

# Bullfrog as a Nevada Mining and Railroad Center.

NEVADA has a great many wonderful mining camps and Bullfrog is one of them—it is one of the greatest. Those who made the prediction a year ago that Bullfrog would not make good are telling a different story or, in other words, they are wrong. Bullfrog has made good and how could this fact be exemplified in a better way than by the railroads? Three companies have been racing to see which would get there first and the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake has won the honor by a scratch, the event having been celebrated in a fitting manner by the citizens of this district during the closing days of last October when train service was inaugurated in twenty over the Las Vegas & Tonopah branch. Since then the line has been extended to Rhyolite, the metropolis, and is now being pushed to the northward towards Goldfield. The Goldfield & Tonopah railroad has long had Bullfrog as an object and its tracks are now laid within a few miles of Beatty and Gold Center, sister towns of Rhyolite and all only a few miles apart. By Jan. 1, it is expected, train service will be established south from Goldfield and it will then be possible to get on a train at Reno on the north and reach Beatty in the southern part of the state by rail without going the more circuitous routes through California or Utah. The Tonopah & Tidewater railroad, which will become a feeder for the Santa Fe system, is also pushing on and its builders promise to have the line connected with Bullfrog camps early next spring.

## ATTRACTED THE RAILROADS.

Unless Bullfrog can make good, it is safe to say it would not have been a center of attraction for all these railroads. Before any of them were projected the respective companies had their engineers on the ground to report on possible tonnage and every one of the men who went there for that purpose reported to their employers that the Bullfrog district had a wonderfully bright future; that its mines were extraordinarily rich and would be productive of dividends for generations to come. Then followed the campaign of construction.

## A MINING CAMP.

While Bullfrog mines are productive of a great deal of tonnage, it is not the bulk of it is low grade and will be treated on the ground and in this section it is well to state that the district is not a mining camp in the usual sense of the word. It is not a place where one would expect to find a large number of miners, but it is a place where one would expect to find a large number of railroads. The district is not a mining camp in the usual sense of the word. It is not a place where one would expect to find a large number of miners, but it is a place where one would expect to find a large number of railroads.

## BIG THINGS TRANSPIRE.

The year just drawing to a close has seen some big changes wrought in the Bullfrog district. The acquisition of the great Montgomery Shoshone mine by Charles M. Schwab and associates was the first of a series of important transactions. The purchase of the Polaris mine and its subsequent consolidation with the Montgomery Shoshone was another. The consolidation of the Elipps, Tramp and Denver mines into the Tramp Consolidated was another; with the consolidation in the development of the Elipps heavily interested. So on down the line other sales and other consolidations might be mentioned, all of which have contributed towards making a greater Bullfrog.

