

**ONE DOLLAR
ORE PROFITABLE**

Alaska Company Revolutionizing Modern Mining Methods.

A well known mining authority made the statement some months ago that the annual reports of the Alaska-Treadwell company, operating on Douglas island, Alaska, constitute an admirable text book upon modern mining. They show steady dividends on the one hand—steady improvement in the methods of handling low grade ores on the other. Both results are important, and where the improvement exists the dividends are almost certain to follow, as the low grade gold vein is usually generous as to size and permanent in the item of depth.

The Alaska-Treadwell Gold Mining company is a Boston corporation. It is capitalized at \$5,000,000, the par value of the shares being \$25 each. In January last it opened 1902 by declaring a dividend of \$75,000, and the total paid to that time was \$4,895,000. In his annual report the manager shows that the improved methods in mining and milling adopted last year resulted in reducing the average cost per ton, for both these items, from an average of \$1.10—the record heretofore on ores not absolutely free milling—to 68 cents per ton, the new challenge figure. The company owns and operates 550 stamps, which are fed from a mountain of ore. As the ore averages less than \$2 per ton, the new process means not only a cut of nearly one half on the expense of mine and mill operation, but it brings within the field of profitable reduction a vast amount of quartz which under former conditions would be classed as barren and worthless.

In its comments on the astonishing result above set forth, the San Francisco Chronicle predicts that the Alaska-Treadwell method will make ores worth one dollar per ton—fire assay, of course—profitable to work, and in the case of the Treadwell mine the one-dollar standard will add millions of tons of available quartz in sight to the corporation's stock.

No one save a practical miner can fully comprehend the significance of a profit in one dollar ore. If the new Treadwell process can be applied in California, Colorado, South Dakota and New Mexico, and it probably can, it will bring into the field of active operation an indefinite volume of gold-bearing quartz which now affords no profit whatever. In Colorado and the Black Hills the cost of mining and treating gold ore has been reduced from \$30 per ton in the 1870 period—extending for almost ten years—to about five dollars at present, with even a lower figure where the ore is of a fluxing nature or will yield ninety per cent of its value to cyanide treatment.

On the great mother lode in California—one of the largest low grade bodies in the world—the cost of mining and milling has been cut down from about nine dollars per ton twenty-five years ago to \$2.25 at present, and now four dollar ore is worked at a profit. But there is, says the San Francisco Chronicle, "a vast reserve in the vein, carrying from \$2 to \$3 per ton, which nobody can afford to touch with a \$2.25 process, all of which will yield a big profit for working if the new process of the Treadwell mine can be applied to it. Gold quartz mining has reached a wonderfully fine point when the cost of winning the precious metal from its matrix is reduced to 68 cents per ton."

Initial Run for the Badger Mill.

The new quartz mill which was constructed on the Badger mine at Susan-

ville by the Bunker Hill and Sullivan company, the owners of the property, is complete and is at present engaged in making its initial run on rich ore taken from the famous Susanville mine. The mill is supplied with eight stamps and rolls and other late improved machinery that gives it a daily capacity of from 75 to 100 tons of ore. The ore is conveyed to the mill from the mine some distance by means of a tramway which is kept busy in supplying the mill with ore from the mine. Before the present owners acquired this property, a large amount of ore from this mine was shipped direct to the Tacoma and San Francisco smelters. Owing to the heavy expense of handling the ore in this manner, the ore was carefully sorted and only the richest prepared for shipment. The new mill just erected will reduce the large amount of second grade ore that had accumulated during the past three years, and only the concentrates will in the future be shipped to a smelter. The present company has commenced work on a tunnel which is to be driven from the millsite to the shaft, striking the latter 500 feet from the surface. This tunnel will be about 500 feet long when completed, and will be the means for working the entire property. Full shifts will be employed there until the work is finished. The Badger mine will be developed at a rapid rate by its present owners, and Grant county people need not be surprised to see this mine develop into one of the greatest producers on the coast.—Blue Mountain Eagle.

"Now is the Appointed Time."

The O. R. & N. Co. has just issued a handsomely illustrated pamphlet entitled, "Oregon, Washington and Idaho and their resources." People in the east are anxious for information about the Pacific northwest. If you will give the O. R. & N. company agent at Baker City a list of names of eastern people, who are likely to be interested, the booklet will be mailed free to such persons. Yours truly, A. L. Craig, General Passenger Agent.

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