

NEWS FROM MINING STATES

BIG BOOM ON AT SEARCHLIGHT

Pen Picture of the Town That Attracts Capital—Group of Mines Sold For \$4,000,000—Smelter at Good Springs—Nuggets of News.

The famous Searchlight mining district in Nevada is under the limelight. Facts about Searchlight follow: Searchlight has a population of 1500 inhabitants; 700 men employed in the mines; an altitude of 8500 feet; a good climate; a cheap and abundant water supply; a good ice plant; excellent hotels; an electric light and power plant within a few weeks of completion; a railroad within a few miles and coming nearer every day; over forty active mines, of which the following are equipped with stamp mills: Quartette Mining company, 20 stamps (adding 20); Cyrus Noble Mining company, 10 stamps; Duplex Mining company, 10 stamps; Searchlight M. and M. company, 10 stamps; Southern Nevada Mining company, 10 stamps; New Era Mining company, 10 stamps; Black Hawk Mining company, 10 stamps; Techatic Mining company, 10 stamps; Chiquita Consolidated Mining company, 5 stamps.

Searchlight has produced over \$5,000,000.

Booming at Searchlight.
Contractors are pushing grading on the road and have completed the work nine miles out of Manvel. Rails have been shipped and track laying will begin this week. The exact site of the terminal and station in Searchlight have not been announced, but the townsites is clearly defined and the improvements are so substantial that the railroad must come to the town rather than the town move to the railroad. With electric power installed a trolley line will soon be running. A local office of the Townsite company will be erected on Main street. The Pacific Coast Mines Bureau has already purchased a lot to erect a building for its purpose.

The Barnwell & Searchlight railroad has established a shipping station nine miles from Barnwell and about twelve miles from Searchlight. The hardest part of the grading has been accomplished, and as the level prairie between the nine-mile point and Searchlight will offer practically no obstacle to construction, the ticket stamp will soon be working in Searchlight.

Smelter at Good Springs.

A wonderful impetus has been given to the Nob Hill district of El Dorado canyon by reason of the proposed erection of the smelter at Good Springs, twenty-four miles from the summit. The matter of erecting a smelter has been in contemplation for some time past, and engineers have been in the canyon recently and sampled many of the mines to ascertain what tonnage was available for smelting purposes.

\$4,000,000 Mining Deal.

Montana Station, fifteen miles from Goldfield and Bullfrog, is the center of attraction as a news disseminator at the present time, and a mining deal of great magnitude has lately been transacted which entails the expenditure of over \$4,000,000 and comprises the purchase of the entire control of the Bonnie Clare property of the Bonnie Clare-Bullfrog Mining and Milling company.

A syndicate of men, each of whom can sign his check for millions, has been formed and has had a miner in its employ for some time in the workings of the property. His report to the syndicate disclosed the fact that the Bonnie Clare property is a veritable catcom of wealth as a result of the past fourteen years' work which has been done. Tons of \$40 and \$60 ore have been uncovered; \$142,000 has already been realized as a result of ore shipped from the ordinary process of development without stopping, or in any way seeking to touch the ore beds that were passed through by the developing tunnels.

Nuggets of News.

W. P. Dunham of Los Angeles is working a valuable property at Mineral Creek, in Pinal county, Arizona. His company is the Arizona Giant Copper company. E. G. Thomas is the engineer in charge and P. A. Weckham, manager, has five men at work on two shafts. One is down ninety feet and the other fifty feet. The development work showed up encouragingly and there is a large body of low grade carbonate ore. The group consists of eleven patented claims, 170 acres.

A correspondent writing from Descanso says that the Copo de Oro mine, commonly known as the Holden property, has been taken on bond by a company known as the Model Mining company, headed by Dr. Platner of Los Angeles. It is understood the price is to be \$60,000. Dr. Platner is already on the ground with a number of men and intends to push development work. It is said to be a large low grade proposition, and with proper handling can be developed into a big mine.

A large party of Los Angeles investors who were at Prescott, Arizona, gave out the information that the old Venture mine of Wickensburg, Arizona, which was purchased by the late Senator Taber of Denver, is again to be placed in operation after an idleness of twenty years, and that more than \$1,000,000 of eastern money is to be expended in its rehabilitation.