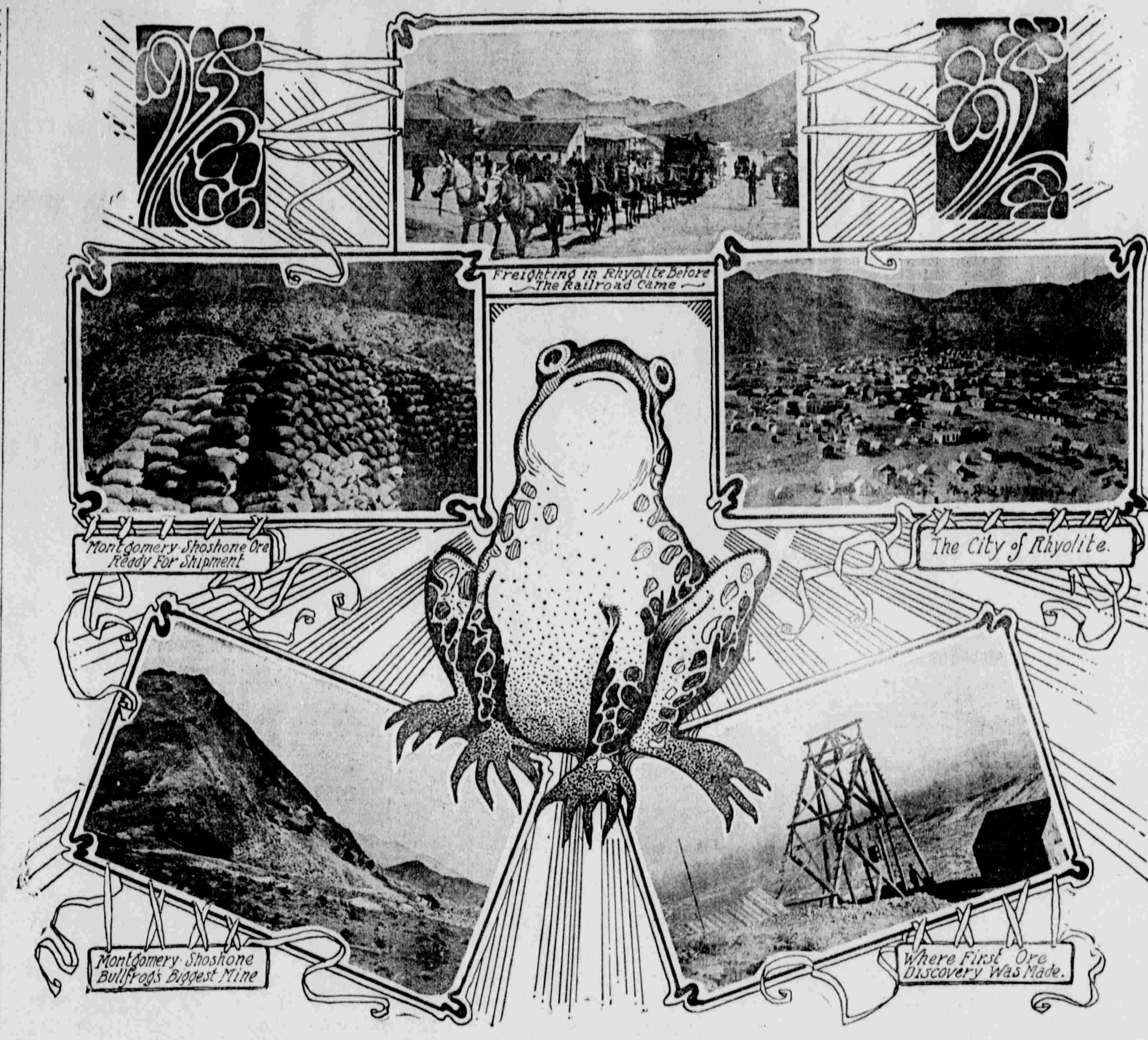
## HOW DISTRICT IS DIVIDED.

The Bullfrog district covers a particularly wide strip of country, but is divided into three main belts. The eastern belt, six miles wide, extends from Ladd mountain on the south to the Skyflower mine, six miles north of the city of Rhyolite. This belt includes the National Bank, Shoshone, Red Oak, Polaris, Elipps and Alliance mines, all of which are well advanced in stages of development. A mile west of the Shoshone is what is known as the Bonanza mountain belt and is developed for over six miles in length and includes the Tramp, Denver, Elipps, Peerless, Rush, Elipps, Goldfield and other mines of more or less importance. Two and a half miles further to the west is the Gold Bar belt which contains the Original Bullfrog, Gold Bar, Bonanza, and Daisy. This was the first part of the Bullfrog district to attract attention for it was the scene of the original discovery (the Original Bullfrog) by "Shorty" Harris and Ed L. Cross.

There are a number of other districts contiguous to Bullfrog and which really belong to the same mineral zone and among them might be mentioned the Happy Holligan mine, 11 miles west of the Montgomery Shoshone in places known as the Tramp, 100 feet; the Gold Bar and Homestead, 200 feet; and other mines it is common to find them anywhere from 25 to 50 feet apart.

## CHANGES HAVE BEEN RAPID.

When it is taken into consideration that the development of the Bullfrog district does not extend over a period of



SCENES IN THE BULLFROG DISTRICT WHICH IS ONE OF THE GREATEST OF NEVADA'S GREAT CAMPS.

16 or 17 months and that the greater part of the work has been done during the past six months, the showing is none other than remarkable. The deep-seated shaft in the district does not exceed 325 feet and there are two of them—one in the Denver, the other in the Montgomery Shoshone; the latter has begun the sinking of a large triple compartment shaft over which an immense steel hoisting plant is to be erected. The Gibraltar, Pittsburg and Rush mines are operated to over 200 feet depth; the National Bank, Gold Bar and Homestead are down 250 feet, while many others are from 150 to 200 feet.

