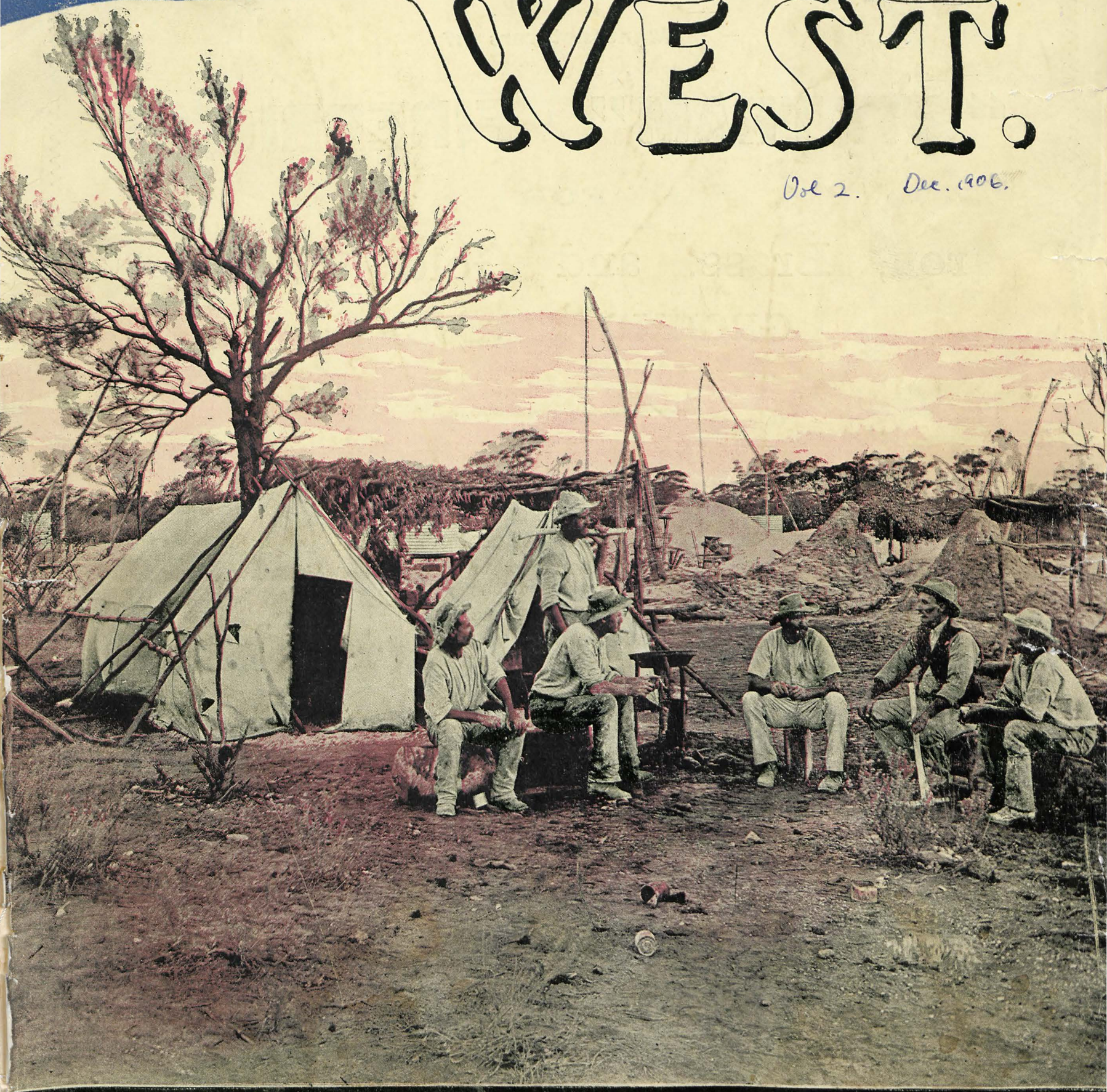
THE GOLDEN WEST.

Vol 2. Dec. 1906.



A SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL

Edited by R. CLARKE SPEAR.

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

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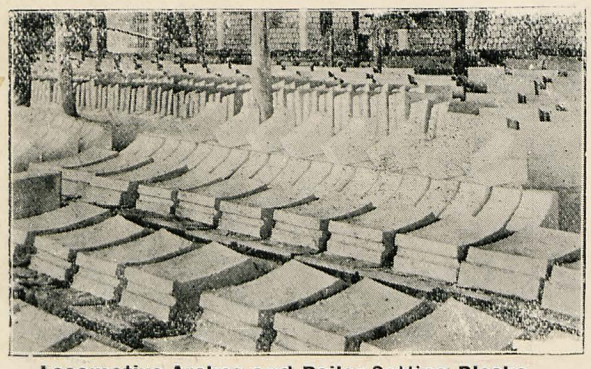
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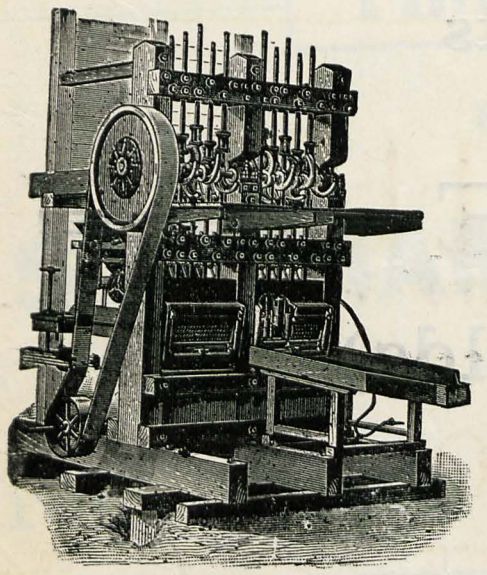
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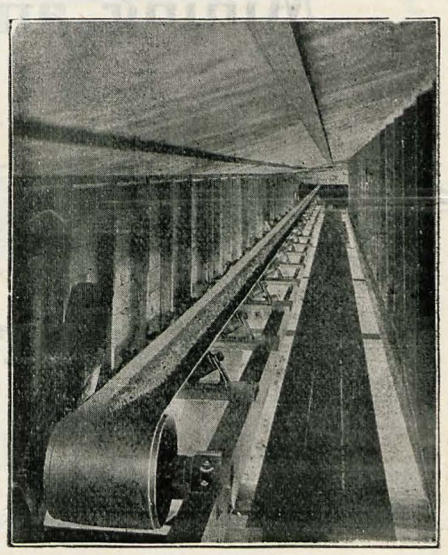
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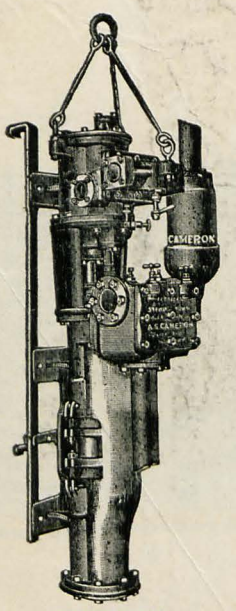


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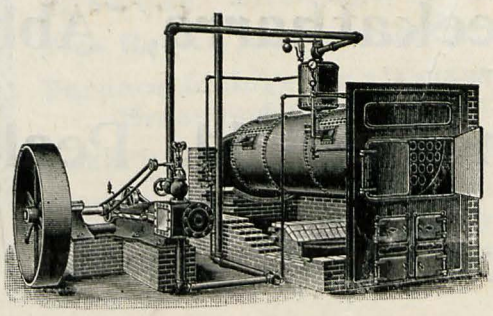
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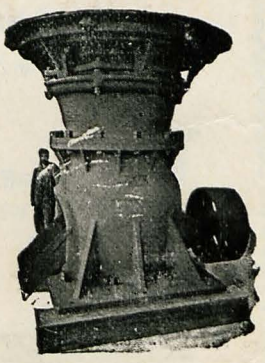
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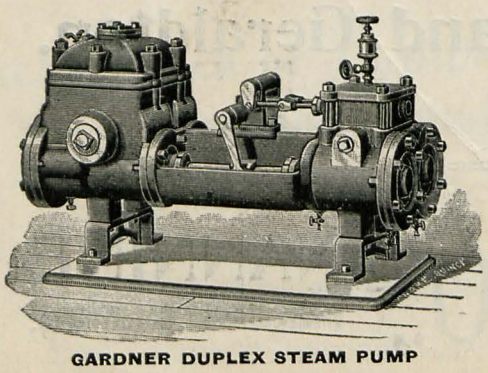
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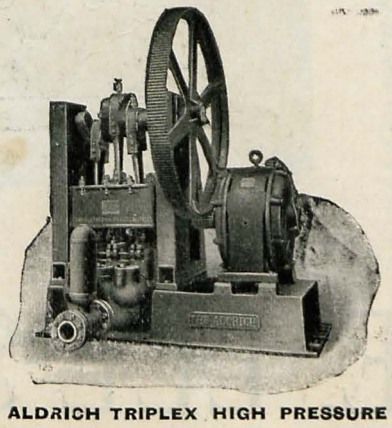
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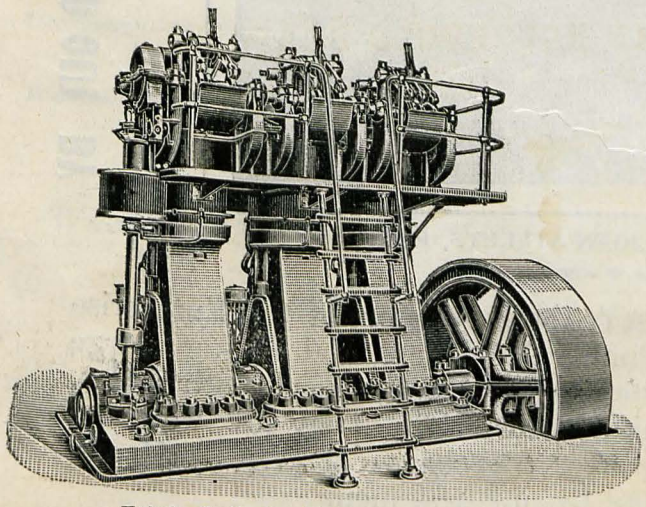
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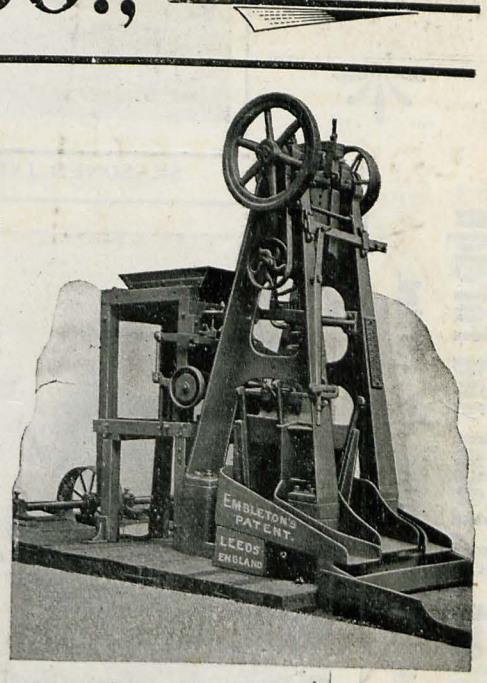
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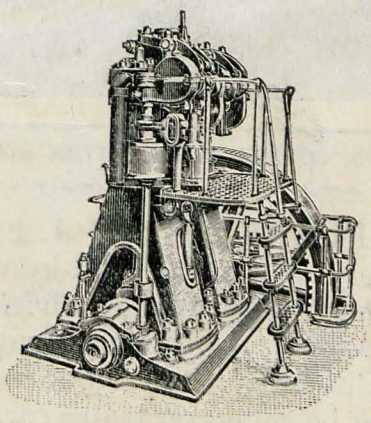


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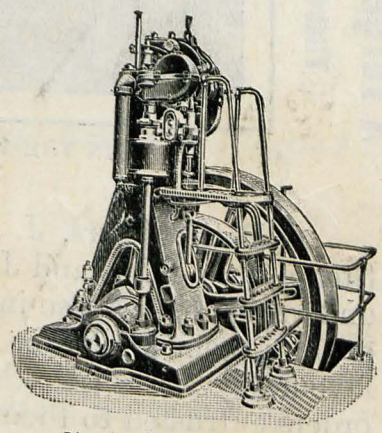
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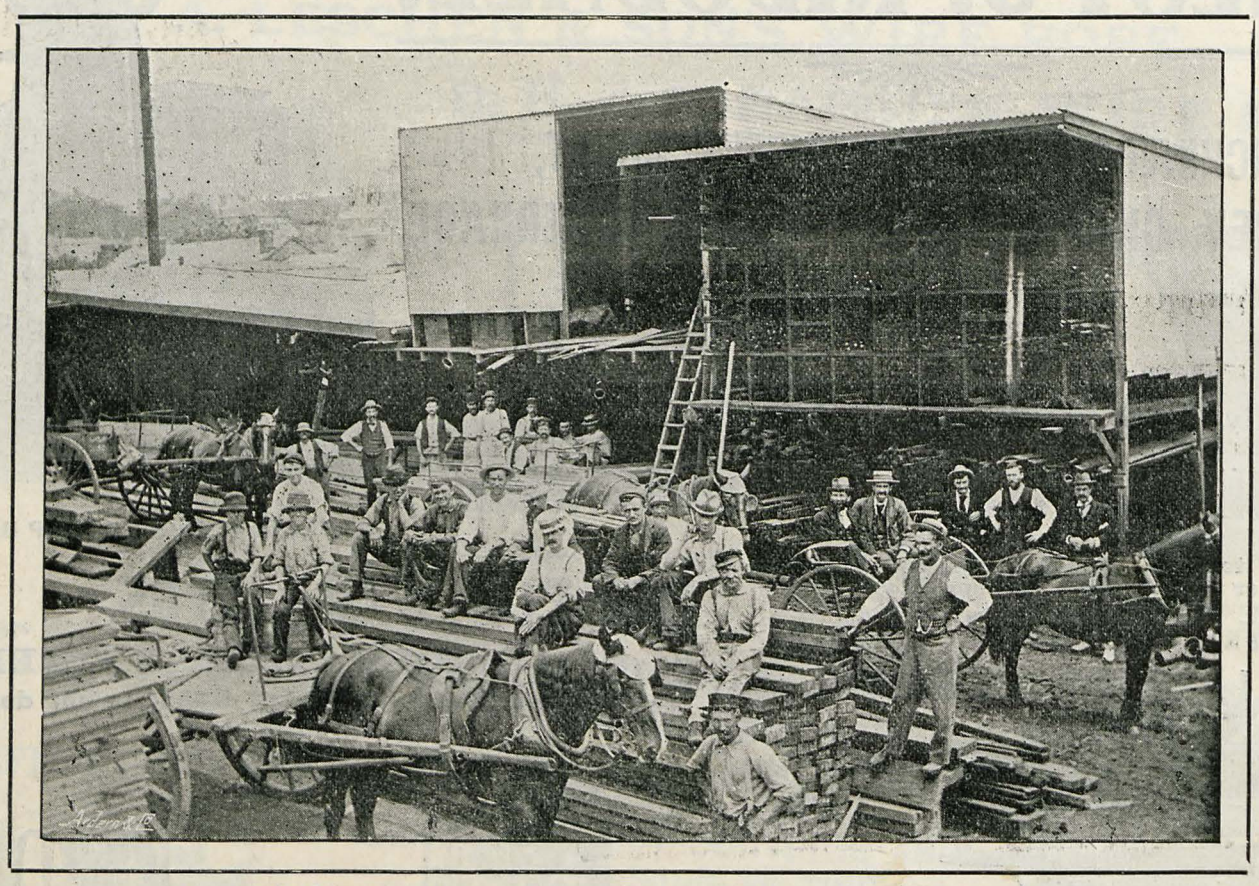
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PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 5th DECEMBER, 1906.

THE GOLDEN WEST

A SPECIAL ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL.

(EDITED BY R. CLARKE SPEAR.)

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PREFACE.

LAST year's issue of "THE GOLDEN WEST," in addition to being something of a chronicle of the State in which we live, and of the men and factors that have made it great, and are continuing to make it greater, dealt in Mining chiefly with the Eastern and North-Eastern Goldfields.

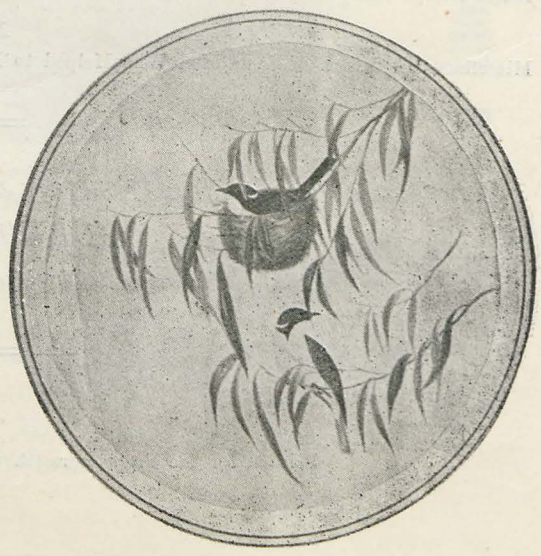
The Mining matter in the present issue will be found to treat largely with the Murchison Goldfields—a gold-bearing area of approved wealth, and still greater possibilities, though one more or less neglected and obscured during the last decade by reason of the consistently magnificent returns from the other great belt referred to.

But that even such a great field as Kalgoorlie has proven itself to be is not quite the limit to the auriferous possibilities of Western Australia, this present issue is contemplated to show.

That end achieved, the work and travel—"THE GOLDEN WEST" is not written from hearsay—incidental to compilation will certainly not have been in vain.

R. CLARKE SPEAR.

Perth, 5th December, 1906.



Introductory.

Discovery—A Correction in Dates—The Mines and the State—A Three-Party Federation—The Yoke that Galls—Increase in Gold Yield New Discoveries—and Settlement—Political Development.

IN the initial number of this Annual, published last year, the history of the discovery of the land in which we are living was presented. One might be pardoned for thinking that a chronicle of the happenings of a couple of hundred years ago would not be possible of revision during the course of a year. Yet this revision has been effected officially.

We stated that in 1619, or thereabouts, a Dutch voyager named Dirk Hartogs nailed a tin plate to a post at the North end of Barren Island in Shark Bay. And we went on to assert that this tin plate was last seen by Willem de Vlaming in 1697. This information was good last year. But it is no good now. The plate was seen less than one hundred years ago by one Captain tain Hamelin in 1801, and by Baudin, the Commander of the French exploring vessel, "Naturaliste," in 1803. But the plate had disappeared in January, 1822, when King caused a careful search to be made for it. This disappearance can be accounted for by a statement made by De Freycinet to the effect that he had removed it, and deposited it for safe keeping in the Museum of the French Institute, which fact is referred to in the minutes of the Society, dated the 23rd March, 1821. In spite, however, of this statement, a careful search very recently made by the Secretary of the Institute has failed to discover its present whereabouts.

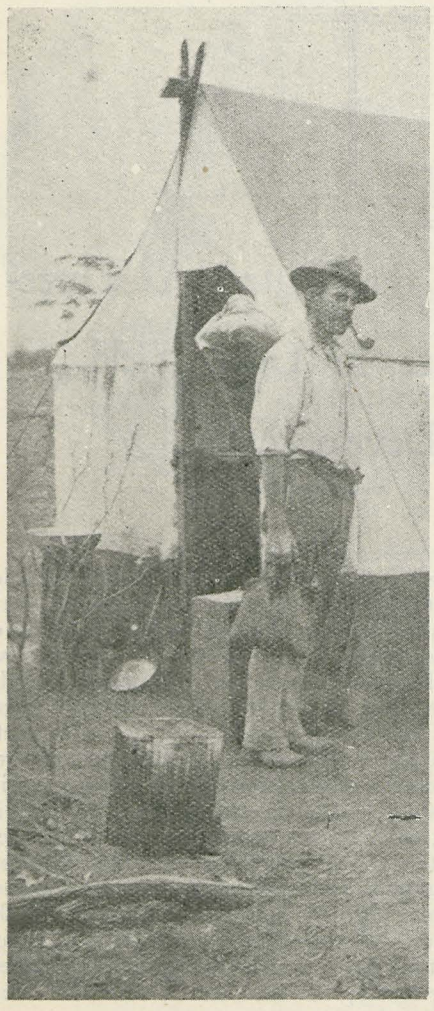
Except for this unexpected amendment the history of W.A., up to 1905, as presented in the first number of THE GOLDEN WEST holds good, and may be relied upon. It was written as a sober and soun chronicle, and not as a romantic presentation of formulative upheavals and disturbances and social and political evolution. As a matter of fact W.A. did not upheave in any way from the day Captain Stirling landed until John G. Dunn discovered the Wealth of Nations prize packet for a local syndicate. Then W.A. thrilled to some small extent. But "The Wealth" blew out speedily, and so did the local interest in gold mining.

It has been repeated that the gold mines have made the State, and there are people who persist this way. But they are not West Australians. The native-born Westralian unhesitatingly asserts that but for the discovery of gold this division of Australia would have been at least a colorable imitation of Paradise on earth. And, just in a casual way, it may be mentioned that the native-born Westralian was never more in evidence than he is at present. The leader of the Government of the day was born in the country less than 40 years ago. He was born in Bunbury, which languid settlement also produced Sir John Forrest, the strong man who was the political pilot of the State during the ten strenuous years whose first was marked by the granting of Responsible Government to the Crown Colony, and whose last was marred by the surrender of all the rights and privileges of effective autonomy to a three-party Federation, which, as far as can be gathered from the records, doesn't yet know what its basic principle is, and has not had time in six years to familiarise itself with the fact, patent to the world outside, that the West was for a good part of that period the consumer which kept the East out of the slough of stagnation, on the skirts of which —the West notwithstanding—it tottered perilously, in the lean periods of local demand.

The year which has elapsed since THE GOLDEN WEST made its last appearance has so far as W.A. is concerned, been uneventful except in one small particular, to be referred to later. The urgent necessity, and essential to progress — population — has steadily inflowed; land settlement has proceeded satisfactorily—as it should in a country in which any immigrant may squat upon and hold 160 acres, under the Free Homestead provision of the Land Act; new goldfields have been either discovered or re-discovered, and the gold yield has increased every year since the fields of the State were taken seriously by our respected relative Bull.



THE MOORE MINISTRY.



A Type of the West.

But what good is the gold to the country? What does Westralia get out of the licensed burglary of the coffers of Nature? This State receives the profit on the purchasing power of the sovereign of the wage-earner employed on, in, or about the mines. The gold goes, as sovereigns, out of our country and more sovereigns accompany the minted metal to pay dividends to foreign shareholders. Up to date we have produced a total of

16,373,838oz., value £69,551,724

of which English investors and others received as profit on their investments in the share market—which are gambling transactions according to the ruling of Judge McMillan—£15,470,529. Thirteen millions would pay all foreign losses in W.A. six times over, and then leave a surplus which would keep the wolf of want for ever from the doors of our Six Families. Had that £15,000,000 of dividends stayed in the country it belonged to, everything would have been lovely and the goose been hanging high outside every cottage door at this blessed Christmastide, instead of the shankbone of the cow or ox, buried in the earth to make it soft enough to chew as alleged roast beef, on the 25th thereof.

Two new fields have been developed and proved during the year. Black Range has established itself as a goldfield, and Ravensthorpe is in the way of proving itself one of the world's big things in copper. Local and "inter-State" money has got well into the gold proposition, but Bull has acquired the copper, out of which he will probably extract dividends—copper at £100 per ton being good handling, on a basis of 15 per cent. and over. Chillagoe ships coke from Newcastle to Cairns (Q.), trains it 142 miles, and makes the smelting of 3 per cent. ore pay. The average value of Phillips River Copper ore is 16 per cent., with gold values from 1oz. downwards additional. The Black Range field will keep our gold figures up. Of the copper country it will be early enough to speak next year.

* * *

The lands of the State have answered every question put them satisfactorily. The Royal Agricultural Show of 1906 was the best exhibition of its kind ever held in the State. Of each of the local shows—and every important centre had its own during the year—the same may be written. The exhibits of stock were in every class numerous and of high grade, and the display of products of the soil left nothing to be desired, except an army instead of its regiment of producers.

Within its rainfall area the State of W.A. has the finest farm lands—in places—in the Commonwealth, and when closely settled, that is, carrying ten scientific tillers of the earth where now one farmer follows the plough, will produce in great abundance.

In politics the event of the year was the agreement by both houses of the Legislature to a resolution affirming the desirableness of seceding from the Federation. Our State has gained little, if anything, from association with the others, and it appears to be on the cards that we may lose considerably before the Federation finds its feet and moves forward with the proud tread of a Nation of the Earth. That Australia will yet be a "One People, One Destiny" establishment there is no doubt. Meanwhile we are kicking—justifiably—because we are, too evidently, regarded and treated as quite another People with whom Destiny—in the form of the Federation—is too busy to bother itself. Our *amour propre* has been offended, and, consequently the secession resolutions—which amount, to nothing.

* * *

It is occasionally written, by authorities which should be better informed, that the days of discovery and mining development are done. Let us put down some figures showing the area of the goldfields :—

	Sq. Miles.
Kimberley	46,886
Pilbarra...	34,880
West Pilbarra	9,480
Asburton	14,252
Gascoyne	5,061
Peak Hill	12,194
Murchison	20,513
East Murchison	28,242
Mt. Margaret	42,154
Yalgoo	18,921
North Coolgardie ...	30,609
Yilgarn	15,593
East Coolgardie	632
North-East Coolgardie ...	21,542
Dundas	17,848
Donnybrook	102
Phillips River	1,300
Total square miles	320,209

Every adult male voter on the electoral rolls of the State could be furnished with about four square miles of country, for a claim-holding in this great area. And if every voter had a claim he would not be able to thoroughly prospect the block in less than some months. Half the gold product of the State comes from the smallest field—and the bulk of the yield from this rich tract comes from the world-famous Golden Mile—undoubtedly the richest streak of country on earth. Who is there rash enough to stand behind any assertion that in the two hundred million acres of proclaimed goldfields of Western Australia there is not another—there may not be many other patches of rich country? We fail to discover any such prophet in the ranks of the men with reputations to risk.

* * *

As a matter of fact the country has not been explored, to say nothing of prospected. In West Australia is all of Australia which has not been explored, and the the tract of undiscovered country is not a very great one. Somewhere in that patch are hidden the last pages in the life of Leichhardt the explorer.

* * *

Nearly sixty years have passed since he went out, and for that period "The Bush" has kept the secret of his resting place as closely as the Ages have held the secret of that other entombment "by Nebo's lonely mountain, on this side Jordan's wave."

Nearly forty years have elapsed since "the young surveyor John Forrest" went out in search of Leichhardt, and returned unsuccessful from the quest. Yet stories have come to us of a party of white men, some of whom lived with the aboriginals in the unexplored. And that patch of unexplored territory is not nearly as large as the goldfields of W.A.

* * *

If the survivors of Leichhardt's party—even the great explorer himself—could have remained *perdu* all these sixty years in a lesser area, is it not possible that there are undiscovered goldfields in the greater? We, at any rate, feel confident there are.

With every such discovery will be added prosperity to the State and wealth to the world, for it cannot be written of W.A. that its gold cost more to win than it was worth. And with every new mining camp of importance there will be added rigor to the State, a greater confidence in its future, and a steadfasting of the faith of men, not altogether blandly, blindly or optimistic that Australia will one day begin at Fremantle—the ocean gateway of the Golden West.



GREETINGS.

THE MURCHISON GOLDFIELDS.

Their Past and Present, and Probable Future—History of Discovery and Development—Early Finds and the Men who made them.

THE Murchison Goldfields time their discovery from 1891, when gold-bearing stone was struck on the Upper Murchison River by Messrs. Macpherson and Peterkin, a photo block of whom appears herewith.

They were the prospectors of Nannine, though it was as a result of an announcement made by Prospector Connelly—who received the Government Reward—to the authorities, that the Murchison field was proclaimed on the 24th of September, 1891, or just about twelve months prior to the reporting by Bayley and Ford of the presence of payable gold at Coolgardie. They had put in some time prospecting on the Murchison; indeed it was with the money obtained for the gold they won on that field that they left Perth in April of '92 for the Coolgardie trip But that is another story. Macpherson, abovementioned, and Bayley were mates on the Murchison, and Bayley Island on Lake Nannine still perpetuates the memory of the latter's early association with the district.

The Murchison Field, as originally declared, embraced an area of 64,854 square miles, but in January '95 what is known as the Yalgoo field was proclaimed a separate area, as was the East Murchison in June of the same year. The Murchison Field proper embraces an area of 20,513 square miles, its principal districts as officially marked out being Cue, Nannine, Day Dawn, and Mount Magnet, with numerous other centres of mining activity scattered throughout them, the warden's office for the field being head-quartered at Cue.

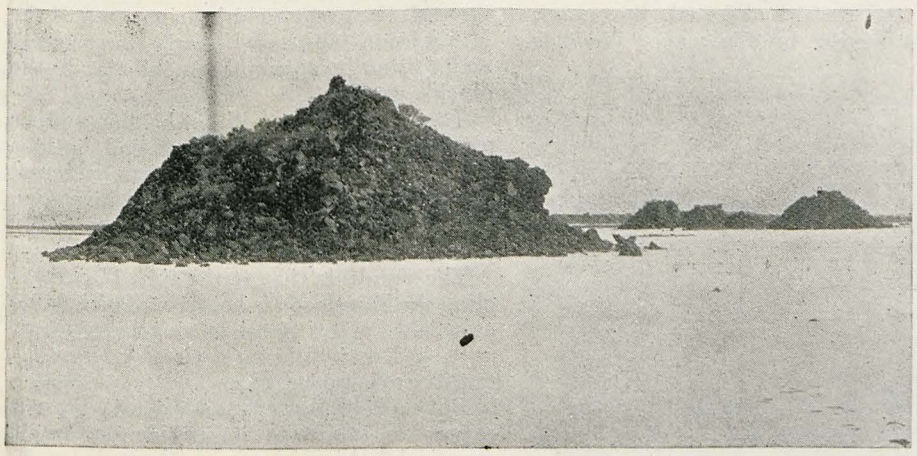
East Murchison, with an area of 25,420 square miles, has for its principal districts Lawlers and Black Range, which include many centres of more or less importance, with warden's quarters at the former, whilst the Yalgoo field, with an area of 18,921 square miles, is now under the direction of the Cue Warden's office.



GILLES MACPHERSON W. JOHNSON. J. PETERKIN.

Last year the Murchison field turned out 206,735 fine ounces of gold and 26,824oz. of silver, the latter coming principally from the Great Fingall.

Of the gold, Cue produced 15,125, Nannine 18,549, Day Dawn 161,507, and Mt. Magnet 11,553 ounces. During the same period the East Murchison field produced 84,926 fine ounces, of which Lawlers District quota was 68,222oz. and Black Range's 16,693 oz., whilst the Yalgoo field turned out 4,743oz. It will be seen, therefore, that, for the period mentioned, the three fields comprising what is generally known as the Murchison (and *not* including Peak Hill—a separate goldfield, although regarded in some quarters as part of the Murchison — which returned last year 13,587 ounces) turned out between them 296,404oz. of the king metal of commerce, and there are indications of this total being considerably exceeded before the 31st day of the present month of this present year of grace, 1906, whilst next vear should witness a still bigger improvement in the output for the Murchison area generally, irrespective of the decision recently come to by the directors of the Great Fingall, that unless developments should later on warrant a different course, to reduce that mine's monthly output.



EUREKA ISLAND, LAKE AUSTIN.

Detailed reference to the various mining centres throughout this great area of gold-bearing country will be found further on in these pages, and some indication is attempted to be given of their most recent developments and their future operations and possibilities. In passing it may be mentioned that centres such as Black Range (when fully under way), Meekatharra, Errol's, and Barrambie are going to make more than amends for any temporary diminution in the monthly output caused by the reduction of the energies of the Great Fingall. And these are, comparatively speaking, new fields, Black Range and Meekatharra a little while back being nothing more than Government Battery centres; the former with thousands of tons of valuable stone at grass incapable of being dealt with through lack of crushing facilities, in some instances prospectors parcels of stone awaiting their turn to be crushed after the battery had gone full time for three months on the crushings of

others more fortunate in the drawing of lots, or tossing of the coin, resorted to among themselves in order to determine whose should be the first through.

But these conditions are rapidly changing, and at Black Range machinery has been, and is being erected on mines that formerly depended on the State mill. Of Meekatharra the same remark may be made, whilst at Errol's and Barrambie, two more rising centres, the song of the stamps had not, at the time of chronicling, been heard, though by the time this issue goes forth quite 20-head of stamps will have dropped on the golden rock of both centres.

* * * *

The East Murchison was proclaimed on the 28th June, 1895, though something less than twelve months previous a portion of this area was entitled to be regarded as a mining centre of no mean importance. This was as a result of the prospecting of these parts by Lawler's party referred to elsewhere; and they, judging from accounts, were not the first over the East Murchison side One party headed by the redoubtable Ned Heffernan, who long since applied for his last reward, and another comprising Hall, Anderson and Rutter (all well known hands throughout the Murchison) having been through the territory some considerable time before them, getting gold but considering the place too far removed from settlement to be turned to advantage.



Macpherson and Party making their way to Alice Springs in '92.



GROUP OF OLD IDENTITIES, CUE (From an old Photo.)

But Lawler and mates, or some of them, were the first to find alluvial. They subsequently found the Donegal reef, and after that the Great Eastern. They put in some fifteen months there isolated from settlement—Cue, 210 miles distant, being the nearest centre of civilization — before a representative of English capital came along and purchased their respective interests, and gave the district a deserved and much needed filip.

Lake Way was announced in the early part of '96; though, as in the case of Lawlers, another prospecting party had got through in the early part of '94. Remarkable thing, Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie not even excepted, there never was a find made in Western Australia that someone else hadn't been on, or had been suspected of being on, before the person or persons who claimed the reward and took the money. But that merely by the way. Woodley, the prospector of Magnet, Pinyalling and other Murchison centres, was among the first to get gold in the Lake country, and the capital of the West Australian Goldfields Company was the first that came into the district to prove it.

