

MINING NEWS Here and Elsewhere

Edited By
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COUNTRY FACING GOLD SHORTAGE

Bonus Believed Only Way to Prevent Shutdown of the Mines to Prevent Disaster—Mining Congress Acting

The American Mining congress, composed of 75 per cent of the producing operators of the country, is sounding an alarm intended to secure early relief for gold producers in the United States. There is danger that unless some such relief is accorded by congress thousands of gold miners will be out of employment and millions of dollars worth of equipment will lie idle until cost of production can be adjusted. The Mining Congress is acting promptly to prevent disaster. Reports from such camps as Cripple Creek indicates that while producers dislike to stop operations of properties and producing forces which have been years in organization, not a wheel will be turning in most of the district in three months unless some relief is agreed upon.

Startling Situation

Startling figures have just been placed before Senator Henderson and Congressman Foster, chairmen, respectively, of the Committees on Mines and Mining, by James F. Callbreath, secretary of the Mining Congress, and the attention of several administration leaders and officials is being called to the situation.

All gold producers in the country are called to a conference which opens in Reno, Nev., August 12. Governor Boyle, of Nevada, will preside, and Secretary Callbreath will assemble and present to the conference concrete suggestions assembled from producing mines showing conclusively that unless the administration quickly meets the situation gold production will be automatically shut off, and this within a short time.

In an interview with a group of western senators Mr. Callbreath said:

Shortage Dangerous

"We are spending annually more than our total indebtedness at the beginning of the war. We are more than doubling our gold obligation this year but are making no provision to increase the supporting gold reserve. The world's obligations are only about one-tenth of our gold reserve. Our financial position is still most enviable as compared with our allies. The gold reserves of the world are approximately \$10,000,000,000, while the total indebtedness is being increased to \$125,000,000,000. The increase is about \$40,000,000,000 annually. Before the war the United States possessed approximately \$1,750,000,000 in gold, and today we have increased our reserve to about \$3,500,000,000 against an indebtedness of \$8,000,000,000. This indebtedness is based upon the gold supply.

Critical Period

"In 1915 we produced a little over \$101,000,000, and this, in the face of greater need, fell to less than \$85,000,000 in 1917. The production will fall 85 per cent below that figure this year under present conditions. We are told by Secretary McAdoo, that next to munitions and food, gold is the most important of our natural resources as a war necessity and, facing as we do, the most critical time in the financial condition of the entire world, I consider that there must be some very earnest and prompt consideration given to the gold situation. The eminent Colorado mining engineer places the average increase of operating cost at 67 per cent. It costs an average of \$30 an ounce to produce gold. Its value is fixed at \$20.67. The mass of gold is produced from low-grade mines.

Bonus Is Remedy

The gold miners of Australia are asking the British government for a bonus of \$10 per ounce for gold produced during present conditions. While various plans have been suggested, including remission of taxes and reduced transportation charges to gold producers, there is a strong prediction in the west that a similar bonus will be the only practical and effective relief which can be accorded with sufficient promptness to prevent a more serious falling off in production than present demands will allow."

GOLDEN CROSS METALS OPERATE JACK POT MINE

The Golden Cross Metals company, of Phoenix, has resumed work on the Jack Pot claim, west of the Merriam, near Chloride. The intention of the company, it is said, is to sink a vertical shaft to cut the vein at the 150 level. Machinery has been bought and the gallow's frame and necessary equipment are being erected.

The ore is gold bearing, there being no zinc or lead basis. A number of Phoenix shareholders were expected at the property on August 8 to look the mine over. The property was purchased a year ago by the company, but little work was done up to the present time. The mine is in an accessible part of the field and in a well mineralized region.

MUIR AND BURGESS WILL BE DELEGATES TO MINING CONGRESS WHICH WILL DISCUSS GOLD

The Miner is informed that D. R. Muir, of the United States Smelting, Refining and Mining company, and J. A. Burgess, general manager of the United Eastern, will attend the meeting of the American Mining congress, which opens in Reno, Nevada, next Monday.

The subject that will bring the mining men of the country together is gold, and the fate of the yellow metal will be earnestly talked over. The men who will make the principal talks to the meeting will be those who have made the subject a study of many months, and a method of relieving the situation will be pointed out.

The two men from this county have made a serious study of the subject and may be able to help the convention to arrive at a basis of settlement between the government and the gold producers.

A proper settlement of the gold situation will be of great benefit to this county, as it would give incentive to the mines that are within easy distance of the producing stage.

