

Busy Alta, "Oldest" and "Newest" of Utah Camps.

SOME mining men have ventured the prediction that Alta, located at the head of Little Cottonwood canyon in the Wasatch mountains and distant from Salt Lake City about 25 miles, will become a second Park City.

Undoubtedly there are some excellent grounds for making this assertion; for the progress made in this once famous camp during the past year has been something bordering on the sensational. Considering all things, it is doubtful if any other camp in the state of Utah has done any better. It is quite so well, as this one has. But it must be borne in mind that Alta does not yet enjoy the facilities for transportation that a few other camps do; nor are the mines there equipped to conduct their operations upon such a broad scale as are some of those in Bingham, Tintic and the camps which have contributed the millions of dividends that have found their way into the pockets of shareholders during late years.

However, Alta has done herself proud during 1905. The record made is a glorious one and the way is paved for manifold greater things in the next year to come. Its position has been made safe; in the future it must be reckoned as one of the most important producers of gold, silver, copper and lead of the commonwealth.

The achievements of the year are more clearly set forth in the Columbus Consolidated, Altic and Continental Alta mines; the South Columbia, Alta Superior, Alta Quincy, and others have made progress but it is equally gratifying to note that the successful development of these properties has created such interest that the camp can now boast of having sufficient tonnage to justify railroad transportation facilities and that the present year will close with this assured.

Oldest and the Newest.

Alta is one of the oldest mining camps in the west, yet it is one of the newest. It was known before Park City was ever heard of; it had produced thousands of dollars before Tintic's greatness had become manifest;

to the reduction plants operated near Salt Lake City.

Camp's Early Population.

At one time in its history, Alta had a population of about five thousand persons; this, when the camp was in its prime—about 1871. Up to that time the district was reputed to have produced upwards of \$20,000,000 of which amount the Flagstaff mine is credited with having yielded \$3,000,000; the Emma, \$2,000,000; Vallejo and North Star, \$2,000,000; Police of Wales, \$2,000,000; Grizzly (now one of the Continental Alta properties), \$1,000,000; South Star, \$1,000,000; City Rocks, \$250,000; Altic, \$250,000; Frederick and Crown Prince, \$250,000 and others with larger or smaller amounts.

The great Emma lode was discovered in 1858. It was operated for several years by its discoverer and lessees and the ore was shipped to San Francisco for treatment at the Selby plant. In 1871, a half interest in the Emma was sold to New York parties for \$250,000, but a year later, the entire property was turned over to an English syndicate for \$5,000,000; afterward a sum of \$1,000,000 was expended for equipment. Some of the Flagstaff ores were sent to Wales for treatment; but before the camp died out, several smelting plants were erected at the mouth of Little Cottonwood canyon, or in the valley and operated with indifferent success.

During the past few months the old Emma and Flagstaff properties have passed into the hands of a syndicate of Milwaukee and Salt Lake capitalists. Both these mines are to be opened again; this time, in a systematic manner. There is not the slightest doubt but that both are capable of producing many millions more than they did in their early history. The Alta Consolidated is the name of a new company that has been formed to develop the Flagstaff. The Emma and Continental Alta may form the basis for another strong operating interest. Indeed, the future of Alta looks bright at this time.

The coming year will undoubtedly witness a wonderful increase in activity, with the introduction modern devices for the mining and dressing of ores.

Columbus Consolidated Mine.

It took a whole lot of courage and pluck to make the Columbus Consolidated mine what it is today. There were times, when the development of