## WHEN LUMBER WAS HIGH.

Some people have been heard to remark and perhaps complain that the camps of the Bullfrog district have not progressed more rapidly in view of the fact that there are millions of dollars worth of ore blocked out. But when one stops to consider for a moment it is easy to see that things have been moving so slow. It is probably true that a live-

her pace would have been set had the district enjoyed the rail facilities a year ago that it does today. Rhyolite is a prosperous place of close to 2,000 inhabitants and a large majority of the buildings were put up when lumber cost from \$100 to \$125 per thousand; Oct. 1 last it sold at \$85, but when the railroad reached Beatty it dropped to \$65. Carpenters commanded high wages and anyone that understands how to wield a saw and hammer is paid \$1 per hour, or \$8 for a working day. Everything else has been in proportion. But the big mining companies put off installing large equipment until the railroad came in.

## GOOD WATER SYSTEM.

Beatty, Gold Center and Rhyolite have been provided with water systems; the latter being supplied by three of the Indian Springs system and its supply from springs located five miles from town, while the Patrick and Bullfrog systems bring water down the Amargosa valley a distance of from 14 to 16 miles. People get meter measure and

are charged at the rate of 1 cent per gallon for the water used in the camp.

## PROGRESSIVE RHYOLITE.

The citizens of the twin camps are progressive, and this statement applies particularly to those whose interests are centered in Rhyolite. Here a board of trade is maintained to promote the general welfare of the town and district, and this fact was splendidly shown on the occasion of the late railroad day celebration at Beatty, when the Rhyolite people joined with their neighbor to make the affair a success. Another commendable thing they did was the placing on exhibition of an attractive assortment of ore from each of the principal mines of the district, and placing men and teams at the disposal of visitors that they might be permitted to see the mines from which the ore had come.

## TOWNS ARE UNITED.

For some time after the discovery of mineral in the Bullfrog district there was considerable rivalry between

the towns of Bullfrog and Rhyolite. But this rivalry has died out. Nearly all the business houses of Bullfrog, the town, have moved up into the business portion of Rhyolite, but the growth of the latter has been so rapid that the two places are joined.

## DISCOVERED BY UTAH MAN.

It is not generally known that one of the men who discovered ore and made the Original Bullfrog location was formerly a resident of Utah. His name is Ed L. Cross, and it was he who suggested "Bullfrog" to his partner, "Shorty" Harris, as a good name for the camp which they discovered in the latter part of July, 1904. Mr. Cross was seen by a representative of the Deseret News in Rhyolite at the time of the Beatty celebration, and was asked to give the correct version of the events leading up to the discovery which is now recorded as one of the principal events of Nevada history. "I worked in the Horn Silver mine

in Beaver county, Utah," said Mr. Cross, "about fifteen years ago. I also did some prospecting there on my own account, and was one of the locators of the Copper Mountain mine in the Beaver Lake district. At that time copper was not worth very much and things went pretty slow with me. I finally became discouraged, for everything I undertook seemed to go against me, so I pulled out for California and landed at Randsburg. I remained there and in other parts of Inyo county, until about the time the Goldfield excitement came on. I then moved my family over to Bishop, gave my wife practically all the money I had, and struck out, feeling satisfied in my own mind that I would win out somewhere. "Shorty" and I left Inyo county on July 5 and crossed Death Valley when the thermometer registered 130 degrees. We had a good outfit and a good supply of water, so we pushed through to Nevada all right and arrived in what is now the Bullfrog district, about 20 days later. We were on the ground several days before we found the Original

inal. We had no assay outfit along, but the ore looked mighty good to us, and after gathering a lot of samples we pulled out for Goldfield to have them assayed. On finding that the rock went as high as \$700 to the ton, we lost no time in getting back to camp, when we located three claims, which afterwards became the property of the Original Bullfrog company. "Cross became aware," continued "that we made out some serious mistake, that we should have located the ground. The news soon leaked out, the rush started, and the people of Goldfield and Tonopah learned that a new camp had been discovered, they wasted no time in getting into it. Several shipments have been made from the Original Bullfrog mine, and between \$700 and \$800 was realized from the first lot, the next one brought \$500. But the bulk of the Original ore is low grade, and we figure it will have to undergo full treatment. The company is in good shape financially, and is one of the several that will provide facilities for treatment of its ores in the near future.

## HOW "BULLFROG" WAS NAMED.

"But how did you happen to select 'Bullfrog' as a name for the camp?" was asked.

