

Goldfield, the Modern Marvel of the Mineral World

THERE has been no parallel to Goldfield in the history of mining. It stands alone in the amount of gold produced for the time of its operation, for the fortunes made and for its growth as a city.

But a little over two years ago the site of Goldfield was one of the most desolate and forbidding spots in the great desert region of northwestern Nevada. Today Goldfield is the second city in the state in size and population.

For ores over \$300 in value 2 per cent of gross value was added. The smelters charged \$5 per ton treatment on all ores and returned 97 per cent of the value.

Nov. 1 these rates were changed so that ores valued from \$100 to \$200 pay \$2.50 to Sodeville and \$12.50 to outside smelter points, a reduction of \$1.25 per ton. The smelters though at the same time changed the smelting charges, increasing from \$8 to \$10 flat and a \$1 charge for sampling, a jump of \$5 per ton. The basis of settlement though was changed and instead of a 97 per

cent members are as follows: E. J. Amann, A. S. Anderson, W. P. Bond & Co., H. T. Bragdon, H. W. Bruner, C. H. Boyer, W. J. Brewer, R. L. Colburn, James C. Conner, Sol Camp, John S. Cook, M. M. Ditch, John Donellan, A. C. Elsen, C. H. Elliott, Harry Epstine, G. M. Fay, Bert H. Hummel, Frank E. Horton, C. W. Hays, Frank M. Ish, G. J. Johnson, R. L. Johns, January Jones, J. P. Kane, Ernest Kennedy, Frank R. Lathrop, H. Langley & Co., H. B. Lind, J. C. McCormack, H. D. Macmaster, F. J. Mack, Nye & Ormsby Co., J. P. O'Brien, L. L. Patrick,

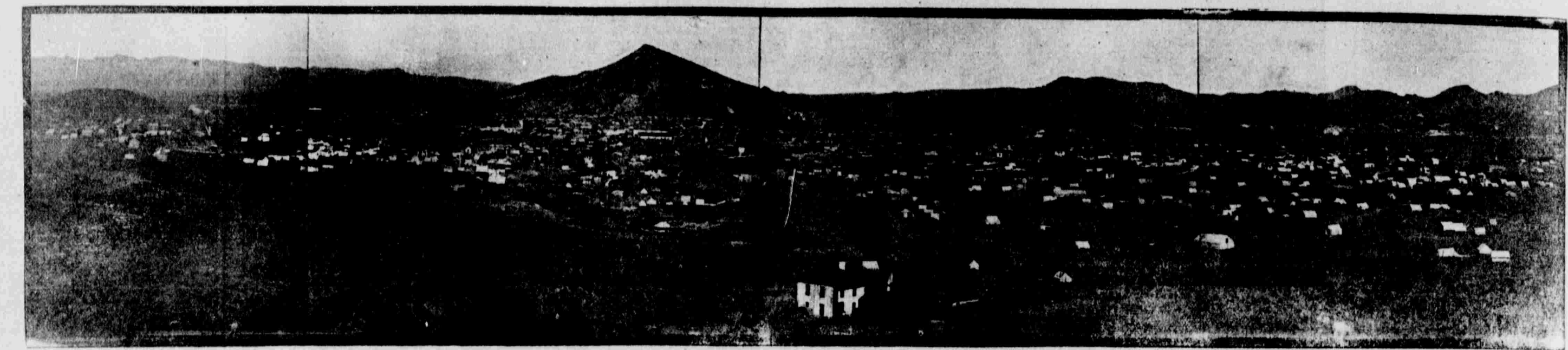
was on the Florence ground, the north end of the Florence No. 2 claim, adjoining the Combination. The property belongs to the Florence-Goldfield Mining company, a company with a capitalization of \$1,250,000, all of which is held by seven men—T. G. Lockhart, president of the company; A. D. Parker, vice president; F. Oliver, secretary and superintendent; Senator George S. Nixon, George Winfield, J. H. Hennessy and John McKane. The Florence ground was purchased by Lockhart from C. D. Taylor, who located it the same day as located the Jumbo, and the price paid

of the leasers on the Jumbo, the January, Kendall and Sandstorm, it but emphasizes the wonderful possibilities of the world's greatest gold camp.