MINE PLANT AND BUILDINGS OF THE CONTINENTAL ALTA

convenience that one could possibly wish for. In the basement of the building, Supt. A. O. Jacobson has provided a large plunge bath room. Water flows into the plunge continuously and is heated in the building containing the big air compressors, which is located just above the boarding house. The new building will accommodate 100 men, while the old structure, which now forms a wing to the new one, will furnish quarters for 50 more. The mine offices have been since moved and employees are no longer cramped for room, as they were a few weeks ago. In event of bad weather in the canyon, which is likely to occur almost any time during the winter months and stop ore traffic, the management of the company has provided additional ore bins, both for concentrate and crude ore. One of 1,000 tons capacity, has been built for the storage of crude ore at an expense of \$3,000; another with the same capacity, has been built at the mill. The company now has storage room for 2,500 tons of crude ore and concentrate. The blacksmith shop has been provided with a new trip hammer and other equipment so that it is now possible to do almost any kind of repair work. A cosy cottage was built during the year for the use of the mill superintendent and his family. Preparations have been made to double the capacity of the power plant in the canyon by the addition of another generator and water wheel, which will bring the capacity of the plant up to 500 horse power. The company will then be in position to supply other mines in the camp with power energy. Supt. Jacobson is now having installed a centrifugal turbine pump for the handling of the water in the lower workings. The machine is so constructed that it can be started, if necessary, when 100 feet or more under water and can be operated with 27 horse power, maximum; whereas, heretofore 90 horse power has been required, thus making a saving of 63 horse power of electrical energy. The machine will handle 200 gallons of water per minute under a head of 200 feet.

Columbus Mill Equipment.

The company's mill is built to handle from 100 to 150 tons of ore per day. It is equipped with seven tables, two rolls and two jigs. The mill product now being marketed, nets the company about \$10 to the ton, while the crude ore that has been coming down the canyon of late brings from \$5 to \$7.50 net. During the year the company has

ment and has seen the property grow from a crude prospect to the position it occupies today.

Continental Alta Mines.

There is no better way of demonstrating one's confidence in a camp than by the spending of money for development of mines and for modern equipment after they have been developed. This is just what the management of the Continental Alta Mines and Smelting corporation, owner of the Continental Alta mine, has been doing at Alta. The readers of the Deseret Evening News have been kept quite well informed as to the operations of this strong company towards the rejuvenation of the historic camp of the Little Cottonwoods.

Con. Alta's Tramway.

The company has had on its pay rolls during the year a large force of men who have been employed in pushing development and in the traction of ore and in the addition to those who were used in finishing up the construction of the longest single wire rope angle tramway in the world, power plant and mill.

The tramway is now in operation between the mine, at the upper end of the canyon and the mill built on what is known as Tanner's Flat, five miles below. It is used for the transportation of all the ore coming from the mine, the low grade going to the mill, the high grade to the bins especially provided for it near the mill building.

Handles the Up Freight.

The tram also handles all the up freight for the mine and mine boarding house, thus saving an enormous amount of money during the course of a year in freighting.

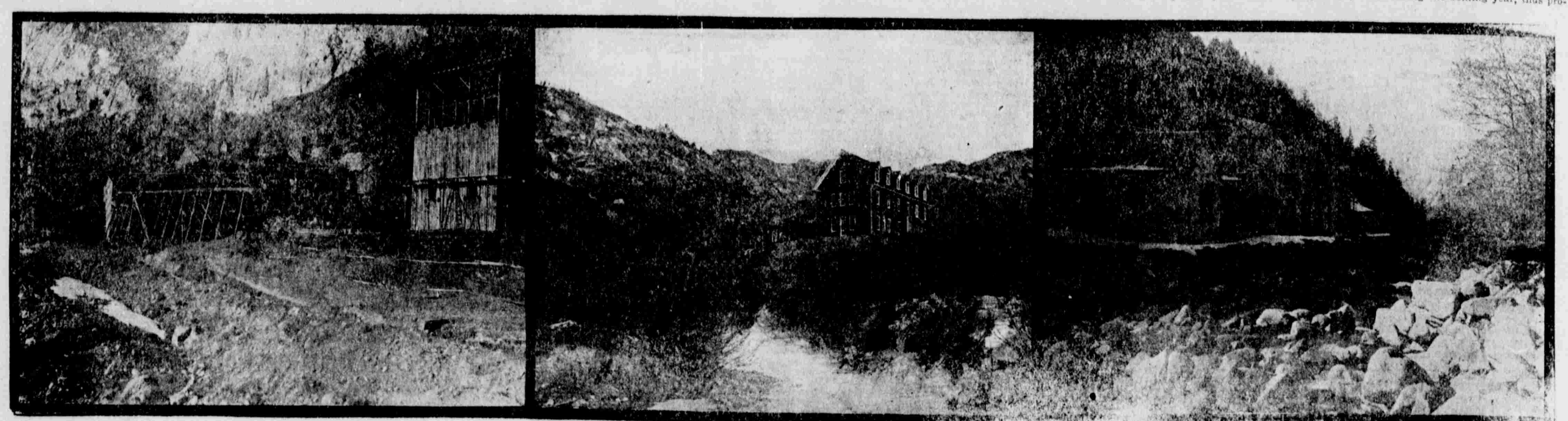
The Continental company was the first to provide tramway transportation for the camp and it will be to provide the camp with rail facilities.

