

NEWS FROM MINING CAMPS

AS THE SEASON PROGRESSES EVERY SECTION IMPROVES.

Items of Interest Gathered During the Past Week—B. C. Mines Busy—Coeur d'Alene District Making a Wonderful Showing—Accidents and Personals—Mergers All the Go.

The American Mining congress, in its recent session at Deadwood, S. D., re-elected J. H. Richards of Boise president for the coming year and selected Portland, Ore., as the place at which to hold the annual session in 1904, and adjourned. The recommendation of Portland as the next meeting place came in the form of a motion by Mr. Patterson of Omaha, and no other city was suggested. Professor J. A. Holmes, chief of the bureau of mines and mining of the state of Missouri, came to the congress with the purpose of endeavoring to secure the next session at St. Louis, seconded the motion, and Portland's selection was made unanimous. It was decided that President Richards should appoint a committee of 15 members of the congress whose duty it should be to induce as many members of the mining congress to visit the St. Louis exposition in a body in charge of this committee. The committee, with Thomas Wing of Los Angeles as chairman, was at once selected. Just before adjournment, W. Martin, on behalf of the Black Hills Mining association, presented to President Richards a badge of membership in the American Mining congress made of Black Hills gold, as a token of the appreciation and gratitude for the manner in which he had given his services during the past year in the furtherance of the interests of the mining industry. The close of the sixth annual session showed 568 accredited and appointed delegates to the congress and 241 permanent members, making a total of 789 legally accredited delegates participating in the congress.

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINES.

The War Eagle-Center Star concentrator is to be constructed at once. It will be built by the Rossland Power company, a subsidiary concern, and will be located three-quarters of a mile north of the Trail smelter.

There is a labor famine in portions of the Boundary district. Labor is urgently needed on the various road improvements, but no men are offering. In mining the situation is even worse. The Granby company announces that it needs 100 miners at the Phoenix and 30 laborers for the smelter. There is not an idle laborer in the Boundary.

From the Phoenix district it is reported that the Mother Lode is operating with a larger force than for some time past; the Snowshoe is again gradually increasing; more men are being put on at the Oro Denoro, the Athlestan, Winnipeg, etc., besides the number of smaller properties that are keeping perhaps 100 or 150 men employed most of the time.

MINING NOTES.

Nearly 2000 feet underground a force of about 30 of F. Augustus Heinze's miners in the Rarus mine, near Butte, Mont., had an exciting encounter with a force of Amalgamated miners from the Pennsylvania mine, an adjoining property, in a portion of ground the ownership of which is now being determined by the courts. Superintendent Trerise of the Rarus lead had men breaking down a bulkhead, who invaded the workings of the Pennsylvania. The intruders were met by Superintendent J. C. Adams of the Boston & Montana company. Rocks and loose dirt were flying when Heinze's men secured a sack of lime and, directing a stream of compressed air through the mass, hurled fine lime and gas into the ranks of the Amalgamated men, causing them to retreat to prevent being suffocated. Several of the men became unconscious and had to be dragged away by their comrades.

Assays made at Spokane recently of ore taken from the recent strike in the Tamarack property, in the Coeur d'Alenes, shows 70.7 per cent lead and good values in silver. An assay was made at the same time from the galena found where the lead was opened by the discovery shaft, showing 59.8 per cent lead. The strike was made in the long tunnel, which is in 1150 feet, and tapped the ledge at a depth of 500 feet.

The Bunker Hill company of Wardner, Idaho, has brought suit in the United States court against the Empire State-Idaho company for \$129,242, alleged to be due as the value of ore extracted from the Stewminder lead apex, which has been adjudged as the property of the plaintiff.

Underground resources of the Inland Empire will be exploited at the Spokane Interstate fair, October 5 to 13, as probably they have never been displayed in the Northwest.

It is feared the rise in the price of silver may drain the Philippines of

the coin recently shipped there. Among the remedies proposed are extension of our coinage to the Philippines or a greater proportion of alloy.

Burke, Idaho, Sept. 12.—One of the greatest strikes in the Coeur d'Alenes in recent years was recorded recently, when the Hercules broke into the ore shoot in the lower tunnel. Across the full face of the tunnel seven feet there is steel galena—the same high class ore found in the upper workings. Shots were put in the sides and there, too, the rich mineral lay. This tunnel gives a depth of 1000 feet, 500 feet below the upper workings. The tunnel is in over 2400 feet. Only the crude ore is shipped, the Hercules having no mill. The ore that is shipped gives a net return of over \$30 a ton. Before the ore reaches the railroad a two mile haul is necessary, entailing an expense of \$2.50 per ton. According to the sworn statements of the owners the shipments of the mine last year were 4998 tons, the gross value being \$394,629. The cost of extraction was \$65,900. Other expenditures were freight and reduction, \$240,330; repairs and construction, \$18,863. This left a net profit of \$169,527 for the 4998 tons. The Mammoth netted \$349,386 on 7500 tons—about \$5 per ton. It is stated that the Sweeny merger desired to take over the mine on a basis of \$2,500,000. The owner refused.

