

FERGUS COUNTY DEMOCRAT.

Vol. I. No. 27

LEWISTOWN, FERGUS COUNTY, MONTANA, TUESDAY, FEB. 14, 1905.

Price 5 Cents.

MINING NEWS FROM THE BUSY AND GROWING CAMP OF KENDALL

Special Correspondent for the Democrat Visits the Prosperous North Moccasin Camp—Gold Mills Grinding Steadily and the Future of Fergus County's Great Gold Camp Looks Bright.

The steady growth of Kendall during the past two years is the most conclusive proof of the stability and enduring prosperity of the little mining town which has sprung up in the shadows of one of the richest mountain ranges in the west.

The boom period has passed and a steady growth has taken the place of the spasmodic efforts of the first two years. The surrounding hills are rich with an almost inexhaustible supply of easily treated ores, and even to the most conservative mind the future of Kendall is an assured success.

Some steps have been taken by Lewistown business men to put an electric road in operation between the capital of Fergus county and Kendall. The immense advantages and benefits to both towns from such an enterprise is very apparent.

Timber, lumber and coal is used in large quantities, both in the town and mines, and is extremely hard to obtain, especially during the winter season. In fact, were lumber not so scarce much building would be in progress during the present time.

One of the larger mines will use from two to three thousand dollars' worth of square timbers each month, not counting thousands of feet of lumber used in repairing ore bins and for shaft lining.

Some of the most practical mining men in the Moccasin on being interviewed by the Democrat representative admitted that considerable more development work could be accomplished were timber not so hard to obtain. Coal has been hauled from Lewistown all winter and the supply is short.

These are only three commodities, without taking into consideration the immense amount of merchandise and mining supplies which are required in order to carry on the work in progress in the Kendall mining district.

It is the general opinion that during the coming summer much outside capital will find its way into the Kendall district. The belief seems to be well founded, as several very promising strikes have been made during the progress of development work this winter.

D. M. Helzer, Moore and others have encountered very satisfactory bodies of cyanide ore as the result of sinking on their property south and west of the Kendall mines. As these gentlemen represent a large amount of Colorado capital, it is more than possible that steps will be taken during the early summer months to erect a plant and work the ore.

A company with a \$1,500,000 capitalization has already been organized for the purpose of further developing this property and acquiring other prospects.

This syndicate consists of D. N. Helzer, Willis Moore, J. H. House, J. R. McKenzie and A. L. Emerson. D. R. Beatty, a Texas capitalist, is also heavily interested in this venture. W. G. Norman and J. C. Bebb of Lewistown and C. M. Goodell of Philbrook hold shares in this organization.

As stated above, while there is no positive assurance as to the erection of a plant on this property, yet it is very probable that, as the ores carry values as high as \$4.50 as a result of assays by the cyanide process, steps will be taken to work the property as soon as possible.

The property owned by Helsing, Sloan and Foster in Bedrock gulch has been developed with success this winter and the work is still progressing.

Smelting ores have been encountered which contain 60 to 70 per cent copper, as well as values in gold, and containing enough lead so as to be subject to treatment without concentration. These ores run as high as \$105 to the ton in values. Were the electric road in operation they could be shipped with profit.

Development work is in progress all the time on the Barnes-King property and at the present time a shaft is being sunk on the Discovery, from where a tunnel will be run to the mill in order to facilitate the removal of ore to the works, as well as for the purpose of exploitation.

A force of men is now employed ex-

plotting the northern end of the property with very satisfactory results.

Owing to a break in the pipe line the mill was shut down for a few days last week. The possibility of this occurring again is removed by putting in a reservoir above the mill, to where the water is forced by means of an electric pump. A little over 400 feet of drop to the mill ensures plenty of pressure to flush the tanks.

The work on this property is being conducted with the usual satisfactory results and proves that it is one of the best-paying propositions in the Moccasin.

John A. Drake has purchased stock enough in the property owned by Waite, Wright and others to control a half interest. Some work is now being done, but owing to the fact that a meeting of the directors has not been held since the change little can be said in regard to spring operations. It is very probable, however, that definite steps will be taken as to the working of the property in the immediate future.

McCormick and Hilliard are opening up a promising coal prospect on lower Dog creek, and, though but little work has been completed up to date, a very good sample of fuel has been obtained.

No work is being done at present on the John R. Cook holdings north of the Barnes-King. Mr. Cook is at present at Goldfields, in the Tonopah district, and will return to Fergus county about the first of April.