In conclusion, and as a result not of hearsay but of direct knowledge, it is satisfactory to record a healthy movement right through the great gold-bearing area of the Murchison, which is slowly but surely manifesting its splendid possibilities to the outside world.

The batteries are telling the tale and, as a result, it is not surprising to find options being taken and in many instances exercised by Eastern States and English investors, and the erection of crushing plants being proceeded with.

The result is that at the time of chronicling the Murchison is becoming fashionable as a field for legitimate mining investment, a marked revival being noticeable throughout its various centres.

But no field, however rich it may be, can expect to attain to its proper degree of practical fashionableness without due publicity being given to its operations and development. To this end the leading papers of the State might certainly do a little more towards bringing the Murchison and its resources under the notice of investors, to whom the field offers plenty of legitimate inducement for the investment of capital.



MOUNT MAGNET.

Some Early Finds and their Prospectors.

Nannine, the pioneer field of the Murchison, was, as before mentioned, discovered in '91 by Macpherson and Peterkin, though it was Connelly to whom the reward was paid he being the first to *report* the finding of payable gold. Bayley, of Bayley's Reward, was among the first on Nannine, and it was gold from Bayley's Island on Lake Nannine, which he sold in Perth prior to setting out with his mate Ford, that provided the equipment for the historic prospecting tour which gave Coolgardie to the world.

Police Magistrate Walters, sometime of Cue, Greenbushes and Perth, and lately of Geraldton, was appointed Warden at Nannine towards the close of '91, the first lease taken up being that of the Nannine G.M., now owned and managed by Mr. J. G. Robinson, who sent the first gold from this centre in '91.

Stake Well and Quinn's were found very shortly after, and Star of the East about the end of '91. Thousands of ounces of alluvial were obtained in the early days of Nannine, some six hundred men being engaged on the field within a very little time of its proclamation.

The discovery in the early part of 1891 of gold at Yuin is credited to two brothers named Webb, who were engaged on a fencing contract on a station there. Among those in early at Yuin were Messrs. Hollingsworth and and Simpson (now of Goldfields Club Hotel, Perth), Palmer Brothers, Carlyon and others. This was before Nannine broke out. With its proclamation Yuin was practically abandoned.

Heffernan, Cue and Fitzgerald's mate, was the prospector of Day Dawn, shortly after Cue was found. Heffernan getting prospects from the big blow (a photo of which appears hereabout) of the present Great Fingall, promptly pegged it out for some eastern capitalists. Originally Day Dawn was known as the Four-mile, by reason of its distance from Cue, and after that as Bunda-Wadra, the name Day Dawn (that of Heffernan's show at the time or as it was then called the Big Day Dawn Mine) being finally decided upon. The town site was marked out in 1893.

Prospector George Woodley is credited with being the finder of payable gold at Mount Magnet in '91, though the place retains the name assigned to a neighboring hill by explorer Robert Austin in 1854. His remarks on portions of the Murchison country (as reprinted from his diary in Geraldton *Express* Murchison Goldfields special issue) seeing what an important bearing they have had upon subsequent discoveries will admit of reproduction.

Speaking of his trip from Mount Kenneth, towards what is now Lake Austin, he says :—"I pushed on, over black iron ore and sharp gravel, through a dense thicket that stretched from the northern side of these plains, that I subsequently called the Recruit Flats, 13 miles to the foot of the range, and bivouacked on a small patch of dry grass in a thicket at the base of the eastern side, abreast of the highest summit, formed by the shed of a rocky gully that flowed down the side of the hill, and, spreading over, fertilised this spot; but the bed of this streamlet was dry and the grass sapless and dusty, apparently very old, and it was only on the saltbush and acacia spray that the horses fed. The base of this hill was 1,569ft. above the sea, and the elevation summit 400ft. above the plain. The range, in which it formed the prominent feature, presented several conical summits of less elevation, grouped five or six miles on each side in the form of a crescent facing north-east. The lower portion of the range was composed of compact variegated crystalline rocks, hard, heavy, and evidently of trap formation, presenting red, white, and black seams alternating. Above this rock there rested, forming the summit of the hills, a mass of flat, dislocated, stratified rocks, highly crystalline, but of more sombre hue, the lower beds of which seemed horizontal, while the upper were rent and piled disorderly. Upon a closer inspection of this rock I found it presented a laminated structure composed of thin seams of puce or chocolate-colored rock, of a clayey character, separated by delicate layers of a crystalline substance resembling quartz, and that while the laminæ was horizontal the fracture was vertical, and at an angle of 45deg. with the surface. I found this rock caused great local magnetic attraction, and that each piece of the stone had two poles like the loadstone, powerfully attracting and repelling the same point of the magnetic needle. I therefore called this hill Mount Magnet, and fixed its position by observation in south latitude 27deg. 58min., east longitude 118deg. 37min., whence I observed a view of the country 30 miles around. There was an appearance of wooded hills, with large trees, surrounded by extensive plains north by west about 25 miles, and a white quartz hill cropped out on the intervening plain bearing N.N.W. seven miles off. To the eastward red, scrubby hills, backed by a distant range of low red cliffs, presented an unpromising prospect as far as the eye could reach. I, therefore, determined to get all my party and horses to the Recruit Flats, crossed in south latitude 28deg. 16min., as quick as possible, and retraced my steps to the camp 50 miles off, where we arrived on the 28th August at noon."

In the concluding remarks at the close of his diary, Austin, the explorer says: — "Between Mount Farmer and Mount Magnet, 150 miles to the eastward of Mr. Gregory's last bivouac on the Murchison, and 300 miles south-east from Shark Bay, I have passed over 70 miles of undulating country, presenting chocolate-colored mica-slate hills, and felspar and quartz grit cliffs, in association with quartz hornblende schist, resting on granite breccia and greenstone, surrounded by plains of red loam, covered with quartz stone and rich black iron ore, and shedding to the north-east into the great interior marsh (Lake Austin) I have discovered flowing to the north-west. That 100 miles east from the bottom of Hamelin Harbour, or the north arm of Shark Bay, at the place we retreated from on the 12th October, there are white cliffs resembling chalk, and quartz grit cliffs, with egg-shaped quartz pebbles of various sizes embedded in them, resting on dislocated gneiss rocks, intersected by two walls or veins, one of round and the other of angular quartz stone, cemented in a hard greenish-white matrix, and surrounded by red loaming plains covered with these angular and rounded stones ; that 100 miles S.S.W. from this last-named place, and on the left bank of the Murchison, across my track of the 15th and 16th November, there are similar pebble cliffs in association or blended with primary schists; that there are pipeclay plains resting on greenstone around the quartz schist ranges in the vicinity of Mount Kenneth and similar plains, covered with quartz stones, at the base of Felspar Cliffs, near our bivouac of the 12th August; and that all the facts I have alluded to under this head shows the accuracy of Sir Roderick Murchison's views relative to the geological formation of the country to the east of the Murchison River, and at the back of Shark Bay. I beg to direct your attention to this report as confirmatory evidence in support of an eminent geologist's opinion that we have, in this hitherto unexplored and imprudently neglected portion of the territory, *probably one of the finest goldfields in the world.* I have noted many important facts in support of these opinions, which, if you wish me to lay before



you, I shall have much pleasure in submitting for your further consideration, as well as a plan for future operations from a central depot on the great bend of the Murchison."

Explorer Austin said these things in 1854, but it was 1891, or 37 years later that anyone attempted to proceed to the proof of them, and then it was left to a private party of prospectors to do it.

Yalgoo was found in September '92, through the instrumentality of a station hand named Pearse, who met a prospecting party who had come through from Minginew. He guided them to the site of the Emerald Reward Claim (where white stone



MEEKATHARRA TOWNSHIP.

specked with gold had been shown him by the blacks), in its time one of the best propositions throughout the whole of the Murchison. It is estimated that, including sale money, the owners of the Emerald took quite £30,000 out of it.

Peak Hill times its existence as a field from September '92, when Prospectors Wilson, Enright, and Woolhouse came across fine gold in a creek bed in the vicinity. They traced it right up to the site of the present big mine, and, after further prospecting for some three or four weeks, pegged out a Reward Claim, announced their discovery, and the Peak rush ensued. As evidence of the extraordinary richness of the Peak, it may be said that one party took 2,000oz. out of one lease with the dolly pot. Wilson and Woolhouse erected a 10-head battery on their claims, known as the Peak Hill leases, and it is estimated that £80,000 worth of gold, some of the ore going as high as 50oz. to the ton, came from them. The returns naturally aroused curiosity, and several offers were made to purchase. Eventually the whole of the claims known as the Patch were put under offer, after no end of negotiating, to Darlington Simpson, who unloaded 20 leases to the company known as the Peak Hill Gold Mines Ltd., the float amounting to £250,000.

April '92 is the date recorded of the discovery of the precious metal at Lake Austin, situated 15 miles from Cue. The Webb brothers, mentioned in connection with the finding of the first gold at Yuin, and Hayden and Lawrence being the earliest on the Island Rush, where a lot of alluvial was secured. Of the reefing propositions, the Shamrock, the Chicago, and the Orient all turned out a lot of gold, whilst the Golconda G.M. was another proposition which was worked with regal splendour and extravagance, as most shows were when J. Bull's money was coming in easily and without too many questions being asked. The Golconda has long since passed from company control, but if all accounts be true a party of three who have now got a portion of the old lease are getting quite a lot of gold, an outcrop near the site of the old battery-house having been recently treated for some exceptional returns. It is not improbable that some day, and that very soon, the whole of the Lake area will be treated by a dredging process. The Mainland (Austin) will always be remembered as the centre of one of the biggest floats associated with Murchison mining, viz., the Mainland Consols, a show, or rather three shows—Daly's Reef, Last Chance, and Gilbert's Mainland—from which, in their prospecting stages, Owen Daly and three others took an enormous quantity of gold (some 8,500oz.) by means of the dolly pot and a small three-head battery. The Mainland Consols, as put on the English market, represented a flotation of £150,000, half of which in ready money was paid to the vendors. With the exception of one or two small parties the locality is now practically abandoned.

The discovery of Lawlers followed upon the departure from Cue in '93 of a prospecting party of five, headed by Paddy Lawler. After inspecting a lot of the East Murchison country, the party, after locating promising ground some distance from the present townsite, were compelled, through dire shortage of provisions, to retrace their steps. The next year Lawler, with five mates, made the same spot, got a lot of alluvial gold, and pegged out the Donegal and Great Eastern leases, subsequently selling these for substantial prices. At latest Paddy Lawler was chasing the elusive weight a few miles east of the Black Range. Hasn't as much of this world's goods as he used to command, by any means, but none the less hopeful.

Meekatharra, was located by Meehan, Porter, and Soych in '95, though Tom Cue, Hunter, and Creer were in there long before them, but made no stay. Meehan, Porter, and Soych sold their prospecting claim to Darlot Bros., of Annean Station, which embraces a very big area of this portion of the country, who had intentions of putting the proposition on the English market. This, seemingly, was not done, as they afterwards abandoned it, the show being subsequently taken up by one McCormack, who passed it on at a profit to a company.

More recent finds of importance (Black Range, Errol's, Barrambie, etc.) will be found under their own heading further on in these pages.



MOUNT MURCHISON.

Geraldton.

The Port of the Murchison—Brief Chronicle of its Splendid Progress.

Concerning the early history of Geraldton, it may not be uninteresting to state that in 1839 an expedition, led by Lieutenant, afterwards Sir George, Grey, sailed from Fremantle for Sharks Bay. After a succession of experiences, the reverse of pleasant or encouraging, they were making the return journey, when lack of water compelled them to attempt a landing at Gautheaume Bay, some eighty miles to the northward of the present port. Their boats being dashed to pieces there, they were forced to make for Perth on foot. For provisions they had 1lb. of salt pork and 20lb. of damaged flour per man.

On the 7th of April they entered a rich, fertile province, and named it the Province of Victoria. The next two watercourses they met were respectively christened the Bowes and the Buller, the latter (now known as the Chapman) situated a mile or two north of the port. At this time their stock of flour was reduced to 5lb. each, and soon afterwards the party found it advisable to break up into two, Grey pushing ahead with a few picked men. After incredible hardships he succeeded in reaching the Capital, and steps were taken to rescue the remainder of the party. With the exception of one all were brought to Perth in safety.

In consequence of Grey's official reports upon the promising nature of the country he had traversed, Mr. G. F. Moore, the then Advocate-General of the Colony, was sent up a few months later to supplement Grey's statement. Mr. Moore, by some manner of means, it has been alleged, mistook an indentation to the south of the point upon which the lighthouse now stands, and which, by the way, he named after himself with commendable complacency for the concern of posterity, for the harbor upon which Grey had discanted, and went back to Perth and promptly reported that it was full of reefs.

The following year a Captain Stokes visited and named the real Champion Bay. This gent is also credited with having found on examination that, with the exception of a small patch of land in the valley of the Greenough, the country which Grey had described in such glowing terms of unstinted praise was hopelessly sterile and unprofitable. This fallacy, though afterwards exploded, tended to delay any scheme of settlement officialdom may have contemplated.

In 1846 the Gregory Brothers, whose names bulk fairly large where early-day exploration work in Western Australia is concerned, continued the work that Grey had begun. They started from a point 60 miles north-east of Perth, and penetrated north almost as far as latitude 28 before returning to their starting point. The object of their journey was to discover new stock country, but it also resulted in the discovery of coal in the bed of the Irwin River. On their return to Perth the announcement of their find was deemed of sufficient importance to warrant the Government despatching the schooner "Champion" to Champion Bay with a small party to bring back a sample of the mineral.

In 1848 the settlers of the Swan organised an expedition to proceed to the north. Augustus Gregory was in command, and the Toodyay was again the starting point. They returned after a four months absence. They had not been successful in reaching the Gascoyne River, which was one of the objects of the expedition, but they reported "the discovery of several fine patches (computed at half-a-million acres) of good grassy land near Champion Bay." Grey was commencing to get his due.

Subsequent to the expedition's return to the Capital, Governor Charles Fitzgerald visited Champion Bay (but didn't seemingly have any boy reporters with him to record the daily feats of the Gubernatorial outfit) with the object of inspecting the Geraldine lead vein. The Governor must necessarily have felt constrained to regard the undertaking as something more than a pleasure jaunt, seeing that the natives of the locality manifested their disapproval of the presence of the party in their domain by promptly pinking His Ex. in the leg with a spear.

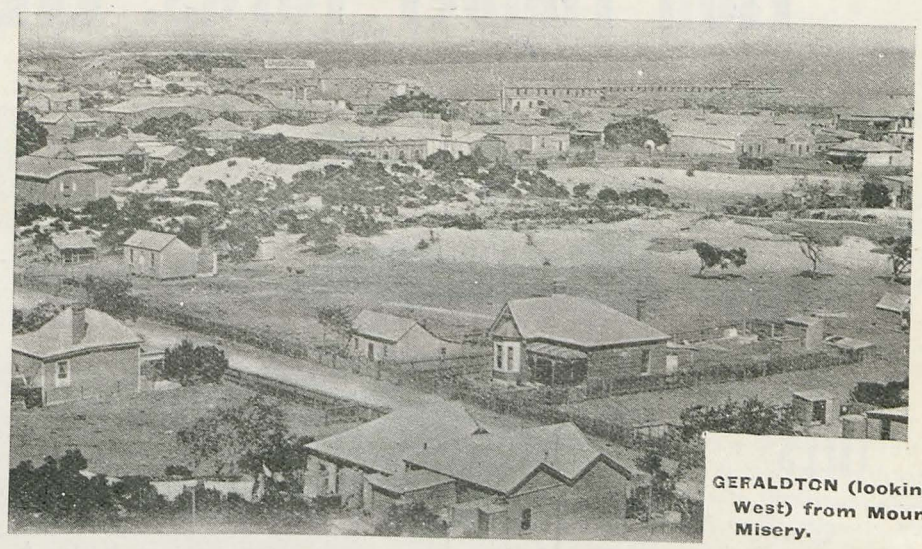
About 1850 the settlement of the Victoria District commenced, most of the pioneers travelling overland from York, a detachment of soldiers being also sent up by the Government for their protection and well-being and that of their flocks and herds, etc.

In 1855 Geraldton had attained to the importance of a town, if the assertion that "one wooden building stood somewhere about the site of the present customs office and old railway station" can be adduced as evidence of the fact. From thence on the town grew steadily, and sixteen years later was declared a municipality.

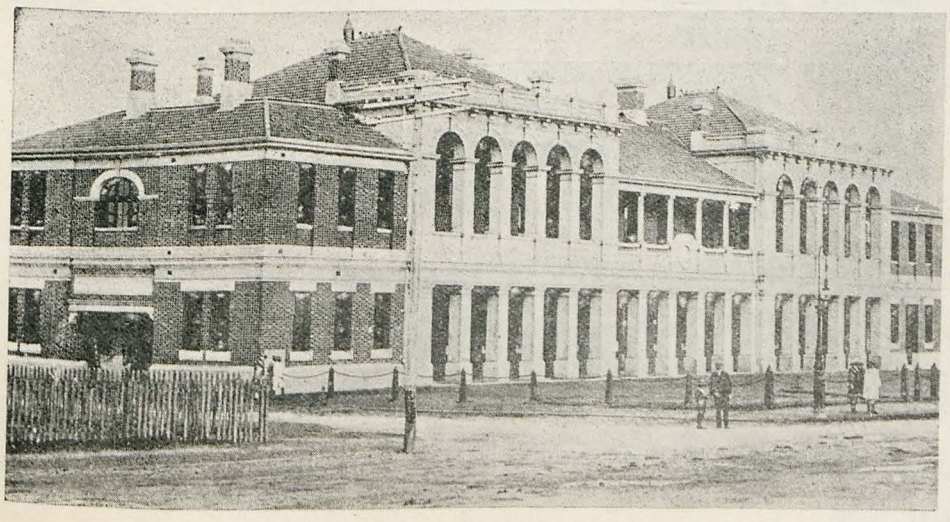
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Geraldton, to-day the port of the Murchison fields and the centre of a large and growing agricultural population—settlement on the land during the last few years having greatly increased—can lay claim to a population of some 2,800 inhabitants, having since the gold discovery more than doubled its population. The township is prettily situated, facing Champion Bay and the ocean, and, as ports go in Western Australia, is as well equipped in the matter of facilities as any of them.

Some years ago the existence of the township



GERALDTON (looking West) from Mount Misery.



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was seriously threatened by the encroachment of enormous sand-drifts, but the judicious planting of the back country and sand dunes with wattle and grasses gradually and completely subdued the conditions referred to, and, as a result, the back range of hills, covered as they are all the year round with evergreens, have added greatly to the picturesqueness of the town itself.

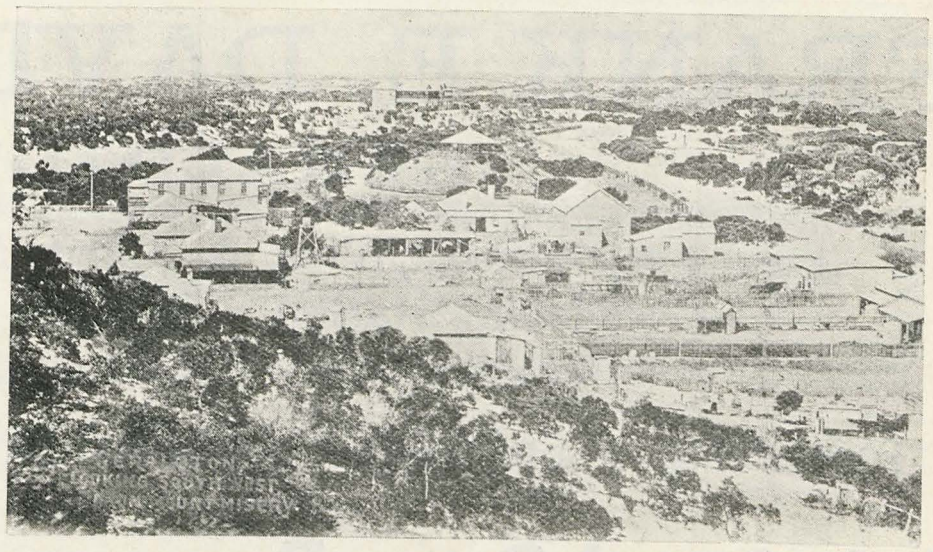
As a port Geraldton possesses a commanding lighthouse on Point Moore and a jetty capable of berthing steamers drawing up to 20 feet of water. Steam communication is made regularly with Fremantle (210 miles south), the Eastern States, the North-West coast, and with Europe *via* Singapore.

Railway facilities comprise a daily time-table to and from Perth, also to the Murchison Goldfields. The branch line to Northampton lays claim to the distinction of being the oldest in the State, having been constructed as far back as 1879.

In the matter of public buildings Geraldton is as well equipped as any other town outside the Metropolis, the Government offices, courts and custom houses, a magnificent pile of masonry, representing an expenditure of £12,000. The present municipal chambers are equal to any in the State, whilst a Town Hall is to be built adjoining same and at a cost of some £3,000. The post office, railway station, hospital and Geraldton Club also comprise well-built structures.

Situated on the Esplanade is the Mechanics' Institute, with which is combined the public library and reading room. The old jetty and land upon which the original railway buildings stood have been converted into a pleasure jetty and esplanade respectively, the latter being planted with ornamental and shade-providing trees. Towards the fashioning of this esplanade the Government granted the foreshore and a substantial amount of money, Mr. E. Pope, one of Geraldton's most progressive townsmen, being the active author of the scheme, which forms a great attraction for visitors and townspeople alike. In the matter of schools Geraldton is also well provided for, some four hundred scholars being in attendance at the State establshment.

Exports consist chiefly of wool, of which the largest quantity sent away from any other port of the State is shipped from here, also sandalwood and lead and copper from Northampton, the mines in the latter place, after a lengthy spell of inactivity, are, it is satisfactory to record, again receiving the attention of capitalists. Years ago the Northampton mines made the town of Geraldton, and there is every reason to hope that the revival of this industry will re-create it.



GERALDTON, looking South-west from Mt. Misery.

The climate of the port is very temperate, the daily advent of the cool southerly winds during the hottest months of the year keeping the town refreshingly cool. The gradual and satisfactory expansion of the Murchison Fields gives every indication of continuing. It is only safe to assume that the trade of their port will likewise continue to grow and flourish exceedingly.

* * * * *

Any reference to the Port of the Murchison would be incomplete without mention of the Geraldton *Express*, owned and conducted by Mr J. M. Drew, M.L.C.

The *Advertiser*, or, to be correct, the *Express*, with which the former is now incorporated, was founded as far back as '78, Mr. Drew acquiring the property in 1895.

It may be mentioned that the *Express* was the only paper published north of the Swan when the Murchison Goldfields were first proclaimed, and gave first news of the report made by Inspector Troy on the discovery of gold on the Murchison. At a later period it proved a staunch advocate of the construction of the railway to Cue, and has at all times rendered able service in advancing the interests of the agricultural, pastoral and mining districts in which it circulates.

Its proprietor, Mr. J. M. Drew, can claim a reasonably fair acquaintance with the Victoria District generally, having been born at Northampton something like a couple of score years ago.

Mr. Drew represents the North Province in the Upper House of the State, and, as is generally known, was Minister for Lands in the Daglish Labor Government.

* * * * *

Towards the end of the present year a second journalistic enterprise, in the Geraldton *Guardian*, made its appearance. The *Guardian*, which is a bi-weekly, is owned by Messrs. Constantine and Gardner, and conducted by Mr. Cowper.



NORTHAMPTON.

Northampton, the township of which is situated by rail some 34 miles from Geraldton, can date its mining back almost 60 years, the Geraldine Lead Mine having been opened up sometime in 1850. The lode was an exceedingly rich one, but seemingly questionable dealing in the matter of payment for work contracted to be done was not altogether dissociated from the State's mining even in those remote days. The Geraldine was worked for many years, but in '78, in consequence of the death of the owner, the mine was shut down.

The Wanerenooka Copper Mine was another Northampton property worked in the fifties, large quantities being raised and exported; the Yangenooka, four miles from the township, was another. This show was shut down in the early seventies. The Wheal Fortune (copper and lead), Gwalla Copper Mines, the Gelira (copper and lead), the White Peak and the Old Narra Tarra were all working nearly half a century ago, but subsequently shut down for a variety of reasons, not the least of which was the low price of copper.

The Melbourne and Champion Bay Lead Mining Coy. was an institution which indulged somewhat largely in exploiting the mineral resources of the Northampton district in the early seventies; but from all accounts this comprehensively titled institution was no better in its methods of management of a mining proposition than many of the foreign companies associated with the direction of ventures in the early days of the Eastern Goldfields. A lot of money was wasted in plant, in some cases quite unsuited to the requirements, and in others capable of better handling than it received.

The properties above mentioned comprise only a few of the shows worked at one time or another throughout this district. It is satisfactory to note, however, thanks to the great increase in the value of baser metals, that attention is again being devoted to some of these properties, particularly satisfactory results having recently been obtained from some of those at Narra Tarra, into which fresh capital has been introduced.

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The Capital of the Murchison—CUE

PAST AND PRESENT.

Of the First Find—Better known as "Cue's Rush"—And Subsequent Developments—The District's Mining Operations.

CUE dates its existence as a mining town from February of '92, when Fitzgerald and Heffernan, who had been prospecting from Cuddingwarra, then known as "The Dead Finish," came across good alluvial.

They were subsequently joined by Tom Cue, who had come from Geraldton. Apprised of the discovery Cue rode to Nannine and applied for a reward claim. Cue's Rush was the title bestowed on Cue in those times, and within a very little time of announcement some four hundred men were in on it. As a consequence of the scarcity of water and tucker a famine ensued, many having a perishing time of it until the first teams got through, carriage being undertaken at the rate of £50 per ton.

Prices for provisions naturally ruled high all round, but it didn't matter, most of them were on good alluvial. Austin-street, Cue's principal thoroughfare, was in those times a creek, and, to the end of establishing a permanent water supply, a well was successfully sunk. The site of this well is the present rotunda, erected to the memory of the early prospectors, many of whom were claimed as victims by the dread scourge of typhoid fever, which raged with great virulence.

> "With water bag and pick they conquered an inhospitable desert and carved out happy and prosperous towns."

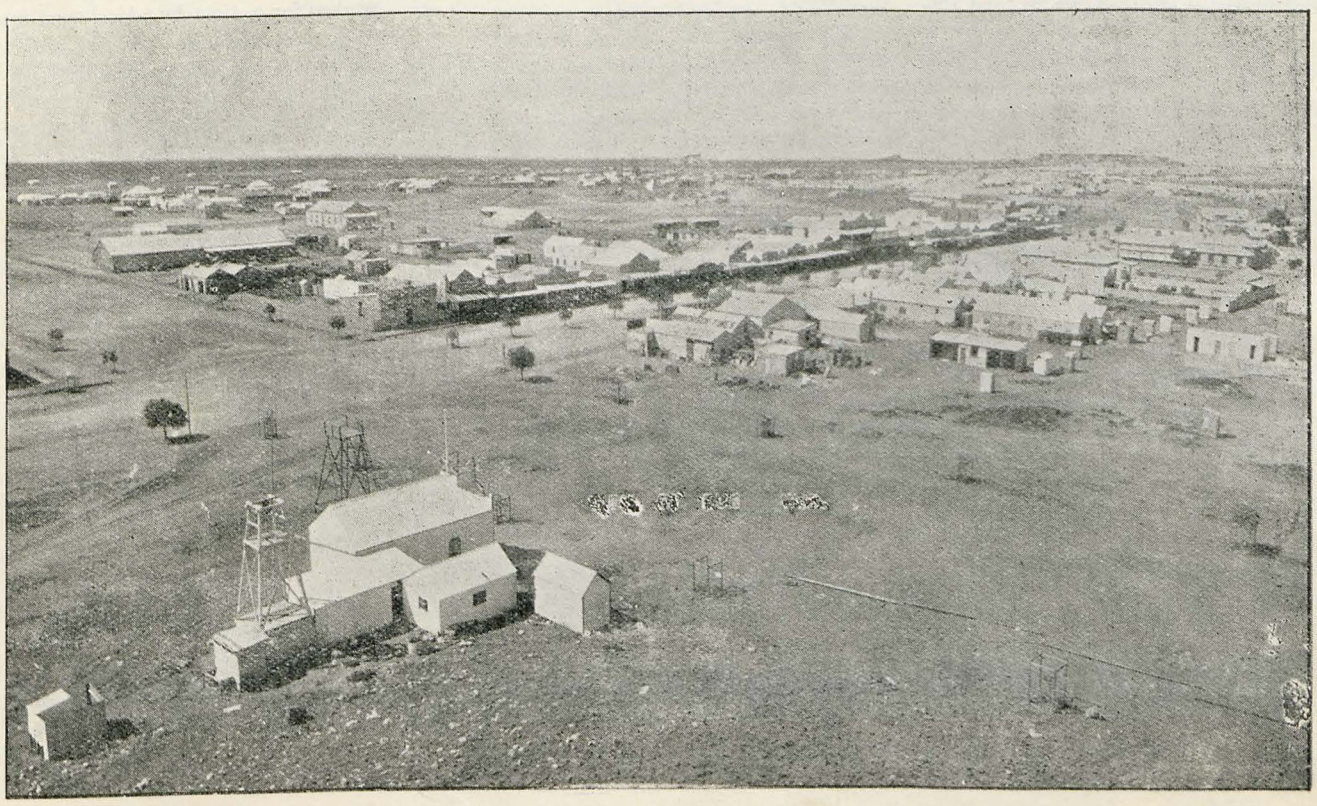
Such is the inscription upon it. It conveys its own simple message.

Shortly subsequent to September, 1892, the news of Bayley's and Ford's Coolgardie discovery, which had reached the Murchison, was responsible for the proposed departure overland for the new Eldorado of a great number of diggers from Cue, where they had assembled from all parts. Just about this time, however, word was received of a rich discovery at Peak Hill, 180 miles north, and though some pulled out south for Bayley's, a great number headed north for the Peak Rush, leaving Cue well nigh deserted.

The latter end of '92 saw the establishment of Cue's first newspaper, the *Murchison Miner*. The *Miner* is not above the surface these times. In '94 the *Murchison Times*, under the direction of Mr. Jimmy Thomson, budded as a bi-weekly, but blossomed into a tri-weekly shortly after. In 1897, the *Murchison Advocate*, published weekly, was launched by Mr. D. J. Colgan, who still conducts it. Cue and the Murchison generally is well served by both of these journals.

Ninety-three saw the formation of a Progress Committee, a body which performed excellent service for the district and its people. The early part of '94 witnessed the establishment, as the result of the representations of the committee mentioned, of local branches of the Western Australian and Union Banks. The same year Cue was declared a municipality, the railway from Geraldton to Mullewa, 65 miles, was completed, and by '98 another section of 196 miles from the latter place to Cue had been disposed of; the line being continued on a distance of 48 miles to Nannine, its present terminus, by 1903.

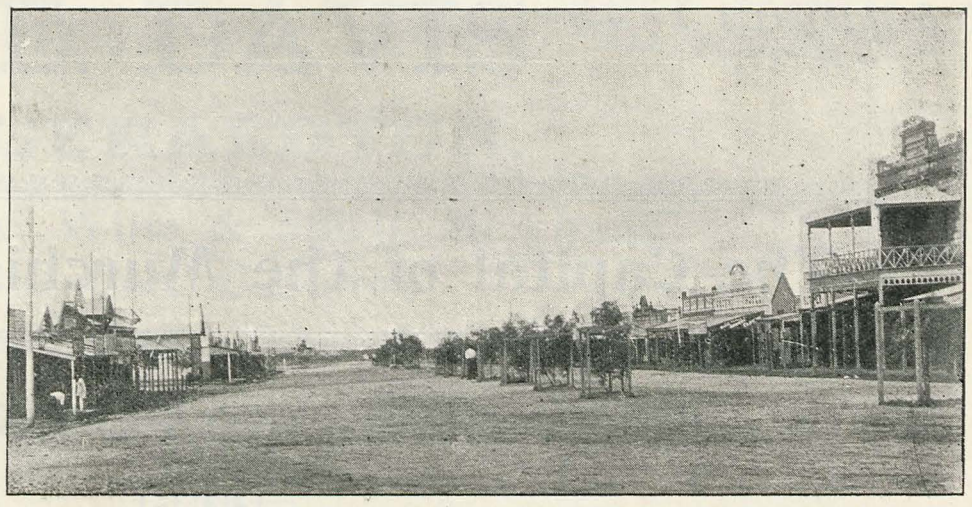
As the capital of the Murchison, Cue takes rank among the leading cities of the State. Its importance is not to be measured by its population, which does not exceed 2,000, but rather by its position as the administrative centre of a vast mining and pastoral district, while, if the faith and loyalty of its citizens be any criterion of the future, Cue will, within a few years, rival the capital of the Eastern Goldfields in size, population, and prosperity. Geographically, Cue is 262 miles eastward of Geraldton, on the Northern railway line, and is about 1,500ft. above sea level. The town is pleasantly situated on an elevated plateau, with a background of hills; it is well laid out with broad streets, running at right angles, and presents to the visitor an eminently bright and clean appearance. Austin street, the main thoroughfare, is lined with business premises solidly built of stone, brick, and iron, and bears evidence of the public spirit of the citizens in the shape of a rotunda erected to the memory of the



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF CUE IN 1906.

pioneers. The town is particularly healthy, due to careful sanitary precautions. Though the heat in summer is sometimes trying, it is rarely enervating, and the nights are almost invariably cool, while the winter climate is perfect, with clear, bright days and bracing nights. Though, from a business view point, Cue is not as brisk as it was some five years back, it is by no means dull, and bears the enviable reputation commercially of being one of the most solid towns in the State. This is due mainly to the sterling worth of its citizens, who, as a class, are of the best goldfields standard. The business people generally exhibit a healthy confidence in the future of the town and district, which they courageously and loyally support in many different directions.