QUAKE LOSSES FIGURED UP.

Net Amount Resulting From San Francisco Disaster \$132,823,057—Hartford Heaviest Loser.

Albany.—Forty-seven fire insurance companies of New York state have reported to State Superintendent of Insurance Otto Kelsey regarding their net losses in the San Francisco fire, showing the amount of their actual liabilities to be \$23,138,090. Returns from other American companies out of the state show actual loss of \$51,983,111. Foreign companies report \$57,701,856, making a total actual loss of \$132,823,057. These returns are compiled from figures furnished in response to a request for the gross amount of insurance involved, less the amount covered by reinsurance and salvage. The largest individual loss is that of the Hartford Fire of Connecticut, which reports a loss of \$6,186,701 over all reinsurance and salvage.

Mining Properties Investments.

Investments in mining properties during the past year and thus far the current year have been unusually large. One of the causes for this may be attributed to the low rate of interest that has prevailed, and another to the improved methods adopted in mining, materially lessening the chances of failure. All mines are not successful, says New York Mining Reporter, nor are all crops of wheat or corn which the farmer may have planted with much care and labor. He who delves in the ground for the sometimes apparently elusive metals, must do so at some risk, the same as he who plants his seed, trusting a beneficent providence to send the necessary sunshine and rain. Mines prove failures, at times, it is true, but so we read daily of failures in all other walks of life. That there have been so many failures in mining in the past is due largely to the fact that many have seemed to think that anyone could handle a mining property, and that inexperienced men have been placed in dominating positions that should have been held only by the highly experienced. But times have changed greatly in this respect. The experienced and intelligent engineer is now in request, and though he may not prove infallible, his services serve to lessen the chances of failure.

But however we may look on these matters, the present year bids fair to witness the investment of a large sum of money in mining, mining machinery, mining stocks, etc., than of any previous year.

Time, patience, energy and money are all needed in mining but, says Blue Mountain American, they avail eth not if the management is not vested in able, honest men and the development not under the supervision of experienced men.

64,763 BLIND IN U. S.; 89,287 DEAF.

Marriage of Cousins Responsible for Large Percentage of Sightless Eyes.

Washington.—About one person in every 1200 was blind and one in every 850 persons was deaf in the United States in 1900, according to a special census report on the blind and deaf in the United States in that year, just issued by the census office. The inquiry was conducted under the direction of Dr. Alexander Graham Bell.

The total number of blind in the United States in 1900 was 64,763, of whom 35,645 were totally blind and 29,118 partially blind. These figures, however, the report says, can be only considered as the minimum, as an unknown proportion of the blind were not located by the enumerators. Of the blind 37,054 were males and 27,709 females. Blindness is chiefly a defect of adult life, almost 65 per cent of the blind becoming so after twenty years of age. About one-tenth of the total number of blind were born so.

In about five per cent of the cases of blindness reported the parents of the blind were cousins. Of the blind whose parents were so related 25 per cent were born blind, while among the blind whose parents were not cousins the proportion congenitally blind was only 6.8 per cent. Of the blind at least ten years of age, 20 per cent were engaged in some gainful occupation.

The percentage of persons engaged in professional pursuits, trade and transportation and in manufacturing and mechanical industries is larger among the totally blind than among the general population.

Deafness, on the whole, the report says, is more common in the Northern part of the United States than in the Southern, and there are more deaf males than females. The total number of deaf in the United States is given as 89,287, of whom 37,426 were totally deaf and 51,861 partially deaf. From the latter class, however, are eliminated those merely "hard of hearing."

KANSAS TEACHERS SCARCE.

Country Schools Experience Famine. Due to Excellent Opportunities in Other Professions.

Ottawa, Kan.—Kansas, having weathered famine in crops and political sanity, is now fearing a famine in school teachers that threatens to call into action reserve powers in the commonwealth which were not touched by previous misfortunes.

Much prosperity has turned the energies of young people who have filled the teaching corps of the country schools, heretofore, into other fields where there is now a greater chance for reward and advancement.

