

# Tonopah Bonanza.

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## GROWTH OF TONOPAH

POPULATION IN  
1900,  
15

Tonopah in December, 1900, a camp of prospectors along the croppings of the Mizpah. In January, 1901, a cluster of tents and a score of windlasses. Later a small army of leasers, whips, and whims. During the summer an era of small gasoline engines hoisting out wealth. The winter of 1901-2, enormous ore dumps being drawn upon by the carrying power of 1,000 animals. The dawn of 1903, twenty gasoline engines and seven powerful steam hoists in operation. Business conducted by telegraph; one hundred telephones and eight hundred electric lights in daily use. . . .

POPULATION IN  
1903,  
4,500

**T**HE TONOPAH BONANZA in this issue, so far as is possible by the aid of photographic art and the reproduction thereof, presents pictorially something of the story of Tonopah's wondrous growth. To give a fairer conception of the rapidity with which a city has been created during the time the earth has traveled once and a half round the sun kinetoscopic views or a moving picture were necessary. The long Main street of to-day presents many features in striking contrast to those of even a month ago, as new structures replace older ones for the second or third time. This process is continuous, and with the improvements in projection another year will behold a city with solid granite buildings at least on every important corner, where so recently stood little more than canvas shelters.

ing elevations that could not be better designed for the almost innumerable residences with which they are now covered.

The view given on page 2 presents the first structural scene in Tonopah ever depicted by the camera. The principal unfinished building is that of the Brougher Bros., the Mizpah saloon. Upon the roof of the other one, Thomas Kendall's saloon, which was then undergoing construction also, may be described the editor of the *BONANZA*, attesting the fact that with hammer and saw he began the building of Tonopah. In a broader field of influence and effect he has been upbuilding it ever since. It is proper to remark here, parenthetically, that the aforesaid editor-in-chief did not suggest this mention.

The summer months will witness the erection by the State Bank and

Tonopah's appearance at central points, yet the general scene presented on this page is of value in its scope, showing the town looking from the slopes of Mt. Brougher on the west. Mt. Oddie, serried with ledges and ore channels from surface exposure to the depths now being rapidly explored, appears with head reared over vast bodies of ore, the extent of which is as yet unknown. But, for the enormous quantities so far developed, the ore in its gold and silver combination shows a higher average value than any other ledge mines heretofore discovered. The mountains overlooks mineral locations to the number of 1309, recorded in this district to date, through which the mineral-bearing formation distinctive of Tonopah is underlying. Upon the surface is being reared the Queen City of the Desert.

that I considered it of very little or no value. However, I took several samples, passed over a great number of ledges, went on about four miles and camped on May 19th near what is now known as the Gold Mountain mines, and saw those leads also, but, as they were small compared with the large ledges I had discovered early in the day, I did not think much of them, though I took samples with me which I afterwards had assayed.

The first sample from Tonopah which I had assayed contained 395 ounces in silver and 15½ ounces in gold to the ton. I spent some time in waiting for an assay to be made at Southern Klondike by Mr. B. F. Higgs, and on May 26th returned to Tonopah, made a dry camp, and next day took about 75 pounds of ore from the several ledges, which I subse-

sected with fissures filled with quartz containing rich sulphides carrying gold and silver. The width of the mineral zone is as yet unknown, but there are twenty or thirty shafts being sunk in an area of five or six miles, so that later on the secret will be divulged and the extent of the mineral belt known.

### Hanson Talks of Tonopah.

As mining operators become informed as to Tonopah the more ardent their support, as evidenced by the following:

Having completed the business for which he came to Salt Lake to transact, Mr. C. L. Hanson, the Tonopah mining magnate, has taken his departure and is now speeding on his way to Chicago, where he expects to remain for some time. In speaking of the recent disclosures in the Cali-



GENERAL VIEW OF TONOPAH, NEVADA, JANUARY 20, 1903.

