Drew Chas. Akins

THE COPPER ERA.

Issued Thursdays. CLIFTON, ARIZONA, MARCH 1, 1900. Vol. 1; No. 46

Under a recent ruling by the United States land office, in all sections of unsurveyed lands, under the act of June 4, 1897, notice of the selection of a tract of land must be given for a period of thirty days by posting upon the land and in the local land office, and by application at the cost of the applicant in a newspaper designated by the register as of general circulation in the vicinity of the land and published nearest thereto.

The postoffice department will have ready for issue within three months books of postage stamps The book will be of convenient size, that it may be carried in the vest pocket, and will be issued in three classes, namely: Books of twelve, twenty-four and forty-eight stamps respectively. The cover will give the postal rates in the United States and foreign countries. Parafine paper will be used to separate the stamps so as to prevent adhesion.

The smelting trust organized last spring owns twenty-three plants, nine of which are in Colorado. No Pacific coast smelter is in the combine, declining any overtures thereto. The trust has outstanding $27,400,000 each common and preferred stock. The output since the consolidation has been curtailed by strike of emyloyes. The nine Colorado plants have a daily capacity of about 5,500 tons of ore and they employ 4,500 men. The smelters' trust is said to pay in wages more than any other single industry in Colorado, not excepting the railroads. The busness is at present profitable. Public opinion in Colorado and Utah is against the policy, and competition in the former state is inevitable.

D. W. WICKERSHAM, Pres. A. G. SMITH, Cashier.
I. E. SOLOMON, Vice-Pres. C. F. SOLOMON, Asst. Cashier.

The Gila Valley Bank,

Solomonville, Arizona.

DIRECTORS: D. W. Wickersham, A. G. Smith, I. E. Solomon, C. F. Solomon, B. B. Adams, Geo. A. Olney, Adolph Solomon.

Capital Stock, Paid up, - - - $25,000.

This Bank solicits accounts, offering to depositors liberal treatment and every facility consistent with sound banking.

John Stanton, statistician for the copper producers, expresses confidence that the price of copper will be well maintained. "I see no reason why the price of copper should go down. I think 16 cents is a fair, healthy price, and certainly not an unreasonable advance as compared with other metals. Of course, the market is never steady at any price, but if anything I am inclined to think the figure will go up. Nevertheless, it is to be borne in mind that while two-thirds, or at least three-fifths, of the copper production is controlled by one concern, it is hard to tell what their idea of the market is, and hard, therefore, to say what the market will be. But, as I say, even at these prices, copper is selling cheap. Steel rails, for instance, have doubled in price during the last year. If copper had gone up proportionately it would be selling at 24 cents. The demand is good both abroad and here, and is likely to increase when the money markets are settled. The consumption this year will, I think, be the largest in the history of the country—larger even than last year which was a reccord breaker. I may add in conclusion that I think it is the aim of the larger producers not to put copper to a price that will limit its use, but to produce as much of it as possible and sell it—not keep it. It is worth noticing that there is no instance in the history of the copper business where the mines have been shut down to limit production and increase price.