

## MINING PROBLEM.

### HOW TO ARREST SPEEDY DECAY OF TIMBER SUPPORTS.

Fully Solved by the Use of Avenarius Carbolineum, a Fibre Strengthening Non-Inflamable Wood Preserver.

Timbering mines is an expensive operation at best, and especially so when, as is frequently the case, absence of timber in the neighborhood calls for long hauls to the mine. Added to this first cost and arduous labor, the mine owner is confronted by the rapid wood decay which commences, imperceptibly at first, but rapidly in a short time—from the moment his valued timbers are in position. Deterioration of the wood is accelerated by contact with soil, damp surroundings and above all by the dead air found in subterranean passages, which feeds dry rot as oil feeds fire.

These facts are known to all practical mining men and deplored. The question asked is, can these conditions be ameliorated, decay arrested and the life of mine timbers prolonged. An affirmative answer may be given and its truthfulness substantiated by practical tests of thirty years duration.

The panacea for the ills complained of, the sure way to arrest decay and prolong the life of mine timbers, is the use of Avenarius Carbolineum, the celebrated wood preservative, endorsed by U. S. engineers in the construction of dams, locks and jetties, by leading ship builders for ships, by railroad men for cars, ties and telegraph poles, in fact by all corporate bodies and individuals who have tried Avenarius Carbolineum and never found it wanting in results. Mine timbers coated with Avenarius Carbolineum are absolutely immune against decay. The compound fills the pores of the wood treated and timbers actually grow stronger instead of weaker from age and become better equipped to support the pressure to which they are subjected. These statements may sound exaggerated but hundreds of testimonials can be produced to attest their veracity.

Another vital reason why mine owners should employ Avenarius Carbolineum is found in its non-inflammability. It successfully resists extreme heat, a quality well worthy of consideration in underground workings, such as coal mines for instance, where inflammable gases are constantly lurking in ambush and speedily destroy the egresses which offer the miner his sole hope of escape.

A trial will speedily convince the most skeptical and Avenarius Carbolineum once generally used in the mines of the northwest will add thousands of dollars annually to the profits of their owners. Messrs. Fisher, Thorsen & Co., of Portland, Oregon, who are sole Pacific coast agents for Avenarius Carbolineum stated to a representative of this paper that the rapidly increasing sale of this compound for all construction work where wood is used is surprising even to themselves.

#### Miner Assists all Other Industries.

"At Sparta, Union county, I spent a half day in the old Gem mine, and was agreeably surprised at the extent of development made and ore bodies exposed. Mr. Perkins, the manager, is arranging for the immediate erection of a 10-stamp mill. Sparta is in what is known as the 'free-gold belt.' The ores are not 'refractory.' On the Mazama company's claims, near Sparta, five parallel ledges and one cross vein have been exposed. All carry gold, free and in iron sulphates. One, the Silver Queen, returns to the assayer over \$50 per ton on a general sample from the whole; the Uncle Sam,

\$20 to \$30. Selected samples of each disclosed gold to the eye, and, of course, run very high. It is the general returns from the whole mass that determines the value of ore bodies. The other veins belonging to this company, as far as tested, run from \$5 to \$11.50, on general sampling. On the whole, there has not yet been a failure of good results where intelligent and persistent work has been applied to eastern Oregon mines; and the miner is worthy of encouragement and support. He assists all other industries and is a friend of the commonwealth. To him you can well apply the words of the shepherd in the play: 'I am a true laborer; I earn that I eat, get that I wear, owe no man hate, envy no man's happiness, glad of other men's good.'—Colonel F. V. Drake in Oregonian.

#### DEEPEST HOLE IN THE EARTH.

##### Red Jacket at Calumet Down Over One Mile.

The deepest hole ever dug in the earth for men to work in is the shaft of the Red Jacket copper mine at Calumet, Michigan. Observers ascending in compartment balloons have secured data of importance regarding meteorological conditions, and underground observations made at a depth of a mile are no less valuable.

It had been thought that such a depth as the bottom of the Red Jacket shaft would have a temperature that would boil an egg. This was found not to be the case, however. Careful tests at the bottom show that the normal temperature at a mile below the surface of the earth is only 87.6 degrees Fahrenheit.

The water found at the bottom of the shaft is corrosive to human flesh. Workmen have to wear heavy rubber boots and rubber coats and masks to protect themselves.

The opening is 15½x25 feet inside the timbers, cut through adamantite. Giant timbers secure the transit-ways for men and materials, for water and electric wires, which illuminate the shaft from surface to bottom. Inside the timbers are six compartments. In four of the compartments slip up and down the ponderous cages, carrying ten-ton loads of rock and moving at the speed of an express train. Up and down in these cages also ride the hundreds of men who work in the mine. In one of the compartments are the great iron pumps. In the last will be forced steady currents of compressed air, which runs the drills a mile below the engine house.

The electric light plant is large enough to supply light to a city. A telephone system connects every point of the shaft with a great central exchange above ground.

A network of wires stretches in to the headquarters of the fire department, near the big hole. Thousands of dollars have been spent to bring every part of the shaft within easy communication of the surface in case of fire.—Exchange.

#### Oregon Timber Statistics.

State Forestry Agent Johnson, who has recently been inspecting the timber lands of the Blue mountains, tells the Portland Timberman that 400,000,000 feet of timber is consumed annually in the state of Oregon for firewood. When it comes to notice that the city of Portland burned 137,797 cords of slabwood and cordwood last year, the estimate does not appear very wide of the mark. The Southern Pacific, which burns wood exclusively on its Oregon lines consumed some 60,000 cords alone last year, and will probably use 75,000 cords this year. The Blue mountain wood camps cut 15,000 to 20,000 cords each, annually. This wood finds a market in Baker City, La-Grande, Walla Walla, and even Idaho. The steamboats on the Columbia and Willamette rivers consume enormous quantities of cordwood and keep a small army of men employed in furnishing it.

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