

MINING NEWS IN THE WEST

DISCOVERIES AND INCREASED ACTIVITY IN OPERATIONS

Valuable Properties in Course of Successful Development—The Manhattan Mammoth—Find at Searchlight—Nuggets of News.

Large expenditures of money and large enterprises characterize the mining operations in the northern counties of California. The Mammoth Copper company, the largest producer of copper in Shasta county, will, so it is reported, by the addition of two new blast furnaces increase its output more than 65 per cent and bring the capacity for reduction up to 900 tons a day.

The Great Western Gold company blew in its second furnace recently, which will enable it to double its output. The Great Western is the second largest copper producer in rank in Shasta county.

The Bully Hill Copper Mining and Smelting company will be increased soon, when work will be largely extended.

The smelter of the Balaklala mine at Coram will be in operation by April. Between 250 and 300 men are engaged in construction work. The opening of the smelter will give employment to 300 more.

At the Bullychop mine a ten-stamp mill is running on development ore. The mine is on Bullychop mountain, about forty miles west of Redding.

The Manhattan Mammoth.

Free gold in quantity is being taken from the tunnel on the Manhattan Mammoth Mining company at East Manhattan. The entire face is in ore that pans very high in free gold, and assays as high as \$80 per ton. A new ledge has been discovered below the tunnel on the Mammoth property and many fine free gold specimens taken from the workings. From present indications a large ore body will be opened up at this point. The operators on the Consolidated Manhattan Mining company, adjoining the Manhattan on the west, are eagerly watching developments on this vein, as it is very close to their line and trending directly into the Consolidated ground. A hasty survey was made and it is believed that the ledge in question will be cut in the Consolidated tunnel within 25 feet. This tunnel is already in 150 feet and the face is all in ore of a good milling grade.

Struck It Rich.

One of the strangest freaks of fortune that has come to light in mining circles in Western Nevada for several months is that which befell the Commonwealth Mining company, operating at Washoe City. Last year a syndicate of Kansas people obtained possession of the old Commonwealth mine, which has been abandoned for many years. It has been mined for silver and lead principally, the old owners encountering small gold values.

The new owners incorporated for \$10,000,000 and began to advertise that they possessed a marvelous gold bonanza. Their advertising matter was so strong that complaints were made to the postal department, and an inspector was sent to inquire into the matter. A few days before he arrived a rich strike of lead and silver was made in Willow Creek canyon, on one of the company's claims, which has proved to be a bonanza in fact.

The inspector at once made a favorable report to the postal department, and the stockholders immediately withdrew their complaints. Since then a large mill has been installed and several hundred tons of ore are being extracted daily. The strike has sent many men into the district.

Find at Searchlight.

Following closely in the footsteps of Butte, the greatest copper camp in the world, Searchlight is looming up as the leading gold producer of the state of Nevada. Not only in the extent of her mineralized bodies is she like Butte, but also because the town itself is undoubtedly on some of the richest mining territory in the district. The other day a sewer digger in the streets of Helena, Montana, uncovered a great mineral bearing vein, just so in this camp—a shaft on the Water-spout claim cut a well defined vein carrying values in gold, silver and copper. This shaft has attained a depth of 225 feet and was originally sunk for the purpose of finding water. It was by pure accident that ore was struck. The vein is undoubtedly a continuation of the ledge of the Santa Fe mine which adjoins the end lines of the Waterspout claim and exploitation at depth will probably prove such to be the case.

Lying northeast of the Waterspout claim is the Boston mine, owned by the Quarters Mining company. This property consists of seven patented claims, equipped with hoists, gallows frames, pumps and a 300-foot shaft to the water level.

Nuggets of News.

Z. F. Vaughn, of Los Angeles, has discovered a process for tempering gold, silver and copper, according to the Scientific American. By this method it is claimed that the ductile metals are not only hardened, but a cutting edge is obtained, keener and more durable than that of steel, because of the microscopic fineness and smoothness imparted to it.

A. C. Bockum, of Siskiyou county and associates are congratulating themselves that they are still the owners of the Golden Eagle. Several months ago they bonded the mine to Hammon, the Oroville dredger man, for \$120,000. The bond expired by limitation, the parties failing to agree on the amount of the cash payment. Since then they have uncovered a rich pay shoot and the ore now in sight is worth \$300,000. The mine could not be bought now for twice the amount nominated in the bond.

