

BUCKEYE WILL NOW BE DEVELOPED ON BIG SCALE

W. F. Kippen, of Spokane, arrived in Sumpter today. He and some other prominent mining men of Spokane have had a bond on the Buckeye group of claims, Cracker Creek district, owned by Messrs. Gleason and Doane, for some time past. For a month or more Mr. Kippen was at the property, exploiting it, to see if it is what they want. It is.

He is now here to develop it in to a mine. To a Miner representative he stated:

"I have not yet decided definitely on a plan of development and there is very little I can tell you for publication. For the next few weeks I will have my hands full getting ready to work during the winter, building bunk and boarding houses, getting in supplies and doing the hundred and one things necessary for work on a property in a snow country.

"We are now running a tunnel on

the vein and are taking out some ore, which at present is largely free milling. A portion of this, that of the higher grade, I will ship to the smelter here. The other will remain until we put in our own reduction plant. I leave for the mine in the morning and will at once start work on the buildings. The underground work will, of course, be continued."

Some remarkably rich ore has been taken from the Buckeye; pan tests running as high as \$600 a ton in free gold. This ore shoot was uncovered high up the hill and only a shallow shaft was sunk there. Considerable ore was taken out and the gold extracted with mortar and pan. The tunnel now being driven is to get under that shaft at depth.

For a year or more this property has attracted envious attention from mining men and one attempt was made to jump it, which attempt, by the aid of guns and the court, was frustrated.

STATISTICS SHOW MINING PROFITS

Bulletin No. 9, "Mines and Quarries," issued by the Census bureau, supplies some figures that, when analyzed are exceedingly interesting. It gives "statistics for all mines and quarries, and petroleum and natural gas wells that were in operation during any portion of the calendar year ending December 31, 1902," and although already "ancient history," as is customary, perhaps unavoidably, with all mining and statistical information furnished by the government, is yet the source from which some valuable lessons may be drawn. It need only be remembered that a similar presentation for 1903 would be a still more conclusive argument in favor of mining, from the fact that last year there was far greater activity than during 1902.

In that year the number of mines, quarries and wells was 151,516; of operators, 46,858; of salaried officials, clerks, etc., 38,128; of wage earners (average for year), 581,728; total value of all minerals, \$884,040,869. Out of this total, the amount of wages paid to wage earners, salaried officials, etc., was \$408,980,125, and the cost of supplies and materials, contract work and miscellaneous expenses, reached \$216,264,618, or a total of \$625,245,130, thus leaving a profit balance of \$258,795,739 to be divided between the 46,858 operators, the term "operator" representing the individual, company or corporation that controls the mine. An "operator," therefore, in some instances stands for scores, or hundreds, of stockholders.

It should be noticed that the above showing is made by productive mines, etc., alone. There were, in addition, 3,650 "operators" engaged entirely in development work,

who employed on the average 13,638 wage earners and paid \$12,801,935 in wages.

The 46,458 producing operators thus made a profit, over and above the cost of production, of about \$5,523 apiece, which does not seem a very large sum, and yet, when the great number of "one-man" mines and very small undertaking, is taken into consideration, makes a very fair average profit. In this summation, moreover, has been included the very large number of operators, with their relatively low production, comprised in the oil and coal fields and the stone quarries, whose number largely exceeds all others.

Let us take only the operators in copper, gold and silver, lead and zinc, who number 3,695, or 2 1/2 per cent only of the total number of operators, while their products are 18.6 per cent of the whole value, or when we include \$87,214,452, the value of refined products of gold, silver and other metals, not considered in the census table, over twenty-eight per cent of the total value. Then the result is very different; the individual profits are about \$36,205, which makes quite a respectable, showing.

In other words the producing gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc mines of the United States averaged in 1902 a profit for their owners of over \$36,000 a piece, or \$3,000 per month for each one over and above all expenses.

We have not been able to obtain similar comprehensive tables for another business carried on in this country, and consequently cannot make comparisons. We do not hazard error, however, when we declare that no other class of business or enterprise whatsoever carried on in the United States can make so satisfactory a showing, and especially so when we consider the marked advance made in every department of the mining industry since the period for which the latest available data at hand—namely, 1902.

We assert again, as we have in the past, without fear of successful ref-

utation, that mining investments when judiciously entered into, offer at once the safest and most profitable method for the employment of capital.—Mining and Engineering Review.

OFFICIAL RECORDS.

The following instruments were filed at the court house in Baker City for record yesterday:

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

DEEDS.

Jan 1, '02—Geo. F. Johnson and wife to Fred L. Horan, 1 acre in S. E. 1/4 S. E. 1/4 Sec. 6 T. 8 R. 42 E.; \$1.

March 3—R. C. Baker to W. H. Hewitt, se 1/4 Sec. 23 T. 11. R. 37; \$1.

April 30—Thos. Segourney and wife to D. S. Reeves, lot 17 block 2 South Baker addition; \$200.