The famine is particularly apparent in the eastern half of the State, where business opportunities opened to the young people by prosperity are most enticing.

Longworths to Sail Saturday.

Bayreuth.—After passing a week here Congressman and Mrs. Longworth left for Nuremberg and Munich. From the latter place they will go to Paris, and they will sail for the United States Saturday.

BRIBES TAKEN BY OFFICIALS

GRAND DUKES OF FINLAND IN BIG SCANDAL

Special Correspondent Declares the Douma's Dissolution Was Brought About Because of Fear of Prosecution.

St. Petersburg.—The World's special correspondent learns that the immediate cause of the douma's dissolution was the great fear felt by the grand dukes and high court officials, including Treppoff, that the douma was about to prosecute an inquiry into their extensive robberies of the public treasury.

The navy was to have been the first subject of the douma's thorough investigation and proofs were already in representative hands.

Grand Duke Alexis, the naval commander in chief, and his intermediaries received enormous amounts in bribes from foreign ship builders. The douma had also a scandal more malodorous—that 75 per cent of the national subscription to rebuild the fleet had been paid into the private office of Grand Duke Alexander Michalevitch and no accounts have been obtainable vouching for its expenditure.

Viadimir, the czar's uncle, has been the chief corruptor of the imperial band. The douma had positive information that since six months after the war with Japan began he has transferred more than \$35,000,000 to London, Paris, Berlin and New York.

California Items of Interest.

The pear crop of Lake County this season is an extra good one.

The crop on four acres of orange trees at Lindsay sold for \$1500.

Buyers are offering Fresno vineyardists 3½ cents for their raisins.

Buyers of apricots are already offering 13½ cents for the dried fruit.

One thousand Russians will colonize on a 50,000-acre tract near Santa Barbara.

Ranchers about Thermal are cutting their fifth crop of alfalfa.

Coachella shipped week before last 4200 crates of melons, grapes and tomatoes.

Grasshoppers are doing some damage along the foothill lands of Central California.

The Oxnard beet crop, which is an unusually large one, tests from 18 to 21 per cent sugar.

Winds and mildew have seriously injured the grapes of San Joaquin county.

The date farm at Mecca covers 17 acres and most of the trees will fruit this year.

Petaluma shipped to San Francisco during 1905 eggs to the amount of 3,857,061 dozen.—Courier.

In the Pomona and Covina districts the June drop of the oranges was much heavier than usual.

The hop growers of Sonoma county are about the only ranchers in the State who admit no shortage of help.

The county assessor of Tehama estimates the total number of fruit trees in the county at two million.

R. H. Charlton has been appointed forest supervisor of the San Gabriel and San Bernardino forest reserves.

The total value of the sugar beet crop in Southern California is estimated to be five million dollars.

Visalia and vicinity, which has been under water since June 12th with five successive floods, is now dry and will probably remain so.

No bee ever punctures fruit. The bee but follows the puncture made by birds or other insects.

Smoke injected into a hive causes the bees to feed upon honey, makes them contented, and then they may be handled with impunity.

The State University has advertised for bids for the construction of new buildings at the Forestry Station in Rustic Canyon near Santa Monica.

Early in 1908 it is expected that the new railroad into Lake County will be completed and open up a fine fruit country, especially adapted to pear growing.

The ranchers in the Monrovia-Duarte district will fumigate their orchards during August and September, using large doses of cyanide, but generated very slowly.

Orange money to the amount of more than two million dollars will have been paid out to the growers about Pomona when all the returns for the present season are in.

The county press is doing the farmers an injury by printing lurid accounts of the "vineless potato" and "potatine" fraud. The postal authorities have denied the "company" the use of the mails. The scheme is "graft" in its entirety.—California Cultivator.

All Must Pass Civil Service.

Washington.—Pursuant to President Roosevelt's announcement of his intent to appoint deputy collectors of internal revenue through the medium of the civil service commission on competitive examination, it was announced that examinations will be held at Asheville, Winstonville, Salisbury, Charlotte and Winston, N. C., August 29, for clerks and office deputies, storekeepers, gaugers and division deputy collectors.

It is the first time in the history of civil service that "raiding deputies" must secure their appointment under civil service rules.