EARTHQUAKE CLAIMS MANY IN VALPARAISO

ONE THOUSAND OR MORE PEOPLE ARE REPORTED KILLED, WHILE 100,000 ARE MADE HOMELESS

Flames Sweep Through Ruins Under Which Are Buried Bodies of Hundreds of Persons Killed by Collapse of City's Buildings—Martial Law Declared But Troops Fail to Restore Order.

Valparaiso, Chile, Aug. 19.—At 7:52 o'clock last Thursday evening Valparaiso experienced an earthquake of great severity and during that night eight-two shocks were felt.

Most of the buildings of the city are either burned or damaged. The loss will be enormous, probably reaching \$250,000,000. Two thousand persons killed is considered to be a fair estimate of the casualties.

Veina del Mar, three miles from Valparaiso and having a population of over 10,000; Quirihu, 25 miles to the southward with a population of 25,000; Santa Limache, fifteen miles to the northwest, with a population of 6500; Quillota, twenty-five miles to the northwest, with a population of 10,000, and villages all around were destroyed.

Most of the damage was due to fire, which started immediately after the first shock. The whole population is sleeping in the hills, the parks or the streets.

Food is very scarce. Milk costs two Chilean dollars a liter, and it is almost impossible to obtain meat, even at high prices.

The railways are all destroyed.

Rain, which began to fall immediately after the first shock, stopped an hour afterward. The nights are very cold and windy. The people sleeping in the open are suffering greatly.

The captain of a steamship which has arrived from San Francisco says the situation here is worse than following the disaster at San Francisco.

New York, Aug. 19.—There continues confusion of statements as to the magnitude of the disaster at Valparaiso, caused by the earthquake shocks, which began on Thursday, August 16, and continued at frequent intervals throughout that and the next two days.

Dispatches from Valparaiso to the Associated Press received tonight state that a moderate estimate of the fatalities is 2000 and that the property loss may be as high as \$250,000,000, which latter is as great as the loss sustained by San Francisco in consequence of the earthquake and fire which devastated that city last April.

A refugee who has arrived at Santiago places the known dead at 100 and other messages indicate that the first reports of damage and casualties were greatly exaggerated.

Dispatches to the state department at Washington place the fatalities at about 500. These conflicting statements cannot at this time be adjusted. It is evident that even yet confusion and panic prevail at Valparaiso. Until order is restored it will be impossible to ascertain with accuracy the loss of life and property.

The dwellings in the city have been practically abandoned by the inhabitants, who are existing as best they can in the nearby hills without shelter from storms and sun and famine confronting them. Food is already scarce and high, water for drinking purposes is lacking and disease is feared.

The government is doing all it can to bring relief. The crippled state of the railroads into Valparaiso constitutes a serious factor in the situation, as for an indefinite period relief supplies can only be ordered through other means of transportation, the seaboard offering the best of these.

At Santiago many of the best public and private buildings were wrecked. The loss of life there is augmented by the panic which seized the people, many of whom threw themselves from the balconies of their homes. The destructive force of the earthquake was experienced over a large extent of the country, many towns sustaining serious damage.

Galveston, Texas, Aug. 19.—Latest advices from the cities of South America that were ruined by earthquake portray the desperate conditions of the people from hunger, thirst and cold. The report that Santiago de Chile is practically destroyed is confirmed. Both Santiago and Valparaiso are seething masses of flames. The authorities are dynamiting buildings in both cities in the path of the flames in the effort to save parts of the city. The earthquake broke the water mains so that the fire departments are practically helpless.

From 5000 to 10,000 are reported killed.

By far the greater part of the people of both cities are homeless and have lost everything that they possessed. They are fleeing in multitudes into the mountains in every direction.

Great suffering is reported on account of the cold (it is midwinter in the southern hemisphere.) All are without sufficient food and water.

The suffering is increased by constantly recurring shocks that have felled many of the buildings left standing after the first big tremor.

