

# Review of the Old and New Mines of Tonopah District

THE discoveries of Jim Butler at Tonopah are operated today under the name of the Tonopah Mining company of Nevada, one of the strongest mining companies in the great west. It was organized by O. A. Turner, who had the nerve to draw on his people for \$50,000 to bind the bargain on a purchase price of \$300,000 for the mine. Turner saw the possibilities in the Butler properties and the fact that several eminent engineers had turned them down had no effect on him. He felt a good deal like Jim Butler did, that because the ledges did not go up they must surely go down and that their enormous production at that time under the operations of the leasers would surely continue long enough to play even. His judgment was good and the purchasing crowd have taken out about \$7,000,000 and now have \$39,000,000 of ore in sight in the mine, with the possibility that several times that amount will be visible with a small amount of new development work. The mine has produced \$10,120,767 and is paying out an average of \$80 tons per week running from \$60 to \$80 per ton.

The Tonopah company constructed the Tonopah railroad, 69 miles long, from Tonopah to Goldfield to connect with the Virginia and Truckee road and the cost of the road was returned to the company in the first six months of its operation. It has been changed to a standard gauge and connects with the Southern Pacific at Mina and has been extended to Goldfield 30 miles to the south. The company has paid \$1,000,000 in dividends besides retiring its preferred stock, 300,000 shares at \$1 per share which is a return of 100 per cent of the capitalization. Besides that the common stock par value \$1, is now held at \$10. The Tonopah company so far has not discovered any sulphide ores and the ore is susceptible of economical treatment by the usual methods of cyaniding.

## A 100 Ton Mill.

A 100-ton mill is now being erected at Millers, 14 miles northwest of Tonopah to handle the milling ores from the mine which run about \$40 per ton. An electric power plant has also been built at Millers to furnish power for the mill and the mines at Tonopah where electric hoists of the most improved patterns are being installed. The mine is operated through shafts on the Mizpah, Silver Top, Desert Queen and Red Plume claims, the principal work being done at the Mizpah. This shaft is 80 feet deep, the Desert Queen 110 feet, the Silver Top 750 feet and the Red Plume is a new shaft 450 feet deep. The ore bodies are the largest in the camp ranging from a few feet to 20 feet wide the values going from \$40 in milling ore to over \$100 in the mill. The ore is shipped in the mill. F. A. Keith, formerly in charge of the Bamberger-Delamar mines at Delamar, Nevada, is manager of the company, and B. W. Turner is superintendent.

## Tonopah-Belmont.

The Tonopah-Belmont and the Jim Butler companies, owning the ground to the east and south of the Tonopah company's holdings, are under the management and control of the latter company. The Belmont is being operated through the Desert Queen shaft and is shipping about 100 tons per week of high grade ore. The Jim Butler is doing only development work at present, but piling up a heavy tonnage of millable ore. Both the Belmont and Jim Butler properties are among the best mines of Tonopah, especially the Belmont, as it carries the eastern extension of the big leads of the Tonopah company, the Mizpah, Burro and Valley View. The combination of the Tonopah, Belmont and Jim Butler is doubt one of the most valuable groups of mines controlled by a few men in Nevada.

## Montana-Tonopah.

The story of the Montana-Tonopah is one that is full of interest and illustrates what nerve and perseverance will do in mining when backed by good judgment, and the story of Montana-Tonopah cannot well be told without reference to Chas. E. Knox, the president and organizer of the company and its first general manager. Charlie Knox, as he is popularly known in Tonopah, came to Tonopah first in 1901. He had purchased a block of stock in the Tonopah company in Philadelphia, where he was in business as manager of the West & Knox Mfg. Co., manufacturers of fire protection supplies. Mr. Knox had, from 1889 to 1891, mined in Montana, near Butte, and knowing something of mining and methods came to Tonopah to look up his investment in the Tonopah company. He was soon convinced of its value and of the great possibilities of the camp. He added to his holdings in the Tonopah another large block of stock, which he still holds, and soon commenced negotiations to acquire the ground which is now comprised in the Montana-Tonopah company holdings. It claims and several fractions. The task was not an easy one, for there were 41 individual owners in the different claims, and to unite them all in one company, each man to take stock for his inter-



THE GREAT MONTANA-TONOPAH MINE IN WHICH SEVERAL SALT LAKERS ARE INTERESTED.