If the plan proves successful, civil service rules will be applied to all other internal revenue districts.

Sidestepped It.

Rivers (stopping to sharpen his pencil)—How do you spell the plural of "dodo"?

With or without the "o"?

Brooks (who isn't quite sure)—You don't have to spell it. There's no such blamed bird now. It's extinct.

MORE WATER FOR VALLEY

THE GOVERNMENT MAY TAP OWENS RIVER

Scheme Is Independent of Los Angeles Project—Survey Report on Vicinity to Be Ready Soon.

Washington, July 28.—Reclamation service officials say a decision shortly will be reached upon the question of inaugurating an irrigating scheme in Owens River Valley independent of the Los Angeles water-supply project. The department has no desire to interfere with Los Angeles, but some government engineers believe there will be water enough to irrigate the Owens Valley, as well as supply Los Angeles.

The Geological Survey is preparing a report on the water resources of California, including the Owens River country, as a result of the stream gaging during the last fiscal year. It is promised that it will contain information that will be particularly valuable in connection with the Los Angeles enterprise.

The survey has published results of stream gaging on some California rivers as follows: Truckee River at Tahoe, Little Truckee at Pine Station, west fork Walker River near Coleville, west fork Carson River near Woodfords, Susan River near Susanville.

They are contained in a mass of figures and statistics, which are incomprehensible to the layman, but doubtless will be invaluable to persons interested in water power.

SEND EXPERT TO CALIFORNIA.

Glasgow Stockholders of Coast Mining Company Hold Exciting Meeting.

New York.—A cable dispatch to a morning paper from Glasgow says:

An excited meeting of the shareholders in the Fresno Copper company was held Friday. It was proposed to prosecute Vercoe, the manager of the company, who, it was stated, had disappeared. It was finally decided to send out a Glasgow mining expert to California to examine the company's property and report, as it was considered that it would be foolish to abandon the mine on the view of one expert alone, who had declared the property of little value.

The chairman said he was the largest separate holder and he had not sold a single share.

Capitalists Plan Big Ferry Scheme.

St. Johns, N. F.—Premier Bond's declaration Saturday at the official luncheon to Earl Gray that he expected the consummation of a fast transatlantic ferry scheme within a year, refers to a project supported by British, Canadian and American capitalists for a weekly service of eighteen-knot steamers between England and Newfoundland, the passengers going and coming from Canada and America across Newfoundland by rail.

The project will be presented to the legislature for approval at the next session.

LONDON'S DESERTED MANSIONS.

One Fashionable Residence District Falling Out of Favor.

Various reasons are assigned by those most directly interested—the house agents—for the migration of people from one of its chief centers, Lansdowne Gate, says the London Mail.

One has only to take a stroll through that district of stone palaces to see that it seems to have lost favor with not a few of its former inhabitants, for in every direction one is confronted with the familiar black and white sign of the house agent appealing for new tenants.

The number of those vacant palatial residences is increasing surprisingly, and this fact is having a depressing effect upon the Malda Vale and Paddington rates. The loss last year to Malda Vale rates was no less than £7,037, and in Paddington 4,971.

It was learned from house and estate agents that the causes of this desertion of the large houses are various. One well-known agent attributed it to the increasing popularity of flats, to the servant difficulty and to the general spirit of economy which had been prevalent since the end of the war in all classes.

Regarding the first, he said that London now possessed magnificent suites of flats, the rents of which ran up nearly to £1,000. They were elegantly fitted, and required far less domestic help than the large house. There was no dearth of tenants for houses renting at £100 a year; in fact, for each house of this kind there were a score of applicants; it was the £450 to £750 a year house that they found on their hands.

As for the servant question, many women had told him that "the more servants the less comfort." Many large houses had been almost reconstructed internally to meet the requirements and convenience of the modern servants, but all in vain; they would not stay in spite of enormously increased wages.

Hard to Cure.

"I'm glad to hear that Flatman has inherited a fortune and bought a good farm with it. How does he like living in the country?"

"Splendidly. But when the first day of last May came he forgot himself and went around absent-mindedly looking for a new farm, under the impression that he had got to move."

