

Elk City Mining News.

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\$2.00 The Year

A TRIBUTE TO THE PROSPECTOR

Delivered by the Late Senator W. B. Heyburn.

The following is an extract from an address in the United States senate on conservation, by Weldon B. Heyburn, late senator from Idaho;

The government of the United States never discovered or opened or developed a mine in the history of this country and they never will.

There is a peculiar condition existing in regard to the discovery and development of mines. It is a business unto itself. No geologist ever discovered a mine. There is not a mine in the United States, or in the history of mining, that any geologist ever discovered.

If you withdraw the mining lands from the prospector, there will be no more mines opened in this country. That applies to all classes of mines. The coal in the west was discovered by prospectors. The iron mines were discovered by prospectors. The great Comstock mine, which perhaps has produced more wealth to the country than any other, was discovered by a man who had what we call in the mining world a grubstake. He had no money and he was not a man who was recognized as more than a prospector. Yet he found those mines.

The cost is small. The man takes his sack of flour and his side of bacon, a can of yeast powder, a little sack of salt, a frying pan, a coffee pot, an iron spoon, an iron knife and fork, and he goes into the mountains with perhaps only a pair of blankets, and he packs them generally on his back.

He does not find his prospect the day he starts out. I have known them to go years and years without ever finding anything of value and then find that of which they had dreamed.

Up to that time, that man has stood alone in the world on his own responsibility and expense; and yet—based upon his work and based upon his privations and his hardships, based upon his good fortune, rest the great mining enterprises of the United States, present and past.

The Leadville mines of Fryer hill were discovered by an utterly irresponsible man. He grew weary and lay down on Fryer hill to rest, and as he lay upon the ground he got to looking around him at the rock scattered over the surface, the float. He was prospector enough to know it was mineral in character and his energies were revived. He got to his feet and commenced digging around there. He worked at it until he discovered that the float on the surface came from the croppings. He found the croppings, and discovered the Little Pittsburg mine.

That was the beginning of the mining in Leadville, Colo., from which hundreds of millions of dollars have gone into the wealth of this country. The man who grubstaked him, Mr. Tabor, would not have found that mine in forty years. He kept a store at that time. He would never have gone to look for it, and it

would have been there today, and the town of Leadville would never have been dreamed of unless some other person of the same character and under similar circumstances had done the same thing.

The same is true of Pierce City Idaho. Old man Pierce traveled from Walla Walla, in the state of Washington, through the Indian reservation, amidst great hardships and vicissitudes, and found gold in Orofino creek as he went up. He went back and wintered at Walla Walla and told his neighbors about it, and in the spring he took a party up. The result was that within five years Idaho produced \$200,000,000 worth of gold.

Those who did not find what they wanted left Pierce City; they went down farther and met parties coming up from Portland, Ore., who had heard of these discoveries and found Boise basin.

Boise basin has produced enough gold to build the navies of the United States. It was not discovered by capitalists, nor by geologists, nor by philosophers.

When the Bunker Hill mine had been discovered and the ore exposed, the experts from Leadville—and I could name them, but it is not worth while; they are men who stand at the head of the mining world, they are mining men—turned down that mine on a bond of \$35,000 because they said it was not worth that many cents. They had been mining for years, and they thought they knew all about it. They said a mine could not exist in that formation. Other men came along who did not adopt the preconceived notions that led those men to turn that mine down, and they took hold of it, and expended some money on it, and it has produced a good many hundreds of millions of dollars in value. That is true of the mines in Montana. They were condemned by mining men.

There is not a government expert in the service today who would have approved of the Standard mine and allowed it to be developed. The Standard mine, which is one of the greatest producing mines of the world and has been for years, with its mill right at the edge of the city in which I live, would, after they had expended \$100,000 upon it, have been utterly condemned by any forest ranger in the United States as absolutely useless and of no value. He would have said, "there is no pay ore here."

There was not, but there was a lead there, which on being followed, led to the ore; and they found it in such quantities and values as to constitute it, as I have said, one of the greatest mines.

That story could be repeated in regard to a very great number of mines of this country.

Wise Old George.

She—And how did you like the meeting, George?

He—Fine, especially the talk by that pretty little Mrs. Featherly.

She—Mrs. Featherly! Why, the silly creature hasn't an idea in her foolish head!

He—Maybe not, my dear, but she's awfully cute.

She—On second thought, George, you needn't go with me again.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Orogrande Notes

Special to the Mining News

December 2.

Deputy Sheriff Chas. S. Thompson was a business visitor Thursday.

John Grinde was in camp Thursday night. Johnny was at the Gilt Edge the week previous to Thanksgiving, but when the day to deliver thanks came around, the perplexing problem of delivering thanks and eating his own grub, both in one day, stared him in the face. Hence Johnny's hurried exit from the Gilt Edge and prompt arrival in Orogrande. He left for Elk Friday morning, where he has a position at the Mascot mine.

Sant Conner has gone to work at the Black Pine.

Garrett Byrnes is working at the International.

John Fricke came up Thursday from his claims. He has a severe attack of la grippe.

Jim Penman is having his winter supplies packed to the cabin at the Homestake.

George M. Saunders, Ernest Saunders and Perry Nethkin were in camp Wednesday loaded with supplies for Colgrove.

Jack O'Leary left Thursday for Newsome, having finished work at the Stratton.

R. Kemp Welch, Harold Welch and Ed Brown were at the Champion Tuesday. Mr. Welch was after the balance of his household goods.

