

# MINES AND MINING NEWS

## OUR NORTHWESTERN MINES.

Items Gleaned From Late Reports—All Districts Are Being Developed—A Prosperous Year Is Predicted—Mining Notes and Personalities.

There is hardly a shadow of a doubt but what the Boston & Montana, and the Butte & Boston mining companies of Butte will be merged into the Amalgamated Copper company.

### Republic.

The Mountain Lion shaft is down about 675 feet, leaving but 25 feet, with the exception of the 25 foot sump to be sunk before the shaft is completed.

Excellent progress is being made on the Lone Pine-Surprise tunnel. It is in about 110 feet and there are but 75 to 80 feet to run before the ledge is cut.

Superintendent W. M. Crummer states that the long Gold Ledge tunnel is in a little more than 250 feet and that from now on the tunnel will be driven much more rapidly, as the machinery is in good shape for working.

The Chico shaft has been timbered up in good shape and the bulkheads put in at the 300 foot level. The shaft has been sunk for several feet by hand and one set of timbers put in. The machine drills were set in motion and it is believed that rapid progress will be made.

The Princess Maud has been put in shape to resume sinking in the winze. This will be carried from the 300 foot level below the tunnel level to the 500 foot level, making the total depth 750 feet below the croppings. It will take about three months to finish the winze.

The first installment of the next Morning Glory shipment left for Grand Forks last week and the rest will follow as soon as teams can be got to haul it. The entire shipment, which it is expected to be the largest in the history of the mine, is expected to be at the smelter by the end of the month. Work is still being continued in the winze and there is no material change in the width or value of the ore.

The main Wauconda ledge has at last been cut, the big vein just passed through having proved another blind lead. The average samples of the seven feet showed a value of \$13.20. A picked sample assayed \$49 per ton. It will take at least a week to get through the ledge. This strike seems to remove all doubts about the Wauconda being a big mine. The ledge is being cut almost 600 feet below the surface.

### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A second smelter seems practically assured at Grand Forks.

A cablegram from London was received recently at Rossland stating that a controlling interest in the Le Roi mine has been picked up by a syndicate of London investors, prominently identified with the Exploration company. This will account in a large measure for the rapid advance in the price of the shares, which has reached \$9 1/2. The rumor is also current that the same people are endeavoring to secure control of the Center Star and War Eagle mines.

Word has been received at Phoenix that a miners' strike is on at the Nickel Plate mine, in the Similkameen. Notices warning union men to keep away have been sent out by the Camp McKinney miners' union, the nearest organization of miners. The Nickel Plate is located in Camp Hedley, up Twenty Mile creek, about four miles from Similkameen city. Manager Rogers of the Nickel Plate is said to have announced a cut from \$3.50 to \$3.00 per day in wages for miners. All but a few of the 25 men employed walked out. The Nickel Plate is owned by the Marcus Daly estate, and is said to be one of the richest mines in the Similkameen country. It is equipped with an air compressor and is one of the largest employers of labor in that section.

The Golden Monarch Mining & Milling company of Spokane has had a piece of good fortune in driving the long crosscut tunnel on the Foghorn at Ymir. At 200 feet from the mouth of the tunnel a blind vein was encountered showing a stringer of good looking ore about 13 inches wide. This new discovery promises well, although the actual value of the ore has not yet been ascertained.

Encouraging reports are at hand from the Ainsworth camp, where mining matters have picked up materially during the past week. If the lead market takes a turn for the better the camp will have one of the liveliest seasons in its history.

Work in the big tunnel at the Highlander is in full swing.

### MINING NOTES.

Butte mining men fear serious labor troubles there about May 1.

A new oil district has been found at Palouse City, Wash., and it gives splendid showings of gas and oil.

The Mountain View group, two miles west of Northport, Wash., which has been in continuous litigation since 1896, will soon resume.

It is reported from the Keep-Cool on Lake Pend d'Oreille that a crosscut from the No. 5 tunnel has exposed 20

feet of ore. The grade of the ore can not be learned.