Paul Rossier, who has the contract for tearing down the old Empire State mill at Wardner, Idaho, found, in tearing out the old bins and chutes, that a considerable amount of ore had accumulated in them, and is making a shipment of one car to the smelter, and has two more cars on hand all ready to ship.

W. H. Adams of the Adams-Walker company has returned to Spokane from the Elk City, Idaho, district, where he has taken a two year working bond on the American City for \$35,000. Mr. Adams has placed five men to work on each group.

In a fierce battle in one of the drifts of the Watseka gold mine near Virginia City, Nev., several hundred feet underground, Morris Gallor ran the sharp point of his candlestick through the heart of Bud Brown, his working partner, almost instantly killing him. The trouble arose over a trifle, the two men disputing as to positions they should take in the slope. Brown, it is said, struck Gallor in the face, who then made a terrible lunge at his opponent, sending his candlestick almost through him. Gallor made no attempt to escape and is now in jail.

During the week 40 cars of ore, or about 1200 tons, were shipped from the mines of Republic camp to the smelters.

General Charles S. Warren, the genial and corpulent general, is reported as having made an important strike in Tonopah, Nev. A sharer of his good fortune, John C. Ralston, M. E., has received advices from Tonopah saying that the Tonopah Extension Mining company, operating the Grand Trunk, has encountered eight feet of \$200 ore. The strike is believed to have been made in a shaft at a depth of about 300 feet. The Grand Trunk is an extension of the Mizpah, the original big thing in Tonopah. The company was floated in Philadelphia by John M. Burke, but Mr. Burke, after some trouble with the Quakers, left the company. He is credited with having received from 40 to 50 cents a share for his stock.

The steamship Oregon came into Seattle port recently from Nome with 201 passengers and \$225,000 in gold. Of the treasure \$120,000 came as ordinary mail matter in bullion shape inclosed in mail pouches. It was consigned to the Pioneer Mining company. The Alaska Pacific Express company brought out \$100,000, variously consigned.

Two freighters have arrived from Atlanta, Idaho, bringing news of another strike in the Black Warrior district. Somebody has made a discovery of ore running \$1200 a ton, and the news caused a stampede from Atlanta, there being no horses left in camp, while every man who could get away was off for the new discovery. The freighters do not know by whom the discovery was made. A letter from C. M. Brown, the merchant, written on the ground, says that 37 locations were made in the new district the previous day.

E. J. Wilson, manager of the Northport smelter, says: "The smelter is running four furnaces and the remaining two are being overhauled to permit of automatic feeding from tram cars. The automatic feed is being put in all of the stacks. There are about 45,000 tons of ore on the dumps at the smelter. The plant is running about 500 ton a day. Coke is coming in freely. The stopping of shipments from the Kootenay and the Le Roi No. 2 is not likely to affect the run of the smelter, as altogether they were providing only about 90 tons a day, or not half enough to keep one furnace going."

Advices from Republic say that the Mountain Lion has cleaned up the dump at the mine and shipments are being made now from the ore which was held in the stopes.

PANAMA GOVERNMENT ROW

ANTI-SECESSION GOVERNMENT APPROVED BY SENATE.

It is Said the Newly Appointed Governor of Panama, Who is Favorable to Canal Treaty, is Crooked—Their Congress Forgets Uncle Sam Wants to Build Canal.

Bogota, Sept. 15.—A proposal made by Senor Perez Y. Sotos to ask the executive to appoint an antiseccession government in Panama has been approved by the senate. Speakers in the senate said that Senor Obaldia, who was recently appointed governor of Panama and who is favorable to a canal treaty, was of doubtful integrity. President Marroquin protested against the action of the senate.

President Marroquin succeeded later in calming the congressmen. It appears he was able to give them satisfactory reasons for Governor Obaldia's appointment.

The Bogota government appears to realize the imminent peril of the isthmus of Panama declaring its independence. Senor Sesoux, representative of Panama constituency, delivered a sensational speech in the house. Among other things he said:

"In Panama the bishops, governors, magistrates, military commanders and their subordinates were and are foreign to the department. It seems that the government, with surprising tenacity, wishes to exclude themselves from all partisans in public affairs. As regards international dangers, all I can say is that if these dangers exist they are due to the conduct of the national government, which is in the direction of reaction. If the Colombian government will not listen to the representations made with a view to preventing disaster, the responsibility will rest with it alone. Not a native of Panama is obeying the reactionary laws."