Cue is the centre of Government for the Murchison district, and the headquarters of a number of responsible State officers. The Government offices are contained in a fine stone building, comprising Post and Telegraph Offices, Warden and Police Courts, Mining Registrar's Office, and Police Office. Mr. P. Troy, a public servant of long experience and high reputation, is Warden and Resident Magistrate, and is assisted by a competent staff. The Inspector of Mines and Inspector of Boilers also have their offices at Cue, but for the greater part of the year are traversing their extensive districts. The vast police district is controlled from Cue by a Sub-inspector; the local force consists of a Sergeant and four constables, and there is a substantial stone lock-up for the detention of evil-doers. Municipally the town is managed by a Council and Board of Health of six members and a Mayor, with a Town Clerk. The annual income of the Council has always sufficed for the necessary municipal works, while last year a record was established by no rate being struck, as the funds in hand were in excess of the proposed expenditure. The Health Board controls a cheap and efficient sanitary system. There is also a Roads Board, which represents a large extent of country outside the municipal boundaries. The town is well reticulated, water being pumped from Nallan, 14 miles outside the municipal boundary. Among the more notable public, or semi-public buildings are the Council Chambers, Mechanics' Institute (with library and reading-room), Workers' Hall, and Masonic Hall. There are three churches (Anglican, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyan), a State school and teachers, with over 200 scholars, and a Dominican Convent. A well equipped hospital, with matron and nursing staff, is situated just outside the municipal boundary, and is under the charge of the Government District Medical Officer. The Murchison Club forms a comfortable and social meeting place for the residents and visitors, and there is a spacious recreation reserve, with grand-stand, cycle track, and tennis courts for sports and pastimes. About two miles from the town is the racecourse, with a fine public stand, official stand, and other conveniences. In addition to cricket, football, tennis, and rifle clubs there is a Musical Society, the members of which periodically produce one of Gilbert and Sullivan's operas with complete success. Two newspapers are published in Cue, one a tri-weekly the other a weekly, which have extensive circulations throughout the district. There is a well-equipped Fire Station and a Volunteer Fire Brigade, which for the past four years has carried off championship honors at the Annual Fire Brigades' Demonstrations. Three banks are represented in Cue—the W.A. Bank, Union Bank, and Bank of Australasia.



Portion of Austin Street, Cue.

Two breweries, occupying prominent positions, testify to the inevitable goldfields thirst; their outputs are large, and find consumption in different parts of the district. There are eight hotels in the town, all excellently conducted, and offering every convenience to travellers or visitors; also three wine and beer saloons. The material wants of the residents are well catered for by many grocery, drapery, and general stores, all of which carry large stocks, while some present window shows equal to anything in the metropolis. A couple of firms make special lines of mining stores and machinery, the building trade is well represented, and one firm holds a remunerative monopoly of the retail butchering business. If judged by its business people alone a prosperous future would be predicted for Cue, for they are alert, up-to-date, and enterprising. Outside the business areas are situated the private residences of citizens, varying from stone mansions to the hessian camp of the miner, many of them beautified with gardens, shade trees, and creepers. That the residents generally are peacable and law-abiding citizens is proved by the crime records, which show that there is little occasion for police intervention. And, with a turn in the tide of prosperity, Cue bids fair to be one of the most prosperous and pleasantest centres of civilization in this great State.

THE MINES.

Among the principal mines of the Cue field, apart from the Cue One and Volunteer South Extended, and the Queen of the May G.M., are the Light of Asia and Gem of Cue (all of which properties are specially referred to elsewhere), which have been consistent gold producers for many years past. These two mines form part of what is known locally as the Light of Asia group, owned by Mr. E. L. Lloyd, who, on a small original outlay, is reported to have amassed a comfortable competence from these properties. With a vigorous developmental policy both mines should have many years of life. During the latter part of this year, however, they have been only partially worked, many of the hands having been removed to the Rothsay mine, near Field's Find. On the Light of Asia the main shaft is being sunk to cut the Queen of the May reef. About half a mile from the Gem of Cue battery is the Agamemnon (belonging to the same owner), which has improved with recent development, and carries a reef averaging 3ft. in width, worth from 12dwt. to 15dwt. per ton. In the vicinity is the Duke of York Extended, which has been worked recently by a local syndicate without much success. Latest returns from the Cue Victory have not been satisfactory, and the owners are waiting an improvement in the field generally before spending money in further development at depth. Situated about a mile and a half from the town, and near the racecourse, is the Salisbury mine, which has a promising future. At the 200ft. level there is a large ore body from 8ft. to 14ft. wide, the two last crushings from which gave a 20dwt. average. The mine was worked for a time by a local syndicate, who sold



about two years ago for a substantial sum to a Perth investor. There is a good surface plant on the mine, including a five-head battery, and the main shaft is being sunk to below 300ft. Past the Salisbury are several shows on the Gem of Murchison line of reef, which are being worked profitably by small parties. Just outside the southern boundary of Cue townsite are the Princess Royal leases of 36 acres, a property with a somewhat curious history. In the early days of the field some good crushings, as high as 3oz. per ton, were obtained from this mine, which was taken over by a London company in 1896. In the two succeeding years 5,822 tons were treated for a return of 5,122oz. over the plates, but, despite this return and the fact that a large quantity of payable ore had been opened up in the levels, the company got into financial difficulties, and the leases were sold in February, 1904, to the then manager, who was at once involved in litigation to defend his title. The main shaft is down about 250ft., and at the 240ft. level a 4ft. reef was cut 80ft. from the shaft, giving assay values of 25dwt. At other levels a good deal of driving has been done, and the reef proved for a considerable distance. For the past few years the only work on the mine has been done by tributors, one party of four working above the 100ft. level having raised over 800 tons for an average of about 20dwt. per ton. Adjoining the Princess Royal is the Happy Jack, which, under another name, was worked and abandoned several years back. Last year the lease was taken up by two working miners, who, in a drive from the underlay shaft, struck a reef from which several 1oz. crushings have been raised. A vertical shaft is being sunk on the property to 150ft., and this will give about 200ft. of backs. Between the Princess Royal and the township is the Catalpa lease, through which runs a large outcrop. There are several shafts on this property, the deepest being about 70ft., and as it is included in the Town Blocks taken up by Chesson and Heydon, the Catalpa probably will be given another trial. Several parties of tributors are doing well on the Princess Ada, in which a deal of local capital was sunk some years back, and small working parties are getting more than wages out of a dozen or so shows round the Cue, of which may be mentioned the Countess Extended, Starlight, Rose, and Little Gem. Four miles north of Cue a new line of reef was discovered about August last, on which several leases are being worked, as is the case at Nallan, 10 miles further north, where gold-bearing stone was recently found. In various directions round Cue are a number of shows worked by parties of two, three, and four men, who appear to be making wages.

Among those mines which are expected to considerably augment the annual output of Cue is the Queen of the May, situated about a mile north of the town, and owned by Mr. John McIntyre, who has spent many years in mining pursuits on the Murchison. Payable results had been obtained from the mine for five or six years by various owners who worked close to the surface.

About two years ago, however, Mr. McIntrye obtained complete control of the property, and by a plucky and vigorous policy of development has turned a promising show into a profitable mine with many years of life in front of it.

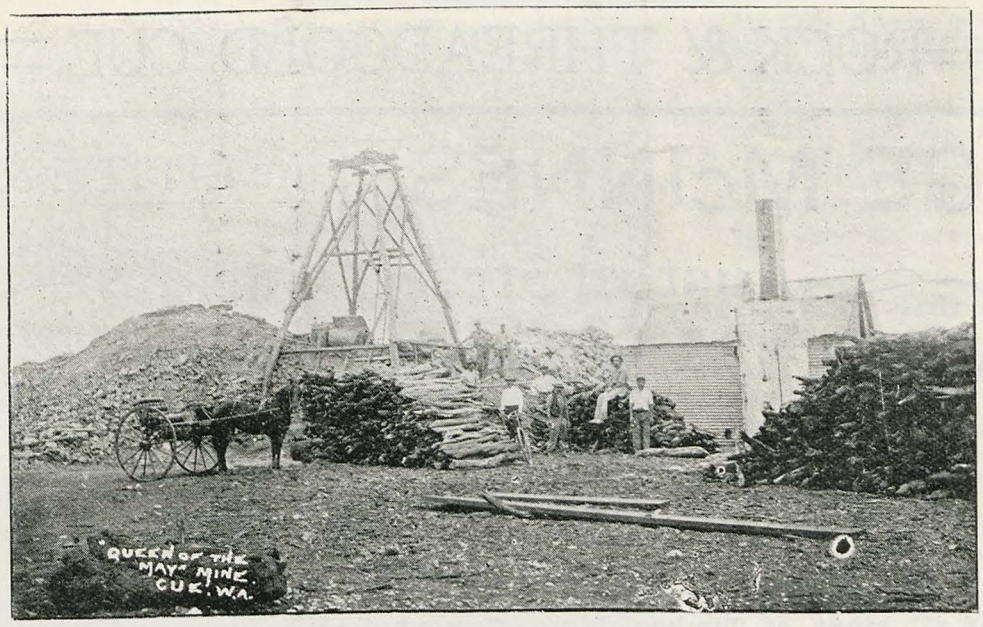
After taking out a couple of crushings from the 100ft. level, Mr. McIntyre sank his main shaft to 250ft. depth and crosscut for the reef, which proved to be 2ft. wide, and showed gold freely. Driving was then continued and the reef proved for a great length ; it maintains an average width of 2ft. to 3ft., with values of 30 dwts. to 2oz., and is highly mineralised. About 20 men are employed on the lease stoping and in development work.

The last crushing put through was 456 tons for a return of 518oz. 17 dwts., but this does not include the concentrates. Up to the time of writing 4,921 tons had been treated for 5,268 ounces over the plates ; truly an eminently satisfactory result.

The owner contemplates deepening the main shaft to 400ft., but as there are over 100ft. of "backs" at the 250ft. level, there is no immediate need for further sinking. In the upper workings the reef varied in width and values. Unlike previous workers of the lease Mr. McIntyre did not despair when he found the reef pinching to a few inches at the 100ft. level, but put in many feet of dead work following it, till it widened again and gave such good prospects that he felt justified in incurring the expense of sinking and driving to cut the lode at 250ft. His enterprise has been suitably rewarded, and now the owners of adjoining properties are sinking to cut the Queen of the May reef.

CUDDINGWARRA.

This little centre, about 9 miles west of Cue, is kept alive by the Victory United mine, owned by a company registered and controlled in Adelaide. The mine has had a somewhat chequered career, and its shares have an unenviable reputation for sudden market fluctuations. During the past 18 months, however, a more settled and systematic policy has been followed in the management of the property. A prospecting winze sunk to 740ft. cut a good reef, giving as high as 3oz. values, and the main shaft has now been sunk to that depth. The surface plant has been overhauled, and a new up-to-date battery is to be erected, with other needed additions and improvements. At time of writing crosscutting had not been commenced from the 740ft. level, but the expenditure on plant apparently indicates that the management are confident of improved prospects at depth. About 11 miles west of Cuddingwarra are half-a-dozen leases taken up within the last 18 months. Gold was first found in the vicinity by a party of aboriginals from Eucla, who, under the charge of a white man, were making north to take up pastoral country. From the prospectors' lease pareels crushed in Cue gave 5oz. to the ton. On the adjoining leases is a big low-grade lode, which has encouraged the owners to erect a five-head battery.



The Queen of the May G.M., Cue (Mr. J. McIntyre, Proprietor).

WEBB'S PATCH.

Seventeen miles south-east of Cue is the Hill End mine, now owned by a syndicate of 10 working miners. Though handicapped by lack of capital, the owners have succeeded in equipping their mine with a good surface plant, including a 10-head battery. There are several shafts along the reef, the deepest being about 75ft. on the underlay. The reef, which has been proved for some 300 yards, varies from a few inches to 2ft., with an average value of about 2oz. Defective pumping gear and a couple of regrettable fatalities have retarded the progress of the mine during the past year, but development is now being pushed ahead, and the owners anticipate regular returns next year.



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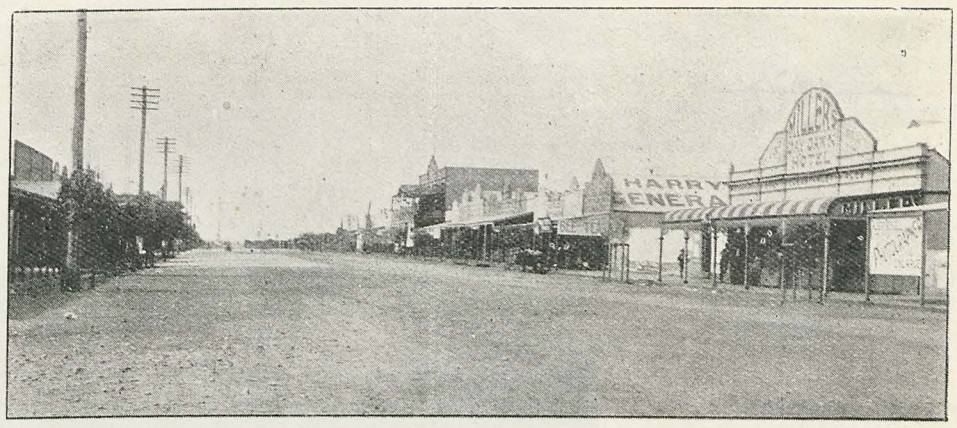


Mr. C. H. BENNETT.

DAY DAWN.

TOWNSHIP AND DISTRICT.

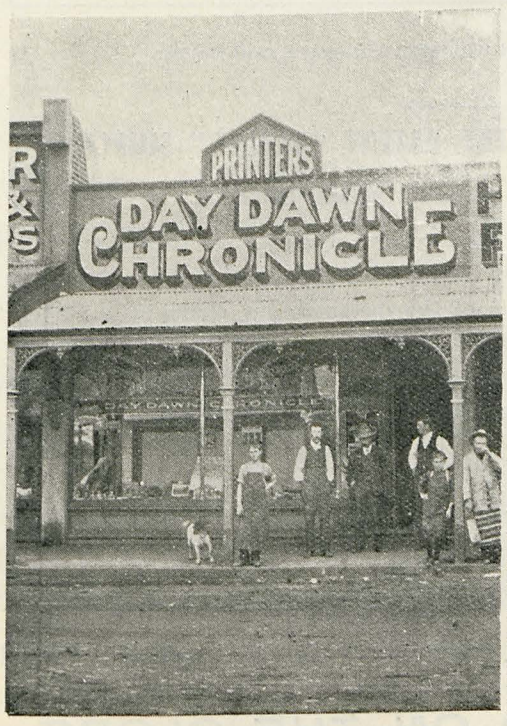
The municipality of Day Dawn is now in the eleventh year of its existence as such, and during the time stated has passed through a good many vicissitudes. About eight years ago its affairs were in a parlous condition, it being, at that time, by no means certain that the present Great Fingall mine would continue to be worked. Subsequent operations on that property, however, led to the disclosing of the rich chute, and the real history of the Dawn may be said to date from 1899. The population at that period was considerably under 500, while to-day it is estimated at fully 3,000. The municipality is in exceptionally good financial circumstances, having no loan, no overdraft, and a substantial credit balance. Taking the figures for 1902, we find that, in that year, the turnover was just slightly over £800 from all sources, and this increased, year by year, until, at the end of 1905, it had reached the sum of £2,500. For the present year the official estimate is £3,000 A good indication of the real progress of the town is afforded in the activity being displayed in connection with building operations, and, quite recently, a number of handsome business premises have gone up. The town water supply is under the control of a joint board, containing representatives of the Cue and Day Dawn Councils and the Cue Roads Board, the source of supply being Nallan, better known as Jack's Well, and situated about 10 miles from Cue on the Cue-Nannine line of railway. The local council consists of nine members and the mayor, and the public buildings of the town comprise Town Hall, W.A. and Union Banks, Post Office and Courthouse. A local small debts court sits on the first Friday in each month, while police court proceedings are held as occasion arises. The Day Dawn *Chronicle*, a bi-weekly, published every Wednesday and Friday, is the news medium of the town. A strong racing club is in existence, and a fine course has been secured within easy distance of the town. In addition to the "big" mine, the East Fingall, Creme d' Or and Rubicon mines are being energetically worked, while a number of smaller shows are also in active operation. On the whole the outlook for the town may be regarded as extremely favorable, the absence of any "boom" element being a noticeable feature.



HEFFERNAN STREET, Day Dawn's Principal Thoroughfare.



AN EARLY-DAY VIEW OF THE GREAT FINGALL MINE.





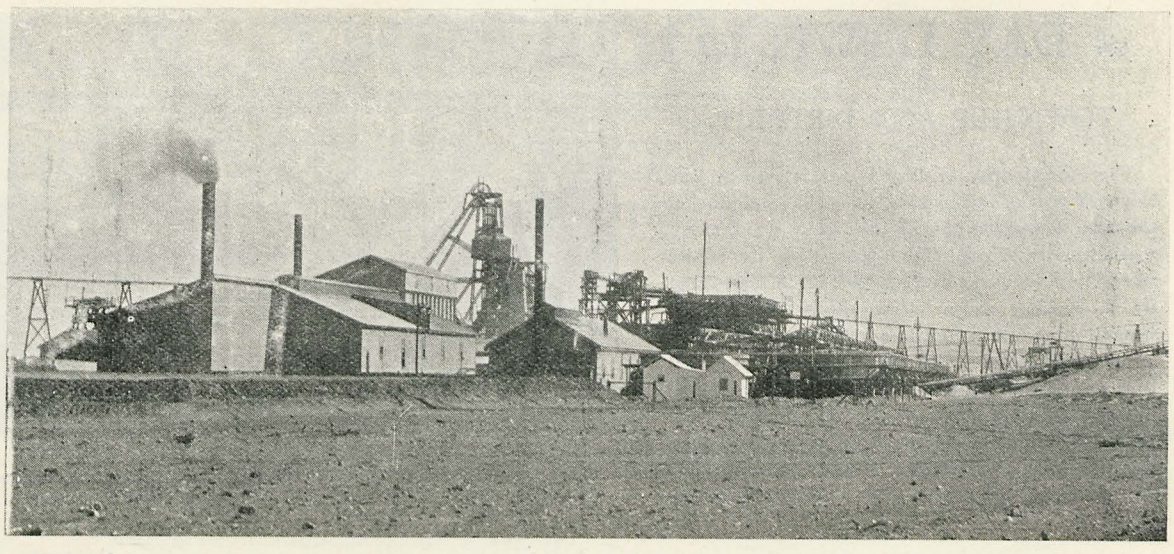
NANNINE DISTRICT SCHOOL CHILDREN.

THE MINES.

The Great Fingall G.M. is necessarily the backbone of the district, and for quite a long period has been the premier mine of the State, as well as one of the biggest profit earners in the world. As some particulars concerning the past seven years operations of the Great Fingall, as prepared a little while back by the General Manager, Mr. Gerald Lovell, are more than ordinarily interesting they may be permitted to be given. During that period £493,000 has been expended on general stores, machinery, and fuel; freight paid to the Government railways totalled £105,000; and the total cost of machinery erected, including freight, labor, and stores was £340,500. The daily cost of fuel is £101. Aggregate amount paid in wages £697,500, while permanent monthly wage bill is now £12,250, equal to £147,000 per annum. Average number of men employed about 700. Total yield for last seven years 694,490 fine ounces, valued at £2,950,000, which was increased to over £3,000,000 by the end of October. Dividends paid during past seven years total £1,400,000, or equal to £10 15s. on every original £1 share. To give a concrete idea of the value of the mine, Mr. Lovell has said that supposing a man had invested £1,000 in Fingall shares about seven years ago he would have received £10,750 in dividends at the time of the compilation of the statement.

There are other mines round Day Dawn besides the Great Fingall, though none has shown any promise so far of emulating the "big mine's" prolific output and profitable results. One of the most consistent has been the Mount Fingall, a low-grade show about a mile south of the parent mine. The Rubicon, whic

The Great Fingall G.M., Day Dawn.



belongs to the Murchison Associated Co., an English concern, is about a mile north of the big mine, but, though a large amount of capital has been expended on this property and a shaft sunk to 811ft., so far the shareholders have received no return for their money. At the 800ft. level the reef was struck in a crosscut, and stone broken down from the reef and treated at the 10-head battery on the mine has given an average return of 15 dwt. There is an excellent surface plant on this property. Nearer the railway station is another offshoot of the Murchison Associated Co., the East Fingall, which has proved a disappointing investment. The main shaft on this mine was sunk during the year to a depth of 500ft., and a lode 15in. wide was struck in the crosscut. Crushings from this reef have given an average return of 17dwt. over the plates, while the tailings assay for 6 dwt. There is a heavy flow of water in the shaft of the East Fingall, and about 10,000 gallons are pumped every 24 hours. The company's shareholders have shown plenty of pluck in raising funds to carry on the Rubicon and East Fingall, and deserve a better return for their money. Adjoining the East Fingall is the Creme d'Or, owned by four local men. Here there is a vertical shaft of 200ft. connecting with an underlay shaft of about 170ft. A reef 2ft. wide is being worked for an average return of 30dwt. per ton. South of the town is the Day Dawn lease, which has not been long taken up. The owners sunk on the underlay for about 85ft., and are on a nice 18in. reef, from which the latest crushing to date gave 2oz. 16dwt. over the plates, the tailings assaying for 23dwt. The Trenton, which had been idle for some time, was taken up again this year and an underlay sunk to connect with the old workings at 290ft. East of the townsite is the Kinsella, which has had a somewhat chequered existence. The original prospectors took a little gold out at a shallow depth, and sold to an English company, which carried on operations for some years and then abandoned the mine. Three local men sunk about £6,000 in the property last year, and then transferred their interest to a small company, whose manager sank the shaft to 430ft., when funds gave out. At the 300ft. level a strongly defined reef was driven on north and south for some distance, but payable values were not struck except in a small leader. With further sinking to test the reef at depth the Kinsella may yet prove a valuable property. Recently a copper lode has been located near the Rubicon mine, and a parcel sent to the Fremantle smelter for treatment gave 4dwt. of gold and 15 per cent. copper to the ton. A shaft has been sunk about 120ft., and ore is being broken and bagged for treatment. There are many leases taken up round the Great Fingall property, but none is being systematically worked.

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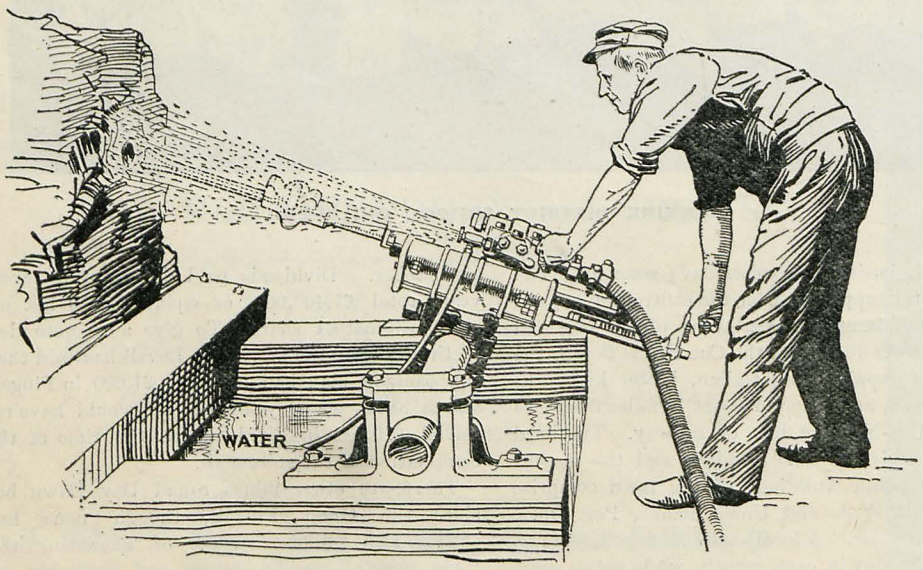
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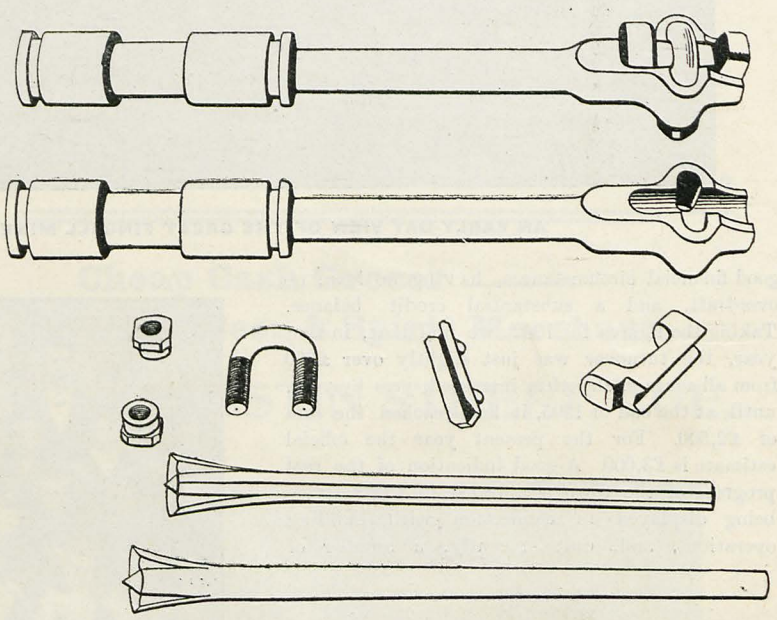
wish to introduce to the Mining World their **latest improvements** in the way of attachments to Rock Drills, viz.:

THE PATENT "CLIMAX" DUST ALLAYER,

for allaying dust when boring dry holes, and for dispersing the nitrous fumes caused by blasting, and so preventing Miners' Phthisis.



The Patent "CLIMAX" Dust Allayer.



The Patent "CLIMAX" Simplex Drill-Holder.

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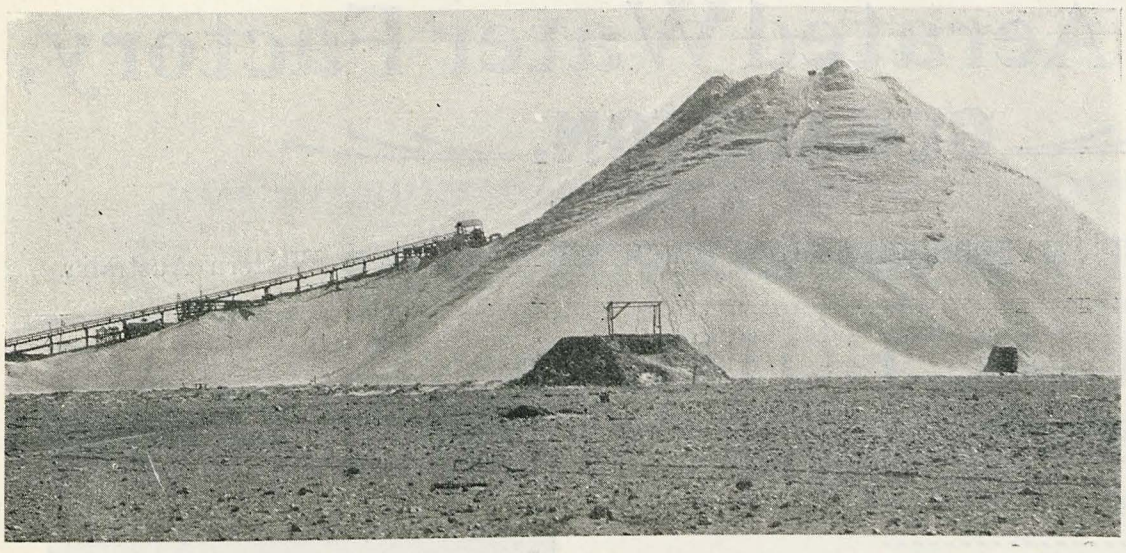
which takes octagonal or round sections of drill steel without their being first prepared by the smith; permits of the instantaneous changing of borers; consists of fewer parts than the old type drill-holders; and does away with the use of springs, loose gripping pads, and spanners.

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The Premier Mine of the Murchison.

NANNINE.

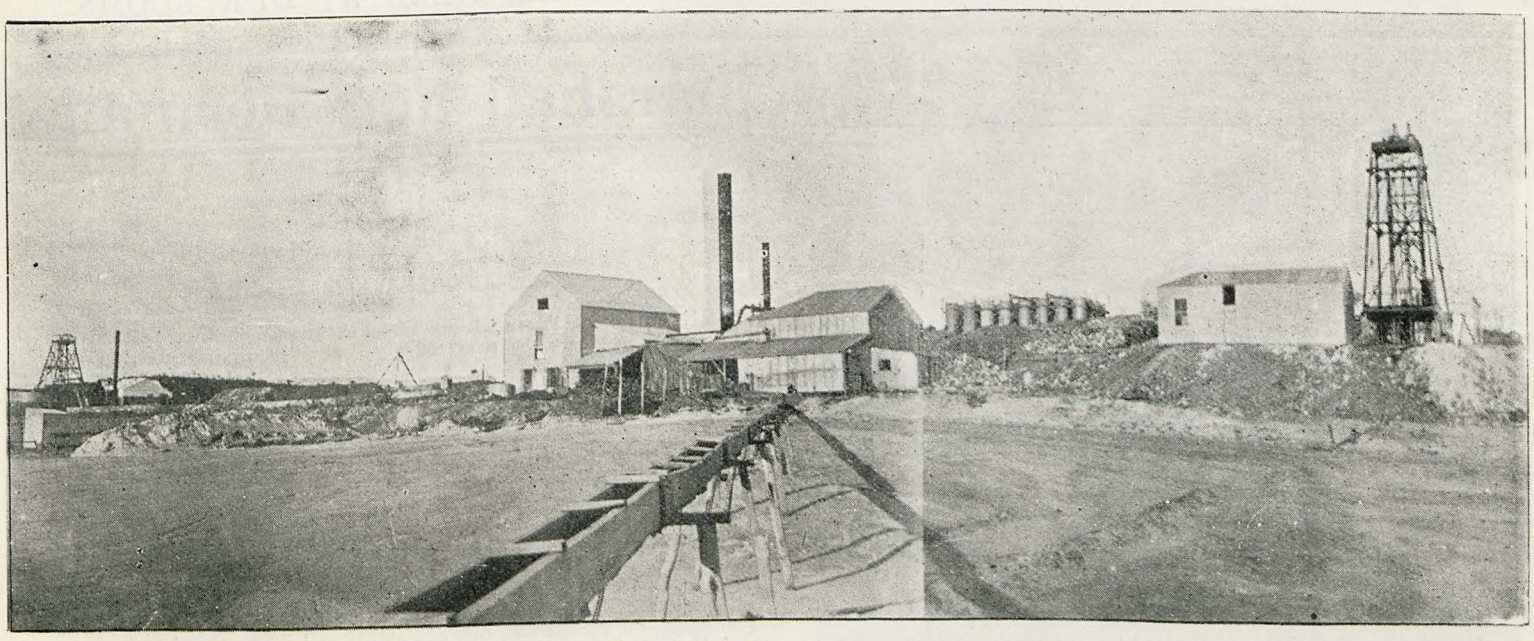
THE PIONEER FIELD.

Though the oldest goldfield on the Murchison, Nannine has not progressed as much as some of its younger competitors. The early mining promise of the field has not been fulfilled, but there are still several mines—some working, others idle—offering such security of investment, which, were they placed in more favored localities, would cause them to be eagerly sought after. The township is pleasantly situated on a slight rise, overlooking a stretch of plain on one hand and the Nannine Lake on the other, while at the northern end of the main street rises the rock outcrop of the old Nannine mine. The town is laid out in square blocks intersected by broad streets, in which shade trees—thanks to the local Council—are making satisfactory progress against climatic conditions. Recently a reticulation scheme was completed, and is now giving a satisfactory supply of good water to the residents. As the terminus of the Northern railway Nannine is the distributing centre for Meekatharra, Chesterfield, Abbotts, and Peak Hil to the north, Gabanintha, Burnakurra, Quinn's, and Wiluna towards the east, and for the many prosperous pastoral properties in the North Murchison. This means a large and steady volume of trade for the local storekeepers, who are all enterprising business men, and staunch supporters of many mining shows in the surrounding district. In addition to several excellently conducted hotels, Nannine possesses a well equipped Hospital, Mechanics' Institute Hall, Warden's Court and Offices, and many stores and private residences.

In addition to the Nannine mine, which is dealt with elsewhere, there are three other local properties worthy of special mention. First of these is the Caledonian, owned and worked by a small local syndicate. The main shaft is, at time of writing, down 190ft., and from a reef of from 2ft. to 14ft. width 2,000 tons of quartz have been crushed for an average return of 30dwt. per ton. Adjoining is the Caledonian Extended, where the main shaft is down 160ft., and the reef averages 6ft., with a value—as proved by battery results—of over an ounce per ton. About a mile Nor'-West of the town is a recent and somewhat remarkable discovery, the Lady Mary. This is a large quartzite formation of over 30ft. in width, with many small reefs running through it. It has been worked on the open-cut system for about 10 months, but, in expectation of a State Battery being erected at Nannine, the owner has not yet crushed any stone. Among other shows are the Black Snake, apparently a continuation of the Caledonian reef, The Clipper, on what is known locally as the Island, the Merrie England, and the Doctor, to the north of the Lady Mary. Two mines of much early promise, the Champion and the Queen of the Lake, belonging to the Mount Yagahong Co., have been shut down for months. There is a 30-head mill on the Champion, and another of 20 stamps on the Queen of the Lake, yet both these splendid mills are now rusting to ruin. About 75 miles north-east of Nannine. and near Belele Station, is the Chesterfield field, which is now practically deserted. From the Chesterfield and other mines on this small field good yields have been obtained, the reefs being noted for very rich chutes. Water, however, makes strongly at a shallow depth, and so far the prospectors have failed to secure the necessary pumping plants.

The Nannine group, comprising the amalgamated Nannine, Mount Hall and Royalist Consolidated mines, were the first taken up on the Murchison, and held by several parties. They are now owned by Mr. John G. Robinson, who has worked the mine and equipped it from the profits made out of it. The specimens obtained from the cap of the reef during the early days were very rich. Although no records were kept of the early returns, it is known that one party during the first six weeks took 1,000oz. out of the cap from 5cwt. of stone, while another took from the surface over 2,000oz. From the 200ft. level the Government purchased (800oz. to 1,000z.) some of the richest specimens seen in the country for the Paris and Glasgow Exhibitions. The actual records of stone crushed through the battery are 12,154 tons for a yield of 24,498oz., an average of over 2oz. per ton. The mine is partly opened up to the 200ft. level, but all stone crushed has come practically from above the 100ft. level. The property is equipped with a modern plant, including a rock-drill plant with a Fraser & Chalmers' compound Corless two-stage compressor, engineering and fitting shops, winding and pumping plants on three main shafts, but the battery power is very limited, comprising the first 10-head erected on the Murchison, but it is intended to erect a modern treatment plant in the near future. The reef has an average width of 7ft., and over 3,000ft. is within the boundary. Below 200ft. the reef is rich in sulphides carrying gold, principally galena.

