

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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COMPETING WITH A MONOPOLY.

Hints of a readjustment of railroad mileage comes with the report that the Santa Fe has effected an arrangement by which it will gain direct access to the business of northern and central California. This report sets forth that the Santa Fe has acquired control of the Western Pacific, which will be converted into a direct transcontinental route by linking it with the Moffat short line out of Denver. Such a coalition or consolidation would jeopardize the through business of the Southern Pacific by placing in the field a competitor with the brains, ability and money to carry out any scheme necessary to establish the new route on a firm and popular foundation. Acquisition of the Moffat line would carry with it the construction of a three-mile tunnel under the continental divide and shorten the present distance between Denver and Salt Lake by at least four hours. Completion of the Moffat road would reduce the distance between the capitals of Colorado and Utah between 170 and 200 miles by avoiding the circuitous route via Wyoming or through the more southern route of the Arkansas and Grand rivers. The Santa Fe was one of the first transcontinental lines to pioneer the way through the Rockies by connecting with the Denver & Rio Grande the right of way through the Grand Canyon of the Arkansas, which was held by armed forces for nearly a year against the Rio Grande which at that time was dominated by Moffat, who sold out his interest to Jay Gould and retired from the railroad field until in his declining years he was tempted to build a new central transmountain line having for its object an air line between Salt Lake and Denver. Moffat failed in this magnificent undertaking, and it is a strange turn of fate that the company which he balked forty years ago should succeed to ownership of his pet project. If the story of the sale of the Western Pacific and the Moffat line be confirmed the result will be to remodel the railroad maps of the entire mountain country. The Southern Pacific overreached itself when it closed the Ogden gateway to the Denver & Rio Grande and led the Goulds into building their own outlet to the coast with the Western Pacific, and the consummation of that event will be found when the Santa Fe enters into possession. Everything comes to the fellow who waits. The Santa Fe has waited thirty years to square accounts and will now claim its reward.

COAL MINERS' DEMANDS.

An arbitrary levy of a billion dollar tax upon the bituminous coal users of the country is the real significance of the pending demand of the coal miners for an increase in pay. The tax, if made effective, would be paid by every farmer and householder in the great northwest, as well as in the east, who uses coal for domestic purposes, or who buys commodities manufactured in establishments using coal for fuel.

The mine workers are asking for a six-hour day, five days in the week and a 60 per cent increase in compensation. This would mean a reduction in mine output at a time when the supply of bituminous coal is already far short as compared with the normal output. The 60 per cent increase, if granted, must necessarily be added to the price of coal at the mine; and since it will necessitate a larger investment on the part of the dealer, it will mean a still greater addition to the price before the coal reaches the consumer. The 60 per cent increase in wages will mean from \$1.50 to \$2 per ton added to the price of coal, or in the neighborhood of a billion dollars for the entire output for a year. On an average, this would mean \$10 per capita for the population of the country, or an average of \$50 per family.

Bearing upon the reasonableness of this demand for an increase and the threat of strike as a means of its enforcement, men entirely familiar with conditions in the mining districts say that average earnings of mine workers now are approximately \$3 per day. An instance is related of one Greek mine laborer who makes a practice of quitting work each month when his monthly earnings have amounted to \$500. He works about twenty-four days a month before accumulating this income. Earnings of \$500 per month by a man with no capital investment must look huge to a farmer who buys coal to heat his house in the winter time but who is unable during his twelve to fifteen hours work per day on the farm for six or seven days in the week, to earn anywhere near the same amount, even with the aid of his wife and children, and with a large investment.

IDLENESS DISHONEST.

Retail merchants are wisely adopting the theory that a man who is out of a job by his own choice is an unsafe debtor. No retail merchant can be expected to extend credit to a man who can get work and won't take it. A perfectly trustworthy man is sometimes out of employment for a short time, through no fault of his own, but in these days there are jobs for all who are willing to work. A man can, with perfect propriety, quit the job he has, but he cannot, with credit to himself, refuse to seek and find a new employment. The idle man these days, if able to work, is dishonest. He is not a safe man to whom to sell goods on credit.

PLENTY OF CANDY.

Thanks to the work of the sugar equalization board, or someone else, the price of sugar for November and December is forecasted at 20 cents a pound, while the price of candy is dropping, the candy men, it seems, having fortified themselves with ample stocks. But would not the people of the United States prefer to utilize their sugar in their own way, instead of having to secure it through the medium of candy and preserves?

