

Elk City Mining News.

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ELK CITY, IDAHO COUNTY, IDAHO THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1912.

\$2.00 The Year

NEW STRIKE A WONDER

Ore from Mineral Zone Proves High Grade.

FIRST MILL TEST SUCCESSFUL

Ore Being Taken Out for Another Run.

The recent strike on the Colonel Sellers claim of the Mineral Zone group owned by Mrs. M. A. Parr, has now progressed far enough, that the magnitude of the ore shoot can be realized.

The vein has been stripped for 200 ft., and with surface cuts, shown for a distance of about 400 ft. The vein has a width of from 3 to 6 ft. The strike of the vein is easterly and westerly and the dip south. The foot wall is a yellow porphyry and very soft, while the hanging wall is a granite. The dip seems to be about 80 degrees. The pitch of the ore shoot has not been determined, as its entire length has not been traced.

Where the vein has been stripped, the ore exposed is of a very high grade, and this is being taken out and sent to the custom mill. At present no great depth has been attained, and none will be attempted until the roads break up, so no more ore can be hauled.

The first 40 tons of ore was put through the mill last week, and while the clean-up has not been reduced to bullion, enough is known to warrant the statement that it plated nearly \$20 per ton. This in itself is remarkable, for it must be considered that the entire vein was taken and no sorting of any kind was attempted, and that there was considerable waste in the ore. Just what the amount of concentrate and the value has not been learned.

At the present time ore is being taken from the vein in open cuts and while a little more depth is being gained the values seem to increase, and it is expected that the next mill run will be even better than the first.

The Mineral Zone group consists of seven claims, situated about two miles northeast of Elk City, on the ridge between Little Elk creek and American river. There is an abundance of timber on the ground, but no great depth can be attained by tunnel. On the American river side a great deal of work has been done and tunnel driven some 300 ft. Good values were found at this point on the surface, but the tunnel was not driven on the vein, and it was abandoned and work started on the Colonel Sellers claim on the Little Elk side. A large amount of the vein had been stripped before the values were realized, and it is quite possible that considerable ore has been thrown away.

Taken all in all this is the most important strike ever made in the district, for not only are the

values of a high grade, but it is close to town, and with a custom mill just making its initial run, it is most opportune, for the ore at present is unlimited.

This strike should be an incentive for claim owners to prospect their claims more thoroughly for there is no telling how many rich shoots are just under the grass roots.

SOUTH FORK TO ENLARGE

Will Double Present Milling Capacity.

From Manager Batchelder, of the Elk City Mines Corporation, operating the South Fork mine, it is learned that the company will increase their present milling capacity by the addition of five more stamps.

The past year has been a very successful and profitable one, and the healthy condition of the mine warrants the increased capacity.

Gold and Silver Mines.

More than 5,000 mines in the United States and its possessions contribute to the country's output of gold and silver. The number of placer properties in 1910 was estimated at 2,026, this figure being based upon the returns to the government. The number of deep mines contributing, that is, those which have underground workings, is placed at 3,299 for the same year. The largest number of placer mines is in Alaska and California, and the largest number of deep mines in Colorado, California and Nevada.

Ore for Reduction Plant.

F. A. Baner has sent in from his Great Grief claim on Deadwood mountain, several tons of ore to be treated at the custom mill. The ore was sorted, with a view of getting free, and not for high value. The ore will be put through in a few days.

Surprises Twin Bridges.

The Salmon City Recorder prints a letter from Twin Bridges Mont., in reference to the railroad situation, that is of interest to this section. It says:

"The news from Portland appearing in the press recently that the Northwestern in entering into a traffic agreement with the Northern Pacific for the handling of trains between St. Paul and Alder, Mont., in connection with the Gilmore & Pittsburg railroad now in the course of construction is received with some surprise by the residents of this part of the state. While it has been pretty well known for some time that the Northwestern was interested in the Gilmore & Pittsburg, long termed the road of "mystery," it has been supposed all along that when the connection was made that it would be with the Northern Pacific at Whitehall, and this belief is still adhered to by many, who claim that in all probability the term Alder is in reference to the Ruby valley branch of the Northern Pacific extending from Whitehall to Alder, which is commonly called the Alder branch, Alder being the southern terminal.