Mr. Cook will probably conduct a series of diamond drill experiments on his property when he returns, and has expressed his intention of thoroughly prospecting the district embraced in his property in the Kendall townsite.

At the Kendall mines the principal development work being accomplished is the upraise from the 400 foot level on the Klondike claim. When completed a 150 horse power electric hoist will be placed in operation at the mouth of the shaft for the purpose of raising the ore.

A two skip balance system will be used, and a belt conveyor will transport the ore a distance of 600 feet to the mill for treatment. The old 50 horsepower hoist will be used with a cage for the purpose of taking the men and from their work on the different levels.

This upraise is being made as the result of extensive diamond drill operations which blocked out a large body of ore and penetrated to a depth of 900 feet.

The ore now being treated is being taken from the 200 foot level and the extraction and treatment of ores is progressing with satisfactory results.

Mr. Lang, the superintendent, states that as far as power and water are concerned, that the entire district could be supplied from the Kendall plant. It is possible if necessary to duplicate the present power if the occasion arises. At present it takes 120 volts to run the entire system. The King-Barnes people have utilized the power from the Kendall plant since last November.

Large bodies of ore have been blocked out before the cessation of diamond drill operations and the falling through of the negotiations for the purchase of the property were greeted by the present owners with pleasure owing to the fact that recent discoveries have increased the value of the property greatly.

A seven drill air compressor has been ordered and is expected to arrive early in the spring when a few minor improvements will be made in the mill to facilitate the seasons' work which is expected to be a heavy one.

It can be said that the work at the Kendall mines is proceeding without a hitch, except for such minor troubles that are bound to happen owing to the late severe cold snap.

In connection with the proposed electric road, Mr. Lang is of the opinion that it would greatly benefit the mining district by facilitating the importation of timbers and supplies.

The ore now being treated in the Barnes-King mill is being taken from the 100 and 200 foot level. Some sink-

ing is being accomplished in the 200 foot level and a winze is being put down which will be connected with the main shaft by drifting. The Rush tunnel is being filled in with waste.

The assay office at the Barnes-King which is under the charge of Mr. Kelley, is the most complete in the mountains and those of nature secrets that gentlemen cannot wrest from the rock brought to him for treatment are unsolvable.

A disc crusher has been lately added to the outfit and a crusher for the purpose of breaking up hard rock has also been installed. Mill tests are made by the use of miniature tanks and a small agitator which give the same results as if the ore were run through the mill.

Some work is being done on the Mason Gulch in a north westerly direction from the Kendall property. This group is owned by a pool consisting of W. T. Bishop, Gaylord McCoy, Chas. Banke and John Richards.

Some surface prospecting has been done in progress with the result that cyanide ore has been encountered which assays \$3.50 and ore of the free milling variety which goes as high as \$20. No regular ore bodies have been located, but the owners of these prospects are trying to make arrangements to have some drill work done on the ground in the spring in order to define the ore and ascertain exactly what they have.

The owners of this property own the Mason water right which was originally the source from whence water was brought to the Kendall mines.

Armstrong, Stanton, Conrad and others are working on a valuable group of prospects on Dog Creek and in spring a considerable amount of exploitation work will be accomplished.

W. Wocasek is opening up a new coal property about half a mile from the forks of the main road to Maiden and New Year. A four foot lead has been uncovered close to the surface and the samples of fuel obtained are first-class considering the proximity to grass roots. Mr. Wocasek is sinking on the lead and says that the coal improves as the work progresses.

Pay day on the tenth of the month is a lively time in the town of Kendall, and a jolly crowd of miners come in from the mines in order to swap notes with their friends and generally enjoy themselves. One good thing about the "boys" working in that section is that they have a habit of paying their debts and as a fair proportion of their trade goes "on the books" it means considerable to the merchants with whom they do business. The monthly payroll is in the neighborhood of \$30,000 and a goodly portion of this money goes to the local merchants.

A wild and woolly rancher from the regions in the vicinity of Bedrock, armed with a six-shooter of large dimensions, landed in Kendall last week full of a mistaken ambition to consume all the whisky in town. The ambition was gratified beyond his wildest expectations, and the incident would have passed unnoticed if he had not shot the atmosphere full of holes as he left camp and expressed his defiance of all law and order by regulation and blood-curdling war-whoops. Deputy Dennis went out after him and brought him before the justice, who dampened his war-like aspirations by the application of a \$10 fine with costs. Mr. Dennis says that the "gun man" must leave his arsenal at home.

