

**MINING AS A BUSINESS.****Is Garbed in all the Respectability of Legitimacy.**

It is now almost certain that more capital will be invested in mining in 1902 than in any preceding year. This statement applies with force to conditions throughout the entire world, yet it is particularly applicable as a truth when applied to conditions in the United States. The most substantial facts in support of this claim as to an increase of investment in mining can be gleaned from the news columns of the Western Mining World. Those columns teem with reports of new discoveries, rich strikes and the expansion of mineral zones, along with the record of incorporation of companies, the erection of mills, smelters and all the auxiliary appurtenances to successful mining.

Time was, and recently, too, when only a few localities in this country attracted wide attention or offered inducements to capital. In those days the legitimacy of mining was seriously questioned, and many people regarded the industry in the light of a speculation where chance was the chief factor to be depended on for success. All this has been radically changed. It has now been demonstrated that large areas in a number of the western states are richly mineralized, and the immense profits derived from mining by some of the well known companies, whose operations have been conducted in a business-like manner and along economical lines, have furnished conclusive and convincing evidence that the legitimacy of mining is established. In consequence, eastern capital is making closer and more exhaustive investigation into the merits of properties, and, not waiting for the pressing invitation of the western promoter, is seeking investment side by side with the western capitalist, who owes his fortune to success in mining.

The difficulty that unscrupulous persons encounter nowadays in marketing worthless claims has practically driven this class out of the mining business, and men who own claims in the west are careful to not intentionally misrepresent them, as expert investigation is sure to detect fraud.

Eastern people are beginning to understand these new conditions, and have not the hesitancy which formerly characterized their action in taking hold of mining enterprises. With access to all sciences that combine to give a thorough knowledge of the merits of a mining property, they are now in a position to quickly know as much, or more, about it than the man who located it or the promoter who seeks to interest capital in its development.

So the conclusion is easily reached that mining is garbed in all the respectability of legitimacy, that it offers better profits than almost any other commercial enterprise, that the field for the promotion and expansion of the industry is almost inexhaustible, and that its non-interference with, but promotion of, other industries, makes it the ideal industry in which to invest the surplus capital of the country. Colorado, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Oregon, Washington, Michigan, South Dakota and Arizona will, during the present year, experience an activity without precedent in their history, while many other western mining states are making great progress in the development of the mining industries. Old established companies are enlarging their operations, and many new companies are entering these fields. New camps are being established, capital is flowing into these states in a continuous stream, and

it is estimated that the output of mineral will be something stupendous—at this time beyond the realm of reasonable prediction.—United States Journal for Investors, (Boston.)

**Great Fortunes Made In Mining.**

In speaking of the mining business, as a legitimate undertaking, an influential mining paper argues as follows: "Bankers, as we all know, are pre-eminently of the conservative class, their business makes them so and they cannot help it, and there is scarcely a banker of note in this city, (Salt Lake), in the entire west and in the commercial centers of the east, but that are heavily interested in mining operations and affairs. This fact alone should have a stimulating effect upon the mining industry and should steady the nerves of those who, perhaps for the first time, are thinking of making an investment in mines or in mining stock and securities, for the fact that men of wealth, men at the head of big banking establishments, and men handling and controlling immense wealth, are making heavy and profitable investments in mining, is a guarantee that they regard the industry as legitimate, profitable and safe and offering better returns for the money invested than almost any other avenue presenting itself for the consideration of men of wealth wishing some better and more lucrative form of investment than railroad stocks, bonds, wheat, pork or corn." "The argument might have been made still stronger," adds the Coeur d'Alene Mining Journal, "by asserting that all the wealthiest men of the world are interested in mining, while the lesser financiers of this and every other country are similarly engaged. Every millionaire of Idaho became such through successful mining operations. No other industry is half so profitable."

**Universal Gold Extracting Company.**

The Universal Gold Mining & Extracting company, of this city, has secured the property of the old Banner Mining company, of Oroville, and has ordered constructed a five-ton capacity agitator which, when completed, will be given a thorough test by Mr. Long, to ascertain to a certainty its adaptability for the work, and if it proves successful it will be forwarded to Oroville immediately and the work of erecting a plant begun at once. The company's agents will proceed to Oroville on Tuesday of next week, purchase the machinery capable of operating a twenty-ton plant, to which capacity it is proposed to be increased as soon as practicable. The agitator will be built in a day or two and it is calculated that the entire plant will be complete and in operation within the next sixty days. The company has secured options on a number of blocks of tailings at advantageous prices and plants will be erected and operated at each of these places in the near future.—Salem Statesman.

**Making Money Trapping Coyotes.**

Jack Marshall, the coyote-killer, came to town today and turned over to the county clerk fifteen coyote scalps, the result of four days trapping. Mr. Marshall has probably made more money out of the coyote industry than any other man in the county. Since the law went into effect, three years ago, Mr. Marshall has cashed about 750 coyote scalps, thereby increasing his wealth in the sum of \$1500. To capture the wily coyote, Mr. Marshall relies almost wholly upon the trap. He is now trapping about eight miles from town, and uses about thirty steel traps, into which he entices the coyotes by the use of a scent, which he manufactures himself. Marshall says it is no more trouble for him to trap a coyote than it is to trap a chipmunk.—Malheur Gazette.

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