The Gilmore & Pittsburg has completed its survey from Dillon to Twin Bridges, even to the grade stakes, and a preliminary

line was being run from Twin Bridges to Whitehall last fall, when orders came to suspend all operations. About this time the Gilmore & Pittsburg got into difficulty near Dillon in Beaverhead county over the purchase of a right of way, which has resulted in a condemnation suit, the result of which is yet to be determined. Options on ranch lands in this vicinity traversed by the survey as well as on lots in town have been renewed from time to time, and from the attitude of those handling the business, it is thought that as soon as a settlement is effected for the lands in controversy that active work on construction will be commenced.

St. Valentine's Day.

The district school observed St. Valentine's day by giving an entertainment in the school house, in the afternoon. The following was the programme:

Uncle Sam's Photograph Album.
(Characters.)
Uncle Sam..... Fred Colgrove
Miss Sierra..... Blanch Yandell
Miss Dixie..... Lesley Bullock
Characters in Tableau.
Columbia..... Ruth Litchfield
Powhatan..... Fred Yandell
Pocahontas..... Helen Litchfield
Pilgrim Girl..... Edna Howell
George Washington..... Ralph Strong
Martha Washington..... Jessie Baskett
Uncle Tom..... Jack Parsell
Union Soldier..... George Tytler
Rough Rider..... Levi Colgrove
Jack Tar..... Dwight Yates

Part II.

Recitation..... Ruth Litchfield
Hiawatha..... Fred Yandell
Anona..... Helen Litchfield
The Landing of the Pilgrims,
My Country..... Edna Howell
The Good Old Times..... Jessie Baskett and
Mount Vernon Bells..... Ralph Strong
Lesley Bullock, Blanch Yandell, Jessie
Baskett and Helen Litchfield.
Like Columbus..... Dwight Yates
When the Evening Breeze is
Sighing "Home, Sweet Home"
Washington..... Jessie Baskett
Where the Silvery Colorado
Wends its Way..... Blanche Yandell
George Washington..... Jack Parsell
The Star Spangled Banner..... School

The school room was well filled with a very appreciative audience and the programme was enjoyed by all.

The Wild Pigeon Mystery.

That the wild pigeon, once so common in the United States, has become extinct is one of the strangest mysteries in American natural history. It is a puzzle which has baffled scientists and which probably never will be solved. Less than forty years ago wild pigeons were abundant in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and all the states of the middle west. In their migrations they traveled in flocks numbering tens of thousands, and it sometimes took a single flock the better part of an hour to pass a given point. Vast numbers of the pigeons were killed every year by gunners, but many investigators hold that the complete disappearance of the species must have been due in part at least to other causes. No other bird was ever so numerous in this country as the pigeon.—New York Mail.

How He Protected the Seals.

Some years ago a Russian warship was on special duty in Bering sea guarding the seal fisheries, preventing the slaughter of the seals during the closed season. The admiral of the station in the course of an inspection of the vessel invited any of the sailors who had any complaint to make to step forward. One of the men, as spokesman for the whole crew, complained that the "seal money" promised them had not been paid. On the astonished admiral inquiring what he meant it came out that the ship's commander had been doing a lucrative trade by killing the seals placed under his protection and sending the skins to London and had taken the crew into partnership. He was duly transferred to Siberia.

THE ELK CITY REDUCTION CO.

Plant Is Not Strictly a Custom Mill.

There seems to be a wrong impression among the property owners in this vicinity in regards to the Elk City Reduction Company.

From Manager Tytler it is learned that the plant is not a custom mill, but that the company buys the ore direct from the owner, deducting the cost of milling and hauling, paying for the same on a basis of 85 per cent of the assay value.

Samples are taken at the crusher automatically, and are taken in triplicate, the company retaining one, the owner is given one, and one is held as an umpire assay. After the ore is purchased it is then up to the company to save what they can from the ore.