## TONOPAH ORE OUTPUT IN FIVE YEARS, \$10,120,767.

Below is given the ore output of Tonopah since the discovery of the camp five years ago. These figures are given as approximately correct. The exact figures of the output of the leasers in the early days of the camp are not obtainable but those given are not far from the correct figures:

TONOPAH OF NEVADA.	
Shipped by leasers	\$ 3,000,000
Worked by leasers at mill	863,927
Shipped by Company since expiration of leases	5,691,940
Milling ore on dumps	564,900
Total	\$10,120,767
MONTANA-TONOPAH.	
Ore shipped since May, 1903	\$ 813,542
Milling ore on dumps	309,000
Total	\$ 1,122,542
TONOPAH-EXTENSION.	
Ore shipped since October, 1904	\$ 726,700
Milling ore on dumps	209,900
Total	\$ 936,600
TONOPAH-MIDWAY.	
Ore shipped since February, 1905	\$ 324,000
Milling ore on dumps	10,000
Total	\$ 334,000
EELMONT.	
Ore shipped since January, 1905	\$ 234,000
Milling ore on dumps	45,000
Total	\$ 279,000
JIM BUTLER.	
Total shipments	\$ 63,000
NORTH STAR.	
Total shipments	\$ 64,250
WEST END.	
Ore shipped	\$ 11,500
Milling ore on dumps	40,000
Total	\$ 51,500

Total production from eight mines in first five years of work, \$13,000,559.

Tonopah Power company for electric power to operate the new plant.

Experiments are being made with the ore to ascertain the best method of treatment and during the coming year it is the intention to erect a plant to treat the ores at the mine.

On the board of directors of the company are the following: Charles E. Knox, R. P. Dunlap, George F. Badgett, George S. Nixon, Dudley Baldwin, A. J. Samuel, E. B. Wampler, J. J. McQuellan and Thomas J. Lynch. Mr. Knox was manager for the company until Aug. 31, 1904, when he was succeeded by Donald B. Gillies, who resigned July 1, 1905, much to the regret of the company. Mr. Gillies was succeeded as manager by John A. Kirby of Salt Lake, and under his management there can be no question of the future of the Montana-Tonopah. It is a great mine, in good hands, and to its success Tonopah owes much of its present greatness and possibilities. As a result of its operations have been developed the Tonopah Extension, the Tonopah-Midway and all the other properties in the sulphide zone.

## MacNamara Mine.

The MacNamara is newly situated in the heart of the Tonopah mineral belt, having the Tonopah Extension on the north, the West End on the south, and the Tonopah in the west. It is being prospected for the extension of the Tonopah ledges with as much certainty of becoming a big mine as the West End and the Tonopah Extension.

## Ohio-Tonopah.

Just west of the MacNamara and West End lies the Ohio-Tonopah with a length of territory extending from the southern limits of the Jim Butler to the Tonopah Extension in a direct line of the western extension of several of the famous Bonanza veins. Equipped with modern machinery, the Ohio-Tonopah is a new shaft from four feet to ten feet deep. It was recently reported that a rich strike had been made in the property and while the management has nothing to say it is the general belief that the Ohio-Tonopah will soon be gladdening the hearts and

Two big dividends. Two dividends amounting to \$150,000 have been paid by the company and a large reserve is always maintained in the treasury. During the coming year the hoisting plant will be entirely changed, with a new steel head frame, a new hoisting engine, large enough to operate double deck cages to a depth of 1,500 feet, and new and larger compressors. Contracts have been let with the

swelling the pockets of its stockholders.

## Little-Tonopah Development.

The Little-Tonopah Development company has the biggest block of ground in the camp and the smallest capitalization, being incorporated under the laws of California for 100,000 in 31 shares. It has 25 claims lying north and west of the Schwab-McKane properties and in the mineralized belt carrying the Montana-Tonopah veins in their western course. Thos. R. Bannerman, the president of the Tonopah board of trade, and the Mizpah club of Tonopah, is at the head of the Little-Tonopah company and is confident of placing it second to none in the camp, not even the "big" Tonopah, with the same amount of development work.

## The Pioneers of Tonopah.

The camp of Tonopah has been especially fortunate in the character of the men who got in on the ground floor. They were early convinced that the camp possessed possibilities rarely discovered and their faith in the camp has been shown by the manner in which they have reinvested the money made there and the way they have held on to and developed the property early acquired. Among the "old crowd" there has always been a friendly feeling and there is scarcely a project for the good of Tonopah advanced but which several of the "crowd" are interested in. A picture given herewith shows most of the "original bunch." This picture was taken at the time the building of ground for the Montana-Tonopah shaft. At the time of the discovery of Tonopah, the combined capital of the party here represented outside of C. E. Knox would have been under \$5,000.

