

WOMEN IN THE FIELD OF MINING.

It is an Alluring Occupation and Lucrative Also.

The old days when "men must work while women must weep" are of the past, and under the new dispensation women are regularly enrolled among the workers of the world, and the sort of occupation in which they shall engage is limited only by the work to be done in the world. Women like men earn their bread by the sweat of their brows and are beholden to no one for cake and preserves, and the women are glad of it, and no doubt the men are too.

Mrs. E. C. Atwood, at the national convention of miners held in Wilwaukee recently, made some interesting statements concerning women in the field of mining, which seems a unique occupation for them to engage in. She describes the work as fascinating and lucrative, but admonishes women who engage in mining to go into it with a good stock of determination, which must be the dynamite and gunpowder to carry them to success in the undertaking. If pursued in a painstaking and intelligent way, she says it is a business that can be made to pay well.

Miss Caroline Van Brunt, who is the secretary of the Orford Copper company, is also one of the directors and one of the incorporators of the company. She is perfectly familiar with all that is necessary to be known upon the subject, in fact knows more about copper, nickel, the general mining ores, the source of supply, production, consumption, tariff, state of trade than any other woman, and more than three-quarters of the men, who claim to be experts upon the subject of mining and the interests related to it. She has studied the subject of making copper fumes less injurious, and it was principally through her representations that congress was induced to give those establishments requiring it a further chance to experiment with smoke consumers and odor extractors.

Two Colorado women referred to by Mrs. Atwood were Mrs. Stewart and Miss Dillingham, who successfully managed a mine and concentrating mill.

Mrs. E. C. Stoiber, of Silverton, who so charmingly entertained a number of club women at the Denver meeting of the general federation, is a successful mining woman and a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

In speaking of mining, however, Mrs. Atwood asserted that she had no reference to speculation in mining stocks of which Mr. Charles B. Rouse, the multi-millionaire merchant of New York said: "There is one thing I would most emphatically impress upon women—keep away from Wall street. Don't speculate; don't buy stocks. That is not legitimate business, and is sure, sooner or later, to lead to ruin. Aside from this there is no line of business in which women may not succeed if they will give their work the necessary thought and attention."

The woman who has faith in herself can move mountains and maybe find enough nuggets to make her happy for the rest of her life. At any rate, she has as good a chance as a man, and the work is not nearly so hard nor laborious as many time-honored employments of women, and is likely to prove much more lucrative.—Denver Times.

Money Made in Mining Stocks.

When men speak of fortunes made in mining, the general impression is a fortune of the size of Wm. A. Clark's, the Montana millionaire, and not of the smaller fortunes that have made men and women independent of circumstances, with-

out making them so conspicuous as the aforesaid gentleman. There are many people in the world today to whom \$10,000 means a fortune. Many have made fortunes of this size by safe investments. There is no way open to the poor man, to the man of limited means, except some form of investment made when the property purchased is first put upon the market and the price is low, and then taken and held until it raises in value. There are hundreds of men in comfortable circumstances today who have become so by the investment of \$10 or \$20 per month in some low-priced mining stock issued by a reliable company. Money so used is not in any sense speculation, it is forethought. There is every chance for the stock to rise, and when such investment is made at the bottom price, the stock can go no lower. All is in favor of the investor.—Seattle Mining Record.

Interesting Copper Statistics.

The copper statistics for the current year shows that up to September 1st the production has amounted to 200,205 short tons, as against 138,726 for the period of 1899; and that of the increase (11,479 tons) only 1,287 tons came from the well known big mines, while the balance (10,192 tons) came from small producers who are not yet in the trust, or who produce the metal as by-product in the operation of distinctly precious metal producing mines. This is a very interesting state of affairs, for it is almost a conclusive proof that the product of the big mines are under control; that to each is allotted a certain proportion of the supply to be produced, which allotment must not be exceeded to any great extent; the object, of course, being to maintain the supply at just about an even level with the demand, under which condition existing prices can be maintained. It is interesting to note that nearly 65 per cent of the product of American copper is now being exported. The amount up to September 1 was 129,612 tons.—Exchange.

Smelter Trust Profits.

The so-called smelter trust has a nominal capital of \$65,000,000, of which 11,000,000 has not been issued. Of this 54,000,000 actually issued, \$27,000,000 is preferred stock and \$27,000,000 is common stock. The common stock was given as a bonus to those who subscribed for the preferred stock. The actual capital therefore is \$27,000,000. The company's statement shows that in the year ending June 30th last, the profits were \$3,524,061, or over 13 per cent on the true capital. The profits in the last six months of the year were \$2,266,018, or at the rate of \$4,592,036 for the year, which is at the rate of nearly 17 per cent per annum on the real capital, which suggests that a further reduction of treatment charges should be made.—Western Mining World.

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