To Supply Rail Transportation.

Not long ago, Manager Henry M. Gwether concluded arrangements for a lease of the road and tracks of the Rio Grande Western road from Hingham Junction to Wasatch and three tramways built in the early days of the camp, from Wasatch to Alta. The railroad to Wasatch will be built during the coming year, thus providing facilities for moving the constantly increasing tonnages towards the reduction works.

Capital Stock Reduced.

At a recent meeting of shareholders it was decided to reduce the capital stock of the corporation from \$5,000,000 to \$1,500,000, the present number of shares being 150,000. In the reduction, shareholders turned into the treasury \$3,500,000 worth of their personal stock, and it now contains seven-sixteenths of the entire capitalization. When the company was formed originally, it was planned to take over the property of the Continental Alta mine, which was a valuable asset, large enough for the company to handle alone. The discovery of the presence of wolframite in the Continental Alta ores presents a most interesting feature of the enterprise. The ore exists in large quantity and the company will derive a great deal of revenue from this by-product in the future.



COLUMBUS CON. MILL.

COLUMBUS CONSOLIDATED BOARDING HOUSE.

COLUMBUS CON. POWER PLANT.

Bingham, Stockton and old Camp Floyd, (now Mercury), were insignificant as compared to the bustling little camp high up in the Wasatch range, which had worked up an enviable reputation on the strength of the once famous Flagstaff and Emma mines, only later, to see all the glory of this victory dashed to pieces through a series of scandals which came near causing international complications.

The mines produced millions of dollars from the rich surface deposits, but the English stockholders never realized anything but a loss through the cunning of managers unworthy of the positions of trust to which they were elected to fill. In time, the crash came; the mines were closed and the district became deserted; it remained so until about five years ago, when the present manager of the Columbus Consolidated and his brother located and acquired by other means some of the territory now owned by that corporation. But for a quarter of a century the camp was dead and during all that time very little ore found its way

this property was undertaken several years ago, when it seemed a question if the project would be made a success.

But had it not been that President and Manager Tony Jacobson, and associates, had the utmost faith in the possibilities of the property, the chances are that failure instead of success, would have been the result. They battled against great odds and, had to contend, among other things, with the knicks directed against them by unscrupulous brokers and others who sought to destroy when they failed to work a graft.

The record made by the Columbus Consolidated during the past 12 months has been filled with success. In this mine has been developed during the period mentioned one of the greatest ore bodies ever opened in any mine in the state, and, therefore, indications point very favorably to its becoming one of the noted dividend payers of Utah. At the beginning of the present year the company had an indebtedness of about \$50,000 and the management

found it necessary to call upon shareholders for assessment to the extent of 50 cents a share. Up to that time the company had not developed any great bodies of high grade ore; with some imperfections found in the construction of the mill, later with difficulties in the product of the plant to market, the members of the board of directors developed during the year, and with a very grave situation when the deferred payments on the equipment of the mine began to fall due. But stockholders responded willingly and thus a critical period in the history of the mine was bridged over.

None Better Equipped.