No attempt has been made to remove the bodies from the ruins because of the necessity for all who can work to fight the fires that are sweep-

ing the cities. It is impossible even to estimate with any degree of accuracy the number of dead but it is certain to be appalling.

Many of the smaller towns about Santiago and Valparaiso have been completely wiped out and the aggregate loss of life aside from the larger cities is stupendous.

Total of 382 Shocks Are Felt at Valparaiso.

London, Aug. 19.—In a cable from Valparaiso without a date the correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "Sixty per cent. of this city has been completely destroyed. The death roll is very heavy."

There were eighty-two shocks during Thursday night and there have been 30 more since then.

The tremors continue.

One hundred thousand people are homeless and destitute. Water is giving out.

Catastrophe Is Greater Than at San Francisco.

Valparaiso, Aug. 19, (via Galveston).—Proportionately the catastrophe here is considered greater than that which struck San Francisco.

Valparaiso and neighboring towns are wrecked and partially burned and in all the towns of the Aconcagua valley conditions are similar.

In the southern portion of Chile severe shocks were felt at Talcahuano, Concepcion, Talca and Zane, but there the disaster was not appalling.

As yet no authentic news has been received from Santiago, although a courier is shortly expected.

Quakes occur from time to time, but are steadily diminishing in force.

As to the dead and wounded, an accurate estimate is yet impossible, but it is believed that the former will exceed 2000 in this and surrounding towns.

The authorities here have the situation well in hand and have assumed the distribution of food. Couriers have been despatched both north and south for troops. Provisions and thousands of tons of flour, wheat and rice are held in stores here and about. It is not believed a food famine will occur.

Martial law has ruled in Valparaiso since the first day of the shocks and the entire population is camping in the open.

The only wire working is the subterranean sea cable of the Central South American company, which marvelously escaped undamaged.

Scores of Cities Reported to Have Been Destroyed.

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 19.—The Associated Press has received authoritative information concerning the worst reports of the earthquake in Chile.

Valparaiso is partially destroyed. Most of the damage done was in the center of the city, extending from the plaza Del Orden to the plaza Prat. Many lives were lost, but the number is not yet known.

Hundreds of persons were injured.

A state of panic prevails at Valparaiso.

Santiago also suffered severely, and there was much loss of life.

Los Andes, eighteen miles east of San Felipe, and having a population of 5000, was almost totally destroyed.

The finest buildings of the town—government house, the hotels and public offices—were completely wrecked.

Other towns on the Chilean side of the Andes wholly or partially destroyed are Quillota, with a population of 9000; Llay Llay, with a population of 2500; Hapel, with a population of 5000; Vallonar, with a population of 5000, and San Felipe, with 12,000 inhabitants.

Quillota is a mass of ruins and there was great loss of life there.

From Santiago to the Andes every bridge and tunnel on the railway was utterly wrecked and the railway lines torn up.

The shock is supposed to have been caused by the eruption of a volcano.

It is impossible to estimate the losses or damage done at present. There is no doubt, however, that the catastrophe was of terrible proportions.

The disaster has cast gloom over the republic of Argentina and all festivities have been suspended.

The only means of communication with Chile is closed.

There is great anxiety here.

Report Says That Island Is Destroyed.

New York, Aug. 20.—A report reached this city today that the South American earthquake destroyed the island of Juan Fernandez, off the Chilean coast.

It belonged to Chile, and on it were a penal settlement and a fort.

This is the island made famous by Daniel De Foe as the scene of the thrilling adventures of Robinson Crusoe.

As San Francisco of South America Valparaiso Took Rank.

Valparaiso, the destruction of which bids fair to rival in horror the recent disaster at San Francisco, occupies the

position on South America's western coast that San Francisco held on the northern continent.

With a population of over 150,000 it is the capital of Chile and that republic's most important seaport, as well as a center of trade for a large part of southwestern South America.

Before this disaster it had been hoped that with the completion of the Panama canal and the Trans Andine railway the prosperity of this city, lying directly in the path of the intercontinental commerce and travel, was assured. With the coming of the railway the city would also have taken its place as a foremost distributing point for European supplies of all kinds.

Valparaiso owes much of its rapid advance in the race with its sister cities to the progressive spirit that has characterized its every move.