Mr. Robinson, the owner of these properties, was amongst the very first on Nannine, and is one of the pioneer gold-seekers of the Murchison. He was specking and dryblowing at the same time as Macpherson and Peterkin, and had at the start to go down to Geraldton for six months' tucker, so out of the way was Nannine then considered. However, shortly after his return, the news of the rich finds had leaked out, and loaded teams with swags and men poured in to divide the golden deposits with the finders. Mr. Robinson sent down in December of '91 the first gold that ever left Nannine.



THE NANNINE GOLD MINES (Mr. J. G. ROBINSON, Proprietor).

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COMMERCIAL HOTEL

AUSTIN STREET, CUE.

FRED LAWSEN, Proprietor.

AMONG the citizens of Cue who take an active part in the progress of the town and district is Mr. FRED LAWSEN, proprietor of the Commercial Hotel. Mr. Lawsen has a lengthy experience of mining fields, as he landed on Charters Towers shortly after that field was proclaimed, and was a successful contractor there for some years, principally in connection with the mines.

Later on Mr. Lawsen established a business in Cairns as house furnisher and contractor. After disposing of that business, he left Queenslnnd for Scotland with his family in 1893, but by the promise of the Golden West, he set out for West Australia, and landed in Cue in 1894. Commencing as a builder and contractor, Mr. Lawsen did much good work on many of the local mines and after five years in that line of business, he took over the Commercial Hotel, in Austin Street, which popular house he has since conducted, with Mrs. Lawsen's assistance, with well deserved success.



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Marshall and Forman,

CUE.

THE Firm of MARSHALL & FORMAN, of Cue, established for many years, have indeed been very successful, starting with a mere nothing; but already this firm has forged ahead, and now holds itself as one of the leading **Plumbers, Engineering, and Bicycle Builders** of the State. The Cue Bicycles built by this firm have numbered **802** up to date, which speaks for itself.

The **Plumbing Branch** of the business is equally successful. On being shown through the premises by Mr. Marshall one is surprised at such a busy industry being carried on in a place like Cue so far inland. What with bicycles being built and the enamelling over in operation, then plumbers busy building the acetyline plants and tanks of all descriptions. The Acetylene Plants made by this firm are on engineering lines. Both Marshall and Forman being schooled in one of the leading foundries in Melbourne—in the engineering department of the Yarra Boiler Works—accounts for the extreme care and ability and management displayed in this business.

This Firm instal Acetylene Plants in all parts of the State, and keep all accessories in connection with any part of their business.

OTHER CENTRES OF MINING ACTIVITY.

Throughout the Murchison, East Murchison, and Yalgoo Mining Areas

A Satisfactory Revival all Round—New Finds and Old—

What is being done on them.

MEEKATHARRA.

Though only about five years old as regards active development, Meekatharra, by the number of its reproductive mines and their rich and consistent yields, has attracted as much outside attention as any field in W.A., with the possible exception of Black Range. The advancement of Meekatharra has been handicapped to a great extent by want of water and inadequate crushing facilities. Situated 24 miles north of Nannine, on a plateau slightly elevated from the surrounding plains, Meekatharra presents the usual appearance of the outback thriving mining township. The distinguishing characteristics of this field are its large auriferous formations, some of a clayey kaolin nature, some of quartz, but all carrying payable values. In most of the mines these large formations carry small veins of high value. In some instances the rich veins or bands are found separate from the formation, but they probably are in close geological relation to the large low-grade bodies in their vicinity. Frequent crosscutting through these formations is necessary in order to thoroughly prospect them. A serious problem yet to be solved is the efficient treatment of the low-grade kaolin formations, which make a good deal of slimes when crushed, and therefore need a copious supply of water. This, it is hoped, will be secured by the reticulation scheme from Garden Gully, nine miles away. There is a well-equipped and capably managed State Battery on the field, but, owing to shortage of water, it rarely runs more than one shift, and there are many thousands of tons on top and in the levels waiting for the stamps. With such large soft lodes heavy timbering is necessary, and forms a very expensive item—in fact Oregon baulks cost about £1 per foot landed on the mine.

It is held locally that there are three distinct lines of reef at Meekatharra, of which the eastern appears to be the most important. On this line is the Fenian, probably the best mine on the field. It is a 17-acre lease with a tremendous lode carrying rich veins. In the last two years the owners (a small syndicate) have crushed 1,413 tons for a return of 5,929oz. over the plates (tailings assay 14dwt.), have spent £8,000 in development, and paid £13,000 in dividends. The Marmont, south of the Fenian, has a 25ft. lode, from which 983 tons crushed returned 4,049oz. over the plates, while the tailings assay 12dwt. The owners of the Marmont lately purchased a 20-head mill, steam winding gear, pump, etc., all which gear is now erected on the lease. On the Marmont Extended a big lode is being opened up thoroughly and stone raised for crushing. The Ingliston Consols Extended, probably the first show worked on this line, has also a 25ft. lode. Figures available show that 1,536 tons have been crushed for 4,282oz. over the plates, tailings assaying 12dwt. (It may be explained here that there is a vast accumulation of sands and slimes at the State Battery awaiting treatment). About two years ago the Ingliston Extended (the next lease) was bought by the old Island Eureka Co., after a 15 months' working option. The original holders had taken out about 1,000 tons of an average value of 1½oz., and the company's crushings have maintained this average. There is a 10-head battery on this property, and a filter-press plant to deal with the slimes, the work of which will be watched with interest. So far the extraction is said to be within ½dwt. of the assay. The lode in this mine is from 15ft. to 30ft. wide, and has been proved to 600ft. The ground is rather treacherous, however, "soapy heads" occur, and both walls are soft, and the company are put to heavy expense in timbering to make the ground safe. A very rich reef is being worked in the Commodore South, a jasper band in soft diorite, and the owners have crushed about 220 tons for slightly over 6oz. per ton. North of this is the Commodore, which was abandoned by the original prospectors after the top levels had been worked out, worked by tributers and again abandoned, and is now being vigorously developed by a syndicate (including some Cue residents), which has already crushed 2,087 tons for 3,282oz., while the tailings assay for 17dwt. The reef from which the crushings have been taken is 2ft. wide at 150ft, depth, and making better below water. At the north end of the lease a shaft has been sunk 100ft. on a very large lode, assaying 10dwt., which would pay handsomely if water were available for cheap crushing. The western line consists practically of the Havelock Consols and the Havelock, though there are other leases in the prospecting stage. Through the Consols and the Havelock run two large parallel lodes of 9ft. to 14ft., and separated by about 12ft. of country rock. From the Consols 1,500 tons have been treated for a return of 7dwt. per ton by amalgamation. On the Pioneer of the middle line is a main reef, with branches, which so far has given good returns, and the owners are now sinking below water level. No. 93, or Savage's Open Cut, is a large outcrop of quartz over 100ft. wide in places, and is practically being quarried out. About 3,000 tons have been crushed for 1,800oz. This show presents an admirable opportunity for those investors who are looking for a big low-grade proposition. There are many other leases taken up, but work has been stopped on some till they can get parcels through the battery, and others are in the prospecting stage.

THE REVENUE.

This mine, situated at the 8-mile, merits special mention, since its returns to date are extraordinary even in this State of golden pockets and leaders. The original prospectors took out over 1,350oz. from one pocket and then abandoned the show. A small syndicate then took over the mine, and, after driving only a few feet, struck a small but very rich leader, from which during the past 12 months they have crushed 9 tons 8 cwt. of stone for 3,502oz. of smelted gold. The leader is making stronger at water level (130ft.) and the owners are sinking the shaft another 100ft.



STATE BATTERY, BLACK RANGE.

ERROL'S FIND.

Of this field, which lies 10 miles west and a little north of Barrambie, much is expected by those in a position to estimate its potentialities. It was reported in April, 1905, by Charles Erroll, an experienced prospector, who took up 48 acres, known as the Legacy leases. Through this ground runs a large outcrop of quartz about 400 yards in length, carrying a well defined reef which, as disclosed in one costeen, is as much as 30ft. in width. By some half dozen trenches and three shafts the

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[ESTABLISHED 1897],

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Graff's Garden Day Dawn.

Situated about a mile and a half from the town is a fine Market Garden, the property of Mr. E. W. GRAFF. This consists of five acres, of which two are at present under cultivation. The garden is equipped with a windmill and oil engine, the pumping capacity being 300 gallons per hour. There is an abundance of water of excellent quality, and this, no doubt, has largely contributed to the successful results obtained from the garden. The ground was first taken up some five years ago, and has proved exceptionally rich in the growing of vegetables, particularly of Cabbages and Cauliflowers. This will be appreciated upon the fact that cabbages weighing over 16lbs. and cauliflowers of 19lbs. are not infrequent. Rock Melons also grow in great profusion here, and last season no less than 330 were taken out in the course of a week, the heaviest weigh ing 20lbs. Water Melons weighing up to 30lbs. are not uncommon, while Beetroot, Beans and Tomatos form a considerable portion of the output of the garden. Of the latter, during last season 3,400lbs. represented the yield. The whole place, in fact, supplies a striking example of what may be accomplished by perseverance and intelligent development of soil, even in such an apparently arid region as that in which the garden is situated. Meanwhile the ground is being steadily cultivated, and it is merely a matter of time when the whole five acres will become revenue-producing.

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Mr. Bond's Orchard and Garden.

BOND'S HOTEL, NANNINE.

ONE of the best known and most popular residents of Nannine is Mr. JAS. BOND, proprietor of Bond's Hotel, the town's favorite hostelry, and the headquartars of visiting Commercials and Mining Men.

Host Bond can claim a fairly lengthy acquaintnnce with the district. He was prospecting on the Gascoyne when the discovery of the first find of payable gold at Nannine was reported by Macpherson and Peterkin, and promptly made for the scene of the rush, where, needless to say, he has been content to remain ever since. Mr. Bond has been closely associeted with the municipal affairs of Nannine in the capacity of Councillor, and, though a consistently busy man, has managed to superintend the operations of his famous garden and orchard, situate some five miles from the town, and a photo of which appears herewith. The garden, which is laid out on an up-to-date plan, has produced, and is continuing to produce, in season, some of the finest fruit and vegetables grown in the State, which is saying a lot when regard is had for the rigors of the Murchison summer.

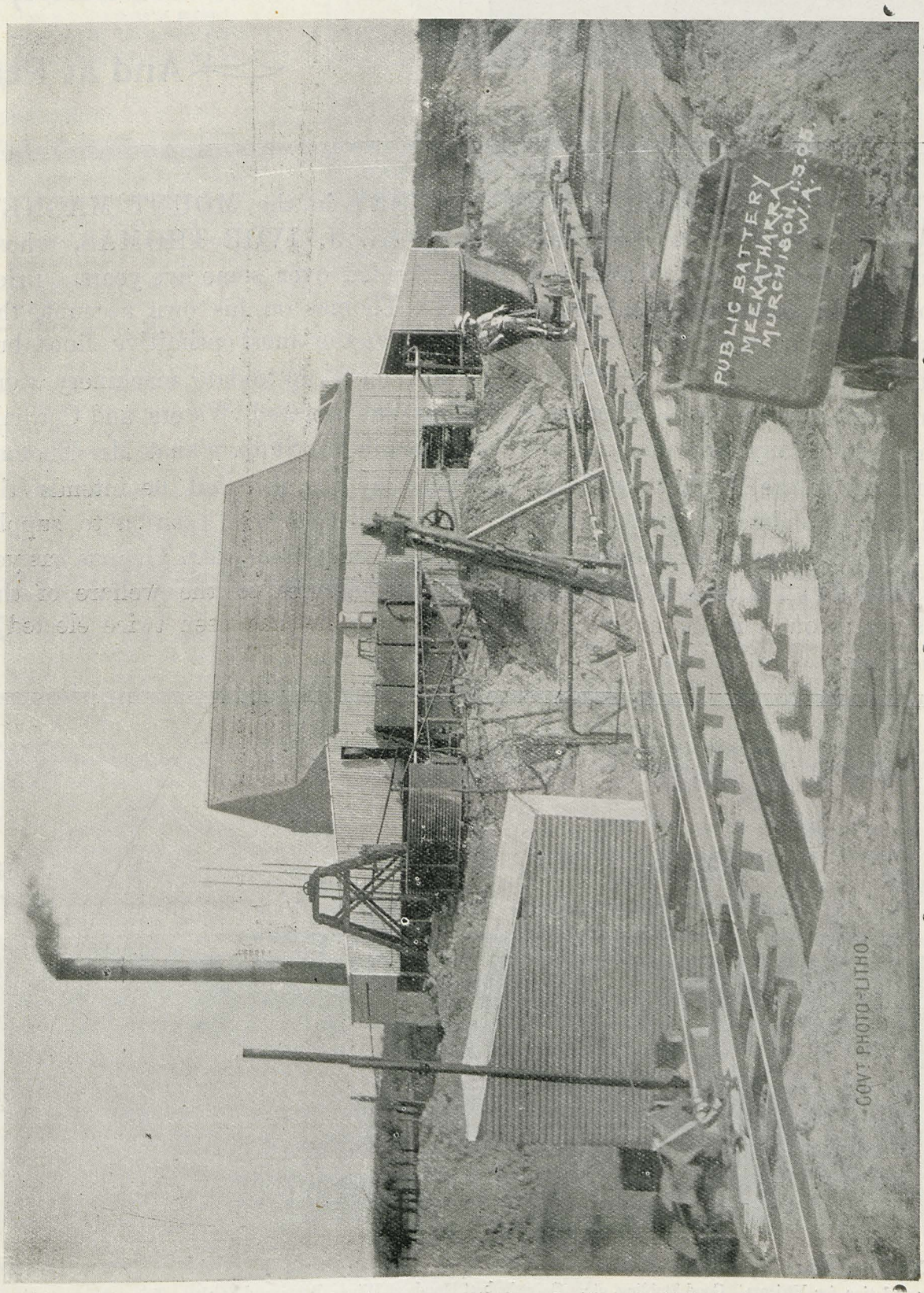
reef is proved to a great length, of widths from 5ft. to 30ft., and to a depth of about 70ft. Where it has been exposed the reef shows coarse gold freely, while several bands or ribs running through it carry rich values. Owing to the cost of cartage to the nearest battery at Quinn's, 32 miles away, Erroll did not attempt a bulk crushing, but contented himself with what he could get from the dolly pot. After lengthy negotiation the Legacy property was inspected early this year by Mr. T. A. Atherton, a partner in the firm of J. Norton, Griffiths & Co., mining engineers, of London. The result of this inspection was that, without exercising the full time of the option, Messrs. Norton, Griffiths & Co. bought the property for their principals for £4,000 cash and 5,000 shares in the company. Other country was taken up, and the syndicate (the members of which have hitherto been identified with South Africa) now holds about 140 acres. A 10-head battery was bought and carted out to Erroll's, and is now erected, and development work is being carried on. Options have also been taken by the same investors over The Inheritance (24 acres) and Three Star (18 acres). The former is about half a mile north of the Legacy, and apparently on the same line of reef, which has been driven on at 50ft. depth, and crushes for 2½oz. per ton. On the Three Star a 20ft. body of ore is exposed; values are carried on the footwall for a width of 4ft., giving 2oz. to 4oz. prospects. Two parcels from this lease treated at Quinn's gave averages of 6oz. and 2½oz. respectively. South of the Legacy there are several leases in the prospecting stage on which the reef has been proved. About four miles south of the Legacy is the Barrambie Perseverance, through which runs a large outcrop extending about a mile. A trench cut across this outcrop exposed a 14ft. reef, from the hanging wall of which 14oz. assays were obtained, while from a bulk sample of the centre and footwall the lowest assay was 11dwt. A shaft was sunk 60ft., when the reef was again found to maintain width and values. There is some likely looking auriferous country in the vicinity which is being prospected. Erroll's has the advantage of an abundant water supply at about 60ft., and a plentiful supply of timber, while the country is easy to work, being what miners call good picking ground.

Errol's is named after the prospector of the Legacy lease, John Errol, who discovered that show about eighteen months ago.

Like Payne, prospector of the Black Range, he has put in a number of years (some fifteen, to be correct) in almost ceaseless prospecting work. He was on Cue very soon after Tom Cue and Heffernan, and during the period mentioned has been looking for payable dirt in many places—through Darlot, Lake Way, and as far east as the Warburton Ranges. Errol is another who has done most of his prospecting unaccompanied, and has no fault to find with the process of dodging through the mulga solus.

BARRAMBIE.

Whatever the ultimate value of the rabbit-proof fence may prove to be, it has at least indirectly added to the mineral wealth of the State, for it was some workers on the fence who first discovered gold in the Barrambie Hills, between the 283 and 284 mile posts of the fence. The leases at Barrambie lie along the sides of a small stony range, which rises rather abruptly from the surrounding plain. Little is known as to the early development of the field. Situated 83 miles east of Cue, and 61 south-east of Nannine, there was not much outside traffic to Barrambie, and the prospectors, when they came in for supplies, were unusually reticent. However, the fact of over 30 men living for months on the output of the dolly pot, and an exhibition of some very rich specimens, caused some small investments in the new find by Cue and Nannine residents, and in turn led to the purchase of the Golden Treasure leases by a syndicate of well-known Melbourne mining men, who successfully floated the Barrambie Ranges Co. A 10-head battery, winding engine, gear, etc., was purchased



PUBLIC BATTERY, MEEKATHARRA



Frank Williams

GENERAL STOREKEEPER,

MEEKATHARRA,

And at Peak Hill.

THE Sole AERATED WATER FACTORY in the MOUNT MAGNET district is that now conducted by Mr. J. IVOR THOMAS, whose business association with this centre has extended over some five years. Prior to the taking over of the business by Mr. Thomas on his own account, the driving power of the Factory was generated on the most primitive lines, but under his direction a naptha engine and more up-to-date machinery were installed, and to-day his Factory is turning out Aerated Waters and Cordials the equal of anything manufactured elsewhere in the State. That Mr. Thomas has faith in the Magnet district is evidenced by the fact that he intends still further extending the present plant. He will then be in a position to supply all surrounding requirements. A consistently busy man, Mr. Thomas has yet managed to find time to devote some of his energies to the welfare of the district through its Municipal Council, of which he has been twice elected a member.



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and after delays, caused by accidents on the road and heavy rains, the plant is now erected and in good working order. The Company also secured the Golden Hill, adjoining their other properties. A vigorous development policy has been pursued, and, in addition to two prospecting shafts, a main shaft has been sunk to 150ft. The reef, which has been proved for a considerable distance, is of small width, varying from 2in. to 18in. The values also vary from 1oz. to 30oz—in fact some of the stone raised is as rich as any yet seen in the State. If the reef lives at depth, of which experts state there is every indication, then the returns from Barrambie must prove an excellent advertisement for the State. Outside the Company's properties are several other leases in the prospecting stage, on which not much work is being done at present. So far no adequate water supply for battery purposes has been obtained, but this difficulty may be overcome by sinking about 200ft.

BIRRIGRIN.

Originally known as the 50-mile, Birrigrin is about 40 miles northward of Black Range, and was first opened up by some of the early arrivals on the latter field. There is a five-head privately owned battery on the field, the biggest producer being the Wheal Ellen, from which some sensational yields have been obtained. Most of the gold is got in rich chutes, which occur at the intersections of cross quartz veins, apparently faulted by the reef. Some 1,500oz. have been obtained by dollying, while several small parcels crushed gave from 8 to 12oz. per ton. There are two shafts, one down 70ft. to water level and the other down about 100ft. Conditions are somewhat similar in the Hawthorn Reward, where the reef is small, but frequently bulges to 6ft. or 10ft. wide, carrying good gold. At latest return 583 tons had been crushed for 751oz. over the plates. From the Stranger, the adjoining lease, 180 tons have been treated for 252oz. by amalgamation. Another good show is the Pelerin; up to date 1,335oz. have been obtained from 467 tons. There are several other leases being worked by small parties with satisfactory results. About three miles south-west is the Collendina, where the reef, which varies from 1ft. to 4ft. wide, can be traced on the surface for 300ft. It averages in value about 1oz. per ton. Another three miles to the south-west is the Redcastle mine. A large reef outcrops through this property for some distance, but where cut underground shows two large quartz formations with shattered country between them; the average value of the reef is from 10 to 15 dwts. This mine looks like a big proposition if opened up on a large scale.



MAKING FOR A REMOTE FIELD.

MONTAGUE RANGE.

This promising field, of which very little has been heard by the public, is about eight miles north of Birrigrin. It is mostly remarkable for large lode formations, which demand capital for efficient and profitable working. On the Montague Monarch there is an 18ft. formation of schist with quartz veins, which can be traced for 300ft. There are two shafts down to 50ft., and a recent parcel of 14 tons gave a 4oz. average. There is a large outcrop running through the Yale Lock lease on the flat; a shaft was sunk 60ft., where water was struck. At this depth the reef was found to be nearly vertical in two bands of quartz of variable values. On the Montague is another large outcrop, which has been crosscut for 65ft. without finding the walls. Two shafts are down 60ft. to water level. From its great size this formation is too expensive for a small party to work, though some small crushings have been taken out for a 1oz. average. Another big formation is found on the Montague Boulder. The reef has a flat underlay, and averages about 15ft.; one parcel of 99 tons gave a 9 dwt. average over the plates, and the tailings assayed for 12 dwts. per ton. The Boulder also is too big a proposition for a small party of working owners. In the Montague Main Reef, Caledonian, Rossy Castle, and New Year's Gift are reefs are from 6ft. to 12ft. in width, averaging from 15 dwts. to 20 dwts. in value. There is a Tremayne mill on the fields, but some of the mines crush at Birrigrin, at a cost of £2 per ton for cartage and crushing. The country round the mines already opened up carries many large outcrops, and should repay further prospecting.



TABLETOP ROCKS, CUE.

BURNAKURRA

This field, which is about 24 miles from Nannine, is regarded as one of the most promising on the Murchison, and there is certainly evidence to support that belief. Despite the good returns obtained from the three principal mines, however, Burnakurra has not received much outside attention. This in some part may be due to the fact that a heavy flow of water is met with at shallow depth, necessitating fairly expensive pumping plants. The New Alliance, which has been worked for seven years, has the deepest shaft on the field—200ft. The reef is about 2ft. wide, and up to date nearly 6,000 tons have been treated for an average per ton of 3oz. The three owners, however, have been much troubled with water, and with breakages, etc., in their pumps. On the Coronation, south of the New Alliance, the reef has recently been cut at 90ft., and shows good values. The Old Alliance is being worked under tribute by some Nannine investors. Here the main shaft is down 150ft., the reef is 2ft., and 3,000 tons have been treated for 37dwt. per ton. There are several shafts on this property, also a four-head mill and winding plant. Encouraged by their crushing returns, the owners of the Federal City have expended a deal of capital in erecting a 10-head mill, with Cornish lift pump, winding gear, poppet legs, &c., and are still sinking their main shaft. There are two parallel reefs on this property, each about 4ft. wide, and about 140ft. apart, and crushing returns show an average value of 37dwt. per ton. As the further development of the mines means an increased number of men, there is now some activity in building at Burnakurra, and some recent discoveries outside the township have increased its prospects.

STAKE WELL.

This field is about 20 miles from Nannine, and close to the railway line. The two main shows are low-grade propositions, with large lodes of mineralised ore. From the Koh-i-noor about 1,000 tons have beeu crushed for an average of 1oz., while from the Koh-i-noor South some 1,300 tons treated gave 7½ dwts. per ton over the plates and the tailings assay for 10 dwts. There is a 10-head mill on this latter show. Several other leases have been taken up and are now being developed, while some prospecting is being done in the surrounding country.

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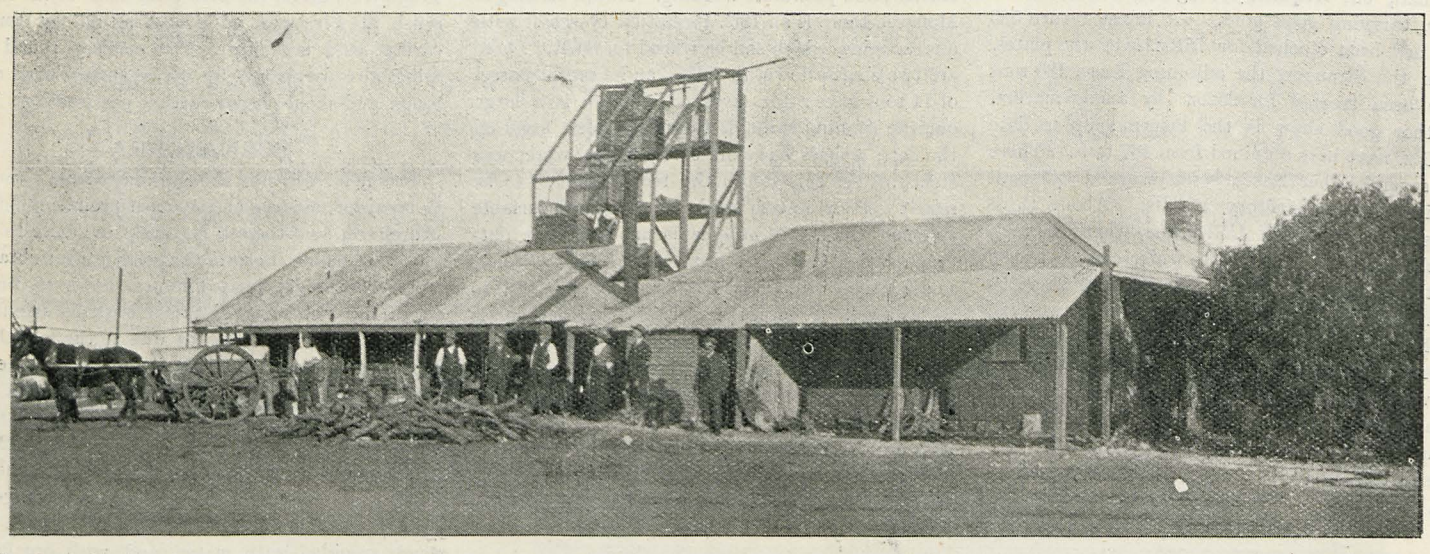
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MOUNT MAGNET BREWING COMPANY,

WATSON STREET, MOUNT MAGNET.



The accompanying illustration represents the Mount Magnet Brewery, from whose cellars the toilers (and others) of Mount Magnet and surrounding districts are supplied with the wherewithal to quench their great Australian thirst. The photograph is of somewhat ancient date, and gives but an inadequate idea of the premises, as the plant has been doubled and all the buildings completed since the business was purchased by the present owners some three years ago. During the last summer the Brewery was unable to satisfactorily cope with the demand for the local product, but the increased plant that has been since laid down will meet all present requirements, and, having a well on the property from which is obtained a supply of water peculiarly suitable for brewing purposes, is now in a position to supply an article second to none on the Murchison Goldfield.



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PROPRIETORS

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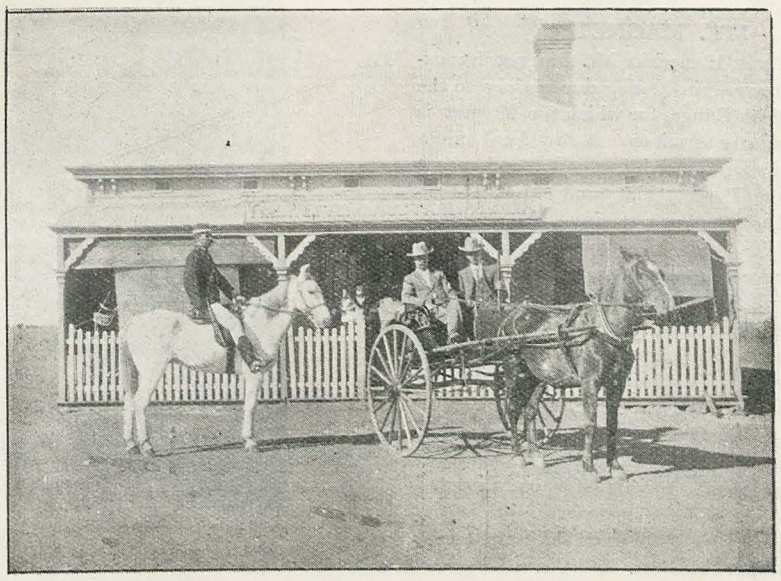
Excellent Table.

TARIFF: £2 2s. per week; 8s. per day.

Special welcome to Goldfields visitors

GABANINTHA

This once flourishing centre is practically dead at present, due mainly to the extraordinary way in which the Star of the East and Tumbulgum mines have been handled by the London Company which owns them. Up to April 30 this year the Star of the East had crushed 27,244 tons for 20,305 fine ozs., and the Tumbulgum 8,626 tons for 3,787 fine ozs. There is a 20-head mill on the Star of the East, and a reef averaging 10ft. to 15ft. at the 350ft. and 500ft levels, yet the company either will not or cannot spare its capable manager, Captain Parkes, enough cash to do a little necessary development work. From the Mountain View over 3,000 tons has been treated for 2,357oz., but the presence of copper in the ore prevents a complete return in the cyaniding of the tailings. Work is now being confined to a mullocky lode over 4ft. wide, which is knocked out in bulk, and returns about 7dwt. by amalgamation. About four miles S.E. of Gabanintha townsite is the Lady Alma (formerly the Copper King). On this property, which has been abandoned by several parties, there is a 6ft. copper lode. The difficulty is lack of local treatment. Cartage to Nannine, railage to Fremantle, and smelting charges, etc., would total over £11 per ton. This means that nothing less than 18 per cent. ore would pay, and the prospectors are now relying on tapping the bunches or chutes of rich ore which occur to give them subsistence.



First Gold Escort from Meekatharra to W.A. Bank, Nannine.

YALGOO DISTRICT

There are no mines now working round Yalgoo township, and very few within the boundaries of the Yalgoo mining district. At Yuin, about 50 miles nor'-west of Yalgoo, is the Royal Standard, which has been worked by its present owner for about eight years. With a 10ft. to 14ft. reef, averaging about 15 dwts. and proved for a great distance, this mine should prove a valuable property to the London Syndicate, by whom an option has recently been undertaken, if developed and worked systematically. There are a few small parties working at Gullewa and south-west of Yalgoo. Another 50 miles south is the Rothsay mine, which has been worked on and off for several years, and is now being given another trial. There is a a 10-head battery on the property.

GUM CREEK

About half-a-dozen shows are being worked on this field, about 90 miles east of Nannine, chief of which is the Cardigan, which, to time of writing, has crushed 281 tons for 512oz. 6dwt. The reefs are small and patchy, and the country very hard to work. A five-head battery on the Gladsome lease crushes for the prospectors.

FIELD'S FIND

Only one mine is being worked at this remote field, the Field's Reward, which belongs to an English company. Neither the company nor the mine had been handled very successfully till a reconstruction took place last year, when a capable manager was put in charge. The shaft was then sunk to 350ft., and in a drive from the 330ft. level a 2ft. 6in. reef was struck which gives good prospects. The mine is well equipped on the surface.

BOOGARDIE

There is a rich group of mines at this centre, which are consistent producers. Litigation among the partners has somewhat hampered the development of the Hesperus Dawn, from which some very rich returns have been obtained from a small reef, highly mineralised. Another reef runs through the property, from which crushings averaging slightly over 1oz. have been taken. On the Saturn, Jupiter, Neptune, Havelock, and Tucker Bag small parties are at work on a reef averaging well over the oz., while on the Sirdar is a large lode formation which carries 8 dwts. to 10 dwts. per ton. About a dozen other small shows are being worked and developed.

ABBOTT'S

About midway between Nannine and Peak Hill is Abbot's, with one mine—the New Murchison King—belonging to an English company. The prospects of this mine have improved of late, but the reef is somewhat variable in value. About 40 men are employed, and there is a good surface equipment, including a 10-head battery.



GERALDTON BRANCH OF THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BANK.

QUINN'S

There are only three mines working at present at Quinn's, but some prospecting is being done in the vicinity. Water is a great trouble on this field to small working parties, who have not enough capital, or cannot afford to undertake the risk of putting down a pump. The Phœnix shaft is down 100ft., but all work done is above water level at 78ft. The reef is 2ft. wide, and worth about 12dwt., and 955 tons have been crushed for that average. Water level at the Princess Dagmar is 50ft., but the shaft has been sunk to 95ft.; the average width of the reef is 2ft. 6in., and the average value 16dwt. From the Scotchman about 400 tons has been treated for a return of over 20dwt. to the ton; the owners have no means of working below water.

TUCKANARRA

This field, which gave some rich yields in the early days, has had a revival lately owing to phenomenal returns from the Union Jack and Judy's Gift. From the former some hundreds of ounces were dollied by the fortunate owners. This mine is still being worked, but the stone is somewhat scratchy. From Judy's Gift, named after the black gin who discovered it, 430oz. were dollied within a short time, and a 40-ton parcel treated at the battery gave a 6oz. average. Systematic development work has been done on the Havelock mine, which is owned by a Victorian syndicate. The main shaft is down above 100ft. and a nice 3ft. 6in. reef exposed, in which coarse gold can be seen. A battery is erected on the property.



Laying Foundation Stone, Cue Rotunda, to Memory of the Pioneers.