IN FIELD OF HUSBANDRY

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS AND ORCHARDISTS

Partnership on the Farm—The Garden Fence—Raise More Horses—Stock Shipping Law—Leakage in Farming—Poultry Notes.

Partnership on the Farm.

In no other branch of the partnership can the wife of a farmer be more useful than in the right superintendence of her kitchen. It is an occupation that ought to interest every working woman; in fact, it is a delightful combination of mental and physical energy for many people, and the farmer's wife who is shiftless and complaining in this allotted duty should not have been married. Judged solely as an occupation it is full of intense interest and constant surprise. Some of the greatest of men and women have been great cooks, and the greatest of cooks watch even the boiling of a potato with an acute pleasure. How many farmers' wives know the decisive moment in the cooking of a potato? I have observed this operation on a farm when it made a painful exhibition of ignorance and stupidity! Would one not naturally think that a farmer who raises thousands of bushels of potatoes every year would really make some study of this king of vegetables?

There is no exaggeration in the statement that the average kitchen on a farm is judged a pretty poor affair from the standpoint of a good cook. Statistics show that in spite of the alleged "rapid life" led by the city merchants, his brother in the country does not enjoy anywhere near so much mental and physical health. He is often underfed and the sanitary arrangements of his house are deplorable. His wife has become anemic at a time when she should be in the flowing beauty of womanhood, and this in spite of pure air and the health-inspiring panorama that surrounds her home. It is astonishing—almost astounding—what a considerable number of women are utterly ignorant of the first principles in successful home life. I have conversed with farmers' wives while standing among their shabby pots and kettles who could not tell me why anything was so in either boiling or baking. As to frying things, the greasy and unpalatable dishes that were supposed to go through this process were the cause of half the ills in the household, and the increasing incompatibility of the couple. In all the offenses committed against good health and happiness the average breakfast on the farm is the greatest crime. It is a bad job executed under the sickly rays of a candle by untidy help without the slightest beam of mental sunshine!—D. W. in Farming.

The Garden Fence.

If your garden happens to be surrounded by a fence, put up to keep out the chickens from destroying your vegetables, and if the fence is not as ornamental as useful, it can be made beautiful by simply planting vines to cover the rude places. Ornamental gourds will be found curious and interesting in their growth, and when planted so as to overrun the fence they hardly need any further attention. A hop vine here and there will do no harm, and the Australian pea for frostless sections cannot be surpassed. Morning glories and ivies will also add to the beauty of your garden and will afford a much prettier background than an old prominent board or picket fence.

Raise More Horses.

Industrial demand for horses is constantly expanding and farmers can make no mistakes in raising standard commercial classes from the viewpoint of profitable husbandry. The apprehension that the inquiry for horses will diminish with the invention of the automobile has now been eliminated from the industry, and farmers raise horses with the extreme confidence that when the foals reach maturity industrial demand stands ready to take the surplus at remunerative prices, says the Chicago Drovers' Journal. It would appear that the broader the competing motor power for commercial use the greater the inquiry for good horses.

Stock Shipping Law.

The bill has become Federal law fixing the maximum of time in transit for live stock at thirty-six hours. This replaces the old law, twenty-eight hours. As cattle and sheep and also swine shrink much in shipping, especially in shipping long distances, it is important that the time that they are on the way shall be reduced to a minimum. By act of Congress the shipper was obliged to unload every twenty-four hours and to give them food, water and rest. This was done at the instance of humane societies. Those people did not understand that to load and unload animals thus frequently only tended to prolong the time of their privation on the way. When in transit, animals eat and drink but little, even though food is offered to them. Of course, some such rest may be advantageous during very long shipments, but in this country the occasions are few in which animals will require to be unloaded more than once on the way to market. In other words, it would be safe to assert that they do not need to be unloaded more frequently than once in thirty-six hours, and if the trip can be made within forty-eight hours, it would probably be better not to unload until the journey's end. The intentions of the good societies referred to are no doubt good, but the fact remains that few of them have ever shipped live stock. —Orange Judd Farmer.

Leakage in Farming.