The sinking of a winze from the main, or Columbus tunnel, revealed one of high grade shipping value. The extent of this body has not yet been determined; but in sinking the shaft to a point 200 feet below the tunnel, ore of the value of \$100,000 has been mined and shipped to the Salt Lake smelters. This winze is being continued on to the deep and at this writing the ore in the

bottom continues to hold uniform values of from \$20 to \$80 to the ton.

A winze sunk from the Howland tunnel to a depth of 100 feet was the beginning of another important piece of work in that portion of the property. After cross-cutting the formations from the bottom of the winze 200 feet, a great ledge of splendid mill ore was opened into, showing an average width of 15 feet as far as developed. This ledge is being followed to the point of contact between the lime and quartzite, where it is expected, some high grade values will be found. In other portions of the mine a systematic campaign of development has been carried on continuously during the year fully 2,000 feet of openings have been made. Altogether, the Columbus Consolidated contains anywhere from 10,000 to 12,000 feet of underground workings.

Superficial Improvements in 1905.

There is no mine in the state better equipped than the Columbus Consolidated. Some properties may have more powerful machinery to operate with, but

none have more modern facilities. When one sees this Alta property, he looks upon a thoroughly modern mine. Everything is done with system and with the view of economy in operation.

An Immense Ore Body.

The mine is electric lighted throughout, the energy coming from the company's electric power plant, located down the Little Cottonwood canyon five miles. This improvement was made this year. A complete telephone system was installed about the properties of the company not long ago, and now it is possible for one to carry on a conversation from the lowest depths of the mine with those on the outside. By means of a switch board at the mine office, connections can be made with the Bell Telephone company's wires and thus, in this manner, the head office of the company in Salt Lake can be reached. The company has erected the finest mine boarding house and dormitory in the state, and it went into commission about Nov. 1. It has all the

paid off every cent of indebtedness and will end the year with more than \$100,000 in the treasury. While no intimation has been given out by officials, the chances are that not many weeks will pass before the initial dividend will be announced. Had it not been that the smelters called for a curtailment of shipments recently, when they were threatened with a coke famine, shareholders would have received a Christmas present.

The officers of the Columbus Consolidated company are: Tony Jacobson, president and general manager; Clarence K. McCormick, vice president; Arthur E. Snow, secretary and treasurer; who, with William B. Jeffs and B. F. Chynoweth, constitute the board of directors. The capital stock of the company is \$5,000,000, divided into shares of \$1 each.

Only words of praise can be said for Supt. A. O. Jacobson, who has been in the harness from the time of the inception of the company; who has personally directed the work of develop-

viding facilities for moving the constantly increasing tonnages towards the reduction works.

Capital Stock Reduced.

At a recent meeting of shareholders it was decided to reduce the capital stock of the corporation from \$5,000,000 to \$1,500,000, the present number of shares being 150,000. In the reduction, shareholders turned into the treasury \$3,500,000 worth of their personal stock, and it now contains seven-sixteenths of the entire capitalization. When the company was formed originally, it was planned to take over the property of the Continental Alta mine, which was a valuable asset, large enough for the company to handle alone. The discovery of the presence of wolframite in the Continental Alta ores presents a most interesting feature of the enterprise. The ore exists in large quantity and the company will derive a great deal of revenue from this by-product in the future.

THE YEAR'S RECORD ON THE MINING EXCHANGE.

IN looking over the records of the transactions on our local exchange for the last 11 months, we find many things of interest. At the close of the year 1904 we felt that there were indications of an improvement in the condition of our mining stock market. There seemed to be greater interest in mining investment, inquiries were numerous and money was freely offered for good investments. Our local stocks, however, did not seem to attract investors as much as we had hoped. From the record of the business, however, we find there has been some improvement since the early part of the year. There has been continued improvement in the conditions of the various districts for the year has been very heavy. If we compare the business month by month of the present year with the corresponding months of last year, we shall find that there has been a marked improvement.

Business Was Better.