Valparaiso was the first to introduce the telegraph lines into the country; she was the first of the southern cities to see street cars running on her streets; she led the way in laying huge aqueducts to convey her water supply; she was the first South American city to adopt gas. And in 1890, by the construction of large floating docks, the city placed herself in a position to repair vessels of large tonnage, which at once began to stop there for repairs.

And even in the drainage problem, often so disastrously neglected in Latin American cities, the city has advanced her reputation for up-to-date progressiveness. The "separate system" was installed to meet the demand for a suitable drainage system. This consists of carrying off the rain water directly to the sea by huge subterranean drains, while the sewage water, after being collected in a pool at a low point, is raised into a conduit which carries it far out into the bay.

The city is the headquarters of the Chilean navy, and is further defended by modern long-range guns.

Its public institutions rank favorably with those of any other city on the continent. Warehouses, a wharf, seven national banks (as well as several foreign and savings banks), a naval academy, a museum of natural history, a Victoria theater, and several fine monuments serve to give an air of refinement to the city, as well as to give evidence of its financial prosperity and progress.

California Items of Interest.

The canneries at Stockton are offering from \$50 to \$60 per ton for free stone peaches.

The Riverside horticulturists have realized about 34 per cent. more this year than last.

All holders of 1905 crops raisins in Tulare county have disposed of their product, and a good deal of the 1906 crop is also taken.

For the three dried fruit crops—apricots, peaches and prunes the value California approximates \$14,700,000 a normal year.

Solano county has harvested the greatest crop of barley, wheat and alfalfa this year in its history. Farmers are all in fine spirits.

The Ventura apricot growers are holding their crop for higher figures. They will not accept 14 cents, but demand 16, which they will get because the peach crop of the East is short.

It is asserted that a combination of speculators has cornered the jute bag output of San Quentin prison to the positive detriment of the farmers. The trust is to be investigated by the State authorities.

The hop crop around Marysville is so heavy this year that whole acres have fallen down and trestles supporting the vines are breaking with their weight. Growers are advertising all over the State for pickers.

The prune crop of California this year will bring the growers and packers about the sum of \$1,000,000. Eastern consumers will pay for it over \$20,000,000. This year the estimated crop is about 280,000,000 pounds.

There seems to be a settled fact among orange growers in California that next year's crop is going to be short. The growers expect to get more money for the crop, however, which will even up the shortness of the crop.

The American Farms Company, a New York corporation, is arranging to take over the San Joaquin Lee Company. This American Farms Company is a trust with \$50,000,000 capital which is seeking to get control of the dairy industry of the United States.

The Gregory dried fruit establishment at Redlands has shipped this season 45 tons of apricot pits. This year these have proven as valuable in proportion to the amount as the apricots themselves, says the Riverside Enterprise. Where last year they sold for \$7 a ton, and the year before for even less, this year they are bringing from \$21 to \$25 a ton. The seeds are shipped to San Francisco, there being treated and the kernels removed. From them are made certain kinds of acids and later undergoing varying processes, they are sent to Germany for treatment, and are sold for cured almonds. Husks from the seed are used for fuel.—California Cultivator.

Salmon Industry to Remain in California.

San Francisco.—The Alaska packers' association has purchased from the Oakland Water Front company thirteen acres of land on Fort Mann basin, San Antonio estuary, Alameda.

With this new acquisition the association will have about twenty-five acres of land, with upward of thirty-seven hundred feet of water frontage and complete control of the basin.

This purchase settles, it is said, the question of the Alaska packers' association moving its headquarters to Puget sound and insures for San Francisco the retention of the supremacy in the salmon packing business.

Trip to North Pole Delayed.

London.—A dispatch from Christiana to the Daily Mail says that owing to the lateness of the season Walter Wellman, chief of the arctic expedition, has abandoned the project of ballooning to the North Pole this year.

Saves Millions in Crops.

St. Paul.—The Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Soo lines have filed with the state grain and warehouse commission notice of a ten per cent. reduction in grain rates. It is expected that the lower rates will mean a saving of from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000 on this year's crops.

IN FIELD OF HUSBANDRY

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS AND ORCHARDISTS

Making a Beautiful City—Demand for Farm Products—Northern Olive Crop—The Country Road—Poultry Notes—Bee Keeping Notes.