"Well, on the way in, 'Shorty' Harris and I were attracted by the great numbers of horned toads in the country traversed by us, and when it came to choosing a name for the camp, the presence of the numerous toads suggested 'Bullfrog.' 'Shorty' and I were agreed that some short, catchy name was the right thing, so we hit on the title the camp now bears. I have read a good many different stories as to how the camp received its name, but what I have told you is the truth about it."

## HAS MADE A FORTUNE.

Mr. Cross has made a comfortable fortune out of his Bullfrog mining ventures and investments in real estate, and is now one of Rhyolite's most esteemed citizens. He was one of the first to get into the Greenwater, California, copper district, and expects to come out of there with a big cleanup.

## SOME OF THE MINES.

The Montgomery Shoshone Mining company, now controlled by Charles M. Schwab, and under the direct management of Donald Gillies, owns the largest developed property in the camp and orders were placed recently for material and equipment for a mill capable of treating 300 tons of ore per day. It will be a combination plant, with facilities for crushing, concentrating and amalgamating. Stamps will be used for crushing and the location will be near the company's Polaris mine shaft.

The Tramp Consolidated, as stated elsewhere, is the result of a combination of the Denver, Elipps, Tramp and Hobo properties and was taken over by T. L. Oddie of Goldfield, the Brock railroad and mining interests of Tonopah and an association of Colorado Springs mining men. This mine is productive of much high grade ore, assays running as high as \$700 per ton, having been obtained.

The Gibraltar in which W. V. Rice and W. H. Clark of Salt Lake are leading spirits, has made very favorable tonnage of developed ore. There is headway and the mine shows a large some talk at this writing of another big consolidation in which the Gibraltar is to figure conspicuously.

The Rush company, also operating on Bonanza mountain, has a good development record to its credit and has encountered some very excellent bodies of milling ore.

The Montgomery Mountain mine is one of the promotions of D. H. Peery of Salt Lake who succeeded in the months ago in bringing Samuel Newhouse into the enterprise and it is now under the management of Mr. Newhouse's engineers.

The Amethyst adjoins the Montgomery Shoshone and is also controlled by the Schwab interests and in the same vicinity are several other properties which are being actively operated. Among these are the Lucky Jack, Red Oak, Providence, Pittsburg, Bullfrog, Diamondfield, and others, to mention the numerous prospects which contain excellent surface showings.

The Bullfrog Alliance has ground 3,000 feet east of the Montgomery Shoshone, the Shoshone Extension is developing its ground by shafts which go down over 100 feet. The ground owned by this company is among the early Bullfrog locations and is patented. The shaft at the National bank is 150 feet deep with the bottom showing highly altered rhyolite of very hard character. The shaft at the Yankee Girl is below 200 feet and continues to show encouraging values. The Bullfrog Mining company, operating on the south slope of Ladd Mountain, has completed in the neighborhood of 2,000 feet of development work and the showing is regarded as extremely encouraging. Active development work is in progress at the Diamondfield and other most favorable circumstances. Former United States Senator William M. Stewart, who settled in the Bullfrog district soon after he retired from public life, is one of the principal owners of the mine. In the vicinity of Beatty and Gold Center several properties are being developed and orders have been placed for considerable quantities of equipment for use around those points.

One of the most prominent mineral zones within the Bullfrog area is the Gold Bar and many strikes have been reported from this section within the past few weeks and some of the finds are sensational. The Homestead adjoins the Gold Bar and is on the same lead. Recently, the Daisy encountered some high grade ore in its shaft. When first reached the body was so milling in character, but afterwards turned into sulphide form. The Gold Bar Annex has a tunnel into the mountain 200 feet south of the main mine. It is said there are close to 200 properties, large and small, in active operation in the Bullfrog district at the present time. To enumerate them all would be difficult.