Kendall is well fixed for hotels and eating houses and the traveling public are able to obtain all modern accommodations. Indeed with the good grub and the invigorating mountain air, the part of Kendall's population who patronize the eating houses have no excuse for not looking prosperous. The Historical society of Kendall of which W. A. Shaules is president, cite the case of a "human skeleton who escaped from one of the dime museums in the far east and landed in Kendall some months ago. He was so thin that he had to look several times in a looking glass while adjusting his clothes to find out exactly where he was at. Driven to the point of desperation by his extreme thinness he made arrangements to board at the Shaules Hotel. He gained flesh so rapidly that he had to go to work in the mines owing to the fact that he was in danger of sudden death from superfluous flesh and fatty degeneration of the heart.

New Land Office.
Washington, Feb. 10.—Representative Dixon today introduced a bill

in the house, creating a new land district in Montana, to include Carbon and Yellowstone counties, with the land office located at Billings.

A CLOSE LEGAL POINT.
Attorneys Argue Right of City to Enforce Bond Ordinance.

A fine legal point has been raised over the refusal of the city to issue to George Cornell a liquor license because of his refusal to furnish a \$2,000 bond in accordance with an ordinance recently passed by the city council.

All of the other saloons in the city complied with the provisions by filing bonds which were approved by the council but Cornell, believing the bond to be unjust, refused to file one and as a consequence, was refused a license by the city treasurer. His attorneys, Huntoon, Worden & Smith, petitioned the court for a writ of mandamus directed at the city clerk and city treasurer and compelling them to issue the license.

The cause came up before Judge Cheadle for argument Friday morning. Attorneys Huntoon and Smith appeared for Cornell while city attorney H. L. DeKalb and attorney R. von Tobel argued against the issuance of the writ.

The argument developed that there is hardly an analogous case among all of the decisions although several cases were cited by each side bearing more or less directly upon the issue at court.

Cornell's attorneys argued that the ordinance transcends the police powers of the city council while the attorneys for the city contend that the statute which gives the council the power to "license and regulate" the liquor selling business covers the ordinance and it is therefore valid. The arguments were concluded at noon and in the afternoon the court took up the authorities which were cited. The question being rather a new one in this state and one of the utmost importance to our city, Judge Cheadle did not at once announce his decision but will give thorough investigation of all of the authorities. He will probably announce his decision as soon as he returns from Helena to which city he was called on business yesterday morning.

MEETING OF DIRECTORS.
Lewistown and Billings Mutual Telephone Company Choose Officers.

A meeting of the directors of the Lewistown & Billings Mutual Telephone company was held in the office of Hilger & Busenburg last Thursday evening and officers for the first three months were chosen. The directors present were F. W. Handel, of Musselshell, George M. Stone, George J. Bach, David Hilger and E. O. Busenburg of this city.

The following officers were chosen: David Hilger, president; F. W. Handel, vice-president; George J. Bach, treasurer and E. O. Busenburg, secretary. All of the officers are active business men and the affairs of the new company will be well looked after by them.

Contracts are now being let for the cutting of 2000 poles which will be necessary in the building of the main line. It is proposed to begin work on the line just as soon as the poles are out and the other material can be placed on the ground. It is estimated that the cost of building the line will be \$100 per mile. The company are planning to connect all of the principal points of Fergus and northern Yellowstone counties and before the summer is gone expect to have one of the most complete independent companies in the state.

WANT ADDITIONAL PROOF.
Important Ruling Concerning Land Entries.

Register Brassey and Receiver Eldridge of the U. S. land office last week received notice from the general land office in Washington of a new ruling concerning final proofs on desert land entries. The ruling is one of the most important that has been received in the local office for many months, and will call for a new affidavit, not only from those who intend to prove up in the future but also from many who have already submitted final proofs.

Under the rule which has been in effect up to the present time, a final proof had to show that the necessary water had been placed on the land, and that a crop of hay had been raised thereon. Actual tillage of the soil was not necessary so long as the

FERGUS COUNTY GETS A TOUCH OF REAL WINTER WEATHER

The Most Prolonged Spell of Cold Weather Experienced in This Section in Many Years—One Man Is Frozen to Death. Another Narrowly Escapes—The Loss of Stock Comparatively Small.