The Jumbo, at Buffalo Hump, is to have a stamp mill and concentrator. The mill will be of ten stamps and the plant will be rushed in as soon as it can be got over the roads.

The tunnel being run to tap the Simmons claim on Bear gulch, near Murray, Idaho, is in over 200 feet and good progress is reported. The group is under bond to the Murray Development company.

The Cedar Canyon district is active and looking well. A visit to the camp proves a revelation of great possibilities. Large quantities of high grade ore are sacked and on the dump ready for shipment.

No. 5 shaft at the Tamarack mine, in the copper region of Lake Superior, is one of the most notable pieces of mining work ever undertaken. It is 4,680-feet deep, and the work of sinking it occupied four and one-half years.

Although active operations can not be undertaken for some time on account of snow, there is every indication that the coming summer will see a great deal of life in the copper belt that extends from Wallace, Idaho, eastward to Iron Mountain, Montana.

Seven hundred and fifty employees at the East Helena plant of the American Smelting and Refining company have gone on strike. It is supposed the men are dissatisfied because of a slight reduction made in their wages with the introduction of the compulsory eight hour law, passed by the recent legislature.

The Rosebud mine at Aurora, Mo., caved recently and buried five men at a depth of 110 feet and 70 feet from the main shaft. The sounds of tapping on the steel rails gave their friends assurance of life. Several hundred men, working in relays, are striving to rescue the entombed men but it will take at least three days to reach them.

Ray Waylett, a miner employed at the Tiger-Poorman mine at Wallace, Idaho, was killed recently by falling about 50 feet down an ore shoot, striking on his head. He was a single man about 28 years old. His parents live at Victor, Mont., to which place his body was shipped.

As a consequence of the recent terrible disaster in the coal mine at Cumberland, B. C., the miners in Nanaimo are circulating a petition, addressed to the legislative assembly of British Columbia, asking that a new law be passed providing for the examination of persons who wish to work in coal mines.

A meeting of all silver-lead producing mineowners of the west has been called in Denver, Colo., to decide what shall be done about an ironclad contract submitted by the American Smelting & Refining Company. Every mining district in the state except where the product may be treated by mills, cyanide and chlorination works, as is largely the case at Cripple Creek, will be at the mercy of the trusts. The trusts will have the mines producing lead ores by the throat. The price of gold is fixed at \$19 per ounce, whereas the trust will receive \$20.87 per ounce for it. The rates are based partly on the railway freight charges, and as the railways are going into the hands of the same financial kings, the smelter trust will be in a position to make rebates on freight to itself, while charging full tariff to the miner. An ore containing \$30 worth of mineral and paying \$10 per ton freight will pay \$17 per ton treatment charges, thus leaving the miner \$3 net out of which to pay the cost of operating his mine and profit for himself. Such a mine must close down at once. A \$50 ore, paying \$11 per ton freight, will pay \$18.50 treatment charges, leaving \$20.50 per ton for the miner. The treatment charges are an increase on prevailing rates. Owners of the two leading chemical gold reduction plants, with a capacity of 1500 tons daily, will go to New York to complete the sale to the smelter trust. They have been frozen out by low rates.

Four million dollars worth of ore is in sight in the Kendall gold mines near Lewistown, 100 miles northeast of Helena, Mont. This deposit of gold is the largest in the northwest.

The figures given are those of experts, made for Finch & Campbell of Spokane, who a few months ago took a bond on this property for \$450,000, to be paid on May 1 next.

They put a large force of men to work and drove a tunnel 400 feet into the deposit. Crosscuts made at various intervals show the deposit to be 140 feet wide, at least 400 feet long and 180 feet deep.

Samples taken show an average value of \$10 per ton, and there are, according to the estimates, 400,000 tons blocked out. The ore is a sedimentary deposit, similar in character to that of the famous Rand mines in South Africa.

It is in a contact vein, with lime as a footwall and a porphyry hanging wall, a remarkable deposit in many ways, which is exciting interest and attention of mining men all over the west.

The ore is mined in an open cut on the side of the mountain and is free milling.