Seven months out of the 11 show heavier transactions than the corresponding months of last year. This will be observed from one of the following tables. The total number of shares for the 11 months of last year was 3,365,552, which had a market value of \$1,668,720.50. The sales for the corresponding month of this year resulted in the transfer of 6,481,622½ shares. The total value of these sales was \$1,779,671.50.

Prices Have Improved.

During the early part of the year a majority of our stocks were selling at a very low price. The sales were also few and irregular. The record of the quotations as shown in the first of the following tables gives interesting data regarding the change in price. It will be observed that a large majority of the stocks have advanced very considerably, this is especially true of the

active Tintic stocks and of a few of the Bingham stocks. In some cases the gain has been several hundred per cent. This is especially true of the Boston Consolidated, Little Bell, Lower Mammoth and the Silver Shield.

Why Some Advanced.

The advance in the case of the Consolidated Mercury is due to the fact that the company resumed dividends in the second quarter of the year. Grand Central has remained steady, while the dividends have not been regular. The decline in Daly and Ontario is due to the unfortunate disaster in the Ontario train tunnel and also to the fact that these companies were obliged to call on the stockholders for 25 cents a share as an assessment. Silver King has been steadily dropping, although there have been very few sales during the year. Swansea stock has again become quite active, and made a very marked advance. This company has resumed operations at the mine, and the outlook is very encouraging. Daily-Judge has advanced almost 100 per cent. The same is true also of the Daily-West.

During the past three months there has been a very marked improvement in the condition of the various stocks and the business of the last month has been quite remarkable as compared with the records of previous months of the year. There has been greater interest manifested both by brokers and by those who frequent the lobby. The depression has been quite general that we should see, during the next few months of the year, a remarkable improvement in the condition of the whole market.

Nevada Stocks Attractive.

While the demand for the listed stocks has not been as great as many had anticipated, it is true that investors have put large sums of money into mining stocks. During the early part of the year Nevada stocks attracted a great deal of attention, and many thousands of dollars were invested in properties and stocks of these camps. Later, Bullfrog demanded mon-

ey for development, and many other camps also called for large sums, which were very readily supplied. All this simply shows that investors are ready for any good mining stock that promises well. Besides the investments, which were made in these various camps many districts in our own state have demanded money for development. There are in Beaver county several most promising prospects, which have been developed during the year, and companies have been organized and stocks offered for sale. Perhaps the most remarkable one of the county is the Frisco Contact. The stock of this company was offered early in the year. In the neighborhood of \$100,000 has been invested in this stock. The Majestic company has also called for money and has spent many thousand dollars in development. The Lulu is another one, which has secured at least \$50,000. Other promising properties in this camp whose stocks have been in demand are the Wasatch King, the Southern Copper and one or two others of good promise, not excepting the Utah Mining, Milling & Transportation company.

The developments around Elly, Nev., have been very marked during the year and the stocks of the companies operating in these camps have been very active, especially the Nevada Consolidated and Groux Consolidated. The former stock was selling very freely a short while ago at \$5 a share, the present market shows an advance of about 100 per cent. The Groux Consolidated was selling at \$4 a share. According to the present records this has made a gain of almost 100 per cent. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been invested in these stocks.

Demand for Bingham Stocks.

We may note especially the interest and demand for some of our Bingham stocks. Utah Copper was selling early in the year at about \$5 a share, and Boston Consolidated at about \$6. According to the last quotations, Boston Consolidated was selling at the close of November at about \$22.25, while Utah Copper was selling at \$22.50. These stocks have called out probably several

million dollars. All this simply shows that money is ready for good investment stocks.

Active Listed Stocks.

The most active of the listed stocks have been the following: Ajax, Beck-Tunnel, Boston, Carissa, Lower Mammoth, May Day, New York, Silver Shield, Star Con, Uncle Sam Con, Victoria and Wabash.

The following table shows the bid and asked prices of the various listed stocks on Jan. 3 and 4 of the present year and also of Nov. 29 of 1905. It will be observed, too, that we have given the highest and lowest prices of sales on these various stocks during the year.