Such transition will be the result of natural conditions. In remoteness from railway systems the cost of lumber is enormous, the aggregate figures whereof would be far beyond the financial possibilities of any similarly situated locality less endowed with mineral wealth. The ever present danger of a conflagration enters potently into the calculation. Conversely, the city lies along the base of a mountain topped with an inexhaustible quarry of gray granite, upturned in basaltic fashion, easily blown out in rectangular blocks. Within two miles are great bodies of white, volcanic tufa, fire-proof, hardening in time and which can be hewn with an axe. As time offers opportunity advantage will be taken of all these abundant sources of durable building material. And there is no mining town in the world that can boast of a finer site, one upon which a city of the grandest proportions may be built. The broad main street, unbrokenly paved with a natural macadam, ascends with a slight grade southward for two miles to a plateau where the expanse of comparatively level space is still greater. On either side are lateral and intersecting streets, at gradually increas-

Trust company of a companion building to the Golden block, the home of the Nye County Bank. Its location is on central Main street, and the two will stand as closely together as the width of the east and west avenue will admit. The new fire-proof, cut stone structure will be three stories in height on Main street, and cover 50x100 feet. This, however, is not all. The *BONANZA* is in possession of information from first authority that the large Brougher lot on Main opposite Golden's, which has been held against all would-be investors, will be the site of a fine three-story brick and stone edifice to be erected for hotel purpose only, by a combination of eastern and home capital. The plan adopted covers 90x100 feet space of the most valuable ground in the city. In its massive solidity, details of finish and appointment the new hostelry will be equal in every respect to any between Salt Lake and San Francisco.

Four views of the east and west sides of Main street looking both north and south from Brougher avenue, would show most of the principal buildings, halls, hotels and business houses—would more effectually convey to the outside world an idea of

### EARLY FACTS AND DATA AS PRESENTED BY ITS DISCOVERER.

Amongst late contributions to the descriptive and historical literature of Tonopah is an article by Jas. L. Butler, well-placed in the biennial report of the state surveyor-general. The text is as follows:

Tonopah is an Indian name, which, I learned when a boy, signifies a small spring. The Indians, on their periodical trips from the Cowich Mountains and other places to Rhodes' Salt Marsh, camped at this spring. Rich mines had been discovered in the San Antonio range, and the country being highly mineralized, I long considered the mountains in the vicinity of the spring a good field for the prospector. Attention to other matters kept me away from the range until May, 1900, when I left Belmont, the county seat of Nye county, on a prospecting expedition to the south. I passed over the Manhattan Mountains, left Rye Patch and traveled all day to the spring known by the Indians as Tonopah, near which I found quartz. I followed up the float and found leads. There were bold, black croppings of fine-grained quartz, showing a great quantity of mineral, so much in fact,

quently had assayed by Mr. W. C. Gayhart, at Austin, the result being 640 ounces in silver and \$206 in gold to the ton. I was absent from Belmont when the returns from the assay reached there, and when I did return to Belmont I had office duties to attend to, and also to harvest the hay on my ranch, so I did not return to Tonopah to locate the mines until August 25, 1900. Mrs. Butler accompanied me, and assisted materially in locating the claims. My first location was the Desert Queen, next the Burro, and then I told my wife to name one, which she did, naming it the Mizpah, which at that time did not look any better than the others, but since has proved to be the richest on record. I also located the Valley View, Silver Top and Buckboard, and the group as a whole proves to be among the richest opened up to date in any country.

The mines are in porphyry, or rhyolite, and crop at the base of Mount Oddie and radiate like a fan. The whole country is porphyritic; no limestone. The quartz contains gold, silver and manganese. The leads have talc casings, the formation being the same on the foot and hanging walls. The country is a mineral zone inter-

sected with fissures filled with quartz containing rich sulphides carrying gold and silver. The width of the mineral zone is as yet unknown, but there are twenty or thirty shafts being sunk in an area of five or six miles, so that later on the secret will be divulged and the extent of the mineral belt known.

Asked about the outlook for a railroad being built into the camp, Mr. Hanson replied that he expected to see one constructed to Tonopah during the present year. "If the Southern Pacific will not extend its Carson & Colorado line into the district, the mine owners of Tonopah will build the line themselves, either to connect with that line, the Nevada Central at Austin, or possibly to meet a line which might be extended from Utah westward. We feel the necessity of a railroad and we are agoing to have it."—Salt Lake News.