London.—Bar silver, steady, 27 5/8d per ounce.

San Francisco.—Silver bars, 59 7/8c; Mexican dollars, 48 1/2@50c.

# PRAIRIE FIRE IN NEBRASKA IT WAS AN UNLUCKY TRAIN

## IT IS MONSTER PRAIRIE FIRE. SEVERAL MEN WERE KILLED.

District 100 Miles in Length and 40 Miles Wide Denuded—Ranchmen Are Unable to Check the Flames—Loss Will Be Enormous.

Lincoln, Neb., April 28.—A Journal special from Hyannis, Neb., says:

For the last three days the sandhills of this section of the state have been a seething sea of fire. About noon Thursday lightning set fire to the range in several places. At first it got under headway in Spring and Buckboard valleys, and with a heavy southwest wind the fire was driven to the Burlington road, three miles east of Whitman.

A change of the wind at this time carried it rapidly into the best cattle districts of Grant and McPherson counties. A second branch had burned nearly 30 miles in a westerly course and has not yet been put out. Another branch of the fire swept the valleys. The ranchmen have been unable thus far to check the flames.

A district of about 100 miles in length and 40 miles in width has been swept of prairie grass that for a month to come would serve as the only food for cattle. It is impossible to estimate the damage that has been done. It is thought that a heavy loss of stock will be the consequence.

### TRADE REPORT.

Bradstreet's report of trade for last week is as follows:

While affected by unfavorable weather conditions, general trade manifested a strong underlying tone which seemingly lacks only the advent of better weather to become buoyant. Cold weather had undoubtedly affected planting and germination in some sections, but the probable damage to crops is not so great as earlier advices appeared to indicate. In some directions activity was pronounced, as for example in iron and steel, where apparently production is taxed to its utmost capacity, though seemingly more to meet spring requirements than because of new orders. A stiffening in prices is noted in lumber, with a demand fully up to the supply. From Portland, Ore., comes the report that the logging camps are taxed to supply orders. There is little alteration in hides. Activity on an enormous scale continues to rule in the New York stock market. Early this week irregularity, with some heavy selling and declines, prevailed, due to renewed gold shipments, caused by large supplies, aggregating \$180,000,000, to the new British loan. Money rates falling to harder, bullish sentiment resumed control.

### Wheat.

Tacoma.—Wheat—Quiet and steady; bluestem, 60 1/2c; club, 58c.

Portland, Ore.—Wheat—Walla Walla, 60c.

Grant's Anniversary Celebrated.

New York, April 28.—The anniversary of the birth of General U. S. Grant was celebrated at a banquet given by the trustees of the Grant Monument association at the Waldorf-Astoria. The banquet hall was handsomely decorated. Many women sat in the galleries. The guests of honor were U. S. Grant, Jr., Major General Joseph Wheeler, Major General O. O. Howard, Clark Howells of Atlanta, Major General John R. Brooke, Major General Granville M. Dodge, Congressman C. B. Landis of Indiana, Rear Admiral A. H. Baker, William E. Chandler, Cornelius N. Bliss, General Stuart L. Woodford and Evan P. Howell.

General Dodge presided. He read a letter of regret from President McKinley and another from Mrs. Julia D. Grant, the latter expressing regret that her health would not permit her to be present.

All the guests sang the national songs, filling the banquet hall with the volume of sound.

The menu cards contained copies of a letter written in the excitement of a battle on the field by General Grant to his wife. The souvenirs were a pyramid of imitation cannon balls, surmounted by a cross of gun swabs, on which were tiny flags.

### Policeman Killed Him.

Topeka, Kan., April 28.—While resisting arrest George Head was struck on the head by Policeman Hall. The blow fractured his skull, causing death six hours later. Head had been drinking and was disturbing a religious meeting on the street. When the officer attempted to arrest him, Head showed fight and in trying to subdue him Officer Hall struck him on the head with his billy.

### Canadian Golf Tournament.

Toronto, Ont., April 28.—The Canadian Golf association has named September 25, 26, 27 and 28 for its annual championship and interprovincial match on the Toronto links. The annual international match with the United States has been dropped.