## AMONG FIRST COMERS.

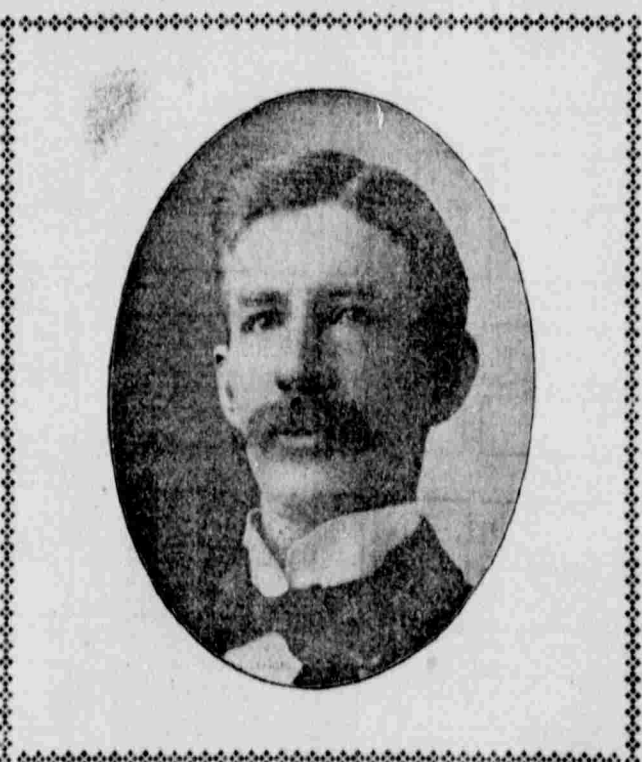
Among the first to land in the district after its discovery were F. J. Busch and P. R. Stanley who camped at the base of Ladd Mountain. Mr. Busch, together with A. G. Cushman, who figured prominently in Tonopah's early development, organized the Rhyolite Townsite company. Prior to this, the towns of the district were Armargosa, situated four miles west, near the Original Bullfrog, and the town of Bonanza at the foot of Ladd Mountain.

As soon as Rhyolite was started, a rush was made by the inhabitants of the town of Bonanza to secure free lots, the inducements made by the Rhyolite Townsite company to win them over, and in a single day, Bonanza vanished. Some of the lots obtained are now the most valuable property in Rhyolite and only recently the owner of a corner refused \$10,000 cash for his property.

## HOW AMARGOSA MOVED.

The people who first settled at Amargosa, saw the advantages of Rhyolite, which is right in the midst of many of the big mines of the camp. They pulled up stakes and moved and established the town of Bullfrog. But Rhyolite seemed to possess an advantage over its new neighbor and up to the present time has retained its title of being the metropolis of the Bullfrog district. The Rhyolite Townsite company, has gone out of business, having disposed of all its property, but its organizers are still residents of the camp.

# How Nevada's Next Secretary of State Sees Bullfrog.



HON. FRANK P. MANNIX, Secretary of State Elect and Editor of The Bullfrog Miner.

## "GOT 'EM ALL GOIN'."

"But," to use the words of big investor who is just back from a visit to most of these camps, "the Bullfrog has them all skinned a mile." It is a young camp, the first discovery having been made by "Shorty" Harris on the 12th day of July, 1904, and it has long since passed the experimental stage. Only five comparatively small shipments have been made from the camp, yet it has attracted some of the biggest and best mining men in the world.

Bullfrog stocks are firm and in demand by those who are acquainted with the securities. These stocks have stood the test of the great San Francisco disaster, as well as of many bear attacks, and prices have gradually gone skyward.

## TIME FOR ACTION.

The time for getting "action" on some of the mammoth bodies of Bullfrog ores through mills and smelters,

without the awful and almost prohibitive cost of shipping them by freight wagons over hundreds of miles of desert roads, is near at hand. As stated, the Las Vegas & Tonopah railroad is practically finished to the heart of the district. The Brook road is coming down from Goldfield at the rate of a mile a day, and the writer was informed the other day by one of the officials that it would be safe to figure on celebrating the completion of the Brook system to Rhyolite on the 15th of January, 1907. "Borax" Smith is half way to Bullfrog with his road from Ludlow, on the Santa Fe system, although it is not thought that he can make the remaining 75 miles before next fall. Developments have been rapid and remarkable in the Bullfrog range since the latter road was started, and it is presumed that Smith will do a little "branching out" that was not originally contemplated when he projected his road to Bullfrog. It is in this range that the great San Francisco disaster, as well as of many bear attacks, and it is likely that feeders will be run to these regions of recognized mineral merit.

## BULLFROG ON THE BANK.

To the Bullfrog on the bank, the race

between the railroads for Bullfrog business is certainly an interesting one. The reptile has been out on this desert without a railroad so long that he views with glee the approach of the iron horse, and doesn't care how many horses there are in the herd, or how much they sport or steam. In fact, he is the same now to their neighbors and old friends as they were when they were struggling. Judge Ray, who has just been elected to the Nevada legislature, was D'Arcy's partner, as

## DIVIDEND ERA COMING.

With the completion of the railroads and the building of mills that may be termed the era of prospectors' stakes ends and that of the investors' dividends begins. From now on it will not be the sale of the Olla Monster group of claims, located by old Bill Rattlesnake or John Burroughman, which were sold to Schwab or Newhouse or Aldrich for a "big stake," but the Bullfrog news of absorbing interest in the future will be as to the dividends declared by

mining companies doing business in the Bullfrog district.

