

Mohave County Miner.

VOL. XXXI.

KINGMAN, ARIZONA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1913.

NO. 15

Arizona Leads in Copper

**Greatest Production of
any State in History
of the Red Metal.**

**350,000,000 Pounds Record of
1912, Valued at 56,000,000\$.**

Statistics and estimates received by the United States Geological Survey from all plants known to produce blister copper from domestic ores and from all Lake mines indicate that the copper output of the United States in 1912 exceeds that of any previous year in the history of the industry. Not only is the total output the largest ever recorded, but six of the large copper-producing States—Arizona, Michigan, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, and Alaska—have each exceeded all former records of production, while Montana and Tennessee have nearly equaled their previous record productions.

SMELTER PRODUCTION.

The figures showing smelter production from domestic ores, which have been collected by B. S. Butler, of the Geological Survey, represent the actual production of most of the companies for eleven months and an estimate of the December output. The November figures for a few companies were not available and these companies furnished estimates for the last two months of the year. According to the statistics and estimates received, the output of blister and Lake copper was 1,249,000,000 pounds in 1912, against 1,097,232,749 pounds in 1911.

At an average price of about 16 cents a pound the 1912 output has a value of nearly 200,000,000\$, against 137,154,092\$ for the 1911 output.

REFINED COPPER.

Preliminary statistics showing the output of refined copper are not collected by the Geological Survey. Figures published by the Copper Producers' Association show an output of 1,429,147,150 pounds for the first 11 months of 1912 and indicate that the production of marketable copper by the regular refining plants from all sources, domestic and foreign, will amount to about 1,560,000,000 pounds for 1912, against 1,433,875,026 pounds in 1911.

IMPORTS.

According to the Bureau of Statistics imports of pigs, bars, ingots, plates, and old copper for the first 11 months amounted to 276,508,505 pounds and, the copper content of ore, matte, and regulus imported amounted to 94,486,041 pounds. If the imports for December were equal to the average monthly imports for the first 11 months the amount of copper entering the United States for the year was about 404,721,323 pounds, against 334,697,538 pounds for 1911. Considerable of the copper imported as blister had been previously exported as ore.

EXPORTS.

Estimates based on figures for the first 11 months published by the Bureau of Statistics and also by the Copper Producers' Association indicate that the exports of copper for 1912 will not equal those of 1911 but may exceed 750,000,000 pounds.

STOCKS.

Stocks of refined copper held in the United States January 1, 1913, are probably about the same as on January 1, 1912. Foreign stocks show a considerable decrease.

DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION.

Statistics published by the Copper Producers' Association show the domestic deliveries for the first 11 months of the year as 761,174,225 pounds and indicate a marked increase in domestic consumption, which will probably reach 825,000,000 pounds for the year and may exceed that amount.

PRICES.

The average quoted price of electrolytic copper for the year showed a marked increase over that for 1911. The average for 1912 was about 16

cents a pound, as compared with 12 5/8 cents a pound for 1911. The year opened with copper at about 14 cents a pound, but since June the monthly average has not been below 17 cents.

LEADING COPPER-PRODUCING STATES

ARIZONA.

For 1912 Arizona again holds first place among the copper-producing States. The output will show a large increase over the 303,202,000 pounds produced in 1911 and may exceed 350,000,000 pounds. This is not only the largest output ever made by the State but the largest ever made by any State for one year.

The production of copper from the Bisbee district will show a large increase over the 130,200,000 pounds in 1911 and may exceed 145,000,000 pounds for 1912. A new smelting plant was under construction by the Calumet & Arizona Co. during the year.

The output of the Morenci-Metcalf district will show a considerable increase over that of 71,500,000 pounds for 1911 and may reach 80,000,000 pounds for 1912. The building of a new smelting plant by the Arizona Copper Co. was in progress during the year.

The Globe-Miami district will show a large increase over the production of 44,600,000 pounds in 1911, this being due to the larger output by the Miami Copper Co. The production for 1912 may reach 55,000,000 pounds. The larger producers were the old Dominion, United Globe and Miami companies. During the year the Inspiration Consolidated Copper Co. was formed by a merger of the Inspiration Copper Co. and the Live Oak Copper Co. Development and blocking out of ore was carried on by this company and plans for a concentrating plant set under way. Development was carried on by other companies.

In the Jerome district the output of the United Verde mine will show little change from the 33,200,000 pounds produced in 1911.

The production of the Mineral Creek or Ray district will show a large increase over 1911, owing to the larger output of the Ray Consolidated Co., the only large producer of the district. The output for the year will be between 30,000,000 and 35,000,000 pounds.

In 1912 the Ray Consolidated Co. secured controlling interest in the Ray Central Co. and the properties will be worked together. The smelting plant of the American Smelting & Refining Co. at Hayden was placed in operation during the year.

MONTANA.

