

How Goldfield, Richest of the New Camps Was Found

GOLDFIELD'S OUTPUT 1904—

One Year.

Jumbo (shipping).....	\$1,200,000
Jumbo (milling).....	250,000
Combination (shipping).....	250,000
Combination (milling).....	250,000
January (shipping).....	250,000
January (milling).....	250,000
Florence (shipping).....	250,000
Florence (milling).....	250,000
Kendall (shipping).....	250,000
Kendall (milling).....	250,000
St. Ives.....	250,000
Quartzite.....	250,000
Tonopah Club.....	250,000
Vernal No. 2.....	250,000
Lone Star.....	250,000
Clamont.....	250,000
Velvet.....	250,000
Total.....	\$3,563,000

CRIPPLE CREEK'S OUTPUT—

Three Years.

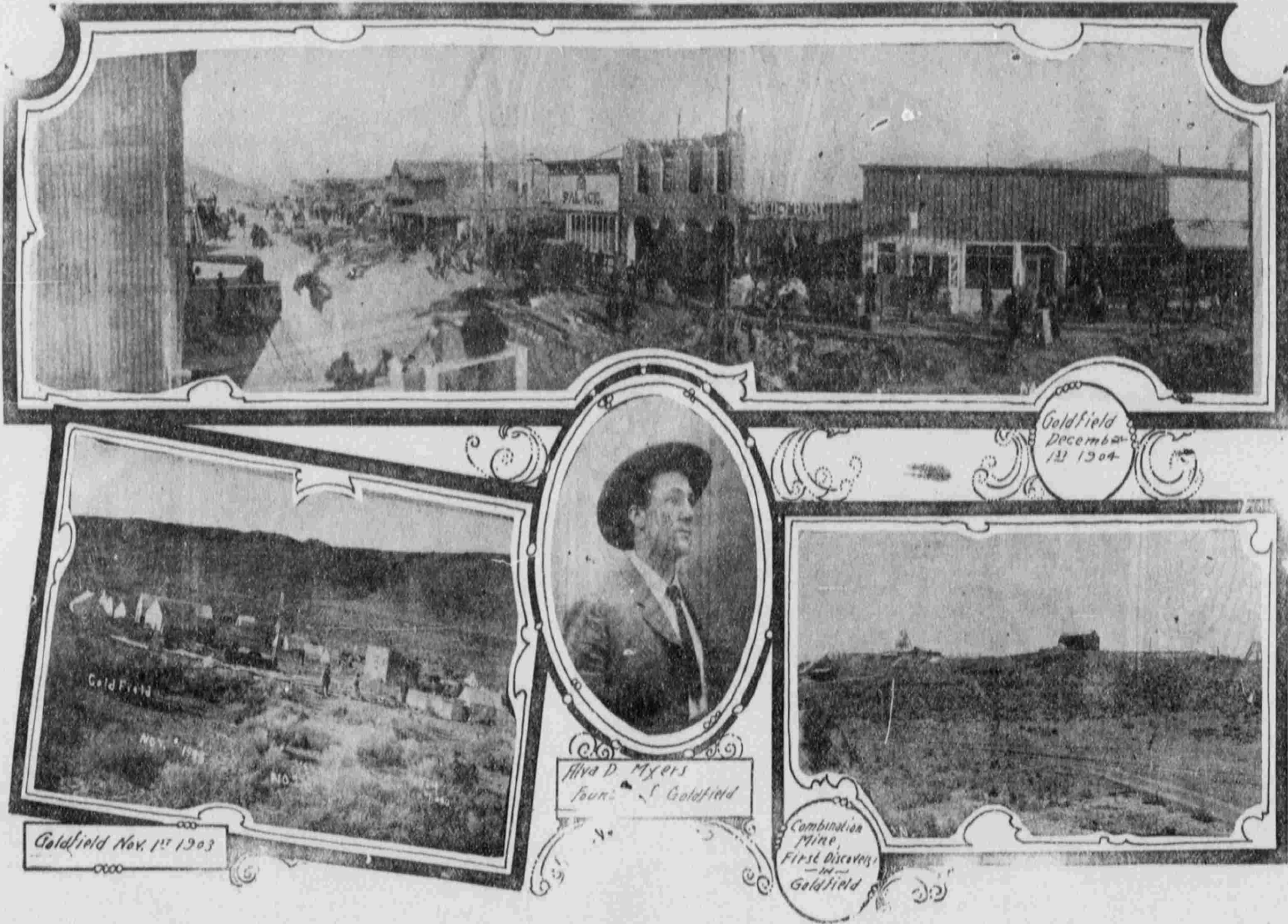
1891—Year of discovery.....	\$ 200,000
1892—Second year.....	400,000
1893—Third year.....	2,600,000
Total, three years.....	\$3,200,000

