

## GEISER'S ADVICE WORTH MONEY

### Man-About-Town Gossips About the Unexplained Shut-Down of the Bonanza.

"I see by a Baker paper," said the man-about-town to a Miner reporter this morning, "that W. H. Thatcher, general manager of the Bonanza mine, is back from the east. I understand that he attended a meeting of the board of directors at Pittsburg. It was quite probably a somewhat stromy session. Something will probably eventuate in a few days.

"Dane rumor says that not long ago Al Geiser told Thatcher that he (Geiser) would show him (Thatcher) the payshoot at the Bonanza if he (Thatcher) would pay him (Geiser) one thousand plunks in cold cash. Rumor further says that Thatcher refused—whether because he already knows where the payshoot is, or because he don't want to know, remains secret. It seems that ever since Geiser sold the Bonanza for half a million, he has been frequently asked for advice as to proper development plans. All of this advice was given 'free gratis for nothing,' notwithstanding the fact that during one month two years ago the Bonanza forty-stamp mill pounded out \$102,000 in gold. It is but natural that Geiser should value his advice and that he should refuse further to act as consulting engineer sans salary and sans glory.

"As a mater of fact, I don't believe that Thatcher needs to be told where the Bonanza pay is. He knows. And why the Bonanza is shut down is too deep for me."

#### Ore Body 31 Feet Wide.

Tom Kennerly was in town today from the Oregon King, leaving on the afternoon train for Baker City. He has crossed the vein on that property, which is thirty-one feet from one clearly defined wall to the other, with quartz the entire distance. The Miner has several times had occasion to mention the fact that the entire face of the tunnel in the "O. K." was in a solid body of handsome ore, characteristic of the Cracker Creek district. Mr. Kennerly says the entire thirty-one feet is the same, with scarcely a break. The values, while not high, are very encouraging, sufficient to pay a profit on milling, and he hopes that any shot may break into a bonanza shoot.

#### Balliet Pleads Guilty.

Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 16.—Luton Balliet, who gained notoriety as the promoter of the White Swan Mining company, of Oregon, today suddenly terminated his second trial in the federal court for fraudulently using the mails, by pleading guilty to the offense. The first trial two years ago ended in a conviction after a hard fight, but a second trial was ordered by the higher courts.

## INCIDENT IN THE MINING HISTORY

### Retold Tale of Marvelously Rich Golconda Ore and of an Old Regime.

"The pending reorganization of the Golconda mining company recalls to mind an incident in the rather marvelous history of that property," said a mining man in the lobby of the Hotel Sumpter this morning. "When the Englishes, pere et file, bought the Golconda, it was a mere prospect. The Englishes were fresh from a series of mining successes over in British Columbia. They had a whole lot of ready money and were plungers. It seems that the older English had been connected at some time or other with a northern gold mine upon which a chlorination plant had been successfully operated. He decided that a simliar plant would be a success at the Golconda. The result of this decision was that \$130,000 were expended in the erection of a magnificent mill building and in the installation of a 'stink factory,' technically known as a bromide-chloride quartz mill. It required but a few days of operation of this plant to determine that the process was in no way a success when applied to Golconda ore. The \$130,000 investment was therefore so much 'dead horse.' The development of the mine proceeded, however, and in due time a Bryan mill and a battery of five stamps were installed.

"In the fall of 1899 the entire western mining world was startled by a rich strike in the Golconda, unparalleled by northwestern mining history. A shoot of free gold ore was opened, assaying variously from \$10,000 to \$200,000 per ton. A fourteen-hour mill run of five-stamps on this character of ore netted \$12,000 worth of gold bullion—exclusive of the inevitable loss of value in milling such marvelously rich rock. To obviate this waste, the ore was sorted and shipped—in eighty pound sacks, worth close to \$1,000 per sack on a general average. Jack English was manage, Frank Stickney superintendent. Both were mighty good fellows—liberal to a fault. Visitors came from all parts of the camp to see the gold studded Golconda quartz. Each visitor was given a souvenir by the management, until Golconda ore specimens—thousands of dollars worth—became as common as mud. No private mineral collection was complete without a chunk of Golconda ore, which, as described by an Alaska miner, was 'gold carrying some quartz.' It is safe to estimate that \$25,000 worth of ore specimens from the Golconda found their way into outside hands. A great deal was also stolen by underground miners.

"I would like to see the Golconda opened up again by a strong company, as I know there is plenty of fine ore in the famous property."

#### Deed to Downie Ditches.

As will be noted by a reference to

the official record of instruments filed at the Baker county court house, published in another column of The Miner, J. T. Dickson, Portland owner of the late Archie Downie placer diggings, has filed two deeds transferring to R. E. Strahorn, of Spokane, owner of the Sumpter Water and Electric Light company, the Downie water rights. The consideration named in the deed is \$11,000.

## NEW MACHINERY FOR THE UNITED-ELKHORN

Manager Edward T. Field, of the United Elkhorn Mines company, operating a certain group of claims about sixteen miles northwest of the city, including the old Baisley-Elkhorn mines, arrived here yesterday for the special purpose of personally superintending trans-shipment of the electric motors and transformers which have just arrived in a car from Schenectady, New York.

Friday of this week another car-load of machinery will arrive from Denver.

When this new electric machinery is installed, which will be during the next few days, and the new pumping arrangements are completed on the upper level, the mining operations of this property will begin by electric power and the drills in the big tunnels will be driven by compressed air furnished by the new electric power.

At present Manager Field is working three shifts in the big tunnel and making good progress with the drifting of that big hole in the mountain. Daily shipments of high grade ore are being made to the Sumpter smelter, and the returns just received from recent shipments have been satisfactory, and have exceeded in value the highest expectations of the owners of the property.

Mr. Field has begun sinking in the old shaft at the top of the mountain and will go down another 135 feet. The old workings are 1,500 feet above the new tunnel and then this shaft has been sunk as far as possible upraises will be made from the tunnel connecting with the shaft and thus forming an air conduit, providing for the safety of miners under ground.—Democrat.

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