Represent Much Money. Today they represent as much if not more money than any other similar number of men in Nevada. Reading from left to right, standing, in the picture are Isaac McKay, James Foran, Robt. Stewart, Mrs. J. L. Butler, James L. Butler, Wm. Brougher, Chas. E. Knox, E. L. Oddie, Geo. Badgett, Thos. J. Lynch, Michael Sullivan, sitting, Wm. Douglas, Fred J. Siebert, Mrs. Walter Gayhart, Walter Gayhart, Mrs. Wm. Brougher, Miss Brougher. Among the other old timers who continue to back their faith in Tonopah with their money are James McQuellan, Frank Golden, H. C. Cutting, Cal. Broughton, George Wingfield and Tom Kendall. Most of these men have been instrumental in bringing out Goldfield and the Bullfrog country, and in this respect, the most energetic man is T. L. Oddie.

Oddie Was Early. Mr. Oddie was one of the first to get into Goldfield and in the Gardner & Oddie lease on the Kendall tract out considerable money, but he put it back again in numerous other properties, among which are the Nevada Roy, Columbia Mountain, Kendall, Sandstorm and in the erection of the Gardner and Oddie custom mill. In the Bullfrog district, Mr. Oddie has heavy interests at Indian Springs near Beatty, is president of the Eclipse and Denver properties on Bonanza mountain, is the heavy owner in the Tramp claims, also on Bonanza mountain, and is operating several other valuable groups among which are the Christmas, Tail End, Victor and High groups. He has also purchased the Peitces ranch at Beatty, which has a flow of 1,500,000 gallons of water daily, to provide water for the future operation of his mines. As state senator from Nye county, Mr. Oddie was one of the leaders in the last Nevada legislature, and is a lead-

er today in every movement that is for the upbuilding of southwestern Nevada.

## Silver Peak Country.

Silver Peak is an old camp, having been discovered away back during "earliest times," about 1864, and has had a checkered career. Up and down with the price of silver, away from transportation, it has still managed to roll up a production of two and a half million dollars to its credit. It is 35 miles west of Tonopah, beyond the Lone Mountain district, and has a mineralized belt about 12 miles long and two miles wide, the values generally between a contact of lime and granite.

The only property working to any extent at Silver Peak is the Mohawk-Alpine, controlled by Tonopah and New York people, who are, with a five-stamp mill, shipping to the mill \$10,000 per month in gold bars. It has been decided to put in five stamps more at once, and a expanding plant of 40 tons capacity. The mill is five miles from the mine, but during the coming year it is expected that arrangements will be made to mill the ore at the mine. The mine adjoins the Blair mine which has been the great producer of the camp and also the property of the Silver Peak and Drinkwater Mining company, and a deal has just been consummated which consolidates these several properties in one name—Mohawk-Alpine. The new owners are none other than the Schwab syndicate, which is doing so much now for the development of the great southwest. The Blair has a record for nearly \$2,000,000 production in silver values, and the values today are gold, which lie in bodies 90 to 100 feet wide, averaging close to \$10 per ton.

In the deal just consummated the consolidated group will be one of the biggest properties in Nevada, for it has within its boundaries almost unlimited deposits of low grade gold ore. Morris L. Effinger and Dr. E. W. Ross of Tonopah had the option on the property and are at the helm in shaping up the new company.

T. L. Oddie and J. A. Knapp of Tonopah have some valuable holdings in Silver Peak and are doing considerable development work there.

## Lone Mountain.

Lone Mountain mining district lies about 16 miles west of Tonopah and was a thriving camp along in the early seventies. At that time the General Tonopah mine shipped some rich ore from there, but the camp died out and was revived since the birth of Tonopah. The ores of the district are lead, silver and copper, and are found in the contacts of lime and shale and lime and granite. There are quite a number of companies operating there, all getting ore running about \$40 to \$50 with a few higher than that. Among these companies are the Tonopah-Alpine, Tonopah Monarch, Paymaster, Columbia, Argenta, Princess Maud, Rose, McMillon, Enterprise, Nevada-Alpine and Anaconda-Tonopah. The latter has a considerable force working steadily and recently made a big strike. In a cross-cut from a winze from the 20-foot level the ore was encountered and drilled through for more than 20 feet, the whole mass assaying about \$40. As the property is only six miles from the railroad, this would be shipping ore and as soon as developed sufficiently shipments will commence. J. W. Langley, an old Salt Lake, is manager of the company. H. P. Nyston is president and D. S. Murray of the Bell Telephone company is vice president. But the big Lone Mountain property is the Nevada-Alpine, belonging to Thomas J. Lynch of Tonopah, and the C. Mearns Bros. of Salt Lake City. This was acquired by them in 1902, and incorporated in 1903. It has been a dividend payer from the start and is now netting O'Meara & Lynch over \$10,000 per month. The ore is a lead-silver ore and markets at about \$300 per ton. The vein has been cut recently in a 600-foot tunnel, which gives 32 feet of ore for stoping. The vein at this point is two feet wide and improving in width as depth is secured in a winze going down the tunnel level. The Nevada-Alpine has secured much additional ground and is now prepared for vigorous prospecting through the tunnel. Thomas J. Lynch is in charge of the property and has 10 men at work.