HERE are two mining districts in this country which have been properly named, one was Leadville and the other Goldfield. What a wonderful record Leadville has made during the past 27 years with its output of over \$300,000,000, and today still the most substantial mining camp in the United States, as shown by the strikes made during the past 90 days which are the largest in its history. And yet strange as it may seem, when the writer went to that remarkable camp in 1879, there were quite as many people coming out as were going in, and the festive "knocker" could be found on every street corner and in every place of business. All kinds of remarks were made, the formation wasn't right, the veins were flat and not fissures; the ore was in deposits and could not hold out, and all manner of things were said condemning it—and yet its record speaks for itself.

A little over a year ago when Goldfield was discovered it was said that the veins were superficial and all on the surface, but it did not take long to disillusion the doubting Thomases. When the combination began taking out ore and shipping it and getting almost fabulous returns for it, followed by the Jumbo, January, Kendall, Florence and the others, it became an indisputable fact that here was the richest district on the surface at least, ever found in all the land or ever known to mining history.

THROWING IN COLOR.

The tendency to exaggerate a discovery of this kind is quite natural and



SOME SALT LAHERS NOW IN GOLDFIELD.

The following is a partial list of the Salt Lake colony in Goldfield: F. H. Lathrop, Vision P. Strang, Will Strang, A. H. Mayne, Joe Enzensperger, Frank Enzensperger, T. P. Hines, M. L. Ellinger, W. F. Mitchell, W. F. Zinn (Ogden), Zeb. Kendall (Lehi) Dick Colburn, Joe Morris, H. J. Sheridan, W. H. Clark, Henry Miles, John T. Donnellan, Bill Stewart, E. M. Binford, Judge W. A. Sherman, J. A. Kirby, George Bedford, Charles Varian, Jr., Arthur Hudson, John Robinson, Fred Mitchell, A. J. Haby, W. E. Bragdon, L. F. Backbank, J. H. Griffin, G. R. Potter, Wm. Bolligert, John Peters, Thos. Haywood, Julius Sney, S. W. Keane, John Holly, D. C. Turner, Dr. Croxall, Mike Hennessy, Wilbur Thompson, Bert Lawrence, J. R. Bradley, Mr. Myriss, John Bruesen, A. L. Kempland and George Kempland.

claims in the vicinity. The district was named Grandpa, which title it retained for several months. Not much work was done in the claims around Grandpa, but farther south on the Combination lode, near the present town of Goldfield, Alvo D. Myers worked persistently to develop his mine, and to him is due the credit of opening the first ore in the Goldfield district.

AN INTERESTING CAMP.

A sketch of Mr. Myers and the experiences he has had in many mining camps is highly interesting. He is still a young man not to exceed 35 years of age, and began his mining experiences in Cripple Creek in 1892 where he made no money. From there he went to the Salmon river district in Idaho, afterwards returning to Cripple Creek and then back again to Salmon river. Then he enlisted in the army but not being suited to an inactive life, he managed, through favor, to be enabled to resign. He then went to Rimona, N. M., and subsequently to the San Juan country in Colorado; Butte, the Coeur d'Alenes in Idaho, Republic, Washington, British Columbia and to Sumpter, Oregon. Again he went to Montana where he worked two years, becoming an experienced assayer and mill man. He then started for Grand Encampment, but changing his mind he came to Tonopah two years ago in November. He worked in the Midway mine at Tonopah for three months and then started prospecting, but no more claims and sold out the district. While at work on the mountain side he frequently looked south and remarked to his partner that he believed a fortune was awaiting him on the other side of the range.

