

FOLLOW THE ORE, SAYS OLD MINER

An old Cable Cove miner and prospector who, for nearly 30 years, has been a witness to the evolution of that district from a terra incognita into one of the richest mining regions in the state, leaned back in one of those big lounging chairs in the lobby of the Hotel Sumpter last night and unburdened his mind as follows:

"It makes me sick to see a steady stream of ore come down to the smelter from the Imperial mine and to strain my eyes for a sight of ore wagons from other properties in that district. A stranger would naturally conclude that the Imperial has a monopoly of all the shipping ore in the Cove, while as a matter of cold, hard, irrefutable, naked and undraped truth there are a round dozen of mines up there in the Cove hills that ought right now to be shipping ore as rich if not richer than the Imperial. I know what I'm talking about. I know that there has never been a failure in Cable Cove when a surface showing was followed down. I don't mean to say that any fellow can paste a notice near some surface croppings and burrow around near the top, drifting blindly on those narrow little knife-blade streaks of pay ore, which show at the top of almost every Cove fissure, and open out a body of shipping rock. But I do say that a McEwen or an Arthur can look over the ground and deduce a geological formula that will work out, if they only go DOWN!

"Over there in Dunphy's is a chunk of Imperial ore—as pretty a piece of solid mineral as ever came out of the ground anywhere—taken from a shaft sunk on a 32-inch vein at the Imperial, which, on the surface, was about as thick as a sheet of paper. I don't know what theory Manager McEwen and Superintendent Arthur, of the Imperial, are working on, but the work they are doing shows that they think as I do, that the rich Imperial vein, where the fine shipping ore is now being mined, is merely an off-shoot from or a feeder of the main Eagle vein, which is a great big fissure of comparatively low grade ore, and which is no doubt the mother lode of the whole district. They are drifting down hill from a level in the Imperial shaft—losing depth all the time, but getting ore—which is the main idea, anyhow—and are headed toward the junction of the Eagle and Imperial. They are following the ore—the best, surest, simplest and most scientific system of mining ever deduced from geological text books or from unnumbered years of practical experience.

"Contrast, if you please, this system with that in vogue among other Cable Cove operators, who have driven, or are driving, long crosscut tunnels, eating up a fortune in dead work, when they might put a \$100 whim at work and with two shifts of three men each sink on their vein until the pay widens—which it invariably does—and begin taking out and shipping enough ore to pay operating expenses and leave a snug

margin of profit. Of course, it is a great thing to have it widely advertised that Manager Blank, of the Dashdash mine, has undertaken one of the most gigantic pieces of mining engineering in the west—the driving of a 6000-foot crosscut tunnel to attain a depth of 2000 feet. Depth on what? Country rock? How does Manager Blank know that he will find his ore in 6000 feet? And what reason has he to hope that his stockholders will keep on putting up for a couple of hundred thousand dollars' worth of dead work, the issue of which is problematical from a pay-ore point of view?

"Yes; it's certainly great to be pointed at as a man who is conducting an unparalleled mining engineering experiment, but how much better it is to be manager of a property which is steadily shipping pay ore in sufficient quantities to sustain a payroll of about 30 men, and to permit of stockholders to clip a regular coupon and have a good-sized look-in for their money. And this sort of thing results from just one simple system—following the ore.

"This system if applied to a dozen Cable Cove mines that I could name would result in making imperative the doubling of the capacity of the Sumpter smelter and the construction of an ore-hauling railroad to Cable Cove.

"Now, if there's any man present who feels called upon to submit statements, in refutation of what I have said, I am ready to listen."

There was silence in the group of mining men who had gathered to hear the instructive monologue of the old prospector, who waited patiently for a full minute, then spat copiously at—no; in—a ten-foot away cuspidore, and ambled triumphantly into the buffet.

LOST CABIN MINE FOUND IN IDAHO

Representative Morgan, of Custer county, Idaho, in the course of a conversation on lucky mining strikes, gave the details of what he regards as a very promising discovery not far from his home town of Mackay, which was reported to him shortly before he went to Boise, says a report from that town.

A number of years ago, according to Mr. Morgan, a miner died at Salmon City from mountain fever, shortly after having made a strike of remarkable richness. He was unable to give any of the particulars of his strike, but left a map behind him, from which efforts almost without number have been made to locate his one-time property.