NEW EMERALD ISLE UNIT WILL SOON TURN OUT 2000 POUNDS OF CATHODE COPPER DAILY

The management of the Emerald Isle Copper company informed the Miner editor yesterday that the new unit will be in commission by the first of September and will be turning out cathode copper at the rate of 2000 pounds daily from that time on.

The new plant will be one of the most up-to-date affairs in the state, and is expected to make a high saving of values. This plant has been rapid in construction and gives evidence of the ability of the management to do things.

The mine is also being opened to an extent that will make possible the extraction of a big tonnage of ore at small cost. The ore in the bottom of the open cuts shows better values than at superficial depths, and indicates that with greater depth a better quality of ore may be had.

DUDLEY LEASES RURAL RICH SILVER PROPERTY

M. B. Dudley has leased and bonded the Rural mine, at Mineral Park, and will soon be clearing it of water. He expects to equip it with hoist and other necessary machinery.

The Rural mine was discovered in the early eighties by Mike Dunn and T. J. Christie and these men shipped many thousands of dollars worth of ore from surface workings. Some of the richest native silver ore ever taken from a mine in the state was sent out from the property, and there is not a mineral cabinet of note in the world that does not contain a specimen of the ore.

BISBEE IS ONLY MINING CAMP IN STATE WHICH HAS Y.W.C.A. BUILDING

The fourth story of the Y. W. C. A. building at Bisbee has been completed and is now occupied by the young women of the district, which, in its former size, it could not accommodate.

The problem of the proper accommodations for young women in mining camps is one that has come forcibly to the attention of the mining companies and is being more and more impressed upon them as the necessity for employing young women in work heretofore done by men becomes more apparent.

Bisbee is the only mining community in the state of Arizona and is one of the very few in the west that can boast of an independent Y. W. C. A. building, and there are probably none in the west that surpass it. The building was given to the Y. W. C. A. by the Phelps-Dodge corporation as a memorial to Grace Dodge, who, at the time of her death, was the national president of the Y. W. C. A. The building was originally a three-story one, but the increase in the number of young women in the district made necessary the recently completed addition.

AGAIN OPERATING WILLIAMS TUNGSTEN

J. H. Townsend and a force of miners have gone to the Williams tungsten mines, in the Aquarius mountains for the purpose of starting operations on the property. There was recently shipped from the mines about 10 tons of rich concentrates, and it is the intention to continue these shipments indefinitely. The mines have large tonnage of good milling ore ready to handle and the mill is capable of handling about 20 tons daily.

SAYS AT LEAST TWO GOOD COMPANIES WILL SOON BE OPERATING AT WRIGHT CREEK

Mart Little, owner of excellent gold and copper property in the Wright Creek section, was a Kingman visitor Thursday. He says the prospects for the opening of some good mines in that section is excellent and that before the first of the year at least two good companies will be operating in the district.

WASHINGTON-ARIZONA CUTS RICH ORE BODY; BIG FORCE WORKING PROPERTY

Superintendent Page, of the Washington-Arizona mines, at Mineral Park, brought to town early this week specimens of ore taken from the new shaft on that property that showed wonderful values in silver. An average sample taken across 18 inches of the vein in the shaft gave results of about 900 ounces silver and some gold.

The Washington-Arizona mines are equipped with a big milling plant and this mill is now in operation on the lower grade ores, the richer ores being assorted and shipped to the smelter direct. With the opening of the property 100 feet below the tunnel level it is expected that ore of better grade and more continuous bodies will be found. The company is working a big force of men on the mines and is making rapid progress.

QUICKSILVER MINES OF ARIZ. WILL PROBABLY BE DEVELOPED; PRICES HIGH

Frank C. Schader, one of the best known geologists of the Geological Survey, has just gotten out his monograph on the quicksilver bearing mines of the Phoenix mountains, which indicates splendid possibilities in those properties. These mines were located many years ago by prospectors and a small reort was used, but the rush for gold in the days before the railroad's advent prevented prospectors from taking up the active development of the properties. We take it that many prospects have been located and that the high price for the mineral will cause active development to be undertaken.

Over in the Parker country are also several veins of quicksilver, but the ore occurs in kidneys and little headway has been made in bringing them into a producing condition.

RICO EXPLORATION COMPANY IS SINKING BELOW WATER

A force of men is at work driving the main shaft of the Rico mine below the permanent water level. The work will be augmented within the next ten days by a larger force of men. At the 200 a crosscut will be driven to the vein and drifts will be carried along through the ore body.