In the Florence the ore is found in a contact of porphyry and andesite and the vein, like all others of the camp, widens and pinches. The widest portion in the mine is 15 feet, and this is between the 250 and 350-foot levels. The sulphide zone was reached at a depth of 130 feet and no change was found in the values, but on the contrary some of the richest ore ever taken out of Goldfield, came from the 350-foot level

In the camp. It is in the center of the great belt that has made Goldfield the banner gold producer. The January adjoins it on the south, the Florence on the east, and the Jumbo is a short distance away to the north. The best values found on the surface would not go higher than \$1.50, while the average was about \$1.50. In doing the location work, shipping ore came in and the owners figured on selling before it pinched out. It was offered at any old price for a time. L. L. Patrick secured an option on it and interested J. D. Hubbard of Chicago in it. A bond was

experience during the past year as the other big companies. In following a plan of development after the party found the old workings in bad condition and much time has been spent in getting them in shape for large production. The Ross-Kernick shaft has been sunk to a depth of 450 feet, the deepest in camp, but no cross-cutting has yet been done from the bottom. The low grade bodies have been opened to test the ore. Preparatory to the erection of a very large



PANORAMIC VIEW OF GOLDFIELD LD. THE MARVELOUS NEW MINING CAMP OF THE SAGE BRUSH STATE.

ation, having close to 7,000 people. Within a year, it has changed from a city of tents to one of substantial buildings, residences and business blocks that compare with those of any western city. The comforts and conveniences of modern life have been introduced and the water system, electric lights, telephones and telegraph service, the railroad, the automobile, all are at hand to aid in the transforming of the desert. The past two years have been years of wonder-working in Goldfield, all due to the marvelous discovery of gold.

These discoveries extend over an area of 15 square miles, three miles north and south and five miles wide. The country is mineralized over a greater extent than that, but thus far the sensational values have been found in the area mentioned.

With vigorous prospecting in the eastern portion of the belt there is no reason why big values should not be found there. The formation is similar to the rich belt and should yield the same values, but thus far the development has opened up only big bodies of milling ore only.

Where Gold Is Found.

The Goldfield area is found in gullied slopes of andesite and decomposed porphyry. There are two vein systems, the older and largest running north and south, and the younger, easterly and westerly. It is at the intersection of these veins that the sensational values are found. Throughout the entire district, the north and south ledges dip to the southwest and a peculiar thing at the Florence and Combination mines is that at the water level, the beginning of the sulphide zone, the dip changes to the northeast.

What are termed the miller ore runs from \$4 to \$40 per ton, while the shipping ore runs from \$100 to \$200. This of course is a big range for values of shipping ore. Richer ores have been produced and no finer or richer specimen rock has been found in the world than at Goldfield. Yet the shipments have run less than usually supposed. All the mines have made wonderfully rich shipments but there have been the exception, the average being nearer \$300 to \$400. The Relly lease, one of the greatest producers the world has ever seen, made its record by sending to market 4,700 tons of ore, averaging \$35 per ton from the 9th of August last to the 10th of October. The Sandstorm mine, the richest lot marketed by the Jumbo was a little over \$100,000 per ton and this has been equalled in the last month, when the Kendall \$100,000 ore was stored in the bank vaults for safe keeping, pending shipments. The writer saw \$12,000 of ore packed at the Red Top and ore almost as rich as that coming out of the Florence and the Mayne, Loftus, Sherman lease on the Sandstorm.

The values have not changed in the sulphide zone, in fact some of the richest ore found in the camp comes from the sulphide zone in the January and Florence.

Hope in Large Bodies.

While Goldfield is a sensational camp in the value of its ores and will continue for some time to produce its wonderful high grade ores, the hope for the future lies in the enormous bodies of milling ore. The high grade streaks lie in ledges forming and extending vertically. They come and go and the small streaks that are followed from one lens to another are usually on one wall of a vein of milling ore and the entire country for many feet on each side of the rich pockets and shoots is impregnated with values sufficient to make good milling ore. It will be in the mining and extraction of the values of these ores that Goldfield will continue a big and prosperous mining camp for years to come. All the big companies intend to erect mills during the coming year and the Combination will enlarge its plant, which is now operating successfully.

Freight Rates Problem.