MT. MAGNET

During the past 12 months Mt. Magnet has experienced a revival in trade, due mainly to the traffic with Black Range, for which the Magnet is the present railway terminus. A few local mines have also showed improved prospects, and recent developments on Poverty Flat, and old dry-blowing patch, show that as a mining field Magnet is yet very far from dead. The township is laid out on a flat, and does not extend far from the railway line. There are the usual hotels and stores, and if business if not brisk, it is, at least, on a solid basis. The chief mine at Mt. Magnet is the Morning Star, which is owned by a Victorian company, and has been profitably worked for over 12 years. The lode is wide—at the 300ft. level it averages 17ft. of low-grade and easily worked. The mine is capably managed and, having large ore reserves, should pay dividends for many years to come. Another big low-grade property is the St. George, where two parallel lodes 6ft. and 9ft. wide, running north and south and almost vertical, are now being worked for an average return of 12 dwts. per ton. There is an enormous quantity or ore in sight on this mine, on which there are several shafts. On the New Chum a low-grade formation of similar character is being profitably worked. Recently some rich returns from Poverty Flat directed renewed attention to the the old dry-blowing patch. From the the Digger's Dab (old Monarch) 266oz. were obtained from 29 tons, while the tailings, it is reported, assayed 4oz. per ton. On a prospecting area, westward, 67½oz. were dollied from specimens, and 11 tons crushed for 4oz. per ton. The Bid for Fortune, on the edge of the patch, is being worked on the open cut system, and a late crushing taken about 12ft. from the surface gave a 1oz. average, while the tailings assayed for another oz.



HEFFERNAN'S TREE, DAY DAWN.

MINDOOLAH

This field is situated about 45 miles from Cue, and a few miles north of the old Weld Range gold mine. Some very rich returns have been obtained by Bertram, the original prospector, from his leases. The ore is bagged and carted into Cue for treatment, and the latest return at time of writing was 32 tons for 184oz. over the plates. Specimen stone is obtained, which is dollied. There are three shafts on Bertram's leases, the deepest being 70ft. About 30 men are on the field, and there are many tons of nice looking ore at grass, but the cost of cartage to Cue—£5 per ton—is prohibitive to working parties. It is probable that the Mines Department will test the country to about 200ft. by a diamond drill, and if the result is satisfactory there will be increased activity at Mindoolah.

THE ISLAND.

Though abandoned about 12 months ago by the company which owned it, there is still gold in patches in the Island Eureka mine. Early this year a syndicate of three men crushed the old surface dump at a profit, and have since got good stone in the old stopes above water level, one 15-ton parcel returning them 150oz.

LAKE AUSTIN.

A small local syndicate, after prospecting for a while on the old Golconda, opened up a quartz blow within five yards of the late company's managerial quarters and struck very rich stone, which has since been worked at a good profit. The greater part of the Lake has been taken up as dredging areas, which are at present under exemption pending flotation in London.

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ACCUMULATED FUNDS, over £21,400,000. ANNUAL INCOME, over £2,800,000.

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W.A. BRANCH OFFICE: ST. GEORGE'S TERRACE, PERTH. **CHARLES BOOTH, Resident Secretary.**

The Black Range.

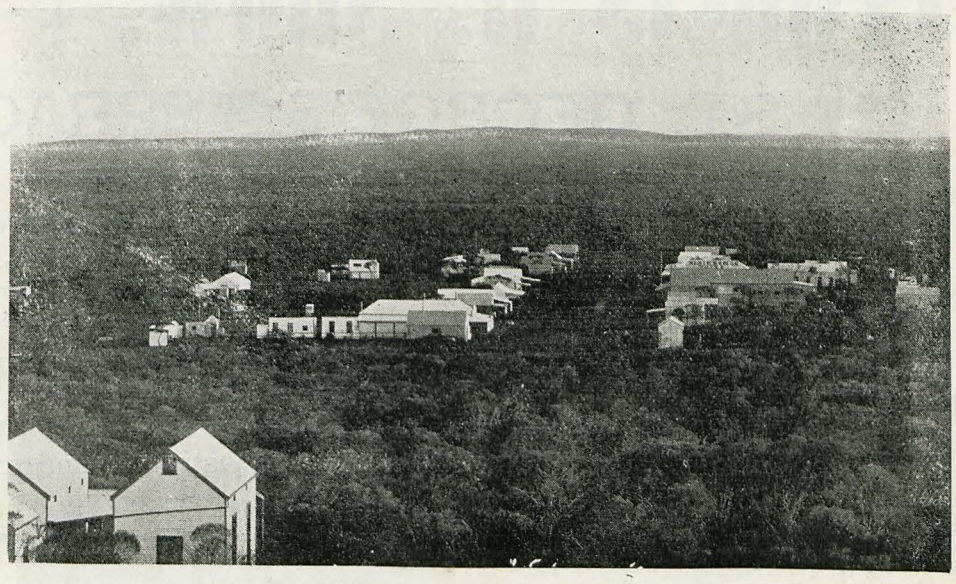
Concerning one of the Richest and Most Promising Goldfields in the State—The Principal Producers—What has been accomplished and is Proposed—The Maninga Marley District.

NO mining district in Western Australia has made more rapid and satisfactory advancement during the last two years than the Black Range country, from which the discovery of payable gold was first reported by prospector T. Payne, in 1902.

The amount of work done in short space of time that the field has been established, is little short of incredible, more particularly when it is considered that the field was dependent so long for crushing facilities on the one State mill ; a plant by the way which, in the case of an ordinary find, would, no doubt have been quite capable of meeting all requirements, but which in the exceptional circumstances of the Range has repeatedly proved unequal to doing so.

The State mill, as originally erected at the Range comprised 5-head of stamps, and during 1905 increased crushing power to the extent of a further 6-head was made. But even this improvement has, during the present year, been found quite unequal to dealing with public crushings, the amount of stone awaiting treatment at the mill at one period during the present year amounting to some three thousand odd tons.

Happily the early installation of its own plant by the Black Range G.M. Co., tended to relieve that company of unnecessary delay in getting its stone promptly dealt with, as did the erection by the Maninga-Marley G.M. of 5-head of stamps at that centre tend to encourage its development, and with the whole of the Black Range field proved to the entire satisfaction of those most interested in it, it is satisfactory to note the rapid installation of fresh crushing plants in some instances and increased capacity in others. This should mean that within a reasonable time the delay, inconvenience, and loss occasioned many of the prospectors under earlier conditions, will have been entirely overcome.



BLACK RANGE (NUNGARRA) TOWNSHIP.

No better evidence of the prosperity of the district could be given than the success of the sale of the Sandstone township lots, which was held on the 15th of October last.

The site of the Sandstone township is distant some seven miles from the present site of busines activity, known as Nungarra.

This location was originally chosen for the township by reason of its proximity to what then promised to be the principal centre of mining activity. The discovery and prompt opening of the famous Sandstone line of country, however, soon made the necessity for the establishment of another township apparent.

To this end 32 acres of bush land were divided into 128 quarter blocks, 14 of which were reserved by the Government for various purposes. Eighty-seven lots realised £14,000, the highest price of £580 being paid for one in the centre of the townsite, the two adjoining realising £840 ; certainly very satisfactory prices for unimproved mulga land, without the mines 1,000 acres would be dear at a gift.



RECENT SALE OF SANDSTONE TOWN LOTS.

The Range is certainly due for its railway, which should start from Mt. Magnet, about 96 miles distant, and, if circumstances warrant, continued later on from the Range through Lawlers and on to Leonora, thus connecting with the Eastern Goldfields line. An improved postal service is a necessity, as is the construction of the oft-promised but long delayed telegraph line a matter of considerable urgency also. The railway and telegraph are matters that should be put in hand at once. The Black Range has come to stay ; its population is increasing rapidly, and its mines so far as they are opened up are all good. But transit costs and living costs are a serious cost to profitable working. With the railway must come population and increased facilities generally. Mining timber will have to be brought from Geraldton—there is nothing but mulga at the Range ; there is, however, plenty of that for firewood and ordinary purposes, and also abundance of water. All the way from Magnet to Lawlers the Government have made and equipped splendid wells ; they have also recently undertaken a supply for the Maninga Marley residents, and have struck a good flow for this purpose.

* * *

To Tom Payne is generally assigned the credit attaching to the discovery of Black Range. As

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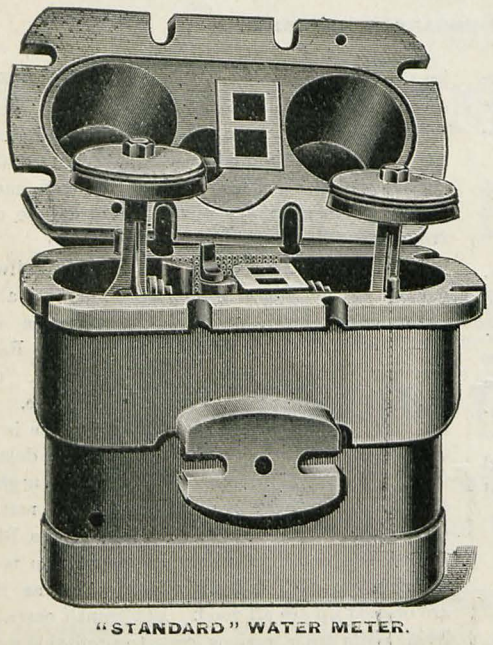
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LISTS and FULL PARTICULARS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

far back as 1892 he was prospecting about the locality, and camped at what is now known as the Six-Mile Well.

It was not until 1902, however, that he reported the finding of payable gold, and prior to that period had put in one and half years of consistent prospecting by himself round about the Range Country.

Such patience and isolation were certainly deserving of the profitable account to which by finding the famous Sandstone he turned them.

Coming to Western Australia about 17 years ago, a youth of 21, he jumped into prospecting pursuits straight away, prospecting principally on the Murchison and East Murchison Fields.

At Gullewa and Pinyalling he was identified with the prospecting of the "South Australian" and "The Golden Eagle" shows respectively, and subsequently discovered Paynesville and the "You and Me" mining districts.

Strangely enough, the prospector of the Range has of late years preferred prospecting alone, and, without having any personal aversion to mates, reckons that following his own inclinations in the matter of testing likely localities has suited him better than arguing the point about it with anybody else.

* * *

Of the pioneers of the Black Range Field has to be mentioned a well-known Westralian identity—Mr. W. M. Green (the prospector of the Wonoka, Sandridge, Rock Sand, and Wirramina leases, now under the management of the Sandstone Development Co., and the Kingoonya and Kingoonya West, held by the Oroya-Black Range G.M. Co., in both of which flotations Mr. Green is still actively interested), who arrived there some four years ago, he having heard at Magnet of the Hack's and Dent's rich discovery of reef formation, and made straight for the find with Mr. Jack St. Quintin.

The morning following their arrival, which was Sunday, found Mr. Green looking for their horses, which had strayed from camp. He had not gone far when his specking a 4½oz. piece interrupted, for the time being, the quest of the horses.

With the desire of avoiding complications he postponed pegging out a claim on the Sabbath, and, after examining the country in the vicinity of where the slug lay, returned to camp, and carefully kept the news of his find to himself, as at that time there were some 300 men working on Howie's alluvial flat, which meant that had he made any sign his prospect of securing three men's ground would have been less than remote. At "morning star" on the Monday, Mr. Green thought the time opportune for pegging out, and accompanied by a mate whom he took into his confidence, proceeded by a circuitous route to the locality of his find. They crouched in the mulga until the first flush of dawn, when they screwed in their sharply-pointed pegs, scratched their angles, and measured their distances.

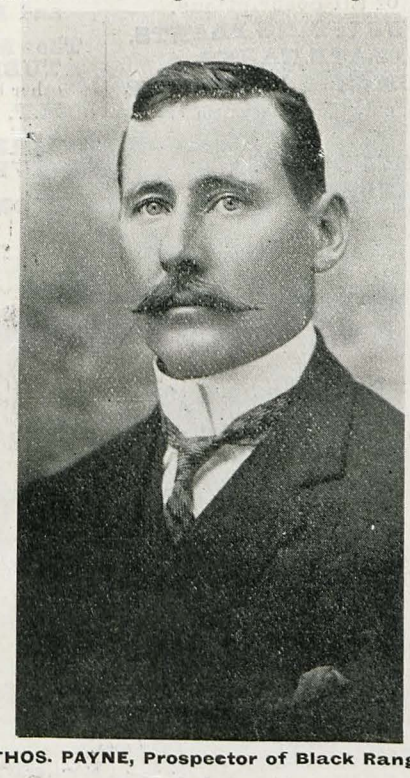
So soon as the last peg was in it was given a resounding tap, a signal for the creation of a considerable stir in the camp on the Flat. A very little time elapsed before quite 200 men had rushed



WALLAMON POOL, BLACK RANGE.

the spot, and a scene of great confusion ensued, men wrestling and contesting with each other for likely places and coveted spots.

Before sunrise twenty or more "shakers" were at work on the ground, but strange to say, beyond a few colors nothing beyond the original slug



THOS. PAYNE, Prospector of Black Range.

specked by Mr. Green, was found. The rush accordingly subsided with great suddeness, and by noon the following day but three "shakers" remained to mark the spot of the previous morning's stampede.

About a week later Mr. St. Quintin specked a 2½oz. piece near the capping of that huge reef now known as the Wirramina, and on which there will shortly be erected a battery of sufficient size to fully test its merits and that of the adjacent leases at present held by the Sandstone Development Co.

* * *

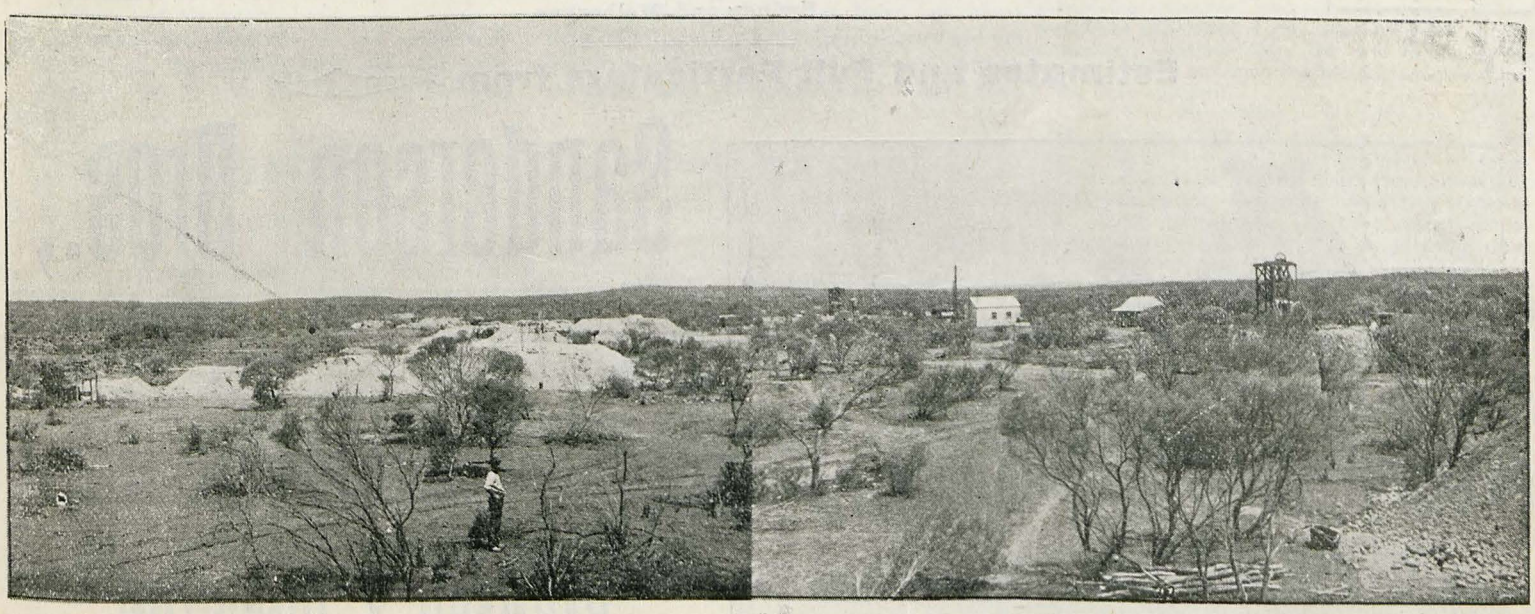
It is not generally known that many years ago a five-head battery served to disturb the stillness of this great centre. It is none the less a fact.

As far back as eleven years ago, to be exact, George Simpson brought rich specimens from what is now known as the Black Range into Mount Magnet, and W. H. Maynard joined him in his prospects. They subsequently sold to Owen Daly, a prospector, one of the old hands, more generally and familiarly known as "Micky the Priest." He paid them £480 for their show, which was about four miles this side of the old townsite, and erected a five-head battery on it, got a fair amount of gold out of it, and removed the battery elsewhere.

Mention of Owen Daly, above, reminds that less than twelve years ago he handled as much money from mining as any man on the Murchison, the handy sum of £30,000 being estimated as the amount lifted by him from one property alone on the Mainland, Lake Austin.

With the aid of the dolly-pot some thousands of ounces were won from this particular show. A small mill succeeded the dollying process, and, so the story goes, the screens were often clogged with gold.

Though Daly left the Mainland a wealthy man—his claim was one of several others sold to English investors for a big amount—the money went through his hands as easily as it had come; some of it he put back into the ground, and more in backing others in their golden quests. And



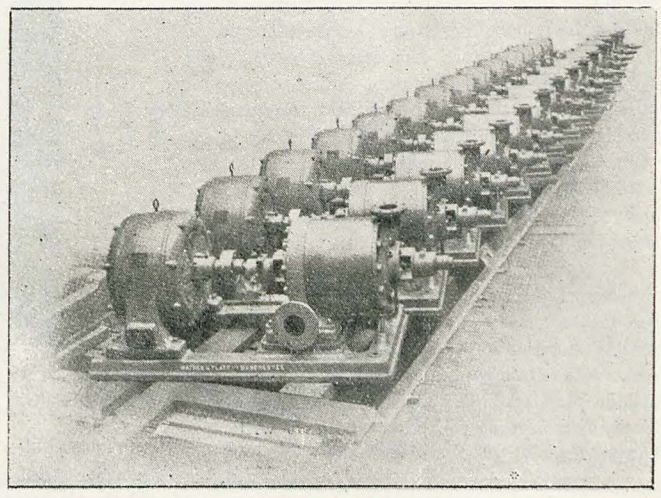
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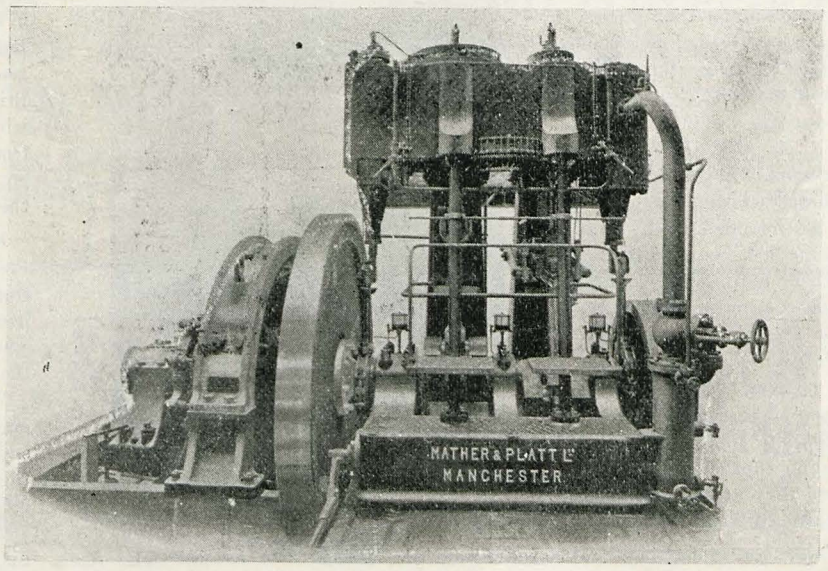
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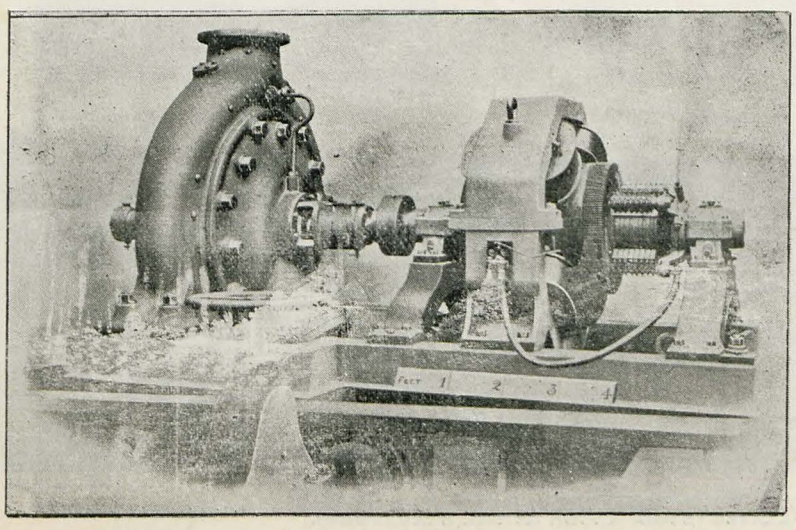


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seemingly the time arrived when Daly's good fortune deserted him, his lucky star waned, and now he is cited as a striking example of the vicissitudes of mining. But he is only one of the many men in this country who one time were worth "a ton of money" and whose friends were legion.

To-day Daly could very comfortably count his friends on the fingers of one hand. He is now at the Black Range, or was upon the occasion of the Murchison trip of this veracious chronicler.

THE MINES.

The Black Range goldfield includes an extensive area of auriferous country, running some 25 miles north and south, and about 10 miles east and west. Certainly the whole of this area is not yet pegged out as G.M. leases, but proved good mines are being worked at a considerable distance from the townsite of Nungarra. The greatest gold producer up to date, and probably the best property on the field is the Black Range G.M., which, together with the Havilah G.M., is referred to elsewhere.

The Sandstone leases, of which a deal has been heard lately, lie about seven miles north-east from Black Range. About September this year Bewick, Moreing & Co. (acting for the Brownhill Co.), after an eight months' working option, took over a number of leases now incorporated as the Oroya-Black Range Co. In their earlier history the original Sandstone leases were worked mainly by individual parties with profitable results, some 4,000 tons odd being raised and crushed for 5,827oz. by amalgamation.

During the option above referred to a great deal of work was done by sinking, driving and crosscutting to prove the ore bodies and block out ore. The greatest depth sunk was about 180ft., in the No. 3 shaft on the Sandstone lease. The reef, which has been proved for a great length, varies in width from 12in. to 6ft., as also in values—though the average value is nearly 30dwt. There is a heavy flow of water from the lode.

Though at the time of the flotation it was said that over 20,000 tons of payable ore had been blocked out, and that a milling plant would at once be placed on the property, very little work has since been done. This policy of inaction has occasioned strong criticism, and is said to be indicated by other motives than the best interests o the mine.

* * *

The Sandstone Development, recently floated, includes the underlay blocks of the Oroya-Black Range leases, and as it is a flat, consistent reef the Development Co. should get it at about 400ft. On one lease of the company a 14ft. reef has been cut at 112ft., while on another lease a 10ft. reef has been opened out for some distance.

* * *

There are three good mines being worked on the Wanderie line of reef, which runs N.E. and S.W., and lies somewhat flat. On the Wanderie the shaft is down to 135ft., with levels in at 75ft. and 130ft. water level ; the reef is 4ft. to 6ft. wide, and abont 1,300 tons have been treated for an average of 28dwt. over the plates.

There are three shafts on the reef at the Wanderie West, the deepest being just over 100ft. where the lode is a strong quartz body averaging 5ft. in width. About 1,000 tons have been treated for an average of about 20dwt., while the tailings assay for 10dwt. The owners have over 1,000 tons at grass waiting their turn at the State mill.

Two shafts have been put down to water level (100ft.) on the Wanderie North on a nearly vertical reef of 1ft. wide, which is expected to intersect the Wanderie lode to the southward. Crushings put through from this reef average over 20dwt.

* * *

About five miles from the State battery is the Wirraminna Central, it has a 10ft. lode of broken quartz and kaolin, which averages about 9dwt. in value, while 420 tons have been crushed for an average of 12dwts. by amalgamation, with 3dwt. in the tailings. There are about 5,000 tons blocked out, and with cheaper crushing facilities and development at depth this should prove a big property.

On the Lady Jackson somewhat the same conditions obtain, the lode being a rubbly mass that probably is the broken outcrop of a reef which may be found by following the quartz down.

The Black Range Main Reef is about six miles out on the Lawlers' road, and through it runs a 4ft. quartz reef that has been proved gold-bearing for some distance along the surface. Several shafts have been sunk to water level, and 118 tons raised and crushed for 215oz. smelted gold. Water makes rather freely.

Three miles south-east is the Eclipse, where the shaft is down 100ft. on a nearly vertical reef 2ft. wide. About 260 tons have been crushed for slightly over a 1oz. average.

The Lady Ellen, on a slight hill near the Welcome mine, is a very promising show, with a north and south reef averaging over 1ft., from which a recent crushing of 77 tons gave 242oz. of smelted gold.

The Welcome and Worker leases are about three miles north of the State battery and are worked together. Two small reefs run through the leases, which give payable assay values. Some good returns have been obtained from the Floater from a 2ft. reef, and a parcel this year of 111 tons yielded 334oz.

* * *

There are several prominent shows at Hancock's, notably the Koh-i-Noor, from which a picked parcel of 26cwt. gave 180oz. of smelted gold. Hancock's is a comparatively new centre, and has already attracted outside capital, mostly from Melbourne.

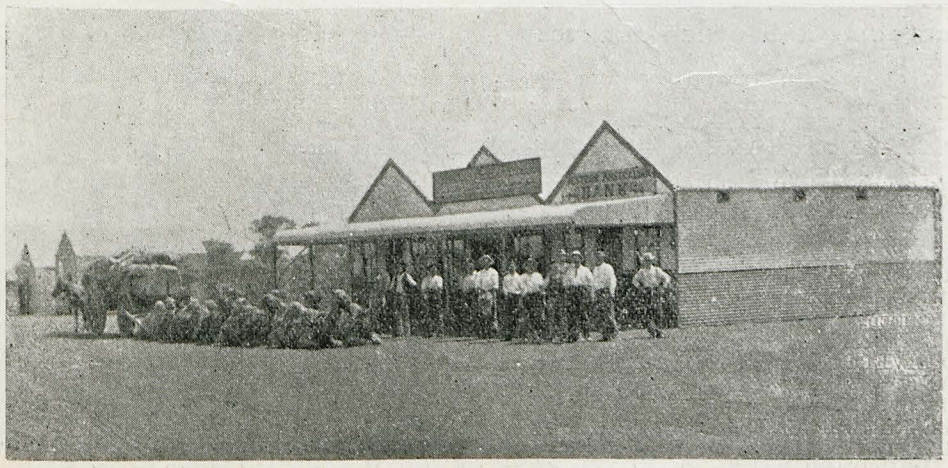
In its earlier days some good patches of alluvial were worked at Black Range, mainly at the Two-mile, north-east, and the Six-mile, east of Nungarra. There was a small rush this year to a patch beyond Bellchamber's, where some nice slugs were picked up, and a few parties got payable results.

There is a belief, locally, that deep alluvial ground will yet be found near the Two-mile Hill, where two mates have already sunk several shafts from 45ft. to 75ft., with about 1,000ft. of driving. A large quantity of low grade material has been exposed, which might prove payable if it were possible to treat it in bulk on the spot.

Despite its high reputation and the large number of leases taken up, the Black Range field has not yet been thoroughly prospected. Further finds may be expected within the already known auriferous area, while there are indications of new discoveries in the country lying to the south of Black Range.



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From the Sun Company's advertisement appearing on another page, it will be noted the West Australian branch of the institution have their offices situated in Trinity Chambers, No. 282 St. George's Terrace, Perth ; that the local directorate consists of Hon. W. T. Loton, M.L.C., James Morrison, Esq., and A. E. Morgans, Esq., whilst the management is under the control of Mr. John S. Pearson. Sub-agencies exist in nearly every township throughout the State.

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Easily first among Black Range mines, both for gold won and work done, is the property formerly known as "Hack's," then as "Hans Irvine's," and latterly as the Black Range G.M. Up to about three years ago a number of leases, some six miles north-east of Nunngarra townsite, had been worked in somewhat desultory fashion, though with profitable results, by the original prospectors. Early in 1904 Mr. Hans Irvine, the well-known vigneron of Victoria, while touring this State was impressed by reports from the Black Range field, and determined to visit it.

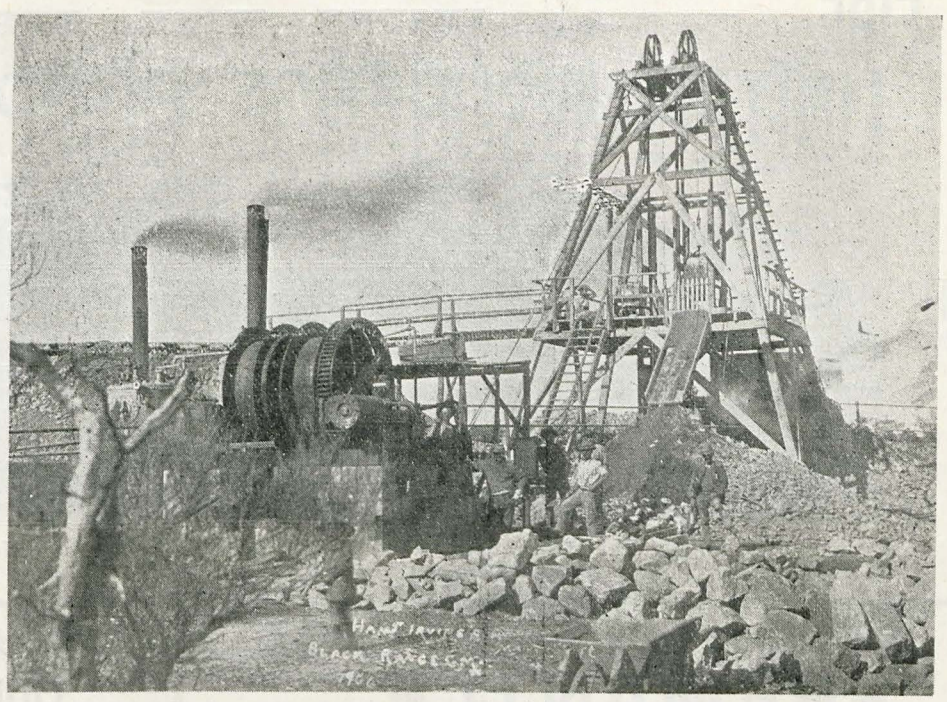
Mr. Hans Irvine was practically the first representative of outside capital to personally visit the Range; he was quickly seized of the bright future of the field, and after inspecting and sampling "Hacks's" show, secured an option over that and adjoining leases. During the progress of the option prospecting shafts were put down along the line of lodes to prove lengths, sizes, and values, and in June, 1904, Mr. Hans Irvine had no hesitation in exercising his option, and paying over £18,000 for the leases.

Since that time the progress of the mine has been remarkably successful. Its record is somewhat unique, inasmuch as the profit from the gold won already totals twice as much as the purchase money. The property is owned by the Black Range Mining Co. (No Liability), incorporated in 1904, of 80,000 £1 shares, of which 72,500 were issued as paid up, and the balance held in reserve. The directors comprise Messrs. A. Agnew (chairman), H. J. Guinn, B. Cunningham, Hans W. H. Irvine, and H. E. Rowe; the legal manager is Mr. W. Jackson, and the head office is at 47 Queen-st., Melbourne.

* * *

Some figures compiled from official returns may be quoted here as evidence of the value of the property. Since the formation of the company up to December this year about 17,500 tons have been crushed for a yield of about 22,000oz. by amalgamation, and 7,000oz. by cyanidation, or a total of 29,000oz. valued at £107,000. The first dividend was paid in January, 1905; dividends have been declared monthly since, and the dividends paid total just on £30,750. In addition the company has a reserve fund of £10,200, and general credits of £3,000. The plant on the mine also forms a valuable asset.

A 10-head battery with small cyanide plant was erected within four months of the purchase of the leases. During thls year the directors purchased a 20-head battery with all accessories, and a complete up-to-date winding and pumping plant, which are now in course of erection, together with several large cyanide vats. This enterprise entails a heavy expense, beyond the first outlay, in cartage as the mine is situated about 100 miles from the railway. As development proceeds it is intended to instal an air-compressor for working rock-drills.



THE BLACK RANGE G.M.

The foregoing represents the value of the property to the shareholders, while the value of such a mine to the State may be gauged from the fact that the monthly wages bill is about £2,500, in addition to the large amounts paid for mining supplies, stores and cartage to the mine.

* * *

Though the original holders of the various leases purchased by Mr. Hans Irvine did little development work, they sunk several small shafts and, according to available data, raised 1,540 tons of stone which yielded 3,374oz. over the plates of the State battery. For the first few months after the company took over the property, the plan was followed of sinking shafts at intervals along the main line of reef, which runs north and south with a considerable westerly underlay, shows a strong outcrop, and is traceable on the surface for a considerable distance.

There are other lodes running through the leases but very little work has been done on them, main attention being given to the lode first opened up. This lode is lenticular in form, narrowing to 1ft. in places with frequent bulges to 8ft. width, and has been proved by the prospecting shafts to have an average width of 4ft. It has strongly defined walls, and shows every indication of living to a great depth. Values vary from 10dwt. to 10oz., but the average value of the lode may be safely estimated at 2oz. per ton from battery and cyanide.

With the lode satisfactorily proved a main shaft (10ft. x 4ft., three compartments, closely timbered) was sunk on the Adelaide lease to a depth of 220ft., the country from the surface to the 100ft. level being decomposed diorite, and from there to the bottom of the shaft, hard, close-grained blue diorite. The reef was intersected in the eastern cross-cut 80ft. in from the shaft, and has been driven on north and south for about 700ft.

The reef was also driven on for some distance at the 120ft. level, and winzes sunk to the lower level, from which rises were made to connect with the level above. This work has exposed an enormous quantity of payable ore, while the heavy flow of water struck in the bottom of the shaft indicates another large lode further down. Without any further development work the company now has enough "backs" to ensure payment of the regular dividends for another 12 months.