Prince Eul Waa, second son of the emperor of Korea, has entered Roanoke college, Virginia, to perfect himself in a knowledge of the English language. For eight years past this Virginia institution has had Korean students under credit instruction, and they have made creditable progress in scholarship.

Great Northern Eastbound Freight—Man Lay Across Track and Run Over—Bad Rail Wrecked Cars—Two Tramps Fatally Injured.

Cut Bank, Mont., April 28.—When Engineer Morris, with engine 279, pulled out of Kalispell on No. 16, a Great Northern eastbound fast freight, he had a hoodoo somewhere aboard his engine, for he had as unlucky a trip as usually falls to the lot of one train.

Passing down the hill three miles east of Columbia Falls the engineer saw a man lying alongside the track with his head on the rail. He reversed his engine and applied the air brake, but the momentum of the train was so great that he was unable to stop in time. The pilot of the engine struck the man on the head, knocking him to one side. It was found that he had been struck by some train earlier in the evening and had both his feet cut off. The loss of blood and subsequent injuries no doubt will prove fatal. His name is unknown. An empty whisky bottle found in his clothes told the story of how he came there.

Three miles east of Java the train struck a broken rail, derailing eight cars and breaking them up badly. Two tramps, names unknown, who were stealing a ride in a car of lumber, were probably fatally injured.

When the train arrived in Cut Bank, Antone Anderson, a car inspector, who was inspecting the train, stepped onto the passing track next to the train. The engine, which had been detached from the train, was backing down this track and struck Anderson, knocking him down and passing diagonally across his body, killing him almost instantly. Anderson was the son in law of a wealthy cattleman here, and leaves a wife and one child.

### Low Rates to Alaska.

Seattle, April 28.—The dissolution of the combine of transportation companies doing business between Seattle and southeastern Alaska, which was announced recently, has led to an open war in passenger and freight rates. The slash has already gone half way into the rates fixed by the defunct organization, and the companies are lined up for a war that may continue all summer.

Two companies have announced the passenger rate of \$8 from Seattle to Skagway. Other concerns are down to \$10 and \$12. The association rate was \$16.

A proportionate cut has been made in rates for freight and live stock rates are down from \$20 to \$7.50 a head. Unless a compromise is meanwhile effected, of which transportation men have no hope, the rates will reach still lower points with the opening of navigation on the Yukon next month.

### Grateful to Uncle Sam.

Washington, April 30.—The thanks which Li Hung Chang has given to Mr. Rockhill for the course of the United States in the indemnity negotiations in line with similar thanks which Minister Wu has expressed to Secretary Hay, the Chinese authorities having taken occasion several times of late to make known their appreciation of American effort to keep the total indemnity down to a sum which China could reasonably meet.

### Sunday at Buffalo.

Buffalo, April 27.—The question of whether the exposition grounds are to be open on Sunday has been finally settled by the board of directors. Their decision is a compromise. The gates are to be open from 1 p. m. to 11 p. m., but the midway and all amusement features will be closed during the 24 hours from Saturday until Monday.

### Harvard Graduates Protest.

Boston, April 28.—The committee of graduates of Harvard representing those opposed to having the university grant a degree of LL. D. to President McKinley have mailed 7000 copies of the protest framed by certain of the alumni, and it is expected answers will begin to come in next week.

### Billy Smith's Death.

London, April 30.—The coroner's jury which has been investigating the death of Billy Smith, the pugilist, who was fatally injured April 22 at the National Sporting club in a bout with Jack Roberts, rendered a verdict of accidental death.

### Killed His Sister.

Prairie du Chien, Wis., April 30.—Max Heck, who runs his father's farm, near McGregor, Iowa, shot and almost instantly killed his sister, Mrs. Ellsworth, at the breakfast table. It is thought he was temporarily insane. He was arrested.

### Eight Men Were Burned to Death.

Cannes, France, April 30.—Fire broke out last night at the artillery camp, in the vicinity of the village of St. Jean. Eight men were burned to death and several were injured.