The question of freight rates on shipping ore has been a serious one with the big companies of Goldfield and several have been storing their ore or mixing with lower grade and milling them at the eastern mills about the camp, awaiting the time when they believe they will secure a better rate. When the railroad terms were at Tonopah the rate from that point was \$17.50 per ton on \$100 ore and the wagon haul to Tonopah \$7 per ton. Upon reaching Goldfield in September, the railroad established the following schedule:

Ore valued at..... Rate from Sodeville to smelter points, S. P. R. R.

\$25 to \$50.....	\$2.50
\$50 to \$100.....	3.00
\$100 to \$150.....	3.75
\$150 to \$200.....	4.25
\$200 to \$250.....	4.75
\$250 to \$300.....	5.25
\$300 to \$350.....	5.75
\$350 to \$400.....	6.25
\$400 to \$450.....	6.75
\$450 to \$500.....	7.25
\$500 to \$550.....	7.75
\$550 to \$600.....	8.25
\$600 to \$650.....	8.75
\$650 to \$700.....	9.25
\$700 to \$750.....	9.75
\$750 to \$800.....	10.25
\$800 to \$850.....	10.75
\$850 to \$900.....	11.25
\$900 to \$950.....	11.75
\$950 to \$1,000.....	12.25

Ores over \$300 in value 2 per cent of gross value was added to the maximum rate. The rate from Goldfield to Sodeville on Goldfield-Tonopah railroad to be added to the above are as follows:

Ores valued at..... Rate.

\$25 to \$50.....	\$1.50
\$50 to \$100.....	2.00
\$100 to \$150.....	2.50
\$150 to \$200.....	3.00
\$200 to \$250.....	3.50
\$250 to \$300.....	4.00
\$300 to \$350.....	4.50
\$350 to \$400.....	5.00
\$400 to \$450.....	5.50
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\$550 to \$600.....	7.00
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\$650 to \$700.....	8.00
\$700 to \$750.....	8.50
\$750 to \$800.....	9.00
\$800 to \$850.....	9.50
\$850 to \$900.....	10.00
\$900 to \$950.....	10.50
\$950 to \$1,000.....	11.00

During the year buildings have sprung up on every hand as if by magic. Stone blocks that would be a credit to any city have been erected at costs from \$50,000 to \$85,000, and the amount of lumber put into buildings during the year is measured by the hundreds of carloads. The output of gold for the year approximates \$2,000,000, and of the camp to date \$7,000,000, and the work of the past year has been hampered by many adverse circumstances. Most of the leases expired in January and when the companies took possession of their properties they found them in no condition to be worked systematically, and to secure that end has taken months of labor. Most of them are now in good shape to render a good account.

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Per oz. Under 5 oz. gold..... \$19.00 Under 5 oz. to 15 oz..... 19.50 Under 15 oz. to 30 oz..... 19.75 Over 30 oz..... 20.00

This basis of settlement is better for the miner and while there is an increase in the flat rate for treatment the reduction in the freight rate and the difference in method of settlement have made a change from about \$3 per ton the total charges under the old rates of \$23.50 under the present. The mine owners still contend that this rate is too high, and that there should be substantial reduction before they will ship their rich ores, more than is necessary to pay running expenses.

Made Many Persons Rich.

Goldfield has made rich more prospectors, locators and business men than any other camp in the west. Very conservative estimates recently made as to the number of men who have made from \$10,000 to \$250,000 during the past two years in mining and in business in Goldfield place the number at not less than 200. At a recent reception tendered United States Senator Newlands, at the Montezuma club, which, by the way, is the wealthiest social club in Nevada, there were 65 men present and there were counted 39 of the number who had to their credit from \$10,000 to \$250,000 and yet the 26 of them could not have counted \$10,000 among them when they struck Goldfield.

It would be difficult to get a location today within a radius of five miles of Goldfield. Over 5,000 locations have been made according to the records of the district recorder. Allowing that one-third of these are fraction claims averaging one-half a claim each, the 5,000 locations mean that the searchers for wealth have located about 140 square miles around Goldfield. About 500 incorporators are doing business with Goldfield properties as a basis of their organization.

Prosperous Business Town.

In a business way Goldfield is very prosperous. About 300 men are employed in the mines and mills and as many more are in surrounding camps like Tule canyon, Lida, Gold Crater, Red Rock all dependent upon Goldfield as a basis of supplies.