None of his friends knew the location of the supposedly rich mineral deposits, but it was known that he had erected a cabin on the property, wherever it was, and in course of time this "lost cabin" became

BIG ORE BODY AT MOUNTAIN VIEW

It is reported around town today that another rich strike has been made in the Mountain View mine, one of more than ordinary significance. The Miner has been unable to secure an authoritative statement of the details, but learns that it is a large body of high grade shipping ore, found in an open cut high up the hill.

It is stated that Dr. Techow, the superintendent, has for several weeks past been endeavoring to demonstrate whether or not a theory which he conceived was correct. It was known that on the property there is

a slate and granite contact. His idea was that the ledge from which he has been taking ore either trended towards the contact, or else it is an off-shoot from that vein. To test this theory, he has made a series of open cuts along the contact, and several days since uncovered a new and rich ore body.

Yesterday two four-horse wagon loads of his ore was brought to the smelter here. It is said that a couple of shots will knock down a wagon load, which is shipped without sorting. Most of the other ore from this mine is concentrated before being shipped.

very well known all through Lemhi and Custer counties.

John W. Swauger, a rancher on Lost river, a short distance below Mackay, now reports that he has found the cabin and that the minerals found near by are indeed rich. He in turn has refused to divulge the exact whereabouts of the "lost cabin," but says that he found it in an old dry gully not far from Deer creek, where none had ever before looked for it.

Swauger, so Morgan states, is quite wealthy and cannot be suspected of reporting a "fake" discovery for purposes of inducing financial aid. He has always been respected and his word in the community is good. For these reasons the statement made by Swauger to Morgan and a few others as to the character of the ore found are regarded by him as quite reliable, barring the possibility of Swauger himself being mistaken.

Swauger states that the old cabin was partially buried under an immense log that had toppled over on top of it. By digging down under this log, however, he had secured access to a small boulder of great richness, the ore running up into the hundreds of dollars. This boulder, it is assumed, must have come from somewhere in the neighborhood of the cabin, but the lode has not been discovered.

In the vicinity of the cabin, however, is a large body of ore of free milling character. While this assays some \$3 or \$4 silver, its principal value is in gold, of which there was in the piece assayed for Swauger, according to his report, almost an ounce to the ton. There seems an almost inexhaustible quantity of this ore.

DISTANT GOLD FIELDS LOOK GREEN, CHANCES AT HOME

From time to time the Mining Review has commented upon the prevailing tendency in mining circles, to ignore conditions and possibilities near at hand, while clinging to the belief that bonanzas were to be found in regions isolated and at a considerable distance from home; the result being that many good things, existing in their own immediate vicinity, have been overlooked and neglected by mining men.

The fact that men are inclined to "pass up" the good things at home because of the ever-present desire to prospect in localities beyond the horizon, leads to many really amusing incidents in connection with the various phases of the mining industry of the west, one of which is that one man, in his search for deposits of the precious metal, will meet with success almost in the door-yard of another man, who is prone to confine his prospecting to distant fields; and who, perchance, within a short distance of the home of the first miner, has also been successful in his search for hidden wealth.

To show how good prospects are often overlooked at home, we have only to call the attention of reports coming from the new camp of Bullfrog, in southern Nevada; a locality that is attracting a great deal of attention at the present time, because of the very important discoveries made in that section of late; and it is claimed that the original Bullfrog discovery was made within a mile of the home of an old rancher and prospector, who had lived in that locality for many years. This old veteran, it is claimed, has annually made prospecting expeditions to regions remote from his home, little thinking for a moment that the country surrounding his ranch was mineral-bearing, or that it would ever be productive of gold galore. And yet, under his very nose, a Golconda camp has been discovered and established by strangers, and ground that he never took the trouble to examine, to investigate, has proven to be rich in its deposits of the precious metal.

This, another instance of Green Pastures Beyond, and shows very clearly that in almost any section of the inter-mountain region it is not necessary to go a great distance from home to find a good prospect, to discover mineral-bearing ground that is possessed of value.—Salt Lake Mining Review.

Don't Go to St. Louis

"Till you call at or write to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad, Office 134 Third Street, Portland, Oregon. Low rates to all points East, in connection with all transcontinentals.

W. S. ROWE, General Agent,
Portland, Oregon.