The bill dealing with the settlement of the foreign claims arising out of the revolution has met with no opposition in the legislature. It seems that congress, after the recent political discussions, has lost all energy and has entirely forgotten Panama canal matters.

Prosecute Newspaper Man.

Panama, Sept. 13.—Rodolfe Aguilera, the first newspaper man to publish articles in favor of the secession of the isthmus of Panama, is to be prosecuted. It is currently reported that 2000 federal troops are coming to the isthmus.

M'KINLEY STATUE UNVEILED.

First Memorial to Late President in Ohio.

Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 16.—Toledo was en fete Monday over the unveiling of the McKinley statue, the first memorial to the late president erected in Ohio. After a naval parade on the river, which included the United States gunboat Michigan and the training ships Yantic and Hawk, and a procession led by a battalion of United States infantry, the statue, which stands fronting the courthouse, was unveiled by Miss Dorothy Bonner. Colonel J. C. Bonner, president of the memorial association, in a brief address, presented the monument to the county and Henry Conrad, president of the board of county commissioners, accepted the trust for the county. Senator M. A. Hanna was then introduced as honorary president of the day, and made a brief extempore address. A poem by Theodore M. McManus was read by the senator, and the orator of the day, Senator Charles Fairbanks of Indiana, was introduced.

Lipton Takes a Trip.

New York.—Sir Thomas Lipton, accompanied by the earl and countess of Shaftesbury and a party of friends, have left here on a special car for Timothy L. Woodruff's camp in the Adirondacks. At Camp Kilkara the party will stay for about four days, when they will proceed westward. After visiting Buffalo the next stop will be made at Chicago, where Sir Thomas will remain several days. After Chicago they will visit St. Louis for a day only, and it is expected Sir Thomas will be a guest of ex-Governor Francis while there. Sir Thomas expects to return to New York about the last week in the month.

Masked Thugs Rob Bank.

Sioux Falls, S. D., Sept. 14.—A band of eight masked men blew open the safe of the Minnehaha County bank at Valley Springs and secured between \$8000 and \$10,000 in cash. Residents of the town were aroused shortly before daylight by several explosions. When citizens appeared on the street to ascertain the cause they discovered that the town was picketed by seven or eight armed men, who drove the residents from the streets on pain of instant death. The robbers then completed their work and left the town.

CONGRESS IN NOVEMBER.

Roosevelt Abandons the Plan of October Session.

Oyster Bay.—After mature consideration and consultation in person and by mail with members of both the senate and house of representatives, President Roosevelt has abandoned suggestion that congress be called in extraordinary session in October. The extraordinary session which he announced many months ago would be held this fall will be called, according to present plans, to meet on November 9.

Notwithstanding the fact that the suggestion of an October session of congress came from parties who advocated its adoption, the suggestion was not received with favor by members of congress generally. The idea of an October session was opposed because it would oblige senators and representatives to leave their states and districts in the midst of a campaign, which to many of them and to their party was of vital importance.

No party agreement has as yet been reached as to the character of the financial legislation which will be enacted at the coming session. It is not certain that an agreement can be reached between the two branches of congress whereby any special legislation can be enacted.

OREGON NOTES.

Oregon's blue ribbon state fair opened in Salem last Monday and continued throughout the week.

The Portland directory, just issued, gives the population of the city of Portland as 123,662, an increase of 33,000 in the past three years.

The doors of the La Grande beet sugar factory will be opened to receive beets September 21. The plowing of beets will begin Saturday, September 19.

After cashing a check for \$75, made out in favor of the Fraternal Home Buyers, Harry C. Wells, an agent of the concern, has disappeared from Portland.

Two earthquake shocks were felt in Portland at 3:45 o'clock p. m. recently. There was no damage so far as known, although the largest brick buildings were shaken quite severely.

The store of the Echo Land & Lumber company was burglarized recently. Three gold and two silver watches, a new revolver and \$30 in cash were stolen. The robbers smashed a rear window to gain entrance.

Robert Loudon, a lumber man of Portland, was placed under arrest by a deputy United States marshal on a certified indictment by the United States district attorney of Minnesota, charging him with entering into a conspiracy with several other people to defraud the government out of public lands.

Launching of the Maryland.

Newport News.—The United States 15,000 ton armored cruiser Maryland was launched at the yard of the Newport News Shipbuilding company recently. An unimportant accident attended the launching, marring but little, however, the success of the event. The intensity of the heat caused the melting of the tallow with which the ways were greased, and the big keel, instead of gliding evenly down to the water, clung to her cradle. When she was finally released the warship dipped her stern heavily and grounded in the mud. The ship was so skillfully handled by the experts in charge of the work that no injury was sustained. The cruiser will probably be safely afloat in the morning. Miss Jennie Scott Waters of Baltimore christened the new warship. Among the guests at the launching were prominent naval and state officials.