The copper output of Montana will show a large increase over the 271,814,461 pounds produced in 1911, owing to the stimulation to production given by the increase in the price of copper. The 1912 output may reach 310,000,000 pounds. The Butte district, as in previous years, was the only large producer. Montana ranked second in copper production in 1912.

Important additions to the ore reserves of the Butte district are reported and improvements have been made in the methods of extracting and treating the ores with a view to decreasing the cost of production.

MICHIGAN.

The production of copper from Michigan, which ranks third among the copper-producing States, will show an increase of nearly 15,000,000 pounds over the output of 218,185,238 pounds in 1911. The output was made largely by the old producers and the increase was due to the stimulation of higher metal prices. Development of new territory has been active during the year.

UTAH.

The production of copper in Utah in 1912 will show a considerable increase over the 142,340,315 pounds produced in 1911, the increase being due to the increased output of the Bingham district. As in previous years, the Bingham camp was the main producer, though the Tintic district had a considerable production and the San Francisco and other districts also contributed. The output of the mines at Bingham was stopped for a time in the latter part of the year by labor troubles, thus materially reducing the ore production of the State.

NEVADA.

The copper production of Nevada in 1912 will show a large increase over the 65,561,015 pounds produced in 1911. The increase is due largely to the beginning of noteworthy production from the Yerington district. The total State output for 1912 will probably reach 80,000,000 pounds. The Ely and Yerington districts were the only large producers. In the Yerington district the smelter of the Mason Valley Mines Co. was blown in early in the year and operated thereafter. The output of the district will probably reach nearly 15,000,000 pounds. The Ely district will show a slight increase over 64,900,000 pounds produced in 1911, though production was interfered with by labor troubles in the latter part of the year.

CALIFORNIA.

The production of copper in California in 1912 will probably show little change from the 35,835,000 pounds produced in 1911. As in previous years the Shasta County district was the largest producer, but notable contributions were made also by the Foothills district and other districts of the State.

NEW MEXICO.

The output of copper from New Mexico in 1912, will show a large increase over that of 1911, owing to the beginning of noteworthy production by the Chino Copper Co., of the Santa Rita district. The total production of the state will reach nearly 30,000,000 pounds, the largest part coming from the Santa Rita district.

ALASKA.

Alaska will show a large increase in the production of copper in 1912 over the 22,314,000 pounds produced in 1911, the total having been estimated as 28,940,000 pounds. The output came largely from the Copper River and Prince William Sound districts, though southeastern Alaska also contributed.

TENNESSEE.

Tennessee will show but little change in copper production in 1912 from the 18,965,000 pounds produced in 1911. The output, as in previous years, came from the Ducktown district.

COLORADO.

The output of copper from Colorado is largely incidental to the production of other metals and will probably show no great change in 1912 from the 9,791,000 pounds produced in 1911.

IDAHO.

Idaho will show a considerable increase in copper output in 1912 over the 4,514,116 pounds produced in 1911.

OUTLOOK FOR 1913.

There will be no new large producing mines added during 1913. Several of those that began producing in 1911 and 1912 will, however, turn out larger quantities than in 1912. At the prices for copper prevailing during the latter part of 1912 the industry is highly probable, and if the output can be marketed and the price maintained the producers will be in a position to make a still further large increase in 1913.

Acquiring More Ground.

The following from the Jerome News indicates that the syndicate of mining men who recently took over the Little Daisy (United Verde Extension) properties will enlarge the scope of their operations, and will before the end of the coming year be one of the largest mining enterprises in the county:

"To the mining world the fact that the syndicate that lately took over the United Verde Extension has also taken a bond on the Jerome Verde (formerly the Verde Queen) property, will be a piece of good news. Some time ago the News that such a deal was pending, and that the deal has been consummated was told a Newsman by Mr. Jas Douglas, who arrived in Jerome, Wednesday. Mr. Douglas is the head of the syndicate, which is composed of Mr. Douglas, for many years connected with Phelps, Dodge & Co.; Chester A. Congdon, George E. Tenor and James Hootson, directors of Calumet & Arizona; John D. Ryan, president of Amalgamated Copper Co.; Henry Hoveland, former president of

the Live Oak Development Co.; George Kingdon, general superintendent of Old Dominion Co.; and Arthur James, a director of Phelps, Dodge & Co.

"Mr. Douglas came to Jerome, at this time, for the purpose of seeing how the work of surveying the Extension property was progressing and also to lay out the preliminary work which will establish in what manner and from what point these two properties—the Extension and Jerome Verde—will be opened up. To a Newsman, Mr. Douglas said that the syndicate that had taken over the Extension had taken an option on the stock of the Jerome-Verde Copper, the option running parallel with that held by the syndicate on the stock of the United Verde Extension, and on the same conditions. This means that should the development that will be put on the Extension and Jerome-Verde prove the properties valuable, one of the richest syndicates in the mining world will be building railroads and smelters in this district. As to the development of the properties held under option, Mr. Douglas said that in the old workings of the Extension there were several spots that they wished to develop before deciding from where they would do their decisive work. The company will, from the start, put as many men at work as can be handled to advantage, and when they have decided from where they will start and in what direction they will drive for ore, make the run as rapidly as possible."