### President's Train Starts.

Washington, April 30.—The train that is to carry President and Mrs. McKinley and party on their long excursion across the continent and back made its start precisely on schedule time over the Southern road.

## NEWS ITEMS.

Twenty lives are reported lost in a snowsue at Sunrise City, Alaska. Many houses were caught in the avalanche.

Valdez, Alaska, is crowded with idle men anxiously awaiting beginning of work on the government line to the interior.

At Houston, Texas, in a fire which destroyed a livery stable and three residences recently, five persons were burned to death and several others were injured.

Carefully compiled statistics show that the gold production of the Cripple Creek district up to the close of the present month makes a grand total of over \$100,000,000. Gold was first discovered in this camp in 1889.

Light, life and air has broken in onto the five entombed miners at Aurora, Ohio. Two were rescued alive, one was found dead and the other two are supposed to be lifeless. Grant Shard was mangled by falling rocks and earth and died instantly.

Thirty-one billion dollars is the aggregate of national debts of the world at the close of the nineteenth century. This is ten times as much as in the closing years of the eighteenth century, according to expert statisticians of the treasury bureau devoted to this work. This bureau has just issued a statement on the subject, it apparently being suggested by the recent announcement of the new British loan of \$300,000,000.

The Mechanics' Savings Bank of Westerly, R. I., is closed. This action came as a great surprise to the town and great excitement prevails among small depositors. The estimated amount of deposits is something less than \$1,000,000, the securities on their face values less than \$1,100,000. The number of depositors is about 200. Many of the securities are western investments, which are understood to have decreased in value year by year.

George Cummins, aged 23, a son of D. W. Cummins, telegraph operator at Northport, Wash., who recently returned from volunteer service in the Philippines, and was employed in the railroad yards as switchman, was caught between two heavy ore cars while making a coupling, and killed almost instantly, living only a few minutes. He called by name a favorite sister May, who lies very sick at home, and then asked to have his head raised, after which he gasped a few times and expired.

At Cincinnati Mrs. Richard Crater, the wife of a housepainter, on being unable to keep her husband from a saloon, went to the place with one of his kalsomine buckets and a white-wash brush. She kalsomined him from head to foot in the saloon. He returned to the saloon after he had accompanied her home and changed his clothing. She followed him again and the next time kalsomined the saloon-keeper and his bar fixtures, and gave notice that she would repeat the performance to anyone selling liquor to her husband.

C. F. Saylor of Iowa, the special agent in charge of the beet sugar investigation of the department of agriculture, is in Washington and has submitted his report to Secretary Wilson. He says this year shows an active tendency toward the institution of new beet sugar enterprises. Next autumn, he says, Michigan will have three new factories and Ohio, Indiana, New York, Colorado, Utah, South and North Dakota and Illinois will install new factory enterprises, making thirteen throughout the United States now in contemplation. A conservative estimate, he says, is that there will be 42 beet sugar factories in operation throughout the United States by the end of next autumn. Everything indicates that the industry is thoroughly established throughout the country.

Felix Gras, the Provençal poet who died recently at the age of 54 years, is best known in America by his romances of the revolution, "Les Rogues du Midi" and "La Terreur Blanche," which have been translated into English. He was a Juge de Pais at Avignon.

Six young ladies have learned the art of bell-ringing in the village of Bradford, England. They "rang in" 1901 at the church.

The first two years she is married, a woman tries to make her husband a better man; after that she is generally satisfied if she can make him save part of his salary.

Deaf mutes are on the increase in Germany. There are no fewer than 6458 persons in institutions where deaf mutes are specially instructed.

No woman ever wrote a novel where at least seven men didn't propose to the same girl who was too good to flirt with any of them.

A woman has the advantage over a man; when she laughs when she ought to have acted sorry she can always claim it was hysterics.

Most of the reformers move along the lines of most resistance.

Talent has no sex, nor has envy a gender.

Sunday closing is now being strictly observed in Centralia.