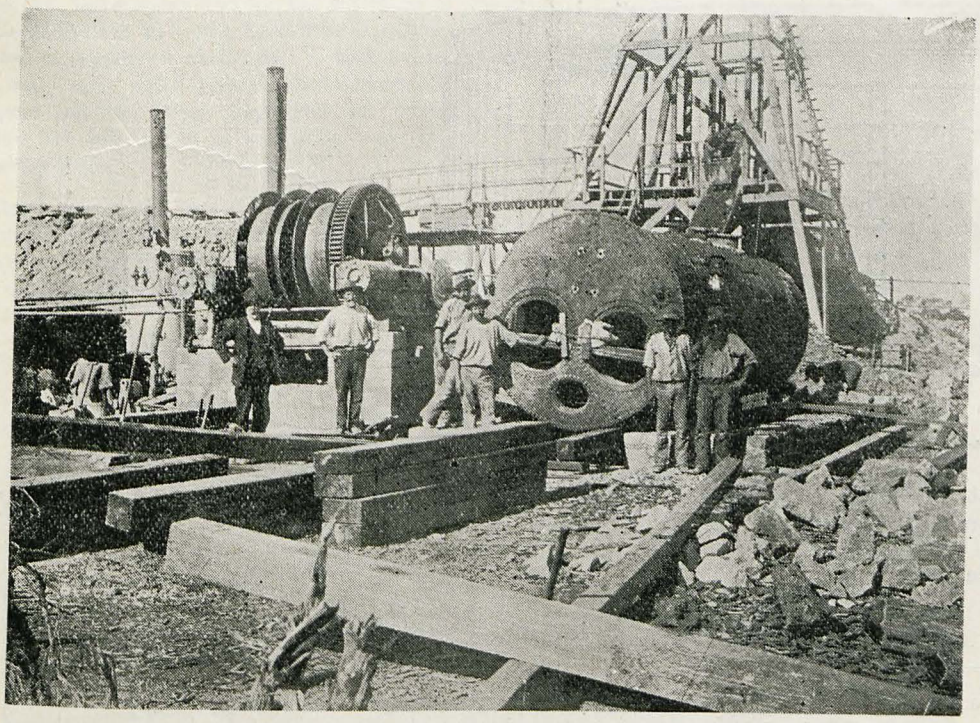
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Another satisfactory feature is the continuity of the lode in the bottom level, where the south drive has proved it for 500ft., with an average width of 4ft., and average assay value of 2oz. In the upper level there was a break in the lode in the north drive, resulting in great variation of values for some distance. At depth, however, the lode possesses every characteristic of a reliable and consistent ore body. In the near future the shaft will be increased in depth to 400ft., and if the stone carries equal values to the upper levels, many years of profitable life will be ensured to this valuable property.

An intermediate level was put in at 90ft., but very little work done. A deal of stoping has been done at the 120ft. level, where the reef is making strong under-foot. About 100 yards east of the main shaft work is being carried on in another shaft on a big cross reef at the 50ft. level. A lot of stone from 50ft. down to 75ft. has been stoped out, and there still remains many months' work in sight. From 300 to 400 tons is the average fortnight's run of the old 10-head battery, and values are fairly maintained at about 2oz. per ton.

It is expected that the new 20-head battery will be erected and the stamps dropping on stone about June next year, and with the ore bodies already exposed there will be no difficulty in keeping it going full time. As is evidenced by the work accomplished and progress made, the Black Range mine is manged by an efficient and capable staff. The superintendent is Mr. T. A. Couper, who has had a long and varied experience of mines and mining. Mr. S. McLeod is the underground manager; Mr. M. Mazzuchelli is the mill manager; Mr. A. A. Booth controls the cyanide plant; and Mr. J. W. Margerson fills the onerous post of mine accountant.

The results obtained from the Black Range mine sufficiently prove its value. It is interesting however, to note that the experts who have visited it are unanimous in the opinion that it is a very valuable property, with a bright future. This, while a matter of congratulation to the fortunate shareholders, is of equal importance to the district and the State.



MAIN SHAFT BLACK RANGE G.M. (Manager and Underground Manager on left).

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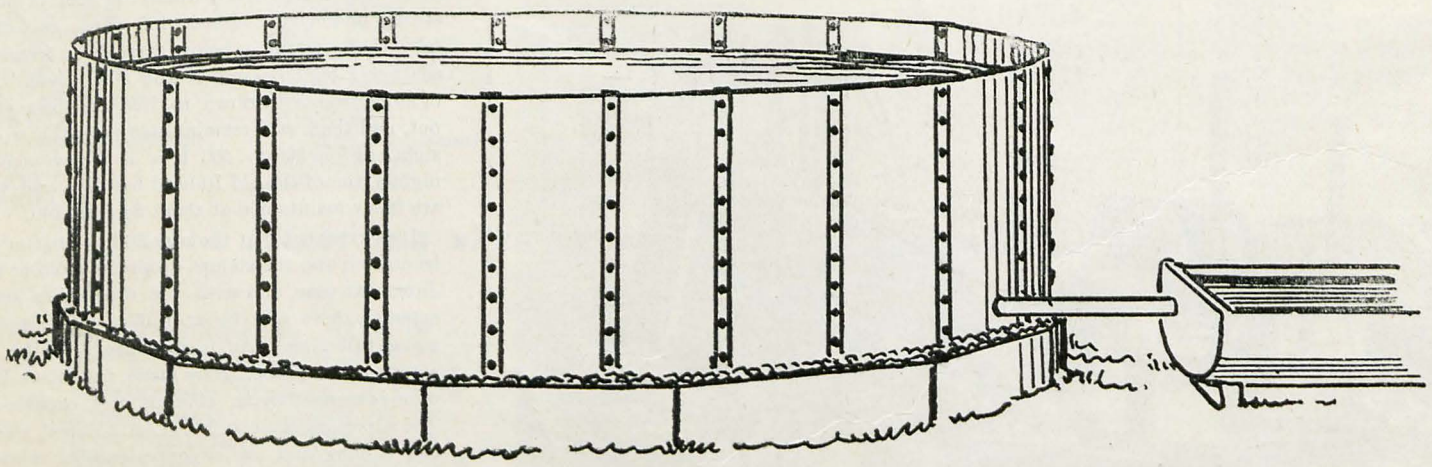
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The enterprise and confidence displayed by the directors of the Black Range mine have resulted in opening up a large body of payable stone which extends for great length and thus furnishes abundant proof of the permanence of the ore bodies of the field. The progress of the mine has also exercised a potent influence on the prosperity of the district, and doubtless has directed the attention of many investors to the Black Range field, besides encouraging further prospecting, and thus adding to the proved auriferous country.

* * *

Among fairly recent discoveries is the Maninga Marley group of leases, situated about 16 miles south-east of Nunngarra, or about 23 miles from the Black Range G.M. Attracted by the returns obtained by the prospectors, Mr. Hans Irvine inspected the Havilah leases near the Maninga Marley mine. Crushings of 3oz. and 4oz. had been obtained by some small working parties, while some of the stone raised was rich enough for the dolly pot. Subsequent to his inspection and sampling, Mr. Hans Irvine purchased the leases, aggregating over 100 acres, for the Black Range Mining Co.

The consideration was £8,800 in cash, and 5,000 ehares in the Havilah Gold Mining Co. (No Liability) of 48,000 £1 shares, of which 42,000 have been issued as paid up, and the balance held in reserve. This company is registered in Melbourne, its directorate being identical with that of the parent company, the Black Range Mining Co., and the legal manager is Sir A. J. Peacock, of 339 Collins-street, Melbourne.

There are two lodes on the Havilah leases, running east and west. The main lode has an average width of 6ft., while its prospects average from 2oz. to 10oz. The other lode has a northerly underlay. It contains good quartz about 3ft. in width, and its average value is about 2oz. per ton. Just prior to the sale the prospectors put through 149 tons from this northern reef for 471oz., while the tailings assayed from 1oz. 2dwt., or an average of 4oz. 5dwt. per ton. This stone was taken from 50ft. depth, and the width of the lode was from 1ft. to 4ft.

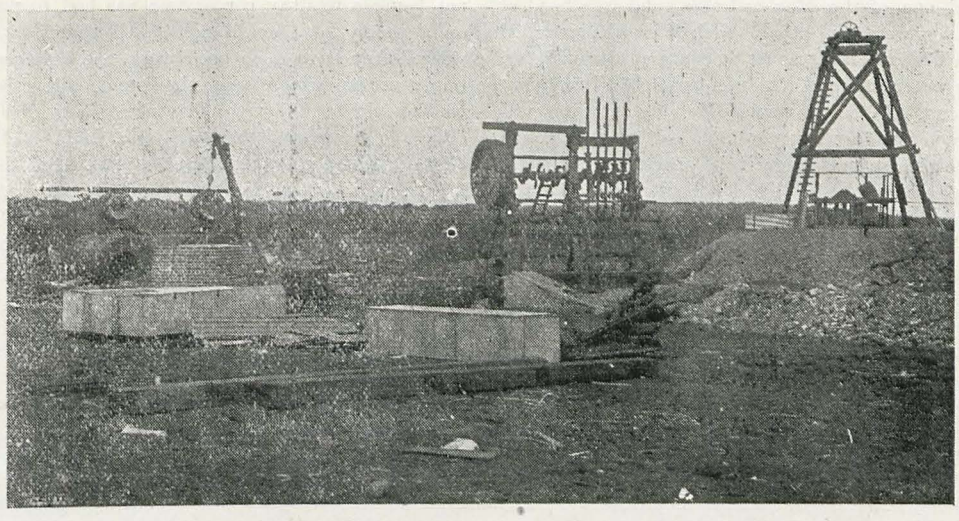
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Two shafts have been sunk on the Havilah, one 170ft. on the underlay of the reef dipping to the northward, the other being sunk verical to cut the cap of the reef. From the bottom of the vertical shaft a winze has been carried down to the level driven along the reef from the bottom of the underlay shaft. Immediately under the cap of this lode, the main lode was located in the vertical shaft. The reef dips flatly in a north-easterly direction, and is apparently parallel in strike with the northern reef.

The gold in both lodes is very fine. There is a winch and boiler on the mine, and the company has purchased a 10-head battery with other plant, part of which has been landed on the property. The Havilah purchase was made so recently as June last, and it says a deal for the enterprise of those interested that they have immediately invested in expensive machinery. Indeed, but for the heavy rains, which made the road between Mt. Magnet and the Range impassable for heavy traffic, the mill would be erected by now, and crushing stone.

* * *

There is over 500 tons stacked on the surface waiting for the battery, and it is expected from assays made that this parcel will average over 4oz. per ton. In the meantime levels have been put in from No. 1 shaft at 50ft. and 70ft., and a cross-cut south from 100ft. in the vertical shaft Both lodes have been exposed for some distance, and when the mill is in working order the manager of the Havilah, Mr. H. S. Edgar, will have no difficulty in keeping it supplied with stone. The mine is carefully sampled as development proceeds, and if present prospects are maintained it should soon be on the dividend list.



THE HAVILAH G.M., MANINGA MARLEY.

In considering the development of the two mines referred to above, and the progress of the Black Range, it seems bare justice to acknowledge that the field's present prosperity is mainly due to Mr. Hans Irvine's courageous initiative and enterprise. The residents and leaseholders of Black Range had every confidence in its ultimate success, but Mr. Hans Irvine was the first influential outsider to accurately estimate the future of the field, and by his investments he not only advertised his faith, but also induced others to inspect and to invest. As the largest shareholder in the Black Range and Havilah mines, Mr. Irvine, doubtless, will reap that pecuniary reward which he deserves. Still the impetus which, his spirited investments have given to the district both directly and indirectly, well merit recognition.

MANINGA MARLEY.

The group of mines comprising Maninga Marley are situated about 17 miles east from Nungarra, on the road to Lawlers. The country between Nungarra and Maninga Marley is all auriferous, the whole face of the land being strewn with floaters, and here and there acres of blows and disintegrated reefs. There are also several alluvial patches en route which in bygone years created considerable stir and rush, many hundreds of men and camps being located there and much gold recovered. Yet in their immediate neighborhood no reefs or lodes have so far been located.

Maninga Marley was somewhat unlucky in the marking out of its townsite. Before the parent mine had developed up to what looked a permanent stage, and its near neighbors were opening up, several tradespeople asked the Warden to allot business areas. This he did by marking out a line of street. Half-a-dozen areas were granted, and an hotel, butcher's, store, and boarding-house were quickly erected. Then Mr. Hans Irvine came along and purchased the Havilah, and, considering the Havilah reef might go that way, he pegged out a gold lease over the whole townsite, thus precluding any further business areas.

At present there is no appearance of any settled townsite, and it seems difficult to fix on a spot, for, as the Warden exclaimed, "the whole blessed place seems reefs, and if I give a site to-day there's nothing to show that somebody won't strike a reef digging a verandah post hole and peg out the whole country."

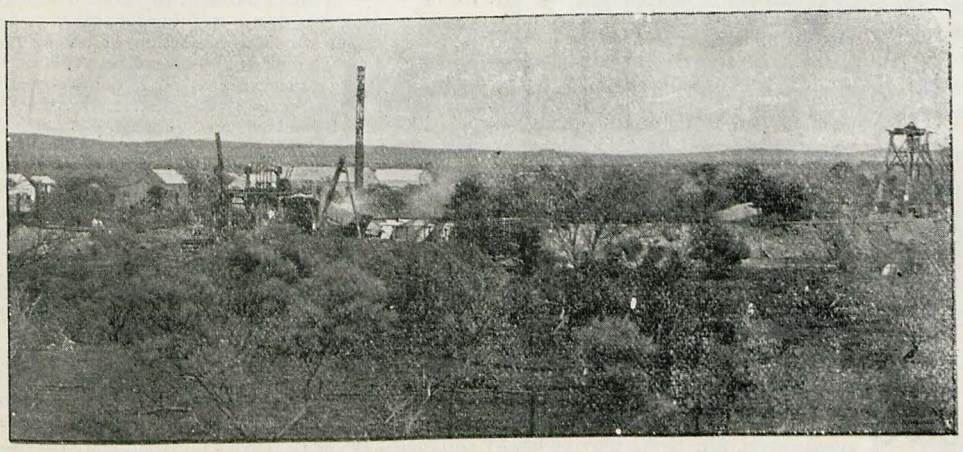
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The Maninga Marley G.M. was found by Mat Dwyer in September 1903, and a 24-acre reward lease was obtained ; the prospector also pegged out two 24-acre leases east on the line of reef, making 72 acres in all. The reef has been proved on the surface throughout the length. The main shaft is down 200ft. At 50 and 100ft. levels have been opened up, and good values discovered. At 100ft. the drive is in east 180ft., the reef being strong and fairly consistent throughout, with an average width of 3ft. West the drive is in 35ft., and the face indicated that the shoot going east had been cut out. Recently, however, a start was made to see if anything lay beyond, and at a few feet further in a new make of stone was found 1ft. wide, assaying 2oz. 14dwt. 12gr. per ton, and it has the appearance of the beginning of another shoot. Fifty feet from the shaft east a winze is being put down on the reef, and is down 40ft., disclosing a strong body of rich quartz, in places 5ft. thick ; a rise has also been put up at this point to the 50ft. level in preparation for stoping, and a leading stope has been commenced.

The mine has been equipped with a steam winch for hauling, and a 10-head battery. Five head of the battery have been running since August 1st, during which period to date of visit (October 30) 900 tons had been treated, yielding 1,150oz. of gold, with 30dwt. left in the sands. The gold in the stone is largely associated with iron pyrites, and does not readily lend itself to amalgamation, but cyanide extraction yields up to 80 per cent.

As all the stone put through the battery has been obtained from development work, the above figures should form a reliable estimate of values so far opened up. A difficulty was met with in starting the battery through shortage of water, although the district generally shows abundance of water at a depth. At this particular point some obstruction evidently exists, and the workings only yield from 700 to 800 gallons per day. The shaft was sunk to 200ft. in hopes of increasing the water supply, but at 170ft. hard diorite country was met with, and at 200ft. a crosscut was put in towards the reef and extended 25ft. without obtaining either reef or water. A seam of calcite was met with, and the conclusion jumped at was that this was the reef, and it was driven on for 25ft. but neither water nor reef was discovered. A start was then made to put down the winze from 100ft. level, and a few feet of sinking served to demonstrate that probably another 30ft. of crosscutting would have to be done at the 200ft. before the reef would be found, as the reef in the winze was right away from the dip it shows above.

The shortage of water was overcome in a degree by carting from the Maninga North, the Havilah,



THE MANINGA MARLEY G.M.

and one of the Marley leases, and five head of stamps were kept going. A shaft on what is called the Daphne lease was let by contract to sink 100ft. for water and reef, the reef on surface being very strong. At 85ft. a splendid body of water was struck (5,000 gallons per day), and the contractors had to cease sinking until the company could instal a pumping plant. This is now completed, and pipes laid half a mile to the battery, so that the 10-head of stamps will henceforth be kept running constantly.

A new cyanide plant has also been completed ready for work when water should be available, and that will also be set going immediately. The plant will treat 120 tons per week, and as there are 700 tons of sands ready containing rich values, the company have a very promising outlook.

The company or syndicate is a small one, and not being a wealthy corporation has had to put up a pretty good uphill fight. All things considered they have done good work, and have certainly set an example in pluck and enterprise which could be followed advantageously by many others. The present manager, Mr. Herbert E. Wright, was for over two years manager of the State Battery at Black Range, and since the date of his appointment (September 1st) has pursued a vigorous policy. He speaks very hopefully of the future of the mine.

* * *

The MANINGA MARLEY NORTH is on the end of the parent lease, and they have a splendid reef, carrying a lot of gold. The reef is very flat, and at the depth of 30ft. is from 3 to 5ft. thick. A crushing of 114 tons from here, recently put through the Maninga Marley G.M. battery, gave a yield of 502oz., with 22dwt. left in the sands. They have another 250 tons of the same class raised waiting for treatment.

* * *

Recently a new reef was found about five miles S.E. of the Maninga Marley, at a spot known as Cork Tree Flat. This is opening out well, and gave such promise that a manager of one of the larger mines at the Range pegged out several leases around it. There are many other shows being opened out within a half-a-dozen miles in several directions giving good promise, but all in the prospecting stage. There are few districts that offer better inducements and prospects than this for speculators, and the country for the 80 miles beyond to Lawlers is all more or less inviting for prospecting.

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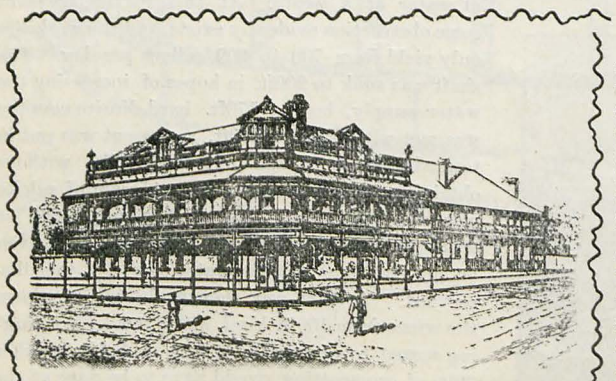
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T. C. EVANS, Proprietor.



ALMOST as ancient as the town of York itself is the CASTLE HOTEL, of which Mr. T. C. Evans is now mine host. Mr. Evans, whose asssociation with the York district dates back many years, entered into possession of the CASTLE something less than two years ago, his immediate predecessor being Mrs. Craig, under the administration of one or other of whose family the CASTLE had continuously catered for the wants of travellers for a period of over 50 years. Naturally enough, the traditions associated with the old house are numerous, and there to-day many of the oldest inhabitants of this picturesque district delight in conjuring up for the delectation of the casual visitor the legends of an age when their world was young, happy, self-satisfied, and contented. Then there are others who can charm you with a recital of the stirring and later period in Westralia's history, when the outbreak of the gold discoveries was responsible for that great tide of immigration which helped so much to make Westralia what it is to day. York lay on the road to the fields in those days, as it was then the correct thing to disembark at Albany, take train to the end of the existing railway line at York, and accomplish the rest of the journey to Southern Cross, or further east, by foot or team. Portion of the old CASTLE still stands, but since Mr. Evans' entry into occupation substantial and extensive additions have been made to it, with a result representing an expenditure of something like £3,000. The new additions are handsome and commodious, comprising fine bars, sample, sitting, and drawing rooms, billiard-room, lounges, baths, and many well lighted and furnished bedrooms, the whole being encompassed by some 136ft. of balcony. It is almost unnecessary to add that, being under the personal supervision of Mr. Evans, the CASTLE is one of the best directed hotels in the State, and is the house of the United Travellers' Association of Australasia. A man of singularly attractive nature and simple style, Mr. Evans may be briefly chronicled as one of York's most popular citizens.



THE CUE ONE G.M. (Messrs. Chesson and Heydon, Proprietors).

NO chronicle of the discovery and progress of Cue would be complete without special reference to the Cue One mine, on which, more than any other mine on the field, the local residents rely for the future prosperity of the town. Indeed the history of both mine and town presents many similar features. Both shared in the stimulus created by the influx of British capital in the early years; both subsequently suffered from the depression caused by a burst boom.

* * *

If not the first G.M. lease pegged out on the Cue field, the Cue One certainly was the first registered at the Warden's office, which was then at Nannine. The six acres originally applied for included a rich dryblowing patch situated at the north-west corner of the present town boundary. The first holders sank a shaft 50ft. vertical, and in a crosscut west struck a 7ft. lode carrying good gold. But mining operations were very expensive in those days, and the cost of crushing, timber, etc., cut the profits so low that the two prospectors sold to a larger party with stronger backing. This party took up another six acres, and from trenches across the cap of the reef dollied enough gold to cover their purchase money. In 1894 the lease was floated in Melbourne into a company with a capital of £30,000, most of which was expended in the purchase and erection of a battery. About August 1895 the Cue Consolidated Co. was floated in London, and took over the Cue One, with other mines. Soon after the English company took over the property a new shaft was put down, and subsequently sunk to a depth of 340ft., while levels were put in at 87ft., 130ft. and 220ft. respectively. Only the first two levels were worked systematically, and several thousand tons of ore were crushed for an average of about 30dwt. Even with the extravagant managerial methods in vogue at the time this average was highly profitable—indeed, the Cue One was from the first self-supporting. But operations on the company's other properties were not so successful. The profits from the Cue One were lost in other directions, financial troubles arose in London, an amalgamation with the Lady Mary Co. adjoining added to the difficulties, and finally the several leases of the Cue Consolidated Co. were sold about 1899, when the Cue One was purchased by Messrs. James Chesson and William Heydon. And thus commenced an association of interests which has been a powerful influence in the development and progress of Cue and of the Murchison mining district generally.

* * *

In addition to the Cue One, with its surface gear and battery, Chesson and Heydon also secured the adjoining leases, the Rising Sun on the north and the Lady Florence on the south. The new owners were not large capitalists, but they had an unbounded faith in the Cue One, and they at once proceeded to prove it in characteristic fashion. The drives at 87ft. and 130ft. were extended and the 220ft. level energetically opened up. The reef was blocked out and stoped, and with the returns from the battery the owners were enabled to undertake further development. Like most of the Cue lodes, the Cue One reef runs north and south, with strong, well-defined walls, and has a westerly dip. Its average width is about 6ft., with values averaging about 1½oz., though in places it narrows to 2ft. with richer values. Some idea of the value, width, and permanence of the lode may be conveyed by the fact that up to 1902, and without going below the 220ft. level, Messrs. Chesson and Heydon took £140,000 worth of gold out of the mine.

The reef was driven on for a considerable length in all three levels, and in No. 3 driving south was continued to 360ft. from the shaft. Owing to the length of the drive, meaning increased expense in breaking and raising ore, the owners decided to sink another shaft on the Lady Florence lease. Before doing so, however, a level was put in at 262ft., where the reef was driven on for some distance. From this point a winze was sunk on the underlay of the reef a further depth of 124ft., where good gold was obtained, some assays going over 3oz. This, with the fact that the reef was making strong in the south drive at 220ft., gave added encouragement to the project for sinking a new shaft to an estimated depth of 578ft. The sinking of this shaft was started by contract, and progressed satisfactorily till between 200 and 300ft. had been reached, when very hard country was struck, and completely beat the contractors.

* * *

After some delay, owing to their being engaged in other ventures, Chesson and Heydon resumed sinking operations, and took the shaft down to 550ft. at a cost for the greater distance of over £10 per foot. At this depth a very strong flow of water was struck, and a crosscut was put in for the reef. A few feet in from the shaft a large body of broken quartz and schist was cut, the quartz being heavily mineralised. Up to time of writing this formation had been driven on for 190ft. south. It averages 30ft. from wall to wall, is a combination of schist, slate, granite, and quartz, with strong granite walls, and becomes more regular and solid as the drive proceeds. Where it makes solid the quartz carries gold. Owing to certain negotiations with London investors, operations were suspended for a time, and have only recently been resumed.

The outcrop of the Cue One reef can be traced for some distance from the mine, and runs south-easterly through the town and across the main street of Cue. In view of the results anticipated from the sinking of the new shaft, Messrs. Chesson and Heydon pegged out and acquired mining rights under practically the whole townsite. Included in this area is the old Kintore lease, where alluvial was first found in Cue; also an abrupt conical hill known as the "Blow." According to the geological charts nearly all the known reefs of Cue radiate from the "Blow," and it is the belief of mining men familiar with the district that at some depth below the "Blow" a junction of these reefs would be cut with proportionately rich values.

* * *

This interesting experiment, however, involves an enormous expenditure with a commensurate

risk, which can be estimated only by developments at depth in the Cue One. These Town Blocks, therefore, were of great importance to the owners of the Cue One mine, and when Chesson and Heydon took them up they were already in touch with some English investors. In the course of the subsequent negotiations Mr. Chesson journeyed twice to London, returning from his second visit in October last with the business on a definite basis. The Town Blocks are to be tested immediately by diamond drills. Several bore-holes will be put down to various depths, and if the results are satisfactory capital to the extent of £50,000 will be found to work the Cue One leases and the Town Blocks, including a total area of 167 acres.

As has been frequently proved at Kalgoorlie the diamond drill is by no means a conclusive test of the presence, direction, or values of ore bodies. Still it is the cheapest form of prospecting at depth and may prove successful at Cue. It is known that there are several reefs underlying the town, but these have never been tested for value. In sinking the old well in the centre of Austin-street, reef formation was struck at about 130ft., and in another well some 400 yards away a small reef carrying gold was cut, but further prospecting was prevented by the inflow of water. The boring starts, therefore, with at least good prospects of success, and it is to be hoped that the enterprise of Messrs. Chesson and Heydon will be rewarded by the location of rich gold-bearing lodes. It is no exaggeration to state that the whole district will receive an immense impetus if these boring experiments result in the re-introduction of capital to the Cue field. And on the other hand it may be premised that if the drill fails to find payable lodes the fact by no means proves the non-existence of gold-bearing ore in the country prospected.

* * *

On the surface the Cue One is fully equipped for the handling and treatment of large quantities of ore. The 20-head battery (1100lb. stamps) is situated alongside the company's shaft, and within 100 yards of the new shaft; it is a very complete plant, including Ball Mills, Berdans and concentrating tables, with a drying ground for slimes, and behind that again a cyanide plant of large capacity. In addition to smelting and assaying rooms, the battery-house covers an electric lighting plant, while the engineering shop, office, etc., are conveniently placed. When not engaged on the owners' ore the mill crushes for the public, and many thousands of tons have been put through with satisfaction to all parties. The new shaft is closely timbered to the bottom, and the plant there includes winding engine and boilers and an air compressor to work the rock drills.

* * *

Within a mile of the battery are two other mines, owned by Chesson and Heydon, the Volunteer South Extended and the Princess Ada. The latter has been worked for some time by parties of tributors, all of whom are making good wages. About three years ago Chesson and Heydon purchased the Volunteer South Extended for £6,500 cash, and have every reason to be pleased with the deal. It is a low-grade show, averaging from 8 to 15dwt., with a large ore body of from 10ft. to 15ft. As the lode is easily worked and is free milling ore, it returns a good margin of profit. The firm holds, or has held, many other mining interests on the Cue field and in various directions outside it. Indeed, Messrs. Chesson and Heydon have a reputation as courageous and enterprising mining investors, which extends far beyond the locality in which they operate. Of the profits resulting from their purchase and development of the Cue One, it is safe to assert that every penny has again been invested either in mining or freehold properties in the Murchison district. The partners expended over £3,000 in the endeavor to unwater the Mafeking lease; they provided backing for the working of many Cue shows; spent money freely in developing the Kohi-i-noor at Stake Well; and, in conjunction with W. J. Clarke, sank £6,000 in the Kinsella before floating it into a company. Besides these investments (which of themselves would provide sufficient copy to fill this page) the firm of Chesson and Heydon has materially advanced the mining industry of the Murchison by many unrecorded actions. The generous assistance they have given to small working parties and prospectors in the shape of machinery, mining tools and supplies, cheap (and often free) crushing, or in cash is not recorded in any ledger, but will all stand to the firm's credit in the minds of all Murchison mining men. Mr. James Chesson is a Victorian native, and one of a family of miners; indeed, up to eighteen months ago, his father, Mr. J. Chesson, senr., who has passed the allotted span, was an active partner in a tribute party on the Princess Royal lease. It is over 13 years since Mr. Chesson first arrived on the Murchison, and few men are better informed of the district's mineral wealth or more confident of its future. When the Public Battery was started in Cue he was appointed manager, and only relinquished the position when he joined his present partner in the Cue One mine. Though not ambitious of public honors, Mr. Chesson has been forced by public opinion into political and civic prominence. At the last General Election for the Assembly he was persuaded at the last moment to stand in the Ministerial interest, and though the Cue electorate was conceded to be a labor stronghold, he was defeated by only a small majority. Mr. Chesson is at present a member of the Cue Roads Board and a member of the Cue Municipal Council.

Mr. William James Heydon is a native of Queensland, and a member of a well-known Charters Towers family. He was among the first to seize on the advantages of cyanidation when that process was introduced on the Towers, and with his father and brother made some profitable deals in sands and slimes. Early in 1898 Mr. Heydon, representing a small Towers syndicate, visited Cue, where he purchased the sands of the public battery, and erected a cyanide plant for their treatment. Though he had no previous experience in municipal matters, Mr. Heydon was last year elected Mayor of Cue without opposition, and was re-elected to office in November last by a substantial majority.

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LIGHT OF ASIA GROUP.

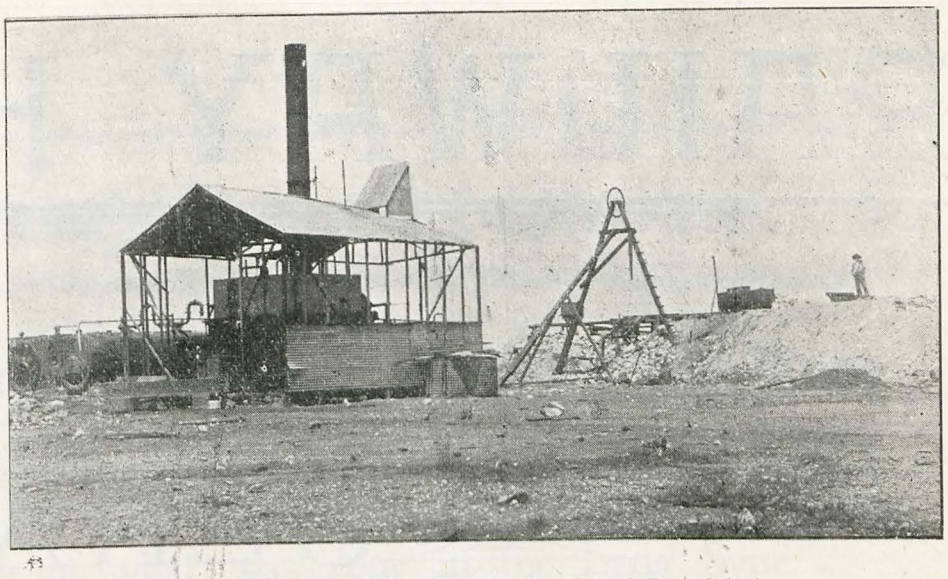
Though all the properties comprised in the Light of Asia group, better known locally as "Lloyd's mines," have been worked practically since Cue was proclaimed a goldfield, they owe their present position as consistent gold producers and well developed mines to the intelligent initiative and enterprise of one man—their present proprietor, Mr. Edward Lushington Lloyd.

The early history of these shows, together with Mr. Lloyd's personal experiences, may be recounted briefly as instancing the variable fortune of mining ventures and the vicissitudes of a new field. Mr. Lloyd has been mining in England and foreign countries since his youth, was on Kimberley in '85, and arrived on Cue three days after that field was discovered. He was one of the party which first worked the Salisbury and Agamemnon mines, and later assumed the management of the Gem of Cue for an English Co. This latter property had been favorably reported on by experts, but Mr. Lloyd condemned it. At the request of the London board of directors, however, he deepened the shaft to 300ft. (sinking 200ft. within three months), but, as he anticipated, the reef proved small and unprofitable. Mr. Lloyd subsequently purchased the South Volunteer Leases from Messrs. C. Ethel, J. Cairns and W. Cross, the purchase price being £3,000. This property kept Cue going for about three years, when no other companies, and practically no other prospectors were doing anything. Subsequently the company decided to throw up its leases and Mr. Lloyd took the Salisbury and Agamemnon on tribute, and eventually purchased them outright. Then another English company, the Cue Consolidated Ltd., offered the Light of Asia mine on tribute to him.

He declined the tribute, but made an offer for the mine which was accepted ; and within three months got more than his purchase money out of the mine. He was not so fortunate with the Salisbury and Agamemnon, however, for there was no cyanide process on Cue then, and the profits from these mines were lost in the sands.

About 1897 Mr. Lloyd effected a very profitable deal for his principals in London, after the exercise of much patient diplomacy. This was the purchase of a 5-16th interest in the 12-acre lease at Peak Hill, held by the celebrated "Tom the Rager." For a 21 days' option Tom Meehan was paid £1,500, at the end of which period he received the balance of the purchase money—£13,500, and a few months later the same interest again changed hands in London for £96,000.

Towards the close of 1899 Mr. Lloyd accepted a lucrative engagement as managing superintendent of some silver, lead and zinc mines near Andouze, in France. Not expecting to return to Cue, he gradually sold some of his interests there, including the Salisbury, now a valuable property. However, the company controlling the Andouze ventures failed to find the capital necessary to work them properly, and as the Gem of Cue Co. went into liquidation about this time, Mr. Lloyd joined some other investors in purchasing the company's property from the liquidator. Mr. Lloyd at once returned to Cue, shortly after bought his partners out, and since then has worked the Light of Asia and Volunteer leases almost continuously.