ARRIVAL AT GOLDFIELD.

Accompanied by his partner, Bob

deposited, that the mineral-bearing formation is accessible. At Goldfield it is exposed for a distance of eight miles long by six miles wide, and this whole area shows evidences of mineral. Mines have already been found over an area three miles north and south by three miles east and west, with a recent strike reported two miles still further east. The fact of finding veins in widely separated places shows the formation to contain a series of lodes and proves that the values are not concentrated into one large vein or dyke. Thus the chances are greater for making a large number of mines on separate properties, throughout the whole length and breadth of the Goldfield district.

values the entire width. In the Combination mine the veins range from two to 40 feet wide; the January has one vein 20 feet wide, all of which is ore. In the Jumbo the vein is smaller, being from two to 12 feet wide, but very rich. In the Florence the vein is from two to 10 feet wide, being all ore running as high as \$700 per ton across four feet of the ore. In the Tonopah Club claim a vein has been opened 25 feet wide, the lowest assay obtained across the 25 feet being \$40 and the highest assay \$500. This remarkable shoot has been opened for a length of 200 feet and retains its high values the whole distance. In the Black Butte property there is a vein 31 feet wide, giving the following values: Nine feet

has been found to a depth of 600 feet, with no diminution of values.

Goldfield has produced to date about \$3,500,000. Since the first ore was not shipped until November, 1903, and the Jumbo mine did not begin its big production until March of this year, this record is a phenomenal one and has scarcely been equaled by any other camp in the world. New strikes are being made so rapidly, and new ships coming in, that it is hardly possible to predict the total amount for the year with accuracy, suffice it to say that it will produce over twice as much in its first year as did Cripple Creek in the first two years of its existence.

GRADE IS VERY HIGH.

The grade of ore at Goldfield is very high and some wonderfully rich shipments have been made. In one of the leases on the Jumbo mine there is a breast of ore over four feet wide, averaging better than \$1,000 per ton. In another lease the owner reduced the free gold in a mortar and takes out over \$5,000 per day, which is sent directly to the mint. On the St. Ives the general ore runs \$230 per ton and the sorted ore \$1,370 per ton. On the Kendall claims, two miles north of the Jumbo, ore is sacked running \$10,000 to the ton. At the Lone Star property \$200 to \$400 ore is being sacked from about two feet of the vein, the balance of the vein being a good grade of mill ore. On the Quartzite of the Diamondfield company, over three miles from the Jumbo, and in the Combos ore is found running from \$300 to \$10,000 per ton. Recent strikes have been made on the Tonopah Club, Rose Bush, Silver Tip and other claims, which promise to equal in richness the older finds of the camp. For extent of surface showing the Tonopah Club has surpassed anything yet discovered.

BARREN AT THE SURFACE.

As a rule the veins of the Goldfield district are practically barren at the surface. It is seldom that assays of more than \$2 to \$5 can be obtained. Why this is so has not yet been explained from a geological standpoint, but it is a fact nevertheless. The rule is in gold camps that the values are concentrated near the top of the vein and are consequently higher for the first few feet, but Goldfield is the exception to the rule at almost invariably the veins are barren from six to 40 feet in depth. When the barren portion is passed through the ore will change in value suddenly from \$3 or \$4 per ton to \$100 per ton or better. This condition was particularly noticeable in the Jumbo, Florence, Combination, January and a number of other mines.