## TONOPAH, the "CITY OF DESTINY"

By THOS. R. BANNERMAN.

On last "Fourth of July" the members of the San Francisco Stock & Mining Exchange board visited Tonopah and were most hospitably entertained at a banquet given in their honor by its citizens.

Among the speakers on the occasion were bright, brainy, experienced mining men from every quarter of the globe, and it is needless to state, the flower of their eloquence was not permitted to "waste its fragrance on the desert air."

Chauncies, Chances and Cockrams were as thick as bees at that festive board, and each in turn glowingly dwelt upon the same golden theme—the vast extent and extraordinary richness of the mineral bearing ledges of the Tonopah mining district.

But there was one of their number—one of Tonopah's youthful and most successful pioneers—who found inspiration not in the gold and silver lined chambers of Mount Oddie, the natural treasure vault of the district, but from the dizzy heights of old Parnassus himself.

Thomas J. Lynch, in a peroration that evoked a ringing outburst of applause, addressed the visitors from the Golden Gate as follows:

"Come in the evening, or come in the morning,  
Come when you're looked for, or come without warning,  
Good cheer and welcome you'll find here  
Before you part."  
And the orator you come here, THE MORE WE WILL SHOW YOU.  
This apt and timely paraphrasing of a

stanza from an old love song with reference to the mineral wealth of Tonopah, might with certainty be said to contain "more truth than poetry."

It is literally true that the oftener a capitalist or mining man visits Tonopah the more he will see of the immense mineral riches that traverse the district and which for a distance of over two miles from Mount Oddie, the site of the Mizpah, Belmont, Montana, Midway, North Star, Gold Hill, and other famous mines, are being steadily developed.

Scarcely a week passes that some new development or discovery does not occur to sustain the belief, long entertained by the most enlightened operators of the district, that Tonopah is a camp of destiny. The circumstances of its original discovery, the new, extraordinary physical conditions it presented to the prospector and miner, its remoteness, in the heart of an absolutely treeless, almost waterless desert, from the nearest outposts of civilization; the poverty, financially speaking, of its earliest pioneers, and the trials and hardships they carefully and courageously endured; and, most of all, this potentate, adverse condition and misrepresentation to which it was subjected by ill-informed, or ill-disposed writers, "experts," and "promoters," tend, by the light of its present showing, to justify so reasonable a conclusion. As late as the beginning of the third year of its existence, Tonopah, in financial centers "not a thousand miles from home," was sweeping condemned as a "wildcat" district. The term "wildcat" in its popular application to mining operations, is a synonym for "a hole in the ground" in which the numerous cannot show a trace or indication of mineral, and whose efforts consequently involve a reckless or dishonest expenditure of the money entrusted to them by credulous backers or stockholders. This term of disparagement and reproach had long been applied, unthinkingly and parrot-like by some, and meaningfully by others, to the numerous shafts which were being sunk, chiefly by the earliest pioneers—the corps of young men who, as leasers on the "Mizpah" and other claims, as far as their original "locations" made by James L. Butler, the "Father of Tonopah," had suddenly amassed well deserved fortunes. It was a trying uphill struggle for the pioneers, but they won. Notoriously and completely, has long since been demonstrated. Each one of the enormous ore dumps that rise today on the grounds of the Belmont, Montana, Midway, West End, MacNamara, Tonopah Extension, Golden Anchor, McKane, West Tonopah, Little Tonopah, Cash Boy, North Star, Jim Butler, California, New York Tonopah, Tonopah Standard, Boston, Resolute, Ohio, Red Rock, Great Western and other incorporated, and with one or two exceptions, and with one company, is a monument to their intelligence, pluck and tireless energy. And yet it would seem that they build better than they know, inasmuch as the spheres of their early operations have already been extended far beyond what was at first regarded as the boundary of Tonopah's mineral belt. The wealth of Chas. M. Schwab, John McKane, even down to the fringe of the "wash" in the valley, will be discovered mines fully as rich and extensive as those which have already made Tonopah famous.