THE LIGHT OF ASIA G.M. (Mr. E. L. Lloyd, Proprietor).

Of the properties now owned by Mr. Lloyd, the most consistent producer has been the Light of Asia, a 36-acre lease situated about a mile north of Cue township. The lode (the outcrop of which can be traced for over a mile) runs about north and south with a westerly dip of 37 degrees ; its average width is 8ft., while in places it widens to 25ft. By picking the ore, average values of 30dwt. or over easily could be obtained, but the practice followed is that all stone broken out of the lode, which is free milling ore, is put through the battery.

The main shaft is on the underlay, and has been sunk to 314ft., at which depth a drive was put in for about 30ft. on a big ore body giving payable values. Beyond this no work has been done below water level, which is at about 112ft. vertical. All the stoping so far done has been from the 100ft. level to the surface, and there are still several thousand tons of ore exposed above water level. Water is not troublesome and makes about 3,000 gallons per day. There is an excellent and complete surface equipment on the mine, and a private siding runs from the Government railway line on to the lease. This siding will be extended shortly on to the Gem of Cue battery, so as to facilitate the handling of ore when the mill-power is increased to cater for public crushings.

The Agamemnon, a 26-acre lease, is about half-a-mile north of the Light of Asia, and is traversed by a solid east and west reef. Prior to 1901 this mine had been let to tributers, but Mr. Lloyd has worked it himself for the past four years. The ore body in the western shoot from the prospector's shaft practically has been taken out to water level. Stoping was interrupted on the eastern side by a hard bar which came in and cut off the shoot. Instead of driving through this bar Mr. Lloyd jumped it on the surface and sank another shaft. The lode was cut at 100ft., averaging 4ft. wide, and giving about 1oz. values, and this shoot is now being stoped out before sinking further.

From this 100ft. level a winze was put down on the underlay about 50ft., and proved the lode to maintain width and values. There are now about 5,000 tons of ore exposed at the 100ft. level.

The only claim belonging to the old Gem of Cue Co., which Mr. Lloyd has worked, is the Volunteer, of 6 acres, on the "Volunteer Flat," where the main shaft is down 130ft. on a nearly horizontal lode of 4ft. wide. Only a few men are employed on this mine at present, the reef having narrowed to about 18in., but as the "flat" is a network of reefs it is pretty certain that payable ore will again be picked up.

Much work was done and money expended by English shareholders on the Gem of Cue lease (17 acres) without any return. A well timbered underlay shaft was put down to 300ft., where a small reef carrying a little gold was struck, also a heavy inrush of water. Mr. Lloyd secured this lease mainly for the plant on it, and because of its central position to his other properties. He has done no mining work on it, but, finding pumping unsatisfactory from the underlay shaft, sank a vertical shaft 182ft., from which he obtains a plentiful supply of splendid water for his battery, which is in the centre of the lease, and about 80 chains from the Light of Asia and the Agamemnon shafts.

The mill consists of 15 stamps, only 10 of which have been used up to date, the remaining five head going into commission this year. There are two Cornish boilers, also a Cornish lift and complete cyanide plant, with blacksmith's and engineer's shops, offices, stables, &c., in convenient positions.

About 18 months ago Mr. Lloyd purchased the Jubilee (34 acres), about four miles west of Cue. It is a low-grade proposition which has been worked and abandoned by several small parties, as the expenses of carting and crushing proved too great for prospectors. At 80ft. depth the lode is 6ft. wide, and gives an average return of about 14dwt. —7dwt. from the plates and the same from the sands. It now costs the owner 6s. per ton to cart to his own mill on the Gem of Cue, which would mean a nice margin of profit were there a battery on the Jubilee lease.

On the mines enumerated above between 50 and 60 hands are employed all the year round, some of whom have been under Mr. Lloyd for over nine years. Mr. Lloyd personally superintends the working of his mines, and is efficiently aided by Mr. J. Ethel, as battery and cyanide manager, and Mr. T. Kitchen as underground manager.

The following constitute the crushings and returns up to November 26th, from the properties owned by Mr. E. L. Lloyd :—Agamemnon, 12,769 tons for 8,853oz. ; Light of Asia, 10,487 tons for 8,108oz. ; Duke of York Extended, 2,219 tons for 1,387oz. ; Jubilee, 249 tons for 80oz. ; South Volunteer, 17,121 tons for 10,449oz. ; Gem of Cue, 108 tons for 89oz. ; Comforter, 93 tons for 45oz. Total, 43,046 tons for 28,974oz. Total cyanided, 33,161 tons for 4,844 oz. Miscellaneous, 70oz. Total gold won, 33,890oz.



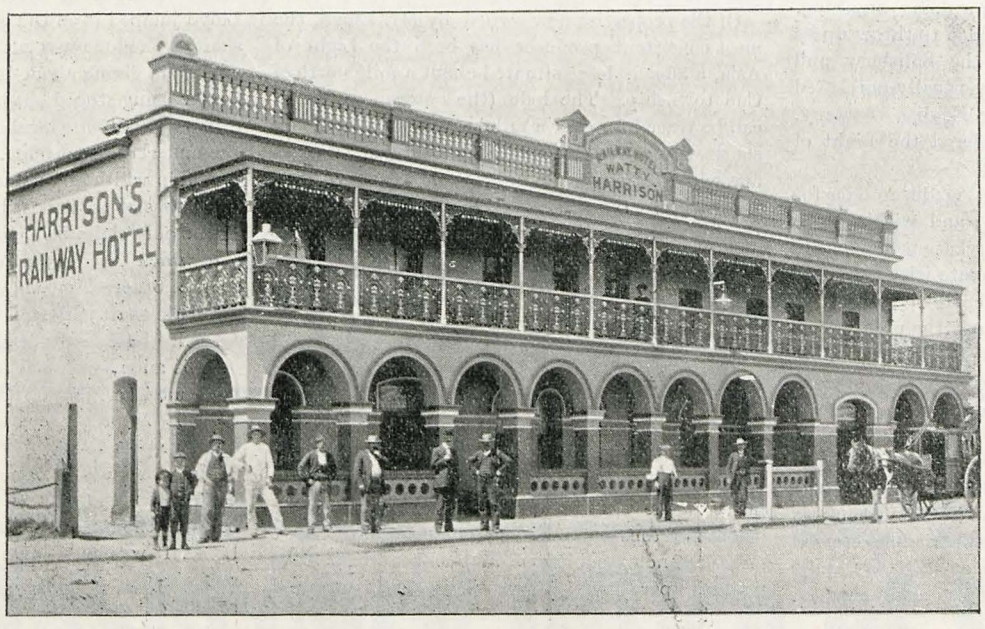
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The Old Northampton Lead and Copper Mines.

Their Present Reopening—An Industry that Flourished in the 'Sixties—

Why the Mines were abandoned—And the District deserted—

Interesting Chronicle of what was done in the Lang Syne.

The District to be Systematically Tested.

AT the outset it was intended to refer but very briefly in THE GOLDEN WEST to the lead and copper areas of the Northampton district.

Recent developments, however, have been of such a satisfactory nature, and public attention has, by reason of the investment of capital, been so much directed to the possibilities of the Northampton lodes that some indication may be permitted to be given of what was actually done in the locality when its mining was in full swing in bygone times.

Judging from the returns got many years ago—and when mining was carried out in a very careless fashion, and the machinery used was more or less of a very primitive description—the district has every claim to be still regarded as something in the nature of a great lead and copper area, though one on which very little systematic mining—as mining practice is understood to-day—has ever been attempted.

Sufficient follows to show that the Northampton district is again, and that in the very near future, capable of turning out large quantities of payable lead and copper ores. If the mines could be worked profitably under the conditions obtaining in their early history thirty to fifty years ago, when facilities of working and transit were practically nil, what might be expected to be done in the circumstances at present applying. It will certainly take no small sum to unwater and reconstruct many of them, but, with lead at £20 and copper at £100 per ton and no indication of its declining in value, the prospect for the Northampton district's mining and the outlook for those (among whom, in addition to one or two syndicates, may be mentioned the shareholders in the Fremantle Smelter, Ltd., who have subscribed the initial sum of £2,000 for the unwatering of the shafts and the testing of the lodes on some of the properties — viz., the McGuire Lead Mine, the Narra Tarra, the Badarra, and the Wheal Ellen—held by them) who have recently put the money up for the working of some of the old properties must necessarily be regarded as very satisfactory.

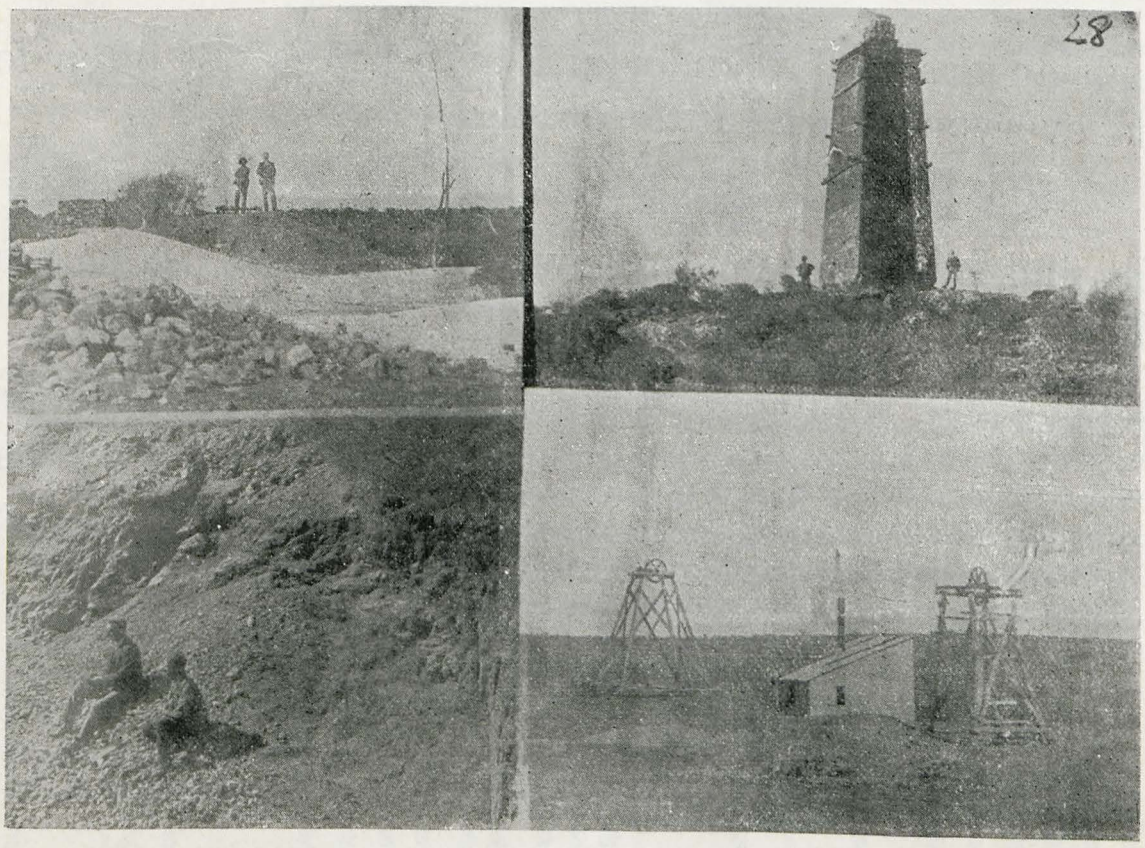
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As is more or less generally known, lead and copper mining was carried on in Northampton and Geraldine localities nearly sixty years ago, and up to about 1884 was certainly the principal industry of that portion of the State.

In 1877 operations were at their highest, some 4,000 tons of lead ore being exported during that year. The industry subsequently declined until 1893 when it petered out altogether, not through the lack of metal, but principally on account of the low prices ruling for it.

The first mine actually worked was the Geraldine situated in the bed of the Murchison River, about 75 miles from Geraldton, which was opened in 1850.

The lode was a very rich one, so rich in fact that in 1852, according to a report, from which we quote, given some years ago on the field by Mr. R. D. Hutchinson, an old resident of Northampton, two miners raised on an average three tons of galena per day for some weeks. A smelting furnace was erected a few miles south of the mines. A deal of money and labor was spent on the undertaking, but with only indifferent results. Through want of proper fuel or from defective construction the furnaces were never a success. About 1866 the mine was taken over by Mr. Hapgood and was worked for two or three years until the arrival of Mr. S. Mitchell, who took control of the property, working it with varying success for some years. Although improved machinery was erected, the fact that the ore had to be carted to Port Gregory for shipment, and also the swamping of the mine on several occasions by the river coming down, proved a great bar to its profitable working.



Early Workings at Geraldine. The Sisters Lead Mine.

The Old Smelter Stack at Geraldine Lead Mine. The Geraldine No. 2.



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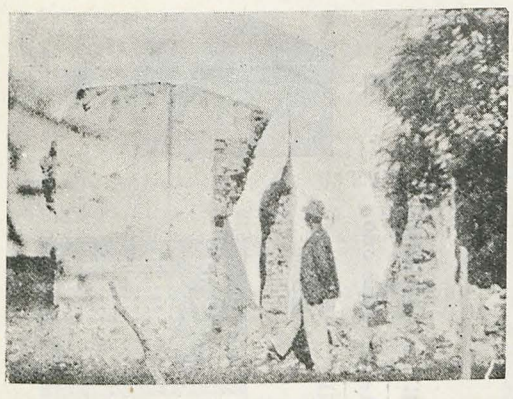
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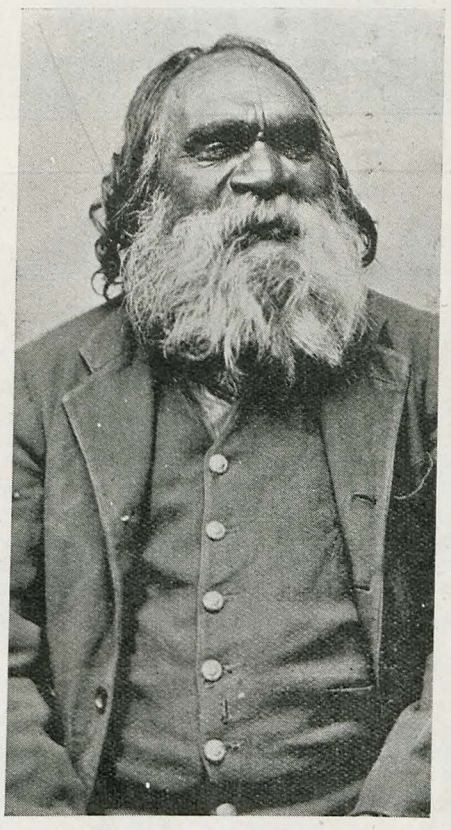
A Narra Tarra Ruin.

Work was, however, continued for some years under the management of Mr. Jas. Mitchell, and a depth of about 240ft. reached. But, owing to the death of the owner in 1878, the mine was shut down, and has remained so ever since. As showing to what straits the management were put to deal with the water difficulty in this mine, in the early fifties an attempt was made to make a "lift" of pumps out of hollow logs the logs being trimmed out and lined with sheet lead.

The Wanerenooka Copper Mine, about a mile north of the township of Northampton, was discovered by a shepherd and was sold by him for about £100 and the promise of further payment when the land should be purchased from the Government, all mining land in those days having to be put up to auction. The promise was never kept. From the Wanerenooka, which was also worked during the fifties and early sixties, large quantities of first-class ores copper ore were raised and exported from ground extending from the main road to about 100 yards north, under where the main shaft was sunk. A deal of the ore was black sulphide of copper, most of it so pure that the miners dug it out with shovels and filled it into the ore bags, in which it was sent to the surface, sewn up and exported. In this, like most other lodes in the district, the ore was found in large "bunches" or "pockets," which, when worked for some time would thin down to the ordinary size of the lode, and in some cases almost pinch out, but would never be lost sight of, and, when followed, soon opened out again.

The greatest depth attained was abont 230ft., and large quantities of lead as well as the copper lode were met with in the lower levels, but, owing to lead not being very "fashionable" in those days, not much attention was paid to its production. The mine was—for the times—fairly found with machinery, there being a steam engine, winding gear and 9in. pumps. The main shaft was well timbered and divided into pumping and winding ways, &c. No crushing machine was used; all the ore which would not pass through the riddles had to be crushed with crushing hammers by hand. The "firsts" were then bagged ready for export, and the "seconds" were put through the jiggers, brass bottoms, &c., also worked by hand. There seems little room to doubt, that when the mine is again worked and opened up in a systematic manner, large deposits of ore are likely to be met with. One proof of the richness of the copper lode may be noted in the fact that water overflowed from the old shaft, which has been so impregnated with copper that hoop-iron, bones, &c., thrown into it become quite green.

The Yangenooka Copper Mines, situated about four miles from Northampton, were worked in 1858 by R. Hutchinson and others for the then owners, and from one of the lodes about the position where the main shaft was afterwards sunk large quantities of high-grade copper ore were taken out by the application of very little labor. The mine was worked under different men for some time, the last of whom was Captain Laurie. It was then shut down, but was subsequently reopened. Fresh machinery was fixed up, the main shaft deepened, and a large lode of copper pyrites struck, which did not, however, extend far from either end of the shaft. The mine was worked as deep as the machinery would allow, the "eyes" picked out, and the property shut down in the early seventies.



THE KING OF THE MURCHISON.

The Wheal Fortune copper and lead mine, about three miles west of Northampton, was worked for some time with varying success. Later in the sixties the property passed into the hands of an English company, by whom it was energetically worked for some years. A good plant was erected, consisting of engine, 9in. pump, winding gear, roller crusher, puddles, &c.

Buildings were erected for engine-house, ore sheds, and stores. The mine was worked down to 300ft., the main shaft being well timbered and divided into winding, pumping, and ladder ways. One noticeable feature about this mine was that on and near the surface the lode was a very rich copper ore, but in the lower levels it was composed almost entirely of lead, only small patches of copper pyrites being met with at intervals. The property was shut down in 1869 through the directors failing to provide funds for development work in new parts of the mine. The machinery was subsequently sold and the buildings allowed to deteriorate into a state of collapse, and what was at one time a flourishing mine degenerated to a sheep walk. Besides the Wheal Fortune an adjoining block named the Wheal Virgin was worked by the same company, but, except small quantities of copper and galena, nothing worthy of note was met with.

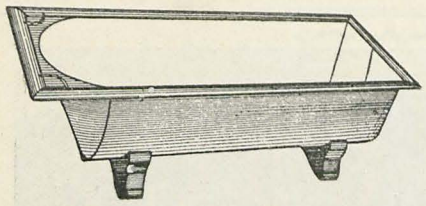


Machinery on Deserted Mine, Narra Tarra
Shepherd's Shaft, Narra Tarra.

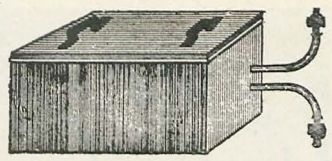
The Gwalla Copper Mines, situated on the southern boundary of the township of Northampton, were discovered in 1859 by an aboriginal, and coming into the possession of Mr. J. L. Horrocks, who was then and had been for some years largely interested in mining around Northampton, the latter was not long in getting the mine opened up. Soon after he appointed Mr. R. Hutchinson, previously referred to, manager. The mine, under his direction, became one of the best paying In the district for some years. Where one shaft was sunk the copper was standing up through the soil, and when the shaft was sunk a few feet a splendid lode of black ore was struck, which, as it was excavated, was raised to the surface, dried, and bagged ready for export. So clean was the ore that no dressing was needed. In this shaft the water became troublesome, and, pending the arrival of machinery, four shifts of four men each had to be employed baling; but, notwithstanding the expense, sufficient ore was being won to pay handsome profits. On another part of the lode a grand lode of grey ore was also opened up. Mr. Hutchinson was crossing the line of lode one day



AN EARLY-DAY TRANSPORT.



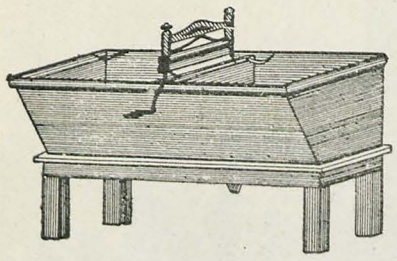
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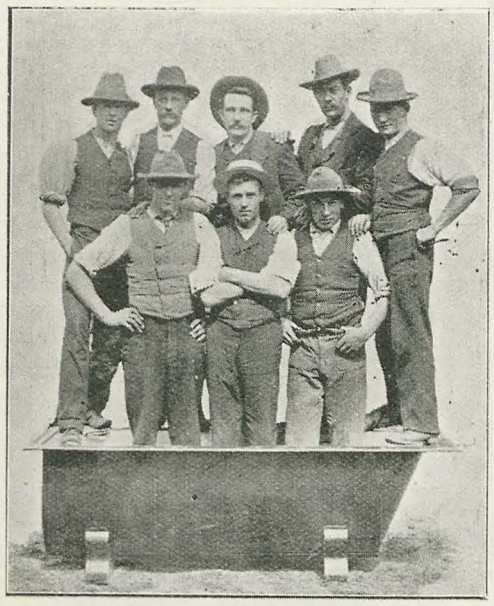


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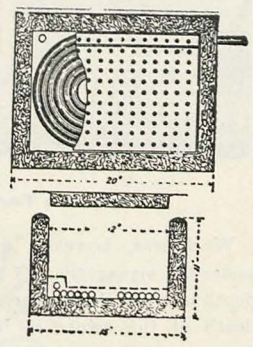




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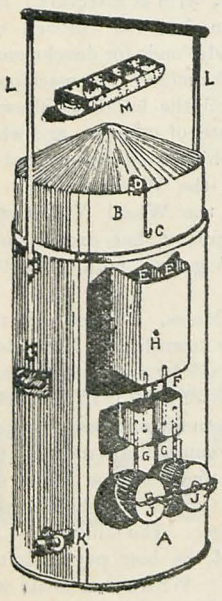
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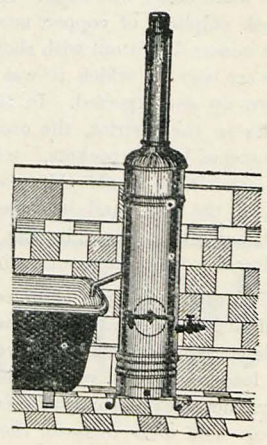




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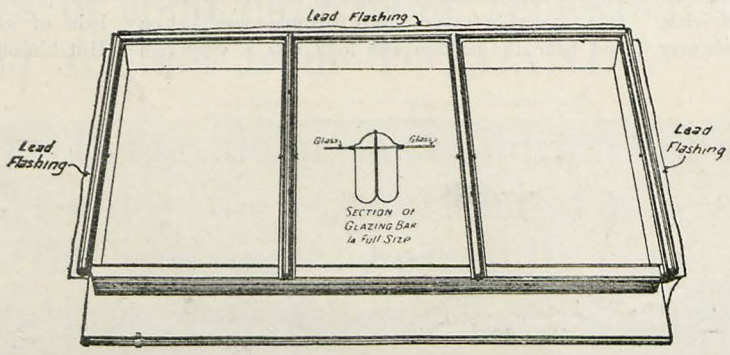
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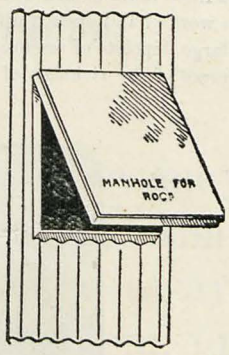
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when his foot caught on a piece of copper which was sticking through the soil. The place was soon opened out, with the result that over 100 tons of large blocks of grey ore were taken from the shaft in a few weeks. The blocks, some of which were over 2ft. wide, were carted to Geraldton, and shipped to England just as they had been taken from the ground, no dressing being needed. Two other shafts were sunk on the same line of lode, one shaft being carried down for over 200ft. before the mine was finally closed. In 1865 the property passed into other hands. After a couple of years, however, the fortunes of the mine began to wane, and about 1869 it was closed down.

Previous to the mine being taken over the last time only a 5-inch lift of pumps was used. The engine which was then used to work the pumps was also utilised to work a flour mill. The wheat ground at the mill was grown around Northampton, some of it, in fact, within a few score yards of the mine. The Gwalla was noted as being the cleanest copper mine in the district, not a speck of lead ever being found in it. Besides the main lode another line was worked near the old church on the north-east end, and at Camp Hill on the south-west portion of the block. But, although some very rich patches of ore were met with in some of the shafts, it was not found in sufficient quantities to warrant extensive workings.

Not far from the workings of the main lode a vineyard was planted which produced fair crops of grapes, and on the ground, along the front of where the Northampton railway now stands, a fine vegetable garden was cultivated. The water from the mine was used to irrigate the garden with, and both tobacco and sugar-cane were raised as an experiment.

The Gelira Copper and Lead Mines, about 12 miles north of Geraldton, were worked in the early sixties, and a fair quantity of good copper ore was raised from them, but owing to the owner, Mr. Drummond, not caring to risk much in mining, no deep sinking was done. About 1877 the mines passed into the hands of a Melbourne company. A large quantity of machinery was sent over, but was never put to much use. Some shafts were sunk on the lower part of the ground, and after a few months' work the mine, from which so much was expected, was abandoned.

The White Peak Copper Mine, 10 miles from Geraldton, on the Northampton-road, was opened up in 1858. Some high-grade copper was raised, but not nearly enough to be considered payable. After the shaft had been sunk a few feet work was stopped.

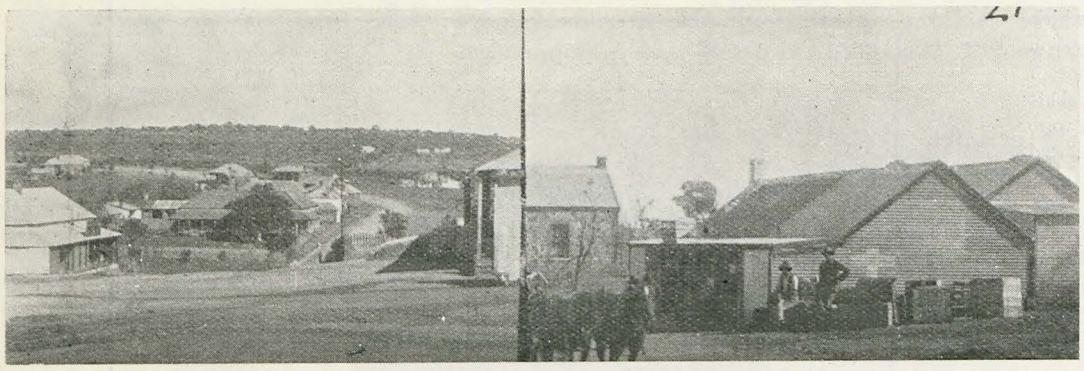
The "Old Narra Tarra," about 24 miles from Geraldton, was worked in the early sixties, and some very good copper was taken out of it during the short time it was under way. The fact of the lode becoming a mixed one (copper and lead) had a deal to do with its early closing. The Melbourne and Champion Bay Lead Mining Co. engaged extensively in mining in the early seventies at the M'Guire and Narra Tarra. The Narra Tarra property aud the new lodes on the M'Guire block were discovered by Mr. R. Hutchinson, who handed the "shows" over to the representatives of the company, a substantial reward and a lucrative position being promised him, neither of which he ever received. The directors sent men from Melbourne to manage the mines.

At both Narra Tarra and M'Guire smelting furnaces were erected at great expense, and, in both cases, they were miserable failures—due either to bad management or faulty construction. The Narra Tarra lode was one of the best lead mines ever worked in the district and, when first opened, the cap of the lode consisted of carbonates of lead, which, when sunk upon for a few feet, turned to a magnificent lode of galena, and the mine afterwards proved to be one of the most productive in West Australia. It has been stated by men who worked for the company that hundreds of tons of lead were buried by the miners when working down the "backs" to save wheeling it to the pit bottom. Good machinery was fixed



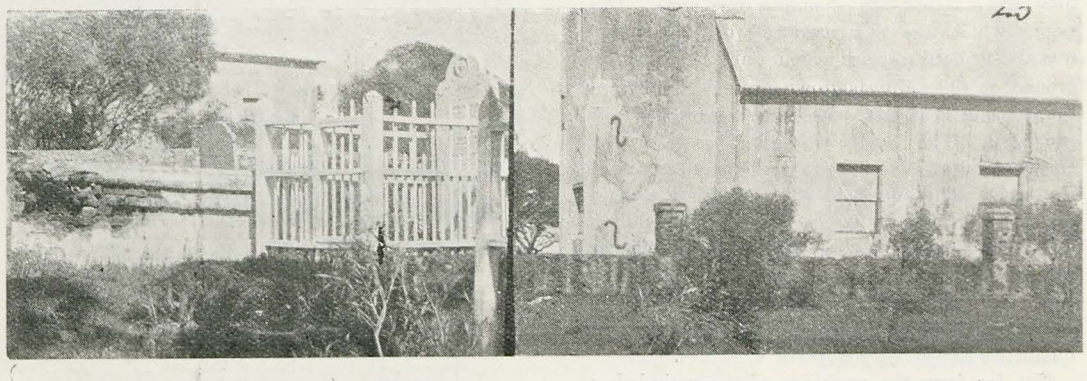
A MURCHISON BELLE.





THE MAIN STREET.

NORTHAMPTON TO-DAY.



TOMB of J. L. HORROCKS, a Pioneer

AN ANCIENT CHURCH.

upon the property, but it was sold after the closing of the mines. On the M'Guire block several lodes were opened up, but none proved very productive.

In 1872 the new Mineral Lands Act was passed, it being known at the time as the "poor man's mining law." The wisdom of the framers was soon proved by the large number of blocks taken up and worked under it. Amongst the first to work under the new Act was the West Wheal Virgin, four miles from Northhampton, worked with success for some time. From one shaft enough ore was taken to show a clear profit over working expenses of about £40 for every six feet of sinking.

The Wheal Ellen Lead Mine, about one mile west of Northampton, was discovered in 1864, but was not worked until after the passing of the new Mineral Lands Act.

In 1879 the price of lead began to fall rapidly, which soon brought about a change in the fortunes of this and other mines in the neighborhood. During the time the Wheal Ellen was worked, large quantities of lead were taken from it, which, in the first few years at any rate, resulted in considerable profits. The "Uga" lead mines, also near the western boundary of the town of Northampton, produced a deal of ore, and were worked until the collapse of the lead market.

The Nooka, another valuable lead mine, was opened and worked by Mr. Owen Williams, who, during the time the property was in his possession, secured handsome returns, although the deepest shaft was only about 80ft.

The Wheal May was a very good property, and was noted as being about the cleanest lead mine in the district, the galena being very pure and easy to prepare for market.

The Badara and other lead lodes to the north of Northampton were very good mines, and for years were worked with payable results.

Besides the mines referred to above, many others were prospected before and since 1878, but, since their closing, Northampton has remained little more than a deserted village, parts of it in crumbling ruins.

The early re-opening of some of the mines should mean much to the State.



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Kalgoorlie Group.

Concise Comment on the Year's Operations—Of the Big Mines—And the North End.

THE leading mines of Kalgoorlie and Boulder were so particularly described in the previous issue of the GOLDEN WEST, and their developments are so fully reported in the press, that merely a summary of the past year's progress of the Golden Mile will be herein attempted. That the year 1906 has been one of progress throughout the Boulder Belt will be admitted by all save a few confirmed croakers. It is true that the average monthly yield has been somewhat less than during the previous year, but it must be remembered that with the rich surface ore worked out, following the general adoption of a systematic developmental policy, the annual output of the field is only gradually approaching normal dimensions. Regarding the future life and prosperity of the Boulder mines, we cannot do better than quote the written opinion of so widely accepted an authority as Mr. Richard Hamilton, manager of the Great Boulder, as read by the Colonial Treasurer of the State (Mr. Frank Wilson), in the course of the delivery of his last Budget speech in October last. Referring to the outlook for the Kalgoorlie industry, the mining authority referred to remarked as follows :—"The ore bodies now look as if they might easily go to twice the depth to which they have been already worked. In most of them, however, the grade is much lower than in the shallower levels, but there appears to be a more uniform value for tho last 300ft. to 500ft. in depth. This value may be looked on as ranging from 9dwt. to 14dwt. per ton."

This problem of profitably treating low grade ores was one of the most important items in the past year's operations. Some remarkable successes have been achieved in the matter of low costs and high extraction of values, without reducing wages and, despite the lesser output, dividends and development work have been well maintained. In fact the present day management of the Kalgoorlie mines represents the highest grade of modern scientific mining. With the advance made in mining and mill management, working costs have been reduced all along the Golden Mile. As an instance of this, the working costs of the Great Boulder in 1903 were 33s. 9d. per ton of ore crushed ; two year's later this was reduced to 24s. 9d. ; and last year still further reduced to a fraction over 20s. per ton. It is in the reduction and extraction processes that economic progress has been most manifest. With a reduced grade of ore, an increased output is necessary if dividends are to be maintained. This means large and complete surface equipment.

* * *

Thus during the year the Associated surface plant practically was renewed, the Boulder Main Reef plant was re-modelled, the Perseverance plant was greatly increased in capacity, the Hainault plant is being duplicated, and additions to meet latest developments are projected on the Great Boulder and Kalgurli mines. These facts do not denote doubts as to the permanence of the field ; rather the reverse. Indeed the pessimistic contention that the lodes on the Golden Mile did not live at depth has been conclusively exploded long ago. Early in the year some remarkable developments were reported in the Great Boulder at the 1900ft. level. Here a 10ft. chute assaying 1oz. to the ton has been proved for 200ft. north while to the southward an immense body of ore up to 40ft. wide, averaging 14dwt. has been proved for 500ft.

