summertime by trout fishers and campers who find their way to that altitude to escape the heat of the valley.

There is always a good supply of water in the Blue river, which drains directly from the watershed of the country dominated by three peaks known as the University peaks—Yale, Harvard and Princeton. It is inferred from the statement that the Tonopah Placer company will enlarge the scope of the operations of the placers and re-establish in Colorado the industry that first started the mining boom for that state and sent Horace Greeley to the placers of Gilpin county to report on the fabulous discovery for the New York Tribune.

Breckenridge is about 120 miles west from Denver, on the line of what is known as the Leadville division of the South Park railway, an annex of the Colorado Southern, and which has derived a precarious existence from tourist traffic. Last winter the railroad was given special permission to shut down for the season, as operating entailed too great an expense in fighting snow. This shut Breckenridge off from the world for six months, as the only other outlet was by sleighing over Boreas pass to Como, at the head of Platte canyon. The acquisition of these placers will probably lead to operations on a large scale, but it is not known here if it is possible to continue the work throughout the winter months. In that altitude the mercury not infrequently drops to 50 degrees below zero.

AUTO WRECKED IN DEATH VALLEY AND OCCUPANTS HAVE TO WALK

Monday noon P. V. Perkins, general manager of the American Carrara Marble company, accompanied by Mrs. M. J. Moore of Rhodite and A. B. Perkins, editor of the Carrara Obelisk, left by auto for Los Angeles, taking the Death valley route.

Wednesday noon, when no word had been received as to their arrival, considerable uneasiness was felt, and Mr. Barnd, with a party from Carrara, drove back to Death valley as far as Stove Pipe, and tried to find some trace of the Perkins party. A portable telephone was taken, in hopes of talking with the mining camp of

Skiddo, in the Panamint range, but without success, as the line was down. A wire to Los Angeles on Thursday gave the information that the Perkins party had not arrived and no word had been had from them. Mr. Barnd drove the company's Cadillac auto, loaded with supplies, accompanied by A. A. Turner of Beauty, John Sutton and Harry Myers of Carrara, back to Death valley, intending to follow the trail of the first auto through to Johannesburg, Cal., if necessary.

About 5 o'clock the party reached Emigrant Springs, where they learned that Mr. Perkins had abandoned his machine about three miles further up the wash and had taken the stage-Wednesday for Ballarat. It was learned that the Perkins party had gotten stuck in the sands until late Monday evening and had been obliged to sleep in their car Monday night. Tuesday they had reached Emigrant Springs and were delayed by the heavy snows and, after shovelling their way through the snows for three miles, the car refused to run and Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Moore and Miss Perkins had been obliged to walk back through the snow for three miles to a sheep herder's camp at Emigrant Springs, where they spent the night.

Wednesday morning A. B. Perkins walked six miles through the snow and found the mail driver coming through on his pony, and through him sent word for the stage running to Ballarat of their troubles. As there was room on the stage but for the women, the men had to walk forty miles to Ballarat, where connections were made with Johannesburg, and from there to Los Angeles where the party arrived safely Friday morning.

All concerned were fortunate in getting over Death valley, as the roads were practically impassable, and the experience of staying overnight in the desert and in the mountains was not the most pleasant.

AMERICANS ARE REPORTED SAFE IN CHIHUAHUA

FALSE INFORMATION SENT OUT BY PAPERS PRINTED IN EL PASO.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Consul Letcher has advised the state department that reports of the maltreatment of Americans in Chihuahua is unfounded and that El Paso newspapers are blamed for the exaggerated reports.

Rear Admiral Fletcher has cabled that normal conditions are being restored at Tampico and refugees have returned from the battlefields to the city. Four thousand rebels are reported camping eighteen miles north west of the town.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 17.—The Central bank run has continued. Only half the amount in state bank bills was redeemed by depositors. As fast as deposits in each state bank are exhausted redemptions are stopped. Great crowds are drawing cash for notes.

MOTHER OF GEORGE BECKLEY DIES AT THE OLD HOME

George Beckley, the transfer man, left this morning for Franklin, Sacramento county, Cal., where his mother died last night. The mother had been ill for some time but no thoughts of serious consequences were felt until the last few days, when Mrs. Beckley had to take to bed. Naturally of a rugged constitution, it was hoped the old lady would pull through, and the telegram of death came as a shock.

MAYOR MITCHELL WILL APPOINT POLICE HEAD

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Mayor-elect Mitchell has called a conference of fusion leaders for the discussion of the appointment of a successor to Rhineclander Waldo, police commissioner.

SUPREME COURT DECLARES KUHNS WAS NOT A FUGITIVE

CARSON CITY, Dec. 17.—The much-mooted Kuhns case, which has occupied the lower courts, upper courts and the governor's office for some time past, received its quietus in the supreme court late yesterday afternoon, when the following synopsis of opinion was rendered: "Dr. Kuhns was indicted in Pennsylvania on the charge of abandonment of wife and child. It appears that on May 27, 1910, Kuhns and his wife entered into a written agreement to live separate and apart, and for the payment by him of \$50 a month and the rental of certain property owned by both, Mrs. Kuhns

agreed to support herself and the minor child. Before leaving Pennsylvania Kuhns sent his wife a check for the April payment under the agreement, and then departed for Nevada, arriving in this state about April 3, 1912.

"The court holds that under the facts above stated Kuhns was not a fugitive from justice from the state of Pennsylvania and, therefore, is not subject to be taken back to such state for trial upon the indictment against him, and it is therefore ordered that he be discharged from the custody of the sheriff, who held him under arrest, under the governor's executive warrant."