

Mines and Mining

The recent falling off in the price of silver has had a rather depressing effect upon those mines where the white metal predominates in the product. From all appearances last week silver was on the up grade, but the market broke and reached a rock-bottom figure before it began to recover.

A number of the larger properties, such as the Silver King Coalition mines at Park City, were making preparations to open up again to their old-time production, but in the unsettled condition of the metal market that much desired end has been deferred indefinitely.

While silver has somewhat declined, copper has developed strength and mines where the red metal leads the others are in a very flourishing condition as compared with any period since the great slump. The tonnage of copper ore produced has advanced at a rapid pace, in some instances fully fifty per cent.

The one hopeful sign of the week is the constantly recurring assurance that the United States Smelter will resume operations in the near future and thus give competition in the purchase and smelting of all ores.

The opening of the Ontario drain tunnel at Park City has had a beneficent effect in local mining circles. Water is fast disappearing from the submerged levels in the group of mines surrounding the Ontario, and already there is strong talk of resumption of work at many of the properties.

The newer mining camps of Nevada in which so much Utah capital is invested, have given forth excellent reports during the week. This is not wholly confined to the gold producers, but many of the copper camps are entering the list of active workers.

Though nothing startling has transpired in the industry during the week it has been a fairly prosperous one.

PARK CITY.

The annual meeting of the Silver King Coalition Mines company resulted in the election of the old officials for another year. The report of the management showed the company with a fine surplus on hand and the mine in excellent physical condition. Owing to the price of silver being below the danger point the mine will not be in the shipping column for some time to come.

The affairs of the Silver King Consolidated have been entangled. During the week the receiver has been discharged and the company is making preparations to begin a strenuous summer campaign at the mine.

One of the most sensational episodes in the old camp this week has been the strike in the Wabash. Development has been going on in the No. 3 vein where a body of high grade ore was uncovered. Assays give 485.4 ounces silver, 17.8 per cent. lead and 3.85 per cent. copper to the ton. This is the possible beginning of a new Park City bonanza.

BINGHAM.

The week has been a humming one in the Bingham camp, as compared with those preceding it, and production of ore is increasing at a rapid rate. All preparations are under way for the doubling of the ore output from the Boston Consolidated. At the present time nearly 100 tons are being daily extracted, but before thirty days have passed there will be a daily output of fully 2,000 tons, taken from the mine.

Work is being pushed on the Yampa smelter in the line of installing the new unit to the plant. When it is in place, which will be in the near future, there will be three furnaces at work and more than enough ore in sight to keep them employed.

The week has seen the completion of the new Bingham-New Haven tram. The tram now runs down the left side of the canyon and is much better fitted for the handling of the ores.

The Bullion shaft and Jacob tunnel at the Bullion Liberal mine are both being pushed, and the Mystic Shrine mine has entered the active list, while the Eddie group, owned by E. McCarrick, is well under way toward that end.

The Phoenix mill has again been put in commission and is turning out twenty-five tons daily. The ore is taken from the old workings of the mine, which have been allowed to remain idle for some years. Ore as high as 40 per cent lead is being extracted.

From North Bingham comes the cheering news of the resumption of work on many properties. The Eagle Bird mine in that district has recorded a strike of rich gold ore. Assays show values of from \$100 to \$300 per ton. This body was uncovered in the tunnel which is being run to develop the mine at depth. The strike was made 200 feet from the surface.

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