There are exceptions to this rule in the Goldfield district, such as the Velvet, Sandstorm and Tonopah Club, where the values came directly to the surface. On the other hand, in the Silver Pick property it was necessary to sink 40 feet in the vein, which gave only \$4 per ton before the ore shoot was reached, which yielded values of \$100 per ton and better.

In the Quartzite \$500 was expended before values exceeding \$300 per ton were found.

THE TOWN OF GOLDFIELD.

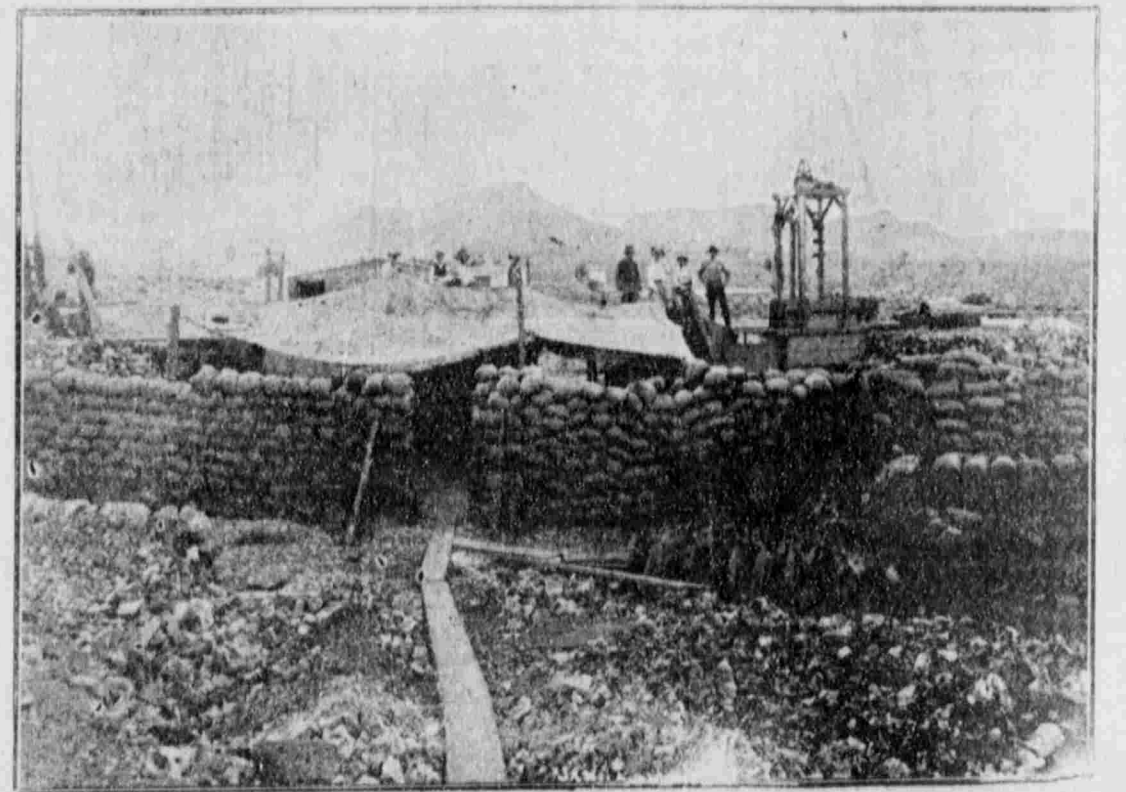
Goldfield has sprung up almost in a night and presents the same features as other new mining camps of the west. One-half the population is living in tents, as it is impossible to secure enough lumber to build houses for the accommodation of the people. Buildings are being erected every day, but it will require six months to meet the demand. There is no hotel and newcomers depend on the hospitality of some friend or may be lucky enough to secure lodging

in one of several lodging tents. A hotel company was formed during the visit of the writer to the camp recently, and the stock of \$30,000 subscribed by the citizens of the town in one day. However, it will require at least four months to complete the building, if not longer. There are several restaurants and eating houses, but customers are often obliged to wait their turn for a seat at the table.