Making a Beautiful City.

When a board of architects, landscape gardeners and engineers goes to work to devise public improvements with a view to beautifying the city, they can lay out a plan of what a city should be. Then let the city take up this plan and work slowly, it may be, but nevertheless, steadily, in that direction. This is the way in which some of the most beautiful cities in America become the models that they are. It is a wholesome and salutary thing to keep before the government of a city some plan of public improvement sufficient to inspire them to heroic effort in the right direction.—L. A. Times.

Increased Demand for Farm Products.

In view of the passage of the "pure food law" by Congress, and the fact that this and most other States now have pure food laws, there will be a greater demand than formerly for the farm and orchard products out of which to make them. Large demands have been made by manufacturers for fruit jams, cider and elder vinegar and numerous other canned and preserved food products, and hereafter to supply this demand factories and canners will have to buy the pure products out of which to make them. Heretofore elder vinegar has been made largely of various kinds of acids, and fruit jams and scores of other food products have been concocted out of various stuffs besides the raw products. The Congressional pure food law puts an end to this, so far as interstate trade is concerned, and the State laws on the subject cut impure food stuffs off as a State trade. Our own State is now putting our law in force through the work of our State laboratory, and has already demonstrated that the laws can be enforced. This legislation and its enforcement will do two distinct things, viz: give consumers pure table products, and furnish a better market for the products of the farm and orchards.—Indiana Farmer.

Good Northern Olive Crop.

The olive crop of Northern California is now well set, fruit well formed, and there is every indication that the crop will be a very heavy one, heavier than for several years past. Both pickling and oil works are being prepared for the largely increased output. Stockton is leading in the work, while a large factory at Oroville is working on both pickles and oil, and the pick this season promises to be heavier than in any former year. There has been a good demand in the East for pickled olives, and it is one that is growing year by year, and the packers have not been able to fill the demand. It is questionable that even with increased facilities they will be able to accomplish it this season.

Treatment of Plants.

Plants shipped by express or freight suffer little, if any, as the roots get disturbed but very little if taken out of pots. Some water and shade for a few days will re-establish them.

With plants received by mail more care and precaution have to be taken on arrival. On all plants to be shipped by mail the soil has to be removed from the roots in order to lessen the weight, and damp moss and paper take the place of the soil.

If the plants are the least wilted on arrival, put them in lukewarm water in a shallow pan for about an hour, leaving the paper and moss undisturbed. This will soon restore their vitality.

In potting the plants, after removing the moss and paper, use clean pots and loose, fine soil. Take pots only one size larger than the one the plant was grown in. Press the soil well down after placing the roots in a natural position, leaving half an inch empty space above the soil for the pot to receive the water. Water should be applied until it runs out at the bottom of the pot.

Keep shady and from the wind or drought for four or five days. Sprinkle the leaves every day but take care not to wet the soil in the pot too much, which would make the roots rot.

In any case, avoid extremes in watering or drying out.

If the plants are to be cultivated in pots most of them will be ready to be lifted into larger sized pots in from two to four weeks, according to nature of the plants.

Bedding plants can be set out at once in the open ground by observing the above rules about watering and shading, provided there is no danger of frost, etc.—California Cultivator.

Choice Fruit Pays.

Writing of their success, hundreds of fruit growers, whose sales are largely local, cite instances where very niggardly buyers have been transformed into lavish buyers by persistent offerings of the choicest fruit. Take it home to yourself and ponder on it as a suggestion for increasing your own profits, remembering always how much greater your own craving is for luscious, well ripened specimens of the best varieties than for tasteless, carelessly selected and shiftlessly grown fruit that actually offends the taste. The habit of eating fruit will certainly develop in a family or community, if the grower, dealer or market persistently and regularly offers the kinds that "taste like more."—American Fruit.

The Country Road.

Oh, the country road! at the farther end
It runs up hill and down,
Away from the woods and rippling brook
To the toiling, rushing town.
But, best of all, when you're tired and sick
Of the noisy haunts of men,
If you follow it back, it will lead you home
To the woods and fields again.

Horse Radish as a Farm Crop.

