

C. C. GOODWIN, . . . . . Editor  
J. T. GOODWIN, . . . . . Manager  
L. S. GILLHAM, . . . . . Business Manager

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According to this description, this road, when fully completed and in commission, will carry down such mighty stores of tropical products as will give fame to two or three states, an empire of such productiveness that it will, in some respects, change the lines of commerce. Indeed, the city of Para, at one of the mouths of the Amazon, is spending millions of dollars to prepare for the coming commerce, it expecting to be the place where the products that come down by boat will be transferred to ships.

Among all these products the one most counted upon for revenue is rubber. Since the advent of the automobile and the apparent impossibility of using any substance but rubber for tires, the demand is so increased that now men do not dream of grape fruit, oranges, or pineapples, or bananas, but their rage is for a rubber ranch.

And that leads us up to what we began to say at the beginning, which is that out in Uintah county, in Utah, there is a deposit, the technical name of which we cannot at this moment recall, but out of which rubber is made which in a little manner, at least, is much superior to that found in the market. For instance, a hose made of it will last longer and stand a much stronger pressure than the hose of commerce. And there is enough out there to supply the world, and there are no anacondas, no cougars, no parrots and no excess of water; indeed, water is so limited a compound in that region that most of the people have ceased to use it.

And that is only one of the slumbering enterprises which will burst into wonderful life when the Moffatt road comes through one corner of it. It now is sixty miles from transportation, and it might be as well six hundred.

At the same time, there is no doubt but what that heart of South America at the head waters of the Amazon, the Madeira, the Mamore, that region in central South America which is bigger than the state of Texas, has, within its possibilities, sufficient to give employment to, and to sustain the life of the people of an empire.

We suspect our friend McCune is down there pushing his road which is to go east from his mine in Peru to some navigable point on the Amazon, and that the chances are that within five years from the present date, if he lives and escapes the anacondas, the crocodiles and the parrots, he will be a new Pizarro or Bolivar in South America, the political and financial boss of all that interior magnificent country, the last remaining empire to be opened to the world; because, really, what that road will bring down will cover nearly all the products of the earth. It was built to transport copper, but up in eastern Bolivia there are magnificent silver and gold mines which have lain dormant through the centuries because of want of transportation. Then there will be the diamond fields to flank the road on the southeast; then the agricultural land which will produce everything that grows out of the earth;

with the result that with the opening up of that road there will be places for millions to work, and it will be possible to produce products which the whole world wants, and for which there is an unlimited demand. And if our congress and our rich men were half as bright as they imagine they are, they would want to be down there and have a hand in that development, because what is grander on this earth than to create, and make potential, an empire of land that before was given up only to wild beasts, crocodiles, snakes, and gorgeously plumaged birds?

### The Omnipotence of Mining

A FRIEND asks us if we are not mistaken in the statement, often made, that the prosperity of Utah has for forty years rested, in great part, upon her mining, citing the fact that the other products of Utah are aggregating two and a half times those of mining in value. We hardly think so, for the perfectly apparent reason that, except for the mining, the other products would not be worth one-third what they now are. They would not be of half the volume that they now are, nor, save, perhaps, in the two great factors of beet sugar and live stock, with wool as a by-product, of half their present value. Prices, when not manipulated by grafters, are regulated by the volume of money in circulation among the people. Take the money away that is now paid miners, smelters, and for the transportation of ores and base bullion, and what would become of prices within sixty days? What would become of the places of amusement in this city; the places where beverages, soft and hard, are sold, half the stores? How long before the aristocratic hen would cackle to supply eggs at 15 cents a dozen, the autocratic cow haul in her horns and furnish butter at 20 cents a pound, and the horny-handed farmer consent to be two years in making a fortune out of ten acres of potatoes, cellery and onions, instead of one year, as under present conditions?

Quartz mines are helpless things. They are generally in more or less inaccessible places; everything has to be carried to them, everything brought away. The call for money for them is incessant, and they have to pay in gold. What they produce is the measure of values; the first prosperity that comes from them is what the people receive who supply them with material, with labor, with machinery and roads—everything; before anything is realized by the owners. The gathering in of dividends is another business. What that means can be seen by a brief inspection of what has been going on here during the last four or five years. The improvements could not have been made, that have been made, just through the steady growth of the city. There had to first be an accumulation. The Newhouse and Boston buildings mean simply the materializing into steel and marble and mahogany of some dull ore in the Cactus and Boston Con. The Halloran-Judge block is merely the ore in the Silver King taking on a new form. It is the same way with the Keith-O'Brien building; it will be the same way with the Kearns skyscraper. The foundation of what Mr. J. J. Daly has done, all came from the Ontario, Daly and Daly-Judge. The foundations of the Salisbury structures rest in the Bay-Horse mine and the Black Hills, so much of the great cathedral was due to mining, for, except for it, its erection might have been postponed for half a century.

The beautiful Packard Library is but the treasure of Gemini at Eureka Hill transformed; monuments to mining are all over the city; others are beginning to take form constantly. There would have been no beautiful Stock Exchange without it, no new superb Commercial Club building, no Newhouse hotel nor theatre would be under construction. To think how the city would look were all that mining has done and is doing taken away,

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