The following statement sheet will probably explain more clearly:

Settlement of Ore.	
Delivered.....	
Gross weight..... tons	
Less moisture..... per cent	
Net dry weight.....	
Assay:	
Gold..... ozs. per ton at \$20.67 equal	
\$..... per ton	
Basis of settlement:	
..... tons at 85 per cent..... value \$.....	
Less treatment at \$5 per ton..... \$.....	
Less hauling	
..... tons at \$2 per ton per mile..... \$.....	
Balance due..... \$.....	

IN SECOND ORE SHOOT

Work on Brown Bear Shows Up Well.

The tunnel now being driven on the Brown Bear claim, by the Idaho-Red River Mining Co., has just entered the second ore shoot. The vein here is 4 feet wide, with 15 inches of good ore. The ore is very soft, and is much oxidized, but the values have not yet been determined.

The tunnel is now in 250 feet and has a depth of 125 feet.

Will Develop Claims.

J. Keenan, came over from Golden this week, and is busy fixing camp on Relief creek, preparing for work on the White Horse group of claims, owned by himself and Bert Moses. The work will consist of driving a tunnel.

Northwest Mining Convention

In attendance at the Northwest Mining Convention being held Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week at Spokane, will be strong delegations of mining men appointed by the governors of the various western mining states. The commercial organizations also have appointed delegates to introduce subjects of interest to the sections represented.

It is expected that much general good to the industry will result from this meeting, at which time an expression from the various mining districts on matters affecting the mining industry, it is expected will influence legislation in congress, and through the medium of the convention a better general knowledge of what other sections are doing in the mining line will aid in bringing about greater co-operation among those engaged in the business. The

meeting will also provide a means of securing up-to-date information as to developments in different camps, which will tend to revive the interest of the general public in mining.

CONCENTRATES.

From the Mining and Scientific Press.

A frequent cause of explosions in compressed air discharge pipes and receivers is an accumulation of carbon in the pipes or of oil in the receiver. Oil should be drawn off from all air receivers at frequent intervals.

Objections to the use of reinforced concrete for certain classes of buildings are that where it is necessary to make frequent changes, alterations, and repairs, and in fact in any structure that is not intended to be permanent for many years, it becomes very costly. When it has outlived its usefulness, it is expensive to remove and the materials have little or no value.

Although many beds of gravel are found where suitable clean material for concrete work may be obtained, it is more often the case that clay and loam are mixed with the gravel in excessive proportions. These substances form a coating on the stones and pebbles which prevents the cement from forming an intimate bond with the stone. The strength of the concrete thus has only the strength of the cement, losing a great deal of the value of the aggregate.

Until recently, with rare exceptions, shaft bottoms have been lined with timber only. Such mine timbers, if of white oak, last five to eight years, depending on whether the natural conditions foster dry rot, and if of black oak or white pine, shorter periods. As the cost of replacing such timbers is greater than their first cost, when a mine lasts over twenty years it is manifest that wood timbering is the long run more expensive than reinforced concrete and there is always the great danger of its taking fire.

Sulphur is of use both directly and indirectly to almost every individual, for it touches vitally the fertilizing industry in an indirect way, and fruit growing more directly. In the form of pyrite it is extensively employed in the manufacture of sulphuric acid, which is largely used in the manufacture of phosphate fertilizer. An immense quantity of sulphur is used in bleaching wood pulp, the chief raw material of our newspapers. Match manufacturers, powder makers, sugar refiners, and makers of rubber good all use it, and as a drug it is well known.

Monuments and markings of a claim in the field will control over the stated courses and distances in the location notice when the two disagree. If the claim as monumented conforms with the requirements of the law to the size and shape and marking of a claim, it is entirely valid. Thus, where the location notice calls for given distances "easterly" and "westerly" from the point of discovery, but the monuments define an L-shaped claim, if the claim as marked conforms to the requirements of the law, it is entirely valid, as against any subsequent locators.