I have a piece of bottom land next to the creek, lying between the creek and some hill land, and containing a little less than two acres. About seven years in ten this bottom overflows and a coat of sand and fine gravel, varying in depth from one inch to seven or eight inches, is left all over the bottom. The land is very fertile but the sand on top prevents my making much of a success with either corn or potatoes, and it is out of the question to try to keep it in grass.

I finally decided to crop it with horse radish. It always washed so after plowing that I hesitated to turn it up, so I ran a double furrow through it across toward the creek, planted roots of horse radish and cultivated it twice early in the season to get a start of the weeds. Later, in June, July and August I had a man go through the pitch with a short hoe, and cut the weeds, mostly sour dock and milkweed, from the rows. After the last hoeing in mid-August it was allowed to take care of itself. I let the roots remain in the ground until November, when I dug it with a spade to loosen the soil about the roots, pulled them out, cut the tops and washed them in the creek. After drying over night, I filled apple barrels with the roots and shipped them by freight to a commission merchant in the city, about sixty miles away. They arrived in his hands the week before Thanksgiving and were sold so the twenty-five barrels netted me \$3.80 per barrel after freight and commission were deducted, or \$95 for my crop.—Country Life.

Poultry Axioms.

Hens on ceasing to lay are quite apt to run to fat if fed too liberally, and a fat hen makes a fine host for the mighty mite and the luxuriant louse. Hence, feed less and fight vermin more.

Old Sol is surely getting in his work these warm days in August. Put him out of business in the chicken yard as much as possible by providing plenty of shade for your fowls.

It is the flock which receives careful attention in the summer that turns out fine birds in the fall.

Cull, cull, cull. It does not pay to feed the off specimens only long enough to realize on them.

When selling settings of eggs insist that all infertile ones be returned to you not later than the sixth day after being set. Otherwise you may be "jobbed" for the entire clutch.

If reports are trustworthy something like 300,000 incubators were sold in the United States the past year, valued at about \$3,000,000.—L. A. Times.

Keep Cultivator Working.

Farmers have learned that the cultivator has other uses besides keeping down the weeds, the weeds are destroyed by the process, but the judicious stirring of the soil incites growth and conserves the moisture in the soil, which is of immense benefit to the plants later in the season when prolonged droughts are likely to exist. Again, cultivation means increased crops, hence the work is one which may be done with profit.

In the orchard cultivation, very shallow, mainly for the purpose of conserving the moisture in the soil and breaking up the surface which is likely to bake, pays full as well as with a cultivated crop and it is especially valuable when combined with the cover crop, the seeding being done in late July or early August, and the cover crop plowed under in the spring to add humus to the soil, something much needed by most soils in which trees are set.

Bee Keeping Notes.

Upwards of 50,000 species of bees are known to exist. Tropical regions are especially favorable to bee keeping.

In 1890, the Department of Agriculture introduced the Italian bee; about twenty years ago, the Cyprian; and still later the Carniolan.

A little over twelve per cent. of the farms in the United States, reports having been made. There are 5,739,659 farms and 707,261 reports have been made.

The stingless bee is the latest proposition. They are known in Venezuela and efforts are being made to import them. They will remove the great objection to bee keeping if successfully acclimated.

An authority says that honey should be kept in dry atmosphere at a comparatively warm temperature.

National Control of Pests.

Prof. E. Dwight Sanderson, of New Hampshire, has contributed an article on the above subject to the Popular Science Monthly, in which he argues that much of the work which is now being done by the different states to suppress insect pests should be done by the national government; and also that a system of federal inspection should be inaugurated, so that no nursery stock or fruits can be imported into this country which contain injurious species of insects. This matter has received much attention lately, particularly since the boll weevil in Texas and the gypsy moth in Massachusetts became so destructive. Prof. Sanderson holds that the national government should suppress these insects, as it should now being done, but that it would have been better had some system of inspection prevented the introduction of these species.

Selection of Potatoes.

There can be no doubt that the want of care in the selection of seed has in the past had a great deal to do with the inferior quality of many of the potatoes placed on the market, and also with the unremunerative returns of the farmer. The trouble has come about from want of knowledge on the part of many growers, as well as want of care, as they fail to discriminate between the wild potato and the true one.