

Pre-School Children Examined



Scores of youngsters who will go to school for the first time this fall were examined this week at the Klamath county health unit in a program sponsored by the PTA. Known as the Summer Roundup, the pre-school examinations were conducted by local physicians and dentists, who donated their time. The pictures show, right, Lewis Gerber receiving a stethoscope examination from Dr. Dean H. Osburn. Left, Dr. John A. Negreski, dentist, examining Diann Smith while her father, A. W. Smith, watches at left.

Boyle's Column

The Hardest Thing To See In A Gold Mine Is Gold

LEAD, S. D., May 6.—A gold miner is about as likely to see an elephant underground as he is gold.

And if he did see it he probably wouldn't recognize it. This is one of the oddities of digging out the yellow metal that gives the boys at Fort Knox something to guard and provides the nation's dentists with something to fill a tooth with besides an ache.



HAL BOYLE

It is very rare to find free specks of gold," said Harlan Walker, assistant general manager of the Homestake mine, largest in the Americas.

"Miners can work years and never see any."

Many miners can't even determine ore-bearing rock from waste or "country rock." Sites worth working are outlined by skilled mining engineers.

Gold mining is an intricate industry comparable in many ways to

an automobile factory. It takes many skills to glean from one ton of ore its final product—barely enough gold to make a man's wedding ring. And it may cost \$200,000 or more to blast through country rock to reach an ore body worth working.

Put Back

Practically everything taken out of the mine is put back in with one noteworthy exception—the gold. After the ore has been crushed and passed through meshes of a screen finer than the sifting cloth used in flour mills, the waste sand is pumped back into the mine as "fill" to prevent wall collapses.

Gold miners are a hardy, snuff-checking crew who hold a high disdain for coal mines. They work a seven-hour, six-day week and the top workers earn \$12 to \$15 a day. They live a mile above sea level here and work a mile from their homes—straight down.

Their chief task is drilling seven-foot holes in the tunnel face and stuffing them with dynamite which they set off at the end of their shift. Laborers then do the mucking—

loading the blasted ore with power shovels.

Some idea of the size of the operations in this massive mine that has produced \$460,000,000 in 70 years.

It produces 1,400,000 tons of ore in a normal year.

It pumps out 500 gallons of water a minute and pumps in 225,000 cubic feet of fresh air.

It has 37 levels, 120 miles of tunnels.

It burns 773 miles of fuse a year to set off 3,000,000 sticks of dynamite—some 100,000 pounds a month.

It uses 1,000,000 feet of timber a month.

Its giant main hoists can haul up nine-ton loads of ore at three times the speed of the fastest passenger elevators in New York skyscrapers.

In Slump

At present the gold mining industry in the United States is in a slump. The Homestake mine is operating at only about 60 per cent capacity.

"Before the war the United States produced 14 per cent of the world's gold each year," Walker said. "Now it produces only about five per cent."

"The reasons? The present ceiling price on gold, shortage of labor, higher costs and high taxes."

It takes 20 days and incredible labor to harvest from 35 tons of underground ore in the mine one pound or less of gold bullion that emerges from the refinery.

But Walker is weary of people who say:

"Why go to all that trouble? It is just taken out of one hole here and put back into another hole at Fort Knox."

His reply:

"If the gold wasn't mined the country would soon find out how important it is. It has many industrial uses—and there never was a nation that felt it had enough for money."

One indication of its value: They can burn the suit of overalls worn by a refinery worker here and recover enough gold dust to buy three new suits.

Play Ball! GEMS Tonight!



Tule Assembly To Entertain

TULELAKE, May 6.—The Tulelake Assembly, Order of the Rainbow for girls which is supporting two war refugee girls, one in France

and one in Finland will entertain Sunday, Mother's Day at a silver tea in the annex of the Tulelake Community Presbyterian church. Hours will be from 2 to 4 o'clock, California time. The program will include a musi-

cal number by Helene Fischer; vocal number, Mrs. Ward Devlin; piano number, Sally Thomas; vocal numbers by Janice Schroeder and a piano selection by Rosalie Wilkinson. A group of Girl Scouts will present a skit.

Mothers of the Rainbow girls will be especially honored but anyone interested is cordially invited to attend and support the worthy cause of the tea.

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