Speaking of "stakes," however, I am reminded that the Bullfrog has probably made more poor prospectors rich than any other mining camp in the world. That "Shorty" Harris is not now a millionaire is more his fault than it is that of the mine which he located, which gave the name of "Bullfrog" to the district.

## THE POOR PROSPECTORS.

But I started to say something about the poor prospectors that this camp has smiled upon. Bob Montgomery, who sold the famous Shoshone to Schwab for what is said to be \$5,000,000, was grub-staked to this country two years ago. Nick D'Arcy, who was one of the locators of the Denver, Victor, Tramp and other big ones on Bonanza mountain, which made him and his partners rich, was less than three years ago grubbing shoes in a small shop in Victor, Colo., and no one begrudges Nick and his estimable wife their riches, for they are the same now to their neighbors and old friends as they were when they were struggling. Judge Ray, who has just been elected to the Nevada legislature, was D'Arcy's partner, as

were also Russ Sutherland and Hector McKean, two young Colorado miners, and all are said to belong to the Bullfrog Millionaires' club. Milton M. Betch, of Goldfield, to whom "Shorty" Harris sold his interest in the original location for \$1,000, was offered a few months later \$85,000 for the same. Milt, though having walked into Goldfield and though at the time not suffering from much chink, refused the offer. This showed grit, didn't it? It also showed confidence in the young Bullfrog. The Busch brothers (Frank, Pete and Ed) are more poor Colorado boys that have become wealthy. John T. Overbury and Len P. McGarry are two young, energetic young fellows that, with ordinary business sagacity, will not need to want for the balance of their days.

The number of prospectors who came to this part of the desert "on a shoe-string," and who have amassed fortunes, also includes Tom Kiker, Tom Murphy, Tom Williams and others too numerous to mention, who were among the early pioneers of the camp.

The list of mining men who have made big winnings later on in Bullfrog mines and stocks is even longer.

FRANK P. MANNIX.

## Gold Butte, a District of Future Bonanzas

SOUTHERN NEVADA, with its low isolated mountains scattered here and there without order, regularity or system, with its wave-washed pebbles almost each of which bears the marks of comparatively recent heat; with its gray, sun-battered faces upturned toward the hot southern sun, and its oppressive silence bearing mute witness to its utter desolation, completely justifies the oft-repeated assertion that the Creator never made a high-grade mineral country without spoiling it for agricultural purposes.

Wherever rich ore occurs there will also be found the unmistakable evidences of volcanic activity. Southern Nevada is a country that was given by crust-movements causing fissures, faults and foldings consequent on the forces that lifted the Rocky mountains and Sierra Nevada ranges and that correspondingly depressed central Nevada, sinking some portions below the level of the sea. Thus southern Nevada became a land of volcanoes, hot springs and geysers that collected the widely diffused atoms of gold and brought them to the surface in the forms of veins and deposits of such marvelous richness as to almost detrone the reason of theretofore conservative men and women. When all of the lies, the

fakes, frauds and wildcats are skinned off the residue is sufficiently great to make of the desolate waste the banner gold region of this western bonanza land.

In the southeastern part of Nevada a great dyke of eruptive granite rises from the comparatively level country to the north and south. With singular regularity of strike the dyke is fissured with numerous veins and seams of gold quartz that yield from \$7.50 to \$90 in gold per ton.

In order to prospect all of those parallel fissures at depth the

## NEVADA GOLD BUTTE

Mining Co. of Salt Lake, is driving a tunnel in towards the base of the mountain, and almost each day more and more irrefutable evidence is added to that which the surface presents that a bonanza will be found.

Nearby Gold Butte, as the great dyke is now known, the limestone and quartzite for fully a mile in depth have been upturned to an angle of fully 60 degrees, resulting in stupendous faults and dislocations. Also near by is a field of lava of more recent times and proving the continuation of volcanic heat, and incidentally of vein-diluting forces, over an unusually long period. Such, in brief, are a few of the evidences of the presence of bonanzas in and near Gold Butte, which is situated about 50 miles southeast of Meop.

J. F. GIBBS.