STOCKS.	Jan. 3 Bid	Jan. 3 Asked	Nov. 29, 1905 Bid	Nov. 29, 1905 Asked	Highest Sales	Lowest Sales
Ajax	11	13	104	120	104	105
Alco	33	35	130	135	130	135
Beck-Tunnel Con.	10	10	10	10	10	10
Boston Con.	6.25	6.25	21.00	22.00	21.00	21.00
Butter-Labral	125	125	10	11	10	10
Bullfrog-Buck	10	10	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Carissa	11	12	10	10	10	10
Century	30	34	100	105	100	100
Columbus Con.	21	28	2.62	2.81	2.62	2.62
Con. Mercur	45	45	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Crook	2	2	40	40	40	40
Daly	2.25	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Daily-Judge	1.50	1.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Daily-West	11.00	12.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Eagle & Blue Bell	30	30	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Emerald	10	10	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Galena	60	60	10	10	10	10
Grand Central	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Horn Silver	1.25	1.25	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Irish	10	10	10	10	10	10
Little Bell	10	10	10	10	10	10
Lower Mammoth	10	10	10	10	10	10
Mammoth	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
May Day	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
New York	20	20	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Ontario	3.00	4.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Petra	10	10	10	10	10	10
Rocco-Homestead	10	10	10	10	10	10
Sacramento	100	100	10	10	10	10
Silver King	10	10	10	10	10	10
Silver Shield	10	10	10	10	10	10
Star Con	10	10	10	10	10	10
South Swansea	10	10	10	10	10	10
Star Con	10	10	10	10	10	10
Uncle Sam Con.	10	10	10	10	10	10
U. S. Mining Co.	24.00	25.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Victoria	10	10	10	10	10	10
Wabash	2.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Yankee Con.	10	10	10	10	10	10

The following table shows the business of the past 11 months of this year as compared with the corresponding

months of 1904, together with the total number of shares sold and the market value.

	Record for 1905.		Record for 1904.	
	Shares Sold.	Value.	Shares Sold.	Value.
January	551,155	\$1,021,271.20	475,774	\$154,124.48
February	244,935	\$18,405.80	400,202	\$14,236.40
March	468,119	\$272,856.50	717,229	\$12,236.40
April	345,514	\$169,886.25	910,269	\$21,531.10
May	620,068	\$147,775.00	744,775	\$12,236.40
June	385,162	\$177,286.50	725,332	\$12,236.40
July	677,327	\$110,065.45	1,155,216	\$15,196.30
August	428,120	\$12,236.40	1,210,269	\$12,236.40
September	252,520	\$2,587.13	440,045	\$12,236.40
October	788,582	\$21,862.80	462,660	\$14,655.77
November	115,100	\$25,836.50	25,836	\$25,836.50
Totals	6,366,532	\$1,668,720.50	6,481,622½	\$1,779,671.50

The records of the mining exchange for the past nine years are as follows:

Year.	Shares.	Amount.
1897	692,150	\$133,645.17
1898	5,325,177	\$1,296,901.40
1899	10,725,000	\$4,199,952.50
1900	5,188,661	\$2,238,472.41
1901	24,854,694	\$15,760,890.95
1902	29,998,534	\$11,669,401.30
1903	10,829,828	\$2,410,735.24
1904	6,702,958	\$1,573,001.50
1905	6,481,622½	\$1,779,671.50

In the above table it will be observed that the record for this year includes only 11 months. If the month of December should be as good as the month of November, there will be considerable increase. The year 1901 still stands out as the greatest year in the history of the exchange.

Now Listed Stocks Active.

From the records made on our local exchange it must not be taken for granted that the mining stock business has been entirely neglected. As I have intimated, there has been probably more money invested in the stocks which are not listed than has been invested in the stocks which are listed. The outlook for the coming year is most encouraging, certainly Utah's mines have never done better than they have been doing this year, and we may look forward with confidence that the year 1906 will surpass any previous year in the history of mining in this state. The writer is indebted to the kindness of Mr. James A. Shoen, the general secretary of the exchange, for the figures showing the highest and lowest sales given in the table above.

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