September 19—Warren and Anna A. Crow estate to H. D. Greshong, 160 acres in Sec. 32 T. 12 R. 44 E.; \$225.

June 4—R. P. Anderson and A. Long to E. and Nora Rencehausen, lots 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, and 12 block 1 Long's addition to Haines; \$120.

Aug. 2—M. H. Allen and wife to W. J. Robertson, 22 acres in Sec. 20 T. 9 R. 37 E.; \$400.

Sept. 21, 1900—B. W. Levens and wife to M. L. Keizur, lots 1 and 2 block 45 Levens 2nd addition to Baker City; \$1.

Sept. 17—M. L. Keizur and wife to G. R. Hanna, same; \$450.

Sept. 17—Hewitt Land company to Hewitt-Bell Timber company, 2,440 acres in T. 10 Ranges 38 and 39 E.; \$50,000.

MINING MATTER.

DEEDS.

September 3—Henry Halsey to Harmon Caldwell, bill of sale to mining claim on Clark creek, provided note be paid in one year, \$20.

Sept. 20—M. A. Williams to Carrie E. and Geo. T. Simpson, Uncle Sam and 4 other quartz claims; \$1.

Sept. 20—C. E. and Geo. T. Simpson to M. A. Williams, Volunteer and 4 other quartz claims; \$1.

Sept. 20—J. H. Hibbs, et al, to Whipple Gulch Mining and Milling company, Jap and Atlas and Dr. Brown quartz claims; \$1.

THE WORLD'S PRODUCTION

The United States treasury department recently issued a circular giving much valuable information in regard to the production of precious metals, the coinage of metals, etc. The following abstract gives the salient points touched upon:

With regard to gold. In 1903 the world's output was 15,963,750 fine ounces, worth \$330,000,000, against \$96,200,000 in 1873. Of silver the output was 170,000,000 fine ounces, worth \$91,800,000, but of a so called "coinage value" of \$219,797,900. The world's coinage of gold in 1902 was \$220,405,125, against \$466,110,614 in 1899 and \$257,630,802 in 1873. Coinage varies greatly with the years, the value in 1874 falling suddenly to \$135,778,387 and in 1886 to \$94,642,700. Much gold is used in the form of bullion and an increased

quantity is consumed in the arts.

In the United States the gold output in 1903 was about \$74,428,000; of silver, \$30,520,700 worth, of a "coinage value" of \$73,076,100. In 1902 the United States produced \$80,000,000 worth of gold; Australasia, \$81,578,000; Canada, \$20,741,200; Mexico, \$10,153,100; Africa, \$39,023,700; China, \$8,731,800; British India, \$9,588,100, and Russia, \$22,533,800. South Africa at present is producing gold at the rate of about \$30,000,000 a year, the Transvaal and Rhodesia both having greatly increased their output. The gold standard is now established in all countries except certain of the Central American states, China, Mexico and the Straits settlements. Mexico and some of the states of Central America are contemplating the adoption of the gold standard. The stock of gold of the United States at the end of 1902 is put at \$1,248,000,000, or \$15.64 per capita, the per capita of silver being \$8.44, and paper \$5.71; total, \$29.79. The per capita of gold in Great Britain is put at \$13.18; in Australia, \$23.38; in the Transvaal, \$24.33; in France, \$24.36; in Germany, \$13.54.

Owing to the prosperity of India and the increased demand, silver has recently been increasing in value. The entire stock of the white metal in the United States at the end of 1902 was worth, at the market price, about \$282,660,000. The amount of silver certificates outstanding in July last was \$462,578,715; of silver dollars, \$71,561,684. The silver back of the aggregate of \$534,000,000 is, at the present ratio, worth about \$223,000,000. The world's entire stock of silver at present is supposed to be about \$3,634,000,000 against \$1,817,900,000 in 1873; of gold about \$5,382,000,000, against \$3,045,000,000 in 1873.

Crane Flat Contract.

A. W. Ellis, of Sumpter, was yesterday awarded the contract for excavating a pool for the big Burch & Burbridge dredge at the Crane Flat placer diggings. The contract calls for the moving of approximately 5,000 yards of gravel and earth. Bids were called for through an advertisement in the Daily Miner. A. W. Ellis submitted the lowest and best figures and was awarded the work by A. Burch, who is in the city. Mr. Ellis this morning started his grading outfit and equipment toward Granite. The contract calls for completion of the work at the earliest possible date. The figures involved in the work have not been made public.

The Adelene Shut Down.

Manager C. M. McClaren, of the Adelene group of mines on Rock creek, has suspended operations for the winter, and has moved to Baker City. Forty feet of crosscut tunneling through tremendously hard country rock was the principal work done. The Adelene's showing is exceptionally good, and when the cross-cut strikes the vein a neat bit of stoping ground will have been developed.

Wood for the Oro Fino.

A contract for cutting and delivering 500 cords of wood has been awarded by the Oro Fino mine, near Alamo, to Harvey Leuhart and Andrew Crouse, of Granite. The contract calls for hurry.