There are three banks in the camp, three well edited newspapers, the Sun, a daily, and the News and Review, weekly papers. Since the railroad reached the camp in October last prices have fallen considerably on all staple articles and now business is much on the basis as any other railroad camp.

Mining and Stock Exchange.

During the past few months the Goldfield Mining and Stock Exchange, about the heartiest youngster among the exchanges of the west, has been established. The need of such an institution was long felt in Goldfield and its success has been even greater than anticipated. Goldfield, Bullfrog and Tonopah stocks are dealt in and from 50,000 to 60,000 shares per day have changed hands since its organization on Oct. 1 last. The board of directors of the exchange is composed of H. T. Bragdon, also president, M. M. Ditch vice president, F. H. Lathrop, secretary, C. C. Campbell, assistant secretary, John S. Cook, treasurer, R. L. Colburn, J. H. Johnson, John Donellan, Henry Weber and J. P. O'Brien and its charter.

Values have generally increased since the establishment of the exchange, those enjoying the largest increase and sales being the Relly lease, the Relly Adams Consolidated, Goldfield Mining, Adams, Mohawk and Silver Pick.

The exchange is very popular, everybody is pulling for it and its daily output is good enough to ship without sorting, though, and from very reliable sources the "News" special correspondent learned that the truth about the output of the new famous lease is that R. J. Relly and his associates, John McKane and Jack Campbell, took out in 71 days 4,700 tons of ore which averaged \$35 per ton, a total of \$164,500.

Exaggerated Stories.

This sum has been exaggerated by the fairy tale writers and "wildcaters" to from \$600,000 to \$700,000. It needs no exaggeration. An average extraction of \$6,300 per day for 71 days is something wonderful in itself, and has been performed in very few places outside of Goldfield. Along with the performances

ed during the coming year. On the other claims of the Florence group there are 27 sets of leasers working, employing 90 men, all trying for boundless riches, like the Relly lease. Several have good veins of milling ore, but no rich finds have been made.

The Great Combination.

In equipment and development the Combination mine takes the lead in Goldfield, and it has been equalled in output only by the Florence, its neighbor to the south. Its record is a story of success in mining that reads like a fairy tale and is repeated over and over by the legitimate promoter to show the possibilities of his property and magnify the "wild-cat" to catch the unwary investors. It was located by Alva D. Myers for himself and associates, and was among the first locations

of the Florence, the deepest workings in the camp. An encouraging feature to the management is the presence of copper in the sulphide zone. It is found in the form of grey copper and bornite, and one of the last shipments made averaged 2 1/2 per cent copper.

The company recently installed a 40 horse-power electric hoist, the first in the camp, an electric blower and pump. The power is furnished by the Nevada Power & Milling company, and is brought from Bishop Creek, Cal., 30 miles away. Four thousand gallons of water are being pumped from the mine daily.

Fifty-two men are employed at the mine, and enough ore is blocked out to keep a 10-ton mill running for several years. A combination mill will be erected

secured for \$15,000 for one year with a cash payment of \$5,000.

When Work Began.

Work was commenced on the shaft in the latter part of October, 1903, and the first shipment went to market in two weeks. It was 15-ton ore, and no shipment has been made since running less than that amount. From the ore extracted in the shaft alone down to 80 feet, the balance of \$70,000 due on the property was paid. Over 1,700 tons have since been shipped, running from \$200 to \$300, which with the ore milled has reached a total output valued at \$1,800,000. The mine has a mile of underground workings, has erected a mill at a cost of \$100,000, put in a pipe line to furnish water, costing \$35,000, is equipped with an electric hoist capable of developing to a depth of 1,000 feet. Keeps a treasury reserve of \$100,000 in cash, has paid \$22,000 in dividends, which is 120 per cent of the capitalization issued, and has blocked out ore enough to keep a 20-stamp mill crushing 70 tons a day for five years to come. All this has been done in two years, and it is no wonder that Goldfield is the Mecca of the prospector, miner and capitalist.

The Combination Mines company was organized to operate at the Combination group of four claims and a fraction and owns the Goldfield group of six claims, also, a short distance to the south of the Florence. On the latter group only assessment work has so far been performed. The company is capitalized at \$400,000 at \$1 per share, and has issued only 320,000 shares, and this is all closely held, with no sales of stock on the market.