Maybe the reason Mr. Wilson wanted Geneva instead of Brussels for the capital of the league of nations is that Geneva is the place where John Calvin used to burn at the stake, Mississippi style, the pygmy minded willful men who disagreed with him.

The war seems to have got back to Servia, where it started.

The war chariots in southern Europe are all equipped with self-starters.

ALCOHOLS USE TO INCREASE

NEW YORK, Oct. 15.—King Alcohol was hailed as a new monarch of the realm of power in a symposium held last week at Rumford hall by the New York section of the American Chemical Society. The five well-known chemists who addressed the session told of more new sources of alcohol which could be tapped and indicated many new uses for it.

Dr. H. Tunison said that probably ten times as much alcohol as was consumed before prohibition days would eventually be utilized by the American people, unless they have decided to dispense with it as a beverage. In a normal year the United States drinks 100,000,000 gallons of alcohol and need approximately 100,000,000 gallons in the various arts.

Among the sources which could be developed is the alga palm, says Gustave in the Philippines and other tropical countries and said Mr. Tunison, about 15 per cent of sugar, which could be fermented. From that source alone 200,000,000 gallons a year could easily be produced. The Mexicans brew a beer from the wild plant, a variety of agave, which exists in very large quantities in their country, from which millions of gallons could be distilled. By changing the cellulose of mandarin and other wood waste into sugar and then fermenting that substance plenty more alcohol could also be obtained. It is identical with that derived from grain and is quite different from the methyl or so-called wood alcohol of the "Pink Elephant" brand, which is made by another process.

Considerable alcohol can also be derived from the waste of gas works, in order to bring all these alcohols within the domain of the law, however, they have to be denatured, or treated in such a way as to make them unfit for human consumption. There are now about forty denatured formulas which are approved by the internal revenue bureau. When alcohol is used "simple of itself," as honest John Paley used to say, there are now about forty denatured formulas which are approved by the internal revenue bureau. When alcohol is used "simple of itself," as honest John Paley used to say, there are now about forty denatured formulas which are approved by the internal revenue bureau. When alcohol is used "simple of itself," as honest John Paley used to say, there are now about forty denatured formulas which are approved by the internal revenue bureau.

THOUSANDS FLEE FROM ALBANIA

(Correspondence of Associated Press)

NAPLES, Sept. 11.—Thousands of Albanians are fleeing from their homes in fear of the occupation of their land by the Greeks, according to the statements of refugees who have reached this city by way of Brindisi, on their way to the United States. The territory where the exodus is described as taking place is mainly that of southeastern Albania near Korcha, where the American missionary, Phineas R. Kennedy, resides, or Koritsa, which is at present under French military control. The movement, however, is said to be extending from the Greek border as far as Elbasan. Some weeks ago it was rumored that the Greeks were to take possession of the country, and the resultant terror of the Albanians is ascribed by the refugees to their vivid memory of Greek cruelties during the Balkan wars.

The inhabitants are moving in two main streams, one towards the Italian port of Avlona, to the south-west, and the other northward towards Durazzo. The merchants, it is declared, have closed their shops and factories, and the richest have joined the poor in the panic to escape the total number amounting to tens of thousands. The American Red Cross at Avlona has been appealed to for shelter by many of the refugees, many of whom implore American intervention in their land.

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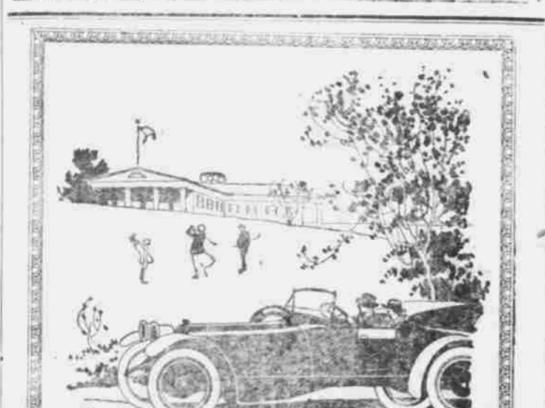
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A few centuries from now the reformers will be telling us that sins of the tongue are caused by coffee and chewing gum.

It appears in the news from Oregon that Mr. Hobenzollern has had to go home hunting. Now his real punishment begins—Whodunnit, lawyer.

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