Butte, Mont., which in its topographical outlines, bears a striking resemblance to Tonopah, has also been the scene of similar down-hill trend of development.

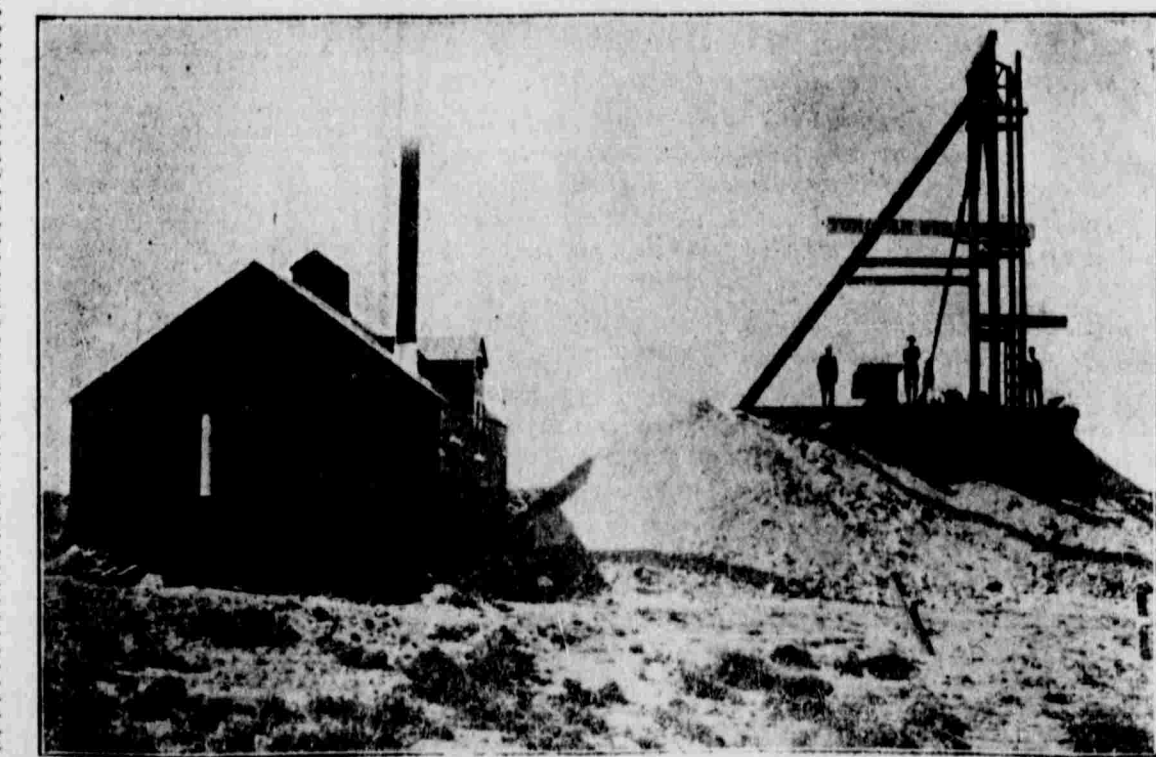
Tonopah was discovered by a man of large heart but of slender financial resources—honest Jim Butler—and during the first year of its history its only operators were men of like financial standing. But it has long since ceased to be what is known in conventional parlance, "a poor man's camp."

Nearly all its mining locations have become the property of the incorporated companies, for the reason that no individual operator, save a large capitalist, or millionaire, with a penchant for hazardous enterprises, could afford the cost of sinking through the lava capping that overlies the mineral-bearing formation of the district, a prospecting shaft or shafts a thousand to 1,000 feet in depth. Numerous shafts of such depth are at present being sunk under the supervision of some of the ablest engineers and mining superintendents on the continent, and under all signs and theories fall, the coming year of 1906 will witness new and most sensational discoveries of minerals in the Tonopah district, and particularly

in its westerly and northerly sections. On the occasion of his first visit to Tonopah, in April, 1904, the great and magnate, Chas. M. Schwab, after a careful inspection of the several mines through which he was escorted, eloquently commended the men of the community for the great work they had accomplished under such trying conditions, and with great emphasis and perspicuity, pictured Tonopah of the future.

Mr. Schwab's second visit, which took place last October, gave the gentlemen the opportunity to observe the marvelous rapidity with which his predictions were being fulfilled.

His first journey across the desert was made on top of a big-horse stage coach, his second in a Pullman coach, brilliantly lighted by electricity.



THE TONOPAH-STANDARD MINE AND HOIST HOUSE



THE REAL PIONEER MEN AND WOMEN OF TONOPAH