On the Combination, five shafts have been sunk, the deepest being 200 feet. The vein has a strike from northwest to southwest and dips to the southwest until it reaches the sulphide zone, and then changes to the northeast. The ore so far extracted have been in the oxidized zone, above the 150 ft. level.

A Ten Stamp Mill.

A ten-stamp mill was completed and put into operation in April last, and has been successfully treating about 35 tons per day of ore running from \$40 to \$60. An addition of ten stamps with concentrating tables is now being made to handle the sulphide ore. The process used is a combination of amalgamation, concentration and cyaniding, and secures an extraction of better than 90 per cent. The values have not changed in the sulphide zone, and it is an encouraging feature that only in the last few days the Mayne, Loftus and Sherman lease on the Sandstorm has cut into a large body of \$100,000 ore. This lease also took out recently 174 sacks that averaged \$11.75 per ton, 148 sacks that went \$14.00 and 690 sacks that went \$44.00 per ton. These runs until Sept. 1, 1905, and the Relly Adams Consolidated, R. J. Relly, A. H. Mayne and Judge W. A. Sherman have an assurance of belief on easy street for some time to come.

The Adams Group.

The Adams consists of a group of three claims controlled by R. L. Johns and W. A. Braden lying between the Sandstorm and Tonopah Club. The company leases four men at work under the McKane, and has several ledges opened from four to six feet wide, showing values from \$20 to \$40. The stock is one of the most active on the Goldfield exchange and has been steadily increasing in value.

Silver Pick.

The Silver Pick is one of the coming properties of Goldfield. It is owned by Colorado Springs people and they are pushing development. The mine is a quarter mile from the town of Goldfield and they lie north of and adjoining the Combination and January mines. A shaft has been put down 125 feet and 400 feet of drifting done all in ore running from \$10 to \$20. Several ledges are being worked and one of them recently uncovered from feet of \$140 ore 10 feet from the surface.

The Atlanta.

The Atlanta Mining company has four claims lying east of the Jumbo and Florence and at present 24 sets of leasers are at work on the property, employing 60 men. There are four shafts down to a depth of 125 feet at once. There are several veins in the property from three to eight feet wide with \$25 values. On account of its favorable location besides the fact that Atlanta stock is in great demand.

Jumbo Extension.

H. B. Lind organized and promoted the Jumbo Extension company which is now entering the ranks of the shippers. The company owns five claims south of the Sandstorm and north of the Jumbo, one north of the St. Ives, and a fraction lying between the Jumbo and Red Top. The claims are nearly all under lease and some rich ore is being won from the Gold Coin at Diamondfield, seven tons of ore netting \$708 and 200 tons are awaiting shipment that will go better than \$300.

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secured for \$15,000 for one year with a cash payment of \$5,000.

When Work Began.

Work was commenced on the shaft in the latter part of October, 1903, and the first shipment went to market in two weeks. It was 15-ton ore, and no shipment has been made since running less than that amount. From the ore extracted in the shaft alone down to 80 feet, the balance of \$70,000 due on the property was paid. Over 1,700 tons have since been shipped, running from \$200 to \$300, which with the ore milled has reached a total output valued at \$1,800,000. The mine has a mile of underground workings, has erected a mill at a cost of \$100,000, put in a pipe line to furnish water, costing \$35,000, is equipped with an electric hoist capable of developing to a depth of 1,000 feet. Keeps a treasury reserve of \$100,000 in cash, has paid \$22,000 in dividends, which is 120 per cent of the capitalization issued, and has blocked out ore enough to keep a 20-stamp mill crushing 70 tons a day for five years to come. All this has been done in two years, and it is no wonder that Goldfield is the Mecca of the prospector, miner and capitalist.

The Combination Mines company was organized to operate at the Combination group of four claims and a fraction and owns the Goldfield group of six claims, also, a short distance to the south of the Florence. On the latter group only assessment work has so far been performed. The company is capitalized at \$400,000 at \$1 per share, and has issued only 320,000 shares, and this is all closely held, with no sales of stock on the market.

On the Combination, five shafts have been sunk, the deepest being 200 feet. The vein has a strike from northwest to southwest and dips to the southwest until it reaches the sulphide zone, and then changes