The work of getting the Rico on its feet was taken over by W. W. Lewis and it is to that gentleman that credit is due for the financing of the property and getting operations so propitiously started. Mr. Lewis is the general manager of the property and is showing speed in the work of development.

IMPORTATION LICENSES OF COPPER ORE REVOKED

The War Trade board has revoked all outstanding licenses for the importation of copper ores from all other countries than Cuba. The purpose of the regulation is to bring about the importation of mattes and concentrates, instead of the bulkier raw ores. While there are plenty of ship tonnage for the haulage of ores from Cuba and South America the fact that some of these ships may be necessary to put into other channels makes the present move imperative.

CAMP BIRD MINES NOW CROSSCUTTING

F. J. Denzer, superintendent of the Camp Bird mines, at Wright Creek, was a visitor in Kingman this week. He reports that the shaft on the property is now down about 118 feet and that a crosscut through the vein is being run at the 100 level. The company is composed of Los Angeles men and the operations are being carried along on some claims formerly owned by Mart Little, an old time miner of the camp.

Good gold values are being opened in the property and the management believes that they have one of the best prospects in that section of the county.

CORPORATION COMMISSION EXAMINES PROPERTY OF ARIZONA VENTURE COMPANY

M. A. Allen, of the Arizona State Bureau of Mines, accompanied by R. C. Jacobson, went out to the mines of the Arizona Venture corporation last Wednesday morning to make an examination of that property in the interest of the State Corporation commission.

It is understood that the corporation had asked for a permit for the transfer of its property to a new company for the purpose of paying off an indebtedness and to obtain the necessary funds to operate the mines and that the commission had held up the permit until such time as was necessary to make a thorough examination of that property.

While the necessity of looking into the affairs of mining corporations exists it looks peculiar to the ordinary individual that such people as the Arizona Ray and certain oil companies could have obtained a permit from the commission without the least hesitation. The Arizona Ray was turned down hard by the California commission, which denounced it as a fraud, but no action was taken by the Arizona commission, although the fraudulent nature of the concern was apparent.

Right today there are companies operating under permits that should not be allowed to sell stock. During the boom in Jerome certain fraudulent corporations got by in the sale of pre-organization shares, while men who were trying the same game were arrested and fined. How do they do it?

BERKELEY MINE NOW UNWATERED AND GOOD ORE FOUND IN DRIFT

T. J. Sparkes, general manager of the Berkeley mine, was a Kingman visitor this week, coming in from the property after supplies, which were loaded out to that property Tuesday last. He reports that the drift on the 100 level of the Berkeley has been cleared for a distance of 100 feet and that good ore was found in it. The balance of the drift will be cleaned of muck and the work of driving ahead will soon be under way. At the new shaft splendid ore is being opened and the vein is found to be quite large. Should the property develop out as indicated by the present work a milling plant will soon be erected on it to concentrate the lower grades into high grade shipping product.

GILLESPIE BRINGS SUIT AGAINST GOLD REED CO.

Gus Gillespie, accompanied by his attorney, H. W. Scheld, of San Diego, was in Kingman Thursday last and filed a suit against the Gold Reed Mining company and Charles Burlock and wife on account of a note amounting to approximately \$14,000. The note was given several years ago when the company was in difficulties, so it is said, and an effort is now being made to effect a collection. We understand that Mr. Gillespie is one of the shareholders in the old company.

Several months ago the First National bank of San Diego foreclosed a mortgage on the property amounting to more than \$30,000 and that some of the old shareholders and a syndicate of eastern men got together and redeemed the property and are now operating it. The mine is an excellent property, but Mr. Burlock, who was the original owner, was unable to finance it with the old shareholders and it would have been lost to all of them had he not taken in new blood to complete the financing.

WELL KNOWN CHICAGO MINING EXPERT INSPECTS MOHAVE COUNTY PROPERTY

R. N. Dickman, of Chicago, one of the best known mining experts in the business, arrived in Kingman last Wednesday and Thursday last made an examination of mining property for clients. We did not learn what properties were in view, but owing to the prominence of the engineer we should

judge that it was a large one. Mr. Dickman was for years the expert of the Southern Pacific Railroad company, having charge of examinations of iron ore deposits. Some years ago the firm with which he is associated made an examination of the Bi-Metals mines for a big eastern syndicate.

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