

SILVER PEAK QUADRANGLE

A region that is constantly attracting outside attention and that may become the seat of a profitable mining industry is the Silver Peak district in southwestern Nevada. A map of this area has been made by the United States Geological Survey and the general geology of the region has been examined for the Survey by H. W. Turner, whose report has not yet been published. The district has also been visited by J. E. Spurr, of the Survey, who has recorded his conclusions in a paper on the "Ore Deposits of the Silver Peak Quadrangle, Nevada," which is included in the Survey's recent bulletin (No. 225) entitled "Contributions to Economic Geology, 1903."

Ore deposits are known to exist in several different parts of the Silver Peak quadrangle. The chief districts are the Silver Peak district proper, near the central part of the quadrangle; the Lone Mountain district, in its northwestern corner; the Windypah or Fesler district in the southern part of the Silver Peak range; and what may be called the Palmetto district on the northern slope of the mountains of that name.

The Silver Peak district contains abandoned silver and gold mines which have been considerably worked, but are still regarded as promising. The principal properties thus far developed belong to D. C. Blair, of New York. It is estimated by persons who are familiar with the mining history of this district, that the silver mines produced a gross value of \$200,000, while the Blair gold mines are estimated to have produced \$1,280,000. From the important Mary mine, situated near the Blair gold properties, John Chiatovitch, the owner, has taken out and milled \$46,000, and from other mines some \$7,000 or \$8,000. The Valcaide Brothers have also taken out and milled several thousand dollars' worth of ore. The Drinkwater group of mines, which constitute the most important part of the Blair gold properties, are estimated to have a measurable reserve of \$579,668 and a probable reserve of more than a million dollars.

In the Lone Mountain district Mr. Spurr visited the Paymaster, Esperanza, Utopia, Alpine, and Weepah mines, besides numerous prospects. The first three mines have small non-persistent quartz veins that carry rich silver sulphides with some galena, pyrite, and secondary minerals. In the Alpine mine the ore mined is mixed galena and argenticiferous lead carbonate. The workings at Weepah are very slight, consisting chiefly of a few pits showing bluish quartz mixed with limestone. From these a few tons of high-grade ore were taken, but the ore bodies could not be followed.

On the west side of the Silver Peak range near Fish Lake Valley, is a mineral district where some prospecting has been done, although it is at present deserted. The ores here are of the same type as many of those near Lone Mountain.

The Windypah or Fesler district was discovered in the winter of 1903. A great deal of prospecting has been done, but no actual mining. Three distinct classes of veins have been noted, all of which carry gold values. Such prospects of the Palmetto dis-

trict as fell within the quadrangle were examined. The principal one is the old MacNamara, located in 1880, on which assessment work has been faithfully done, but without great success.

These districts owe their recent activity directly to interest produced by the discovery of Tonopah. Many of the veins offer but slight encouragement to exploitation, but some of the prospects of Windypah district are worthy of investigation, and the Silver Peak district proper is undoubtedly a vast treasury of low-grade gold ores.

FLUSH TIMES ON THE COMSTOCK

The biggest gambling in Virginia City, Nevada, was in progress at the time the bonanza ledges on the Comstock were being developed.

For months the output from seven mines on the Comstock yielded together \$50,000 clear profit every day, John W. Mackay, James G. Fair and James Flood became multi-millionaires in fourteen months, while Sharon, Hart, Ralston, Cobb, O'Brien and a dozen other men leaped from poverty to millions in the same time. Common laborers and camp cooks of a few years before had incomes from mining stocks of \$150 to \$300 a day for two years. Lots of mining laborers who could not read or write had bank deposits in Virginia City in those wonderful days of \$10,000 to \$15,000.

It was therefore the greatest field for gamblers the world had ever seen. The largest of the fifty houses devoted to Chance was operated by Hiram Gentry and Dan E. Crittenden. They were backed by Senators Sharon and Nye, William C. Ralston and one or two millionaires. They had credit at the California bank in San Francisco for \$200,000. For about a year their daily deposits averaged \$8,000, and the expensive manner of running the house was probably never equaled. In the exclusive poker rooms bottles of champagne were opened at the expense of Gentry & Crittenden whenever a jackpot was opened. A dozen bottles of champagne were sometimes served free to an assemblage because some one told a new funny story.