One of the most reliable farm journals in the United States is credited with the statement that there are 3,000,000 dairy cows in this country that are not paying their board. We have no means of locating the fault, whether with the breed or the manner of treatment by the owners, but it is safe to say the deficiency with the average of these unprofitable cows is in both the blood and the treatment. A failure of such magnitude as this shows how the agricultural resources of the country are failing to measure up to the profitable standard. If you have but one poor orange tree and ninety-nine profitable ones you are contributing 1 per cent. annually to the loss column of the country. It might pay to root out the poor tree and plant a new one. It most certainly would pay to breed up to the tree by budding or restoring it in some way to prime condition.

School Gardens.

The teacher in town or country, who has plenty of space, favorable conditions of soil and moisture, and is in close proximity to the woods, has a boundless opportunity for the development of school gardening in the best sense. Any plant that thrives in our soil and climate may be grown in the school grounds with little trouble.

Effects of Transplanting.

In the North, where the growing season is short, it is necessary to transplant several of the garden crops in order to secure strong plants that will mature within the limits of the growing season. In California the season is longer, and transplanting, while desirable, may not be necessary, as many crops that must be started indoors farther north can be planted in the garden where they are to remain. Transplanting should be done as soon as the seedlings are large enough to handle, and again when the plants begin to crowd one another.

Aside from producing more uniform and hardy plants, the transplanting process has several other very marked influences. Certain crops which are grown for their straight roots are often injured by having their roots bent or broken in transplanting. On the other hand, such plants as celery, which at first have a straight root and are grown for their tops, are greatly benefited by transplanting. In all cases transplanting has a tendency to increase the number of small roots, and these are the main dependence of the plant at the time it is set in the open ground.—California Cultivator.

Lumbering the Big Trees.

The lumbering of the Big Trees is destructive to a most unusual degree. In the first place the enormous size and weight of the trees necessarily entails very considerable breakage when one of them falls. Such a tree strikes the ground with a force of many hundreds or even thousands of tons, so that even slight inequalities are sufficient to smash the brittle trunk at its upper extremity into almost useless fragments. The loss from this cause is great, but it is only one of the sources of waste. The great diameter of the logs and, in spite of the lightness of the wood, their enormous weight make it impossible to handle many of them without breaking them up. For this purpose gunpowder is the most available means. The fragments of logs blown apart in this way are not only often of wasteful shapes, but unless very nice judgment is exercised in preparing the blast, a great deal of the wood itself is scattered in useless splinters.—California Cultivator.

Plant Impressions.

While man cannot call in upon a small place the larger and broader expressions of nature, he can pleasantly use a limited number of the factors which go to make up this final result for the purpose of adding beauty to his abiding place. Trees may be used to give protection from wind and sun. The variety may be so chosen as to give expressions of pleasure, of restfulness, of sprightliness or of sorrow.

Poultry Notes.

A little faxseed mixed with the morning meal will make the plumage shine.

Milk is excellent for laying hens, as it contains constituents of the white of the egg.

Old hens lay larger than pullets and their eggs produce stronger and more vigorous chicks.

It is not the largest turkeys which bring the highest prices, but rather those of medium size, but in a fat, plump condition.

Don't scare your birds, but try to get them tame.

Look out for rats, the greatest enemy of pigeons. If the walls and floors are lined with tin they will stay out.

During the summer change the water twice daily.

—Live Stock Tribune.

Hemet Lake Capacity Will Be Doubled

Riverside.—It is announced that twenty-five feet is to be added to the height of the Hemet dam. The original plans called for a dam 150 feet high, and it is now 122 feet. The extra twenty-five feet will double the capacity of the lake and add materially to the electric power possibilities of the dam.

Money for Posts.

Washington.—In the assignment of this year's appropriation of \$4,175,000 for military posts, the California posts have been allotted by the War Department the following improvements: Fort McDowell, to begin the reconstruction of a post, with a view to adoption of it for use as a post for the signal department, with double barracks and storehouse.

Fort Baker, artillery and engineer and signal storehouse and office buildings.

Acatraz Island, to complete barracks for four companies, now under construction.

For new marine corps barracks at San Francisco, \$15,000 is available. Extensive repairs will be made at the training station also.