# BATTLES CONTINUE IN CHINA

## ALLIED TROOPS VICTORIOUS

Imperial Troops Routed With Severe Loss—Put Up a Stubborn Resistance—Ketteler Was in Command of Allied Troops.

Berlin, April 29.—The German war office has received the following advices from Count Von Waldersee:

"Pekin, April 28.—Three engagements occurred April 23 and a fourth April 24 at the great wall between the four columns under General Ketteler and the Chinese troops under General Liu. The Chinese were everywhere defeated, and after a stubborn resistance were forced back over the wall, being pursued as far as Ku-Kuan. Our casualties were four officers wounded and three men killed and 32 wounded. The French troops were not engaged."

"General Ketteler's brigade, reinforced, marched in four columns against the great wall, Colonel Ledebur commanding the right wing, others being commanded by Colonel Hoffmeister, Colonel Wallmerch and Major Huelhensfels. Ledebur reached the wall April 24 after a slight engagement near Hai-Shan-Kwan.

"Hoffmeister drove back the enemy April 23. On the same day Huelhensfels encountered a strong body of the enemy, occupying a position on the heights commanding the pass. The enemy fought stubbornly in a particularly strong position, which was only taken after eleven hours' fighting. Huelhensfels and Lieutenant Richter were slightly wounded, and Lieutenant Drewells was severely wounded. A standard bearer and another were killed and six men severely and ten slightly wounded.

"Wallmerch attacked and dispersed, April 23, a far superior force of the enemy in a strong position east of the breach of Hai-Cho and effected a junction on the battlefield with the battalion under Major Muelmann, from Teing-Ching, and, taking up the pursuit, overtook the enemy in a fresh position on the south. This was captured and the enemy were pursued as far as Ku-Kuan. Wallmerch followed them thither. The enemy suffered severely. Eleven old and two new quick fuses were captured. On our side one man was killed and three were severely wounded and nine slightly. Lieutenant Dueterburg was shot through the right arm. The enemy are everywhere in retreat. General Von Lesell has arranged with General Bailloud that the French troops shall occupy Ku-Kuan for the present and secure his left flank.

"Ketteler's brigade is marching by short stages to Pao-Ting-Fu, and Huelhensfels' battalion along the mountain to Peking."

Nine Chinamen will be executed in the American district for highway robbery and violence. The men in question were tried and sentenced according to Chinese law, but they were the first of such sentences to be approved by General Chaffee.

General Gaselee, the British commander, the officers of his staff and the entire British contingent gave a farewell entertainment to the American officers last night. All officers who were not actually on duty were present, and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed. Speeches were made by General Gaselee and General Chaffee.

### Per Capita in Porto Rico.

San Juan, April 29.—Manuel Argueso, who failed for \$350,000, will probably be able to re-establish himself in business. Senator Argueso's firm is one of the largest commission houses in Humacao. The assets of the firm have not been made known, but it is believed they are sufficient to meet all the liabilities. Other failures are expected and their cause is attributed to the stringency of money. Bankers here estimate the per capita circulation of money in Porto Rico at about \$2.

### Fifth Artesian Well.

Lewistown, Idaho, April 28.—The fifth flowing artesian well at the Dowd farm, six miles south of this city, was struck at a depth of 206 feet, a large flow resulting. The total volume of the five wells is now about 300 gallons per minute. Explorations will continue, and the purpose of the owners is said to be to establish a pipe line system to Lewistown.

### Negro Brutes.

Connellsville, Pa., April 28.—The Connellsville coke region is stirred over the deeds of a gang of negroes who attacked Hiram McMillan, a white man, and his wife, in a lonely house near Oliphant and shot the man twice, probably mortally wounding him, and brutally assaulted the woman, who is also in a serious condition from the abuse.

### Krugov to Visit America.

London, April 29.—A dispatch from Amsterdam announces that Mr. Krugov will leave for the United States at the commencement of June.

### Fond du Lac, Wis., Fire.

Milwaukee, April 28.—A special from Fond du Lac, Wis., says fire has gutted the plant of the Curney Refrigerator Manufacturing company. Loss \$100,000.