The house reserved \$3,500 a month from its profits for the entertainment of its guests. On the occasion of the visit of the Duke of Sutherland to Virginia City, the bonanza firm of Mackay, Fair, Flood & O'Brien paid for 500 bottles of champagne drunk and poured on the carpets in one day and night.

Downstairs there were four large rooms and upstairs there were three. One room was especially devoted to Nevada and California state officials, senators and congressmen. Another room was for miners and cattlemen. Still another and larger room was a general gambling room for men of small stakes, who played to a \$50 limit.

The tables and chairs were of mahogany; the carpets were of the finest that money could buy in New York. The windows were of the finest French stained glass, and represented Bachanalian and Roman scenes. There were goblets of solid silver and delicate drinking vessels of glass and gold.

Poker chips in the rich mogul's

room were \$50, \$100 and \$500 each. Winnings of \$10,000 in a night or an afternoon were not uncommon. The biggest game that ever occurred in the camp was in this house in the summer of 1872. Lucky Baldwin, Henry Vance, who made a fortune with Meigs in the Andean railroad; Senators Sharon and a man from St. Louis constituted the players, who commenced at 7 o'clock in the evening and stayed until 10 o'clock the next day. Jackpots frequently started with \$1,000. One contained \$1,200 when opened, and it contained \$18,000 when won by Baldwin in another pot Sharon raised Baldwin \$4,000 at one time, and scooped it in Sharon, quit winner on that game of poker \$5,000.

OFFICIAL RECORDS.

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

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS.

DEEDS.
Wm. A. Houston to the United States, lots 1, 2 and 6, block B. M. E. Place's addition to Baker City; \$4,850.

Jesse C. Myers and wife to Newton McClanahan, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ S. 27 T. 12 R. 38, 60 acres; \$1,200.

United States to Newton McClanahan, S. $\frac{1}{2}$ of S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ and S. $\frac{1}{2}$ of S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 26 T. 21 R. 38.

Same to same N. $\frac{1}{2}$ of N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 35 T. 12 R. 38.

United States to Jonathan W. Stout, S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 27 T. 12 R. 38.

United States to Fisher Bull, S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. $\frac{1}{2}$ of S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 35 T. 12 R. 38.

N. C. Haskell, et al to Richard Grusing, lots 7 and 8 block 4 Haskell addition to Baker City; \$250.

Albert L. Weiss to Seymour H. Bell, N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 14 T. 10 R. 37; \$300.

A. H. Weaver and wife to Bernard Flynn, E. 100 feet of lot 18 block 11 original Sumpter; \$1.

G. E. Allen and wife to Bernard Flynn undivided $\frac{1}{2}$ interest in lot 4 block 36 Vinson's addition to Sumpter; \$150.

F. M. Saxton and wife to Lucretia Crosby, lots 3, 4 and 5 block B Bowden's addition to Baker City; \$50.

MINING MATTER.

DEEDS
Albert Geiser and wife to Wm. T. Young and Jno. Thomas, undivided interest in Pleasant Valley quartz claim; \$50.

Bert E. Smith to Queen of the West Mining company, quartz claim on Red Mountain; \$1.

Eugene Bartholf and wife to Sylvester Bond, 1 6 interest in Home Stake Extension quartz claim; \$1.

Receiver to Greenhorn T. & D. company, Repels lode mining claim; \$75.

Receiver to Columbia Gold Mining company, Old Middlemen and Tinhorn quartz claims and 2 millsites; \$195.

Charles M. White and wife to Bert Caviness, all interest in Leola group of 3 quartz claims; \$100.

Bert Caviness to Jos. Eustace, undivided 1-26 interest in same; \$100.

MORTGAGES.

Albert Weiss to Leonard W. Jones, 1 29 interest in Jones and Lockhart ditch; \$36.

Lucretia Crosby and husband to E. O. B. and L. A. on lots 3, 4 and 5 block B Bowden addition to Baker City; \$1,000.

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