Inspiration Work at

Miami is Immense.

A Miami dispatch says:—The great work of the Inspiration Consolidated Copper company is the principal feature of this big camp. With the work of grading the site for the 7000-ton concentrating plant begun, the work of railroad building from Inspiration spur on the Arizona & Eastern railroad and the extension of that road westward to the Live Oak mine of the same company on the west, together with that concern's big mining development the entire operations form a great arc of the hills north of Miami and back of the Miami Copper company.

Half a mile east of this town is the Inspiration spur mentioned. From here MacArthur Bros., grading contractors, have the grade for the railroad completed for about half a mile and a steam shovel is at work night and day excavating from big cuts. Two locomotives are hauling dirt trains, which are making great fills. Two or three switchbacks are being made so as to get a grade for the road up the hill toward the concentrator site.

At the site for the concentrating plant a steam shovel has just been put in operation to cut down the hill for the plant, which, with other necessary buildings, will cover over seven acres of ground. It is said that 250,000 cubic yards of dirt will have to be moved.

At this site the company has erected an office building, where H. Kenyon Borch, engineer in charge of the construction of the concentrating and two 700 ton crushing plants, and his corps of engineers and draughtsmen are installed. Also, a new adobe garage, capable of accommodating eight automobiles, has just been completed.

Westward from the concentrator site deep cuts and heavy rock grades are being made to extend the railroad up to the main working shafts and where the main offices of the company are located.

To the westward of the town of Miami the contracting firm of Chadwick & Deyo has grading for the railroad to the Inspiration company's extension of the Arizona and Eastern Live Oak mine almost completed. The building of several bridges and a side track and switchbacks to a big warehouse and a big tunnel will require some time yet.

The mining operations beginning at the supply tunnel on the west in the Live Oak property and extending eastward to the site of the principal of-

fices of the Inspiration company completes the great arc of operations.

The Inspiration company's supply shaft on the western edge of operations is now 300 feet deep, and underground work is going ahead at a rapid rate. Between the Scorpion and Joe Bush shafts 610 feet still remain to be drifted and 1300 feet of ground must be cut through before the Scorpion and Colorado shafts are connected. The main shaft is practically finished and the main east shaft will be finished about January 1. Drifting to connect the main east and west shafts has been commenced.

Some idea of the immensity of the Inspiration company's operation and the rate of development can be had when it is said that in November the reported development was 3650 feet in the Inspiration division and 500 in the Live Oak division.

Work of building the large concentrating and crushing plants of the Inspiration company will take two years. In the meantime tremendous development underground is going on, where millions of tons of copper ore are being blocked out so as to be able to turn out daily at least 7000 tons of copper ore for the great plants. The monthly pay roll of this company alone is over 100,000\$.

Rich Ore from a Nevada Mine.

Neil Carmichael, one of the principal owners and managers of the Arizona mine, situated at the old town of Unionville, is in town for a few days. He has put on display in one of the big windows at the First National Bank some large samples of ore taken from that famous property. The ore is a black sulphide and is extremely rich in silver; in fact, it assays well up into the thousands to the ton. These samples are only a showing of what the old mine is capable of producing in the way of rich ore. The Arizona, which is one of the old mines of the state, was a bonanza at the time when the Comstock properties were producing untold millions of dollars in the white metal, and Unionville, where the Arizona is located, is one of the historic spots in the State of Nevada.

Not only was the camp a great producer of silver and gold bullion, but it was the stamping ground for many of the old-time residents of the State. It is here that Mark Twain made his home and the ruins of an old rock cabin marks the place where that illustrious man once made his abode.

Through the energy of Carmichael new ground has been opened on the Arizona estate, and parties who have inspected the property say that new ore bodies exposed are even greater than those uncovered in former days when the mine was ranked as one of the great producers of the state.—Humboldt Star.

A mining deal, or rather a number of mining deals between the same parties and all of considerable magnitude, are now in process of being closed, and articles of agreement covering the transactions were filed Monday in the office of the county recorder. James P. Gaskell has a bond on Thomas Childs, Jr., to buy an undivided half interest in the Copper King patented mines by Feb. 1, 1915, for 124,000\$; another with Sam Clark to buy a half interest in three mines, unnamed, by Dec. 19, 1914, for 750\$; a third with W. A. Knox to buy Dodge No. 3 mine in the Ajo district by Jan. 27, 1914, for 1250\$; with W. A. Knox to buy six mines in the Ajo district for 21,790\$ by Dec. 10, 1914. These are followed by articles of agreement in which Gaskell agrees to sell 37 mines in the Ajo district to the Ajo Copper Company for an unnamed consideration, and a deed to two other mines in the same district by Gaskell to the same company.—Tucson Citizen.

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