TRADE REPORT.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says:

There is much activity in all classes of business. An encouraging symptom is the decreased complaint regarding collections, accompanied by more discounting of bills. Weather conditions have been favorable for retail trade, distribution of merchandise expanding, while there are frequent reports of larger jobbing fall business than last year. Some caution in selecting goods, owing to the high prices, is reported from the West, but this is chiefly confined to textiles. Owing to the lateness of the crop, there is little complaint of traffic congestion.

On September 1, for the first time this year, furnace stocks of pig iron exceeds a week's capacity of the furnaces in blast. Notwithstanding heavy receipts of cattle, packers are asking fractionally higher prices for hides.

Failures last week were 172 in the United States.

Coast Wheat Report.

Portland, Ore.—Walla Walla, 78c; bluestem, 82c; valley, 80c.

Tacoma, Wash.—Unchanged; bluestem, 82c; club, 79c.

Some young men think it is smart to be considered dissipated and "fast." Don't do that.

It is always easier to draw money out of a lean purse than out of a fat one.

CRUISER OLYMPIA EXPLOSION

TWO MEN KILLED—SEVERAL OTHERS BADLY INJURED.

Cruiser Was on Dry Dock at Norfolk Navy Yard—Her Sailors Had Stolen a Barrel of Grain Alcohol—Were Detected—One Sailor Struck a Match at the Barrel.

Norfolk, Va., Sept. 14.—The explosion of a barrel of alcohol on the superstructure deck of the cruiser Olympia, in dry dock at the Norfolk navy yard, killed two men, severely injured several others and set fire to the ship. The master-at-arms of the vessel is missing. The dead:

Corporal Yerkes, U. S. M. C. White man, name unknown.

The damage was confined to the dock of the vessel and embraced only the canvas awnings and their fixtures. The decks, however, were slightly injured.

Immediately after the explosion fire alarms were sounded and the crew of the navy yard department and a detachment of marines under Captain Booth soon put the flames out.

The explosion, according to reports from eye witnesses, followed the theft of a barrel of grain alcohol, containing 35 gallons, by a party of sailors. This barrel, it is stated, was taken from one of the storehouses of the navy yard and removed to the dock near the Olympia. There it was opened. Shipkeeper Daly, on board the Olympia, detected the odor of the spirits and summoned the ship's master-at-arms. A search led to the discovery of the barrel, which was taken aboard the Olympia and placed on the hurricane deck. With the exception of a small quantity which had been spilt the barrel was intact.

In Flaming Liquor.

Yerkes and the unknown sailor went to the barrel and one of them struck a match. An explosion followed, and both men were enveloped in the flaming liquor. They perished before a hand could be raised to save them. The ship at once caught fire, and the blaze for a while was stubborn, but was finally extinguished. In the excitement the sailors concerned in the affair escaped the parties sent out to arrest them.

The ship's company was assembled and the ship's master-at-arms failed to respond to his name. It is not known what became of him. One report has it that he was not on the ship at the time of the explosion. No one was admitted to the navy yard and all accounts of the explosion and attending circumstances were secured from outsiders. The injured are said to number four to seven.

Will Meet at Spokane.

This year there will be several meetings held in Spokane during the Interstate Fair, from October 5 to 13, which are important to the country, making an additional inducement for people to go to Spokane at that time. One of these, and one of the most important, is the meeting of the Washington Good Roads association. It is particularly important that all road supervisors and road overseers, as well as county commissioners and county surveyors attend this meeting. The ideas of all persons who have been engaged in building roads will be contributed at this meeting. Another meeting will be the association of the Washington commission of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

Coinage Stopped.

Philadelphia.—No more cents are to be made by the United States mint here for at least a year, unless a special order is issued from the United States treasury at Washington. This is the latest instructions from Washington, due to the enormous production in the last five years—3,900,000,393 pennies having been shipped from the Philadelphia mint, which is the only one that coins the 1 cent pieces, to various parts of the country. Between July 1, 1902, and June, 1903, 89,600,000 cents were coined.

Railways Suffer Heavy Loss.

St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 16.—With losses amounting to \$250,000 a day for three days, on account of wrecks, derailments, more than 100 washouts, telegraph wires down, a soaking rain in progress over several states and snow plows working on the western lines, northwestern railways are taxed to the utmost limit of their ability to maintain anything like regular service and to preserve the safety of their passengers. It has been years since there was a situation so serious.

A boy always makes a nuisance of himself when he tries to make people believe he is older and tougher than he really is. Don't do that.

Some people waste so much polish on the toes of their shoes that they have none left for the heels. Don't do that.