Prices are abnormally high for all commodities, on account of the congested condition of the transportation facilities. Lumber brings \$70 per 1,000 feet and hay \$60 per ton. Cots in the rooming tents bring \$1 a night and meals from 50 cents to \$2, according to the capacity and demands of the eater. The one bath

ing. The area is so large and the discovery of the camp so recent that the claim owners have not yet had time to demonstrate the true value of the ledges. Work is going on constantly, however, and every week records a new strike in a new portion of the camp. In fact, thus far there is not one failure to record in the camp. Every place where the development work has been done to any extent or a shaft sunk to the depth of 25 or 50 feet, mineral has invariably been found.

The possibilities of Goldfield are truly great. Its production in the first year of its discovery will exceed anything yet known to the mining world. The mineral produced is very high grade and occurs in large, well defined veins.



Photographed Specially for the Christmas News.

THE GREAT JANUARY MINE AT GOLDFIELD.

in the town does a thriving business. Amusement must be made a time for each bath is limited. All baths cease at 9 p. m. and the bath room is converted into a sleeping apartment at \$2 a night.

The town has a water system conveying water by a pipe line to the various stores and residences. While the camp is located on the desert, water enough is found in springs which have their source back in the mountains, for all town purposes. It is possible that water courses will eventually be discovered sufficient to supply water for milling purposes.

IN THE DESERT.

While this portion of Nevada is a desert, in the sense that vegetation is scarce, yet the fall of rain and snow is equal to most parts of the Rocky mountain and coast regions. In this portion, however, the surface soil is loose and sandy and the water sinks into underground channels and seldom appears at all on the surface. The mineral bearing area of Goldfield has scarcely been touched in the way of doing development work and prospect-

Predictions are freely made by conservative mining men that Goldfield will surpass Cripple Creek in the way of production and may be the nucleus of a camp which will equal the famous Comstock lode in the same state, whose production is counted by the hundreds of millions.

CONTINUATION OF TONOPAH.

An account of the discovery of the great mining camp of Goldfield, Nev., is properly a continuation of the story of the discovery of Tonopah. The new camp, however, has so far outstripped Tonopah in commanding public attention that it has already left its neighbor in the distance and is forging ahead to make one of the greatest gold mining camps of late years.

Tonopah was discovered in the summer of 1890 and its success led to general prospecting further south on the great Nevada mineral belt, with the result that a number of new camps, such as Goldfield, Gold Crater and Bullfrog, have been discovered.

In May, 1903, prospectors obtained good assays from claims on the northern edge of the Goldfield district and a rush occurred from Tonopah to locate

Hart, he came over to where Goldfield new is, under contract for a company and on May 24, 1903, they located the Combination group. Hart got cold feet and sold out his interest for \$300. After this Mr. Myers was joined by his friend Thomas D. Murphy, with whom he has since been associated. The town of Goldfield as well as the district owes its name to Harry Harris who suggested it to Mr. Myers. Harris, who did not think much of the district, left it but returned again in time to make a good stake out of it.