A. F. Schultz, manager of the International Fur Co., was a business visitor Wednesday returning to the Hump on Thursday's stage. Gus says business is looking up a bit now that winter is getting started.

S. C. McDaniels and Bill Strait came in from Grangeville Saturday to do assessment on the Cornicopia claims, near Rainbow lake, of which Mr. McDaniels is the owner.

Seth Galvin passed through camp on yesterday's stage from Elk, on his way to the Jumbo, where he will be employed.

Levi Colgrove returned yesterday from Grangeville where he spent the past week at the Fred Erskine home.

The stage is using a sled from Elk through to Concord now. There's some class to our stage line.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks 1913 Almanac.

The Rev. Irl R. Hicks Almanac for 1913 is now ready. It is the most splendid number of this popular Year Book ever printed. Its value has been more than ever proven by remarkable fulfillments of its storm, weather and earthquake forecasts this year. Professor Hicks justly merits the confidence and support of all the people. Don't fail to send 35c for his 1913 Almanac, or only one dollar for his splendid Magazine and Almanac one year. The best one dollar investment possible in any home or business. Send to Word and Works Publishing Company, 3401 Franklin Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

MAJOR IS IN GOOD ORE

Find Made in Sinking Shaft on Vein.

ORE HIGH GRADE HEMATITE

Makes a Proven Shoot of Over 200 Feet.

The recent strike on the Major group, situated about one and a half miles northeast of Elk City, is of more magnitude than at first thought. The ore commenced to widen about 20 ft. from the surface, and has now widened to 4 ft. The ore is exceptionally rich and pans very free, the gold being coarse and heavy.

The Major is owned by Mike Bagley and G. L. L. Baskett, and they are now making arrangements to put a hoist on the property, with a view of doing a large amount of development work. The point where the shaft is being sunk is a good place to open the property, as the vein can be drifted on both ways in the ore shoot, and the vein that is being opened is only a short distance from another vein, of equal size, and one which has as good a surface showing, so that at this point it will only take a short cross-cut to reach it.

Center Star in New Shoot of High Grade Ore

Chas. Tiedeman, one of the owners of the Center Star mine, who has been at work on the property for some time, has located a new ore shoot in the lower workings.

The ore is a hematite, and is highly oxidized, and shows free gold. It may be the same shoot of ore opened on the surface, but it will take considerable work to determine this, as it is found at a depth of some 200 ft. below the surface. Mr. Tiedeman will develop the shoot, with a view of opening it up and may raise to the surface.

Proceedings of the American Mining Congress.

The American Mining Congress which was in session at Spokane last week, transacted a great amount of business of interest to the mining industry. The following are some of the resolutions adopted:

David W. Brunton of Denver, Colo., was elected president of the American Mining Congress, and James F. Callbreath, Denver, reelected secretary.

A law which would take the determination of the validity of Alaska coal claims from the hands of the department of the interior and place it in the hands of the federal courts was endorsed by the congress. A resolution was adopted favoring a federal law providing that all Alaska coal claimants who filed on their claims prior to the withdrawal order of November 12, 1906, be permitted to bring ac-

tion against the United States in the federal courts of Alaska with the right of appeal to the United States circuit court and United States supreme court to establish the validity of their claims, the final action of the courts to be conclusive, the claims declared invalid being cancelled thereby and the issuing of patents becoming mandatory for those claims declared valid.

Other resolutions adopted included a resolution to President elect Wilson that he appoint a man from one of the so-called public land states as secretary of the interior and that congress direct the forest service to aid in building and maintaining roads to isolated mining camps within forest reserves. The congress will urge that an appropriation be made for the compiling and publishing of mining statistics by the census bureau.

What they declared were the "wrongs and needs" of Alaska were presented to the congress by Alaska delegates. Falcon Joslyn of Fairbanks, Alaska, chairman of the committee on Alaskan affairs of the congress, outlined the efforts made by the committee to secure opening of Alaskan lands and building of railroads by the government. He declared that Alaska was the victim of "departmental fools rather than of knaves," and denounced the policy of conservation as applied to Alaska.

CONCENTRATES.

From the Mining and Scientific Press.

Tube mills numbering 285, using a total of 27,511 hp., equal to 96.5 hp. each, were in operation at the end of 1911.

Employment of relatives by mine officials is a bad practice, and does not spell economy in any part of the world.

Machinery in the Transvaal mines, excluding 3157 motors of 179,947 hp. using purchased power, has a total of 590,590 horse-power.

Collodion is recommended as a good material for restoring the surface of tracing cloth after erasing. It can be applied with a camel's hair or sable brush.

Men employed in the different metal industries in Germany total 120,701, who average 94c. per day when paid by hours worked, and \$1.26 when paid by piece-work.

Acre-foot is equivalent to 43,560 cu. ft., and is the quantity required to cover an acre to the depth of one foot. It is commonly used in connection with storage for irrigation work.

Ice water supplied to men in hot mine workings is beneficial and increases efficiency. This has been proved at the Butte and Comstock mines. The men must only drink small quantities and at once return to work.

Lubrication is the life of a moving mechanical part. If you neglect this important attention to machinery, or do it on a hit-or-miss principle, you pay for it by broken parts, shut-downs, and other kindred troubles.

Get one of those new maps of Central Idaho and send it to your friends. It will tell anyone the history of this great mining country.

The Mining News for \$2.