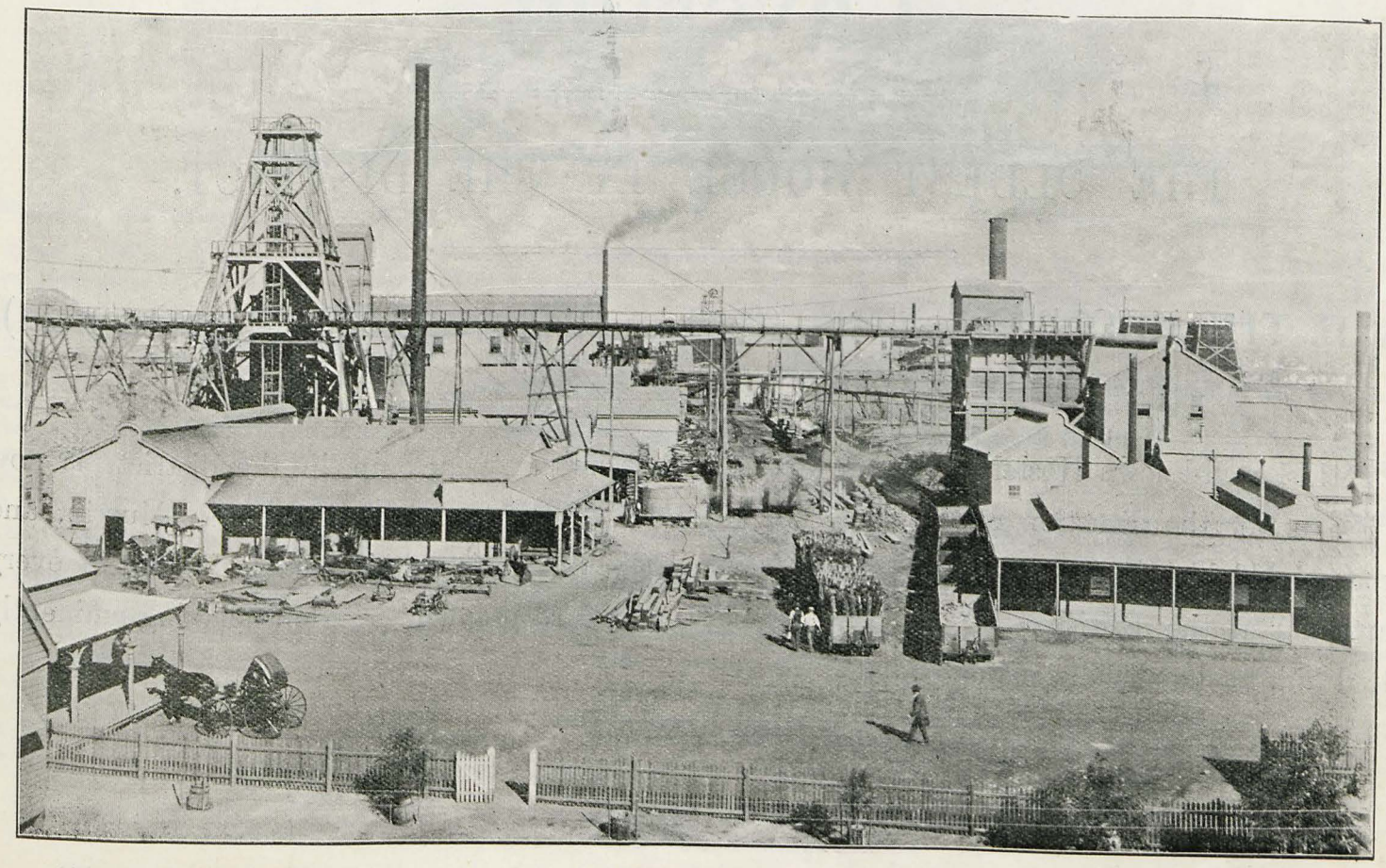
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Then in October last the diamond drill passed through payable ore at 2,050ft., the greatest depth yet reached in the State. In the Hamilton shaft, also, at the north end of the lease, the Ivanhoe lode has been cut and driven on for about 250ft. Thus a large tonnage of payable ore has been exposed sufficient to ensure the life of the mine for many years. The figures of the Great Boulder, alone, should be a sufficient testimony of the mineral wealth of this State. During its 12 years existence the mine has yielded nearly 40 tons of gold valued at £4,846,629 of which nearly half, or £2,316,175 has been paid in dividends, while reserves in sight are worth another £2,000,000.

And this on a capital of only £175,000.

* * *

Equally satisfactory is the present position of Golden Horseshoe, one of the richest mines in the world. In June last the No. 3 lode was cut at 1,300ft., and proved to be 7ft. wide and worth 25dwts. To the end of September last bullion worth five and a quarter millions had been produced from this mine, and £2,175,000 distributed in



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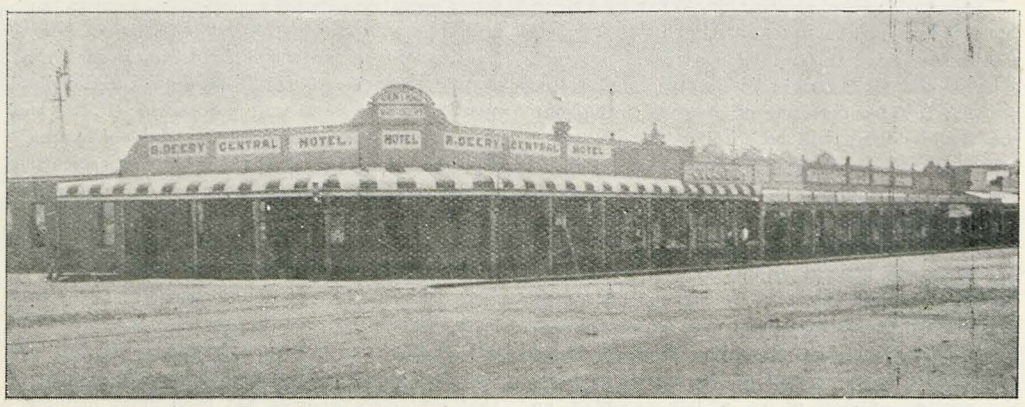
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dividends. The Horseshoe has not yet been developed below the 1,300ft. level, and it is a wonderful testimony to the mine's value that from comparatively shallow working there should be such heavy and consistent yields each month, and such immense and valuable ore reserves.

* * *

The best development in the Ivanhoe during the year was at 1,520ft,, where the east lode which is the richest chute in the mine was cut, and proved to be 6ft. wide, assaying for 70s. per ton. The shaft has been extended to 1,675ft., from which level cross-cutting has been commenced for the lode. Though the mine has already produced gold worth over four million, of which the shareholders have received £1,610,000 in dividends, a conservative estimate of the ore reserves on June 30 last was 796,841 tons, with an average assay value of 58s. 2d. per ton.

* * *

Development work has materially increased the work of the Kalgurli during the year, new ore bodies have been opened up in the lower levels. At the 1,050ft. level there is a body of payable ore of the enormous width of 100ft., while in extending the shaft to 1,300ft., the last 50ft. of sinking was through another valuable ore body.

If these remarkable ore bodies live down to 2,000ft., as they show every indication of doing, the Kalgurli will take rank among the world's leading gold mines.

of the surface plant. The property has been somewhat patchy, and an attempt is now being made to prove the main ore bodies at 1,500ft.

* * *

The Oroya-Brownhill maintains its magnificent position on the dividend list, and the monthly output shows no signs of diminishing, while the ore reserves equal in value the market price of the shares. The Oroya Chute with its rich telluride is somewhat erratic in course, while its values are variable, equalling over 200oz. per ton in places. However, it has been proved through two of the company's leases, and one block exposed is estimated to be worth £250,000. The output to date totals 863,361oz., worth £3,660,654, and the dividends paid aggregate £1,718,741.

* * *

The Lake View Consols has not yet struck another chute equal to the sensational returns of 1899, but there are promising developments at the 1,900ft. level where a nice ore body giving 1oz. values was cut in May last. Most of the profits made from this mine have been re-invested outside the State. To the end of September Consols had yielded gold to the value of £3,728,586, and paid £1,361,250 in dividends.

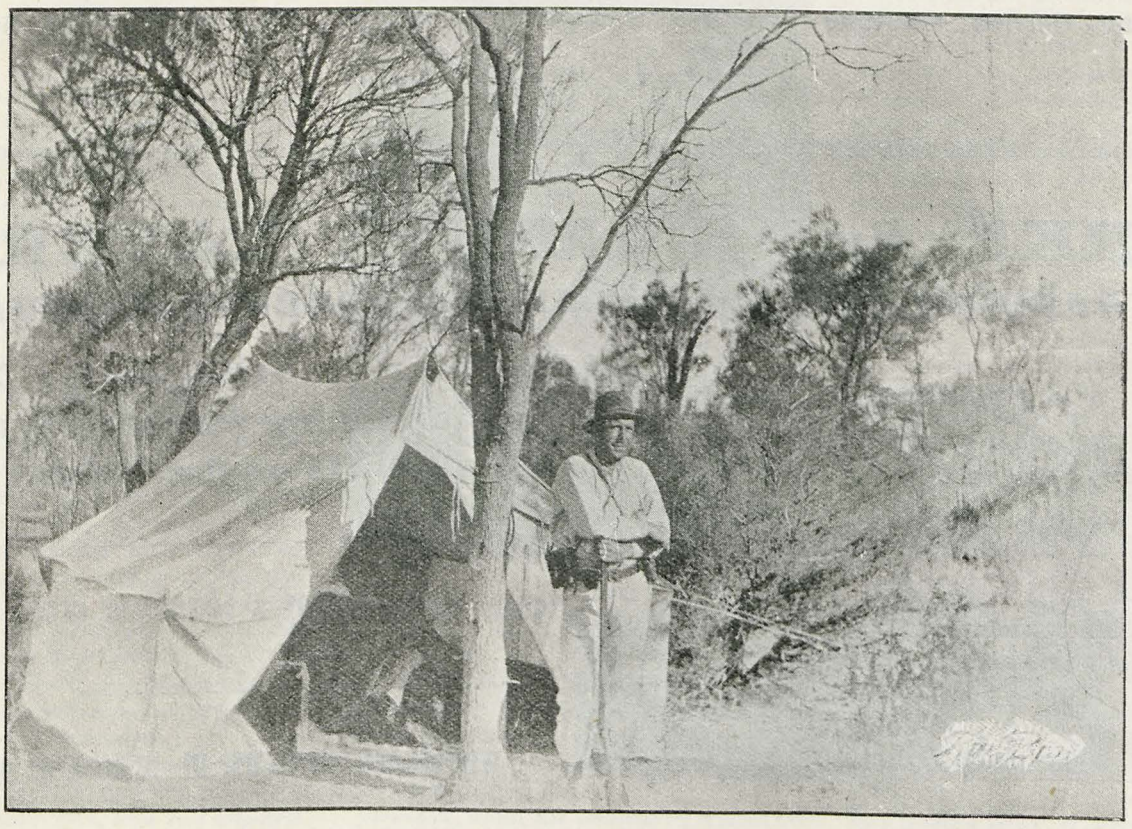
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After a somewhat sensational career, the Boulder Perseverance is still among the leading producers, and good developments are reported at the 1300ft. and 1450ft. levels. The yield from this mine to

Ivanhoe South Extended, where they are sinking to cut the rich middle lode of the Ivanhoe at depth, the shaft is now down about 2,000ft., from which point cross-cutting has been commenced for a reef intersected by the diamond drill, just outside the Ivanhoe boundary. The Boulder No. 1 is still energetically opened up, but the ultimate success of this mine depends on developments in the Great Boulder.

THE NORTHERN END.

Until a nice chute of ore was cut in the Hidden Secret mine about two years back, the northern end of the Kalgoorlie field had been practically neglected. Owing, however, to developments in the Hidden Secret, Devon Consols, Fair Play and other mines, the once despised northern end is now attracting greatly increased attention. During the past year the Hidden Secret shaft was sunk to 300ft., when prospecting was started for the rich chute cut off at the 200ft. level. The chute was soon located and proved to be about 3ft. wide, with values varying from 5oz. to 50oz., while the general ore body averages over ½oz. About £50,000 worth of gold has been won from this property, and it is estimated there is as much more in sight. The Fair Play has also picked up the lode at about 170ft., and this mine is looking very well. For sometime past the Devon Consols has returned good profits to its fortunate owners, and is still producing rich ore.



Opinions differ as to whether or no the Associated successfully cut the rich Oroya chute this year, but as over 30,000 tons were broken from the No. 12 level, the shareholders have grounds for being optimistic. Up to date 573,617oz. of bullion have been won, and £530,457 paid in dividends, besides a distribution of 250,000 £1 shares in the Associated Northern. This latter property has recovered ground during the past year, further development having opened up increased reserves of ore, while there is the probability of a new lode being cut at the western end of the lease. The mine has already returned nearly half a million in dividends.

* * *

The Hainault paid four quarterly dividends of 1s. during 1906, and thus gave satisfactory testimony of progress.

On the South Kalgurli the main items have been the payment of a dividend, and a marked reduction in working costs, following on a remodelling

date is 867,111oz., worth £3,676,552, and dividends total the healthy sum of £2,175,000.

Chaffers, one of the beast located leases on the field, with a chance of several lodes, is again being prospected at the 1700ft. level, where a lode cut good values about a year ago.

* * *

Latest reports from the Boulder Deep Levels indicate that lack of systematic development has retarded the progress of this mine, while it has unenviable notoriety through being the medium of a glaring mining scandal which was ventilated in 1905.

The position of Boulder Main Reef shareholders, is improved on that of 1905, for though the chute which cut out at 600ft. has not been located, there is every possibility of making the mine pay its way. After long consideration, the Ivanhoe Junction directors have decided to erect a treatment plant; while the Hannan's Star directorate are still pursuing a policy of inaction. At the

Local interest is now centred in the North End mine, a very promising proposition, where the Government have decided to put a drill down 400ft. or deeper to test the country.

* * *

Taking a general survey of the past year's operations, there is satisfactory proof that the Kalgoorlie field will be a consistent producer for many years to come. It has been proved in the leading mines that the lodes live down. Though the average values are somewhat lower and the rich chutes contract from 1,500ft. to 2,000ft., it is also a fact that many new makes of ore have been discovered in the lower levels, and it is the opinion of leading mining engineers, that with further sinking a zone of richer values will again be struck. Dividends paid this year to the end of October, by Kalgoorlie mines amounted to £1,322,775, which makes the aggregate of dividends paid since the discovery of the field nearly £13,000,000.

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These Furnaces are made of various types and capacities, and are now in operation throughout the Commonwealth of Australia, including Tasmania. Six of the large Duplex type are installed at the Great Boulder Perseverance Gold Mine which are each roasting 90 tons per day, discharging an absolutely sweet roasted product.

This type of Furnace is also erected at the Lancefield and the Horseshoe Mines, and is being erected at the Great Boulder Mine, whilst there are numerous Furnaces of the mechanical tilting type in use at this mine, also at the Kalgurli, Ivanhoe, Lake View, and other mines which are doing excellent work.

There are numerous Furnaces of the Edwards' Tilting and Duplex type in operation in the United States of America. One of the latter type, installed at the Yampa Smelting Works, is roasting without fuel 80 tons of Ore per day, reducing the Sulphur contents from 30 per cent. to 7 per cent., the amount of Sulphur required for successful smelting operations.

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THE NORTH COUNTRY.

Brief Accounts of Mining Operations in the more Remote Centres—

Murrin Murrin to the Spinifex Country.

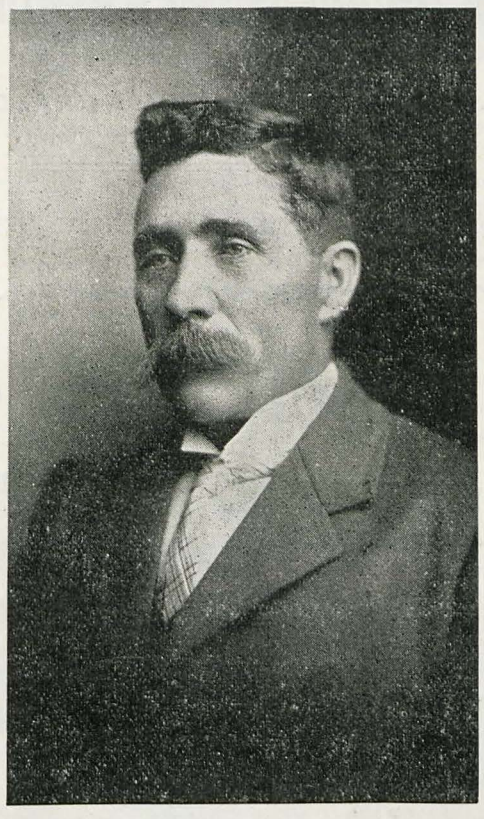
IT is not intended to weary readers with lengthy references under this heading. What is going on in the more settled parts of the Northern fields is by virtue of the diligence of the press generally well known. It is of the work going forward in the more isolated centres therefore that brief information is endeavored to be given, and credit accorded those responsible for the development of the far back country.

Murrin Murrin promises after a brief period of depression to take place again as one of the chief gold producers of the northern goldfields.

At the Princess Alix G.M. the work of development is steadily progressing, and the mill is running at intervals on ore wholly raised from development work, to cover working expenses. The rich and continuous crushings, extending over a period of eighteen months, during the first nine months of which £28,000 worth of gold was produced, brought this mine into considerable prominence at the time.

The present owners having decided some months ago on a vigorous course of development work, have at the present time the gratification of seeing the mine open up on highly payable ore, and expect at an early date to have the mill running full time. On the same belt of country, and situated one-third of a mile north of the Princess Alix, lies Hill's Murrin Murrin Proprietary G.M. of golden fame. The property, which is at present under exemption, pending a thorough overhauling of the machinery, the installation of large rock breaker and automatic feeders, and the laying on a complete supply of fresh water a distance of four miles, is expected to start crushing operations within the next few weeks, and Murrin will once again hear the long continuous roar of the stampers beating out the precious metal.

At the Alix Junior G.M., situated half-a-mile further north from Hill's Proprietary, and on the same line of reef as the Alix, some very extensive alterations are being made; a powerful winding and pumping plant has been installed to cope with the increased flow of water, and with the machinery working smoothly a large parcel of 400 to 500 tons of ore, valued at 1½oz. to the ton, will be at grass within the new month.



MR. I. MATSON.

This show, which has consistently crushed over the ounce and as high as 2½oz. to the ton, has been lately undergoing a vigorous course of development work, and should from the present indications be shortly in the forefront of the gold producers of the district. Travelling one-half mile further north, we strike the old Malcolm Proprietary G.M., which was a few years ago one of the main producers of the northern fields. Boring has been progressing here for some time, and all hope to see the old mine once more a steady producer.

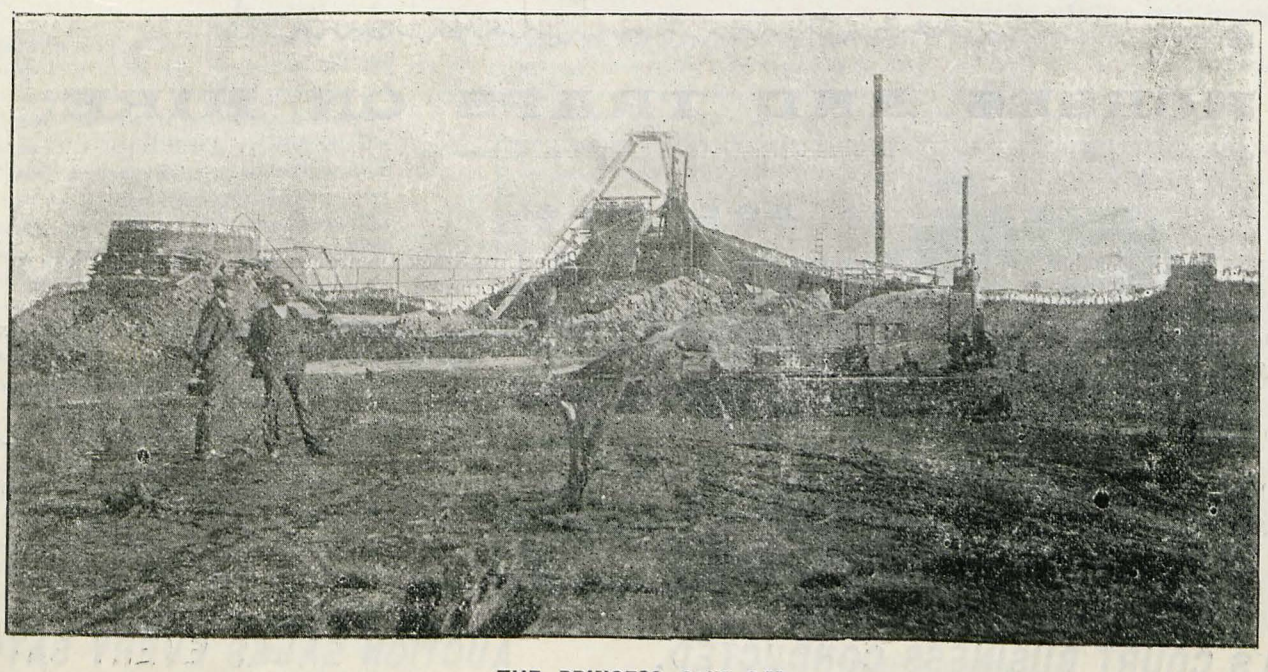
Murrin Murrin has not like most of the goldfield centres to look to its gold mines alone for prosperity, but will be shortly one of the biggest producers of copper in the State. Apart from the Anaconda Copper Mine, which is distant 3½ miles south of Murrin, and has lately struck copper ore as high as 80 per cent., there are within a radius of a mile of the township, two promising mines, the Nargeroo and Bound to Win.

The former, which has been a highly payable concern since its inception, is at present working better than it ever did, and a great deal of work is being done, a number of consignments of good ore having been despatched to Eastern State smelters, and, recently, to the Anaconda furnaces. The Nargeroo bids fair to become a big producer, and to give profitable employment at no distant date to a greatly increased number of men.

At the Bound to Win, which has been lately taken up by local investors, development work is now showing highly payable results, the average assay of the ore is 20 per cent, a considerable quantity being bagged for export.

At the present time the Murrin mines are emerging from a general course of development work, which has caused a local depression, but the general consensus of opinion is that a prosperous time is in store for the disirict and its people at an early date.

One of the principal owners of the Princess Alix is Mr. I. Matson, whose association with the district covers a period of some five years, prior to which period he spent a number of years in other



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parts of the northern fields. Previous to going into mining pursuits he was engaged in storekeeping (having purchased Messrs. Monger's branch there), and also directed Murrin's two hotels. Mr. Matson still has both these establishments—the Railway and the Murrin Hotel, and what with attending to them in addition to his interests in the Princess Alix, Princess Alix South, and Alix, Junior, is kept a fairly busy man.

* * *

At the old Federation the pluck and enterprise of the new owners, who took the mine over to all intents and purposes a worked out concern, promises to be satisfactorily rewarded. In this property, at the 180ft. level, a reef promising to crush good values is being developed.

* * *

At Anaconda the Anaconda Copper Mine is again producing. The old workings it appears, got right off the lode, but it was again picked up. In addition, it is affirmed that about £20,000, was recovered from the old slags, fuel dust, and furnace bottoms. Modern furnaces are now installed there.

Though still apparently conscious of past glory there is little work doingat Morgans outside the big mine, on which some good ore is still being obtained from the Guest Lease. The development in progress, however, does not seem to have yet located any recurrence of the old pay shoot which supplied so much gold in the past, though the report recently made by Expert Feldtmann on the mine gives considerable cause for increased confidence. The Ramornie having installed new plant is again producing, but requires a much greater surface equipment to deal with the large body of gold-bearing schist being opened.

About eight miles east, at Mt. Margaret, once the scene of much activity, there is now only one mine being worked. This is on the site of the old Margaret Reward, but it now bids fair to open into a very large gold-bearing copper lode.



STATION CREEI MT. MARGARET.

from an immense formation. Further east the old Euro is again fitted with plant, and giving satisfactory returns. Many other mines are being steadily developed, while the Ida H., some eight miles north, has proved itself a most consistent producer, and has shown that provided the values are good, a reef does not need to be very large to produce good profits.

* * *

From Laverton north for 70 miles to Duketon, a few batteries are at work, but there is not much doing. Some few years ago there were a goodly number working about Mistake Creek, but during

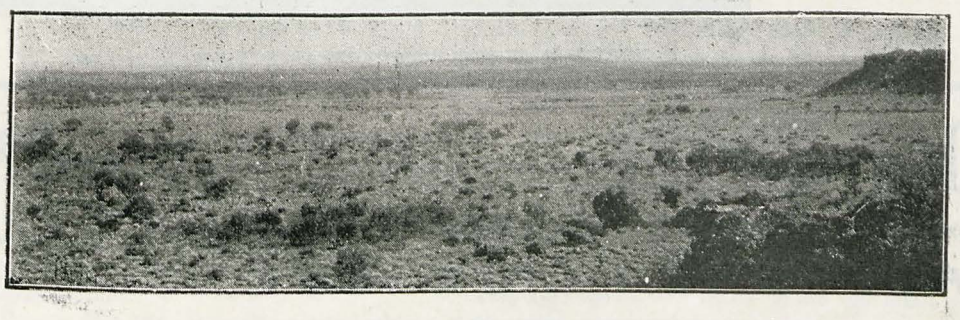
as any man; found several things with gold in them in years gone by, among them Gregory Hills, and went west always looking for something better. A few years ago he came back again near home, and he and his mate found the patch which made the rush at Corktree. Kirkpatrick and his mate took 1,800oz. out of an alluvial claim there, but the spinifex called him again, and lately he has come back and opened up a new show about three miles west from the Little Battery. It is a quartz reef, and it looks as if luck is with him again, for good judges reckon it will crush 2oz. May it do so, for Bob has no enemies, and the "out back" owes him something.

At Duketon, what is known as the Golden Spinifex reef from Monowai on the south to Water Melon on the north end, a distance of about five miles, was all leased and being worked at intervals for the entire length. This was some little time back. Unfortunately a strata of soft treacherous ground was met with between 50ft. and 100ft., and after a few desultory attempts were made to get through it, in which two or three shafts were lost, nothing further was done. Lately a party of tributors on the Lauriston have got through the bad ground successfully.

* * *

The Golden Spinifex G.M., in the immediate vicinity of the town of Duketon is again working under new management. The original local company spent their capital in surface equipment, and after taking £8,000 of gold out above the 50ft. level, did not succeed in getting through the soft belt. With this mine again at work a renewal of prosperity is confidently looked for by the inhabitants. There is also a public battery at this centre.

Going still north and east from Duketon we come to the Gregory Hills, which attracted considerable attention some few months ago by the conflicting reports. One expert went so far as to say there was no gold at all there, and no timber, or water either, which is a fairly drastic thing to



Going north, there is nothing doing at Hawke's Nest. Attempts were made during the year to introduce capital, with a view of dredging the enormous areas of alluvial here. This alluvial is not so easily broken up by the dryblower as most of the similar ground on these fields. There are some millions of tons of ground running from 2ft. to 10ft. deep which have been demonstrated to be worth from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per yard, and as unlimited supplies of water can be got within three or four miles, it would seem to offer every inducement for investment.

* * *

A few miles further north is the Augusta. This mine was abandoned and sold for a song, but the present syndicate made no mistake; profits at the rate of £1,500 per month are being distributed from the work of a 10-head mill, while in the bottom of the shaft at 400ft. the reef continues about 4ft. wide, and for the last 80ft. has been an average value of about 5oz. per ton. It is said that the shareholders are about to place the property on the Eastern market.

From the Augusta a few miles to the N.W., the big brick stack of the Lancefield makes a great landmark in the country. This mine is famous for the size and continuity of the reef, but is the first mine out back where it has been found necessary to roast the ore, and much interest is felt in the result of the treatment.

The mine itself has been proved beyond doubt a valuable and permanent proposition, and it seems only reasonable to expect that the new plant is going to give satisfactory results.

Laverton is well situated in the centre of a group of mines. In addition to the Lancefield and Augusta above referred to, the Craiggiemore, about 1½ miles east, is still producing payable ore

the past year the gold production has not been remarkable. However, it looks at last as if a turn for the better had arrived. Development of the deeper ground became necessary during the year, and it seems to be bearing fruit. Thus, at the "Little Battery," Kirkpatrick's, where the ore had been mined to water level, for a length of about 600ft. a straight shaft has been sunk to a depth of 200ft., the reef cross-cut, and much to the satisfaction of the persevering owners, they have found good value. Also another find here is worth recording.

* * *

Bob Kirkpatrick has been prospecting this country for the last nine years, several times far out into the spinifex. He saw as much of that country



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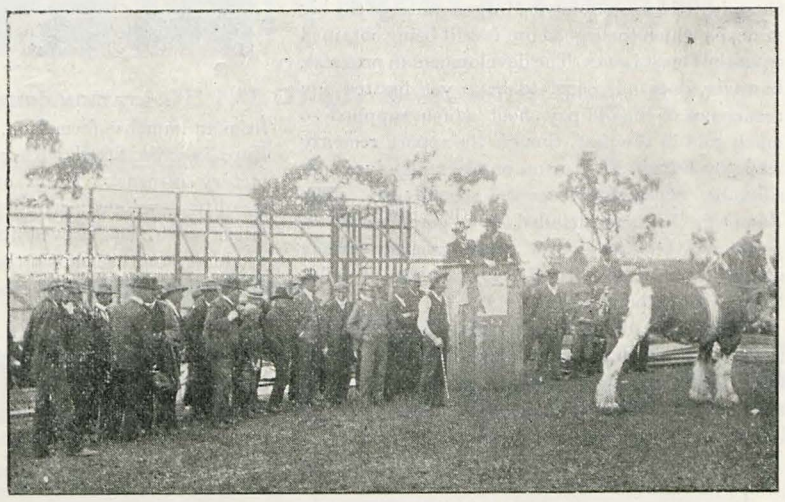
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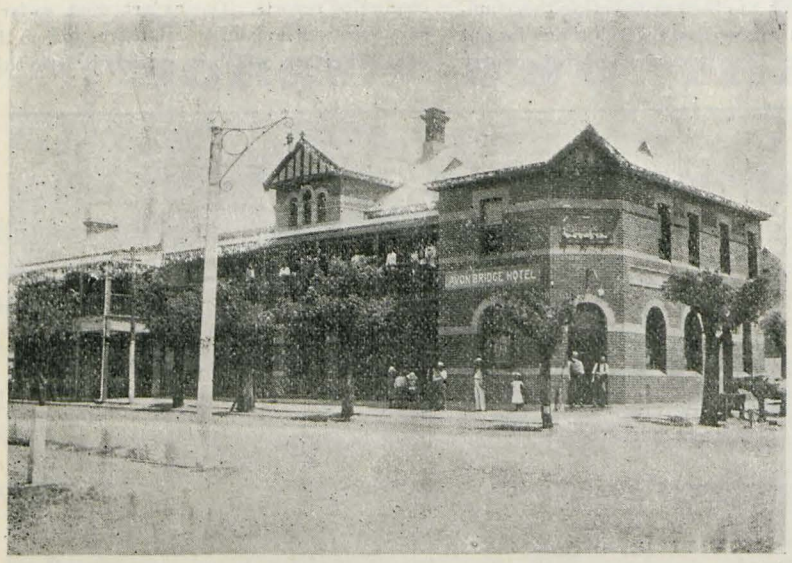
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This old-established Hostelry (it was the first house in Northam, having been built as far back as 1848) has recently been practically re-built, and is now the modern structure which the accompanying photograph represents it to be.

Mr. Jack Rodgers, its present Licensee, dates his association with the "Avon Bridge" back some ten years, and is known throughout the Northam district as an enthusiastic Sportsman, prominently associated with Football and Cricket, being an ex-Captain of the Northam Federal's Football Club and the Rovers Cricket Team; whilst Bowls has recently claimed him as an enthusiastic adherent.

❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

say about a mine which shows a bit of face gold along the outcrop in places, while the eastern reef on the same property shows a good deal of copper ore, red oxide, and green carbonates. These copper ores are also gold-bearing, but the development work to date is hardly sufficient to base an estimate on. Certainly the surface appearances are hopeful.

This belt of country is about miles long by about four or five miles broad; in appearance is much like the Hawke's Nest country; the same bold, rugged hills and outcrops. Other mines are being opened in this belt; about three miles south is Duplocks.

Here again the surface outcrop is promising.

There is a big strong reef, and when opened by a costeen is almost 4ft. wide, and a good deal of gold showing through the quartz. It will take some time yet to show the value of this place but, certainly at present it looks like the start of another field, and, indeed it can be hardly doubted that such new fields will continue to open up till most of the country through the South Australian border and northward to the Nullagine, will be more or less populated.

* * *

The water difficulty has to be faced with most new fields, though as our local knowledge is increased, we generally find sufficient water for requirements, and it can hardly be doubted that as further prospecting and settlement takes place about Gregory Hills, the water difficulty will be overcome.

We may reflect that it is only a few short years ago when the prospectors at Duketon had to fall back on the Erlistoun Creek, some 25 miles away, for their supplies. Yet, to-day it can hardly be doubted that half a million gallons of fresh water could be daily obtained in several places throughout this district.

This occurrence of fresh water in places in quantities sufficient for irrigation must have a decided influence on the future of this country. The fertility of the soil is beyond question, and it cannot be but that in the near future large quantities of stock and produce will be raised in the vicinity of the fresh water areas. Already most of the country is held under pastoral leases, and cattle appear to do well on the local pastures.

* * *

Going north-west from Duketon 15 miles, we come to Mulga Queen.

There is a belt of country here very similar to the Golden Spinifex.

The Famous Blue Mine is crushing in the midst of a group towards the southern end, but the Mulga Queen, towards the northern end, is now



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BANK, LAVERTON.

idle. This mine produced about £30,000 gold above the 100ft. level, and the pay ore was continuous for a length of 800ft., but some bad ground was met and the owners don't seem to have any notion at present of going into it. Yet, it is wonderful to reflect that such a long shoot of high grade ore should not be looked at a bit lower down.

Both this mine and the Golden Spinifex were owned by local parties of working men, and the history is not very encouraging. Apparently all profits were divided and spent as acquired, so when the day came to do even a short term of dead work, there was no one fit, and both the shows, one mined to 60