One man frozen to death and another so badly frozen that he will be mangled for life is the record of the terrifically cold weather which has prevailed for about two weeks. There have been few times in the history of this city when the mercury has gone so low as it did last Saturday night when it registered 38 degrees. Many thermometers showed a temperature as low as 40 degrees but 38 degrees is probably about right. Old timers say that for a continuous spell of bitterly cold weather, this has been about the worst that they can remember. That more fatalities have not resulted is surprising.

The only death thus far reported is that of Jack White, a rancher who lived near Utica. He was found dead in a cold cabin on the ranch of J. D. Waite, about five miles west of Utica on the Judith river. Isaac McCary, a sheep herder who is bunking in the cabin, discovered the frozen body about 9 o'clock in the evening. White had evidently tried to make a fire, but was too cold and being overcome, quickly succumbed to the terrible cold.

His tracks showed that he was coming from his ranch but left the road as soon as he came in sight of the cabin. It was evidently a difficult task for him to reach the cabin as he made a very straggling path from the road to the cabin. When McCary discovered the body he did not attempt to get away that night as it was storming and the cold was intense, but as soon as possible next morning, he informed the neighbors and authorities and Sheriff Slater of this city was informed. Justice P. W. Korell held an inquest over the remains yesterday morning, the verdict being the usual one for such cases. Undertaker George Creel sent out a coffin and the burial was made sometime today.

Little is known of the past life of White as he seldom spoke of his past career. He has been around Utica for several years. He at first followed the business of mining, but about five years ago he was leadpoisoned and has since been more or less of a cripple. Not long ago he took up a small ranch near Utica and was eeking out an existence as best he could.

That Warren Draper is alive today is due to a piece of exceptional luck. He had about as close a call from freezing as a man ever got through with. About 11 o'clock last Saturday morning, he left the Kendall mine for the Horse Shoe Bar ranch, it being his intention to follow the pipe line over the hills. He lost his way and wandered around the snow for ten

hours before he was luckily found by some men who were attracted to him by the barking of a dog. In the ten hours, he must have walked at least fifteen miles. The Democrat reporter visited Draper in his room, the second story of the Landt building, Sunday evening and was given the full particulars of his hard fight against the awful odds of zero weather and driving snow.

"When I left the Kendall mill", said the sick man, "I thought that it would take but a few hours to walk over to the Horse Shoe Bar ranch. It was my intention to stop there until I could strike a conveyance to Lewistown. I was warmly clad and it did not occur to me that I should have any difficulty to keep warm while I was walking. After being out for a short while, I commenced to get snow blind and finally, after walking for five or six hours, realized that I was lost."

"I think that I headed above the ranch for which I was bound. Along in the afternoon, I came to a cabin. There was all sorts of fuel in the cabin and I thought that I would light a fire, warm myself and, if necessary, stay there until the next day. I pulled off my gloves but my fingers were frozen stiff and, try as I would, I could not ignite a match. I finally gave it up and then found that I could not get my gloves on. I knew that I should quickly freeze to death if I remained there so I struck out again."

"I hardly knew what I did for the last few hours. I had only sufficient will power and consciousness to keep walking. At times, I think that I walked in circles. At last I came to a fence and thought that I would lean up against it and rest. To save my life I could not move from that spot. Presently I heard the barking of a dog and took some courage, the dog rushed out to where I was leaning and, thinking that someone must be near by, I hallooed as loudly as possible and managed to attract the attention of Otto Vannest and Ed. Crowley. I had walked from Kendall to the Vannest ranch which is but five miles from Lewistown."

"The two men carried me into the house and did all they possibly could for me. They telephoned to this city for a rig and I was brought in about 12 o'clock."

The feet, hands and ears of Draper are badly frozen and it may be necessary to amputate at least a portion of the left foot, although Dr. Foley who is attending him believes that his patient will get through in pretty good shape.

Ranchers Indignant.
The ranchers of the Rock creek bench country are up in arms over the filing of contests against their desert lands which they have taken up and, in many cases, filed their final proofs on. A meeting was called at Moore last Saturday afternoon and about fifty men from that part of the country were present. They passed some ringing resolutions and denounced those who are contesting the lands. Most of the parties whose lands are being contested are old citizens of that community and say that they have strictly complied with all of the regulations relating to the proving up on the desert lands. Another meeting was called for next Thursday evening at which time it is expected that there will be from 100 to 150 ranchers and stockgrowers present and further action will be taken for the protection of what they consider their just rights.

Taken Up.
At my ranch, near Maiden, a two-year-old cow with fall calf, branded on right ribs, crop off left ear, underbit in right. Owner can get same by paying expenses.
J. W. DOUGHERTY.