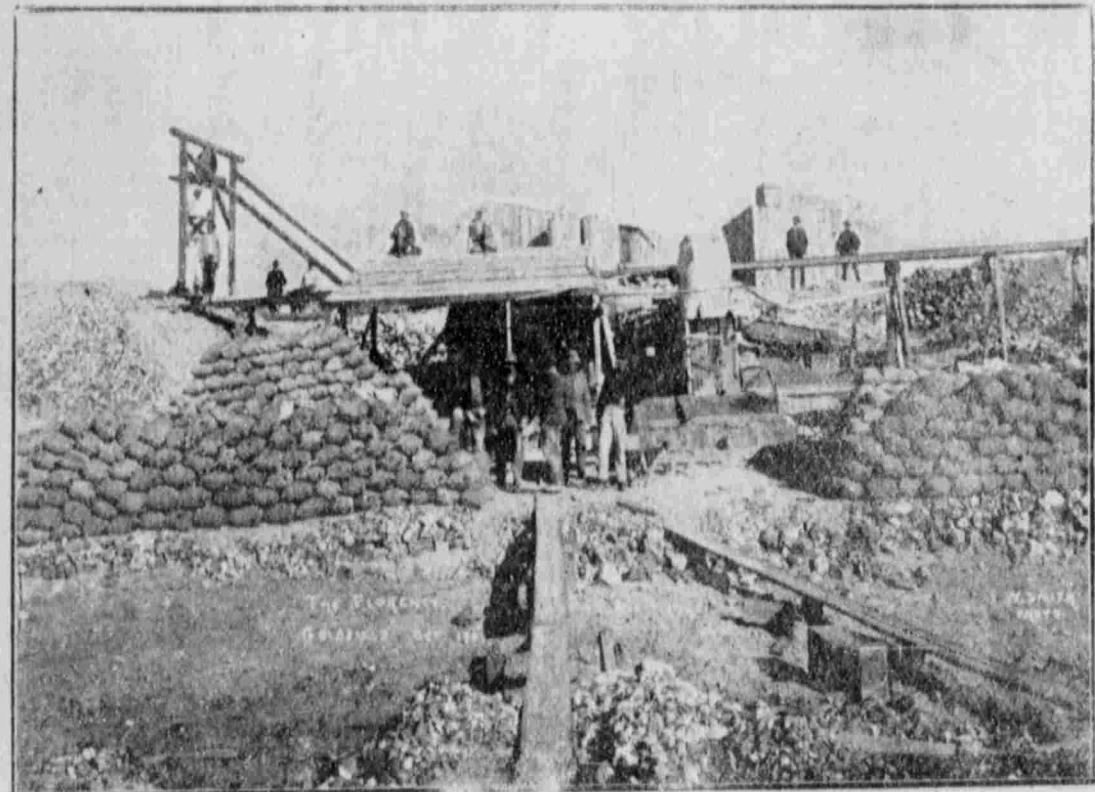
FOUND IN COMBINATION.

In September, 1903, shipping ore was found in the Combination mine. The miners and prospectors in the vicinity, believing that a camp could be established, met on the present site of Goldfield and organized a mining district and also a town, giving to both the names of Goldfield. Thus Goldfield, having opened shipping ore, became known throughout the mining world and has been growing in favor with the public, as new discoveries have been made from month to month.

The Combination mine was doped in September, 1903, to L. L. Patrick and associates for \$75,000, who paid \$5,000 down and took the balance of \$70,000 out of the mine in a very few months. It is credited to the mine with a production of over \$500,000 and is not yet 250 feet deep.

The next mine to be opened at Goldfield was the Jumbo, just east of the Combination and on a parallel vein. It is credited with producing three-quarters of a million dollars to date. The ore from this mine is very high grade, some of it running thousands of dollars per ton, and its regular grade of shipping ore runs over \$200 per ton. It is being worked by leasers, a number of whom have already made fortunes.

The Florence claim discovered ore in June, 1904, and has produced \$100,000 to date. The ore from this mine is very high grade, running over \$700 per ton. A table of the output of the Combination mine is given elsewhere and it is worthy of remark that the values of the ore found in the bottom of the shaft at 250 feet are maintaining the same values the oxidized ore did near the surface.



Photographed Specially for the Christmas News.

THE FLORENCE AND SOME OF ITS TREASURE AT GOLDFIELD.

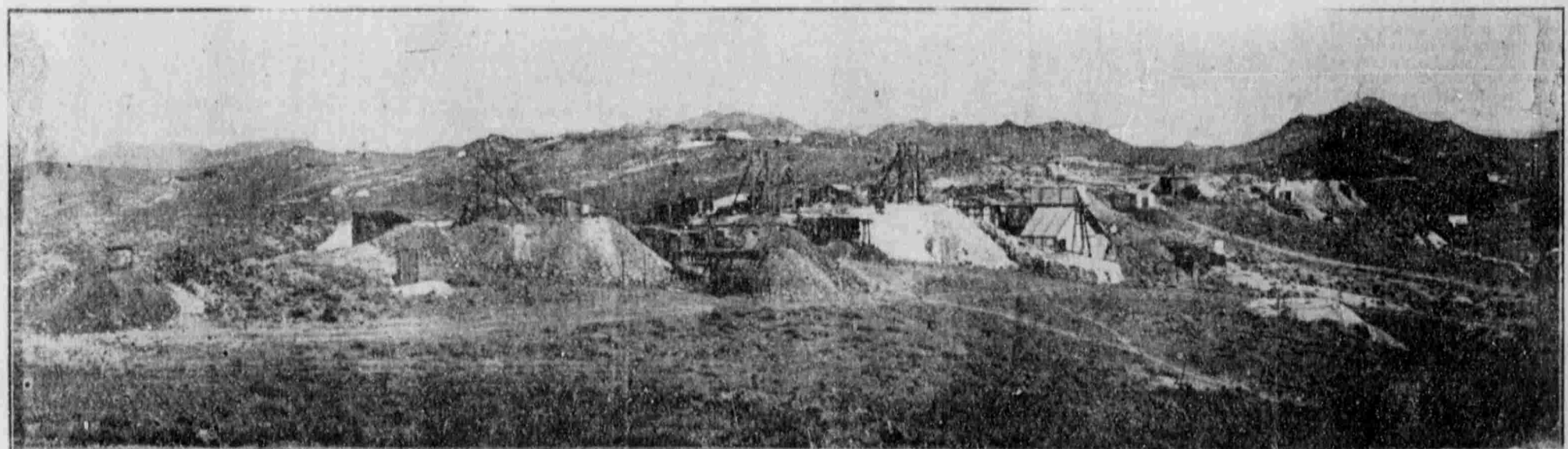
for this reason the reports which have gone out about this district have been taken with many grains of allowance by the outside world, and yet the writer is bound to say in all truthfulness that he has seen nothing which has overstated the actual facts. Speaking from an experience extending over a period of 25 years, during which he has visited most of the mining camps from British Columbia to southern Mexico, he is bound to admit that he has never seen anything to equal it, or even compare with it. And this is the consensus of opinion of all the miners and mining engineers and experts he has met while here—and they have come from all parts of the world. The strangest thing of all is the fact that he has not met a single "knocker" since he has been here. The opinion of all is that it is the greatest and richest district any of them have ever seen.

IN HEART OF MINERAL BELT.

The district seems to be situated right in the heart of a vast mineral region, as will be seen from the following: Candelaria, which was discovered in 1879 and produced many millions, is 30 miles west of here; Montezuma, also an old camp, is only eight miles southwest; Silver Peak, 25 miles southwest; Lida, 40 miles southwest; Tule canyon, 50 miles; Tokop, a district 15 years old, 60 miles south; Revelle, 30 years old, 60 miles east. In this old district Myers, Lynch and O'Meara of Salt Lake, who made a fortune in leasing on the Mibah, have just struck it in property which conservative people inform the writer has \$3,000,000 in sight. Virginia City is only about 150 miles distant, and Bodie is also not very far away.

EXPERT'S DESCRIPTION.

A good authority on the district and mineral formation has the following: The mineral belt of which Goldfield is a part extends from a point above Reno, Nevada, southeast through just state to the Colorado river. Some authorities say that this same belt extends through Arizona and into Old Mexico. The celebrated Comstock lode at Virginia City, Nevada, is located in this same belt, and are also the new mining camps of Ray, Tonopah, Klondike, Gold Crater and Bullfrog. At places this mineral belt is covered with a flow of lava, generally called malpais, which does not contain mineral, and it is only at the points where the malpais or other covering has been eroded, or was not



THE FAMOUS JUMBO CLAIM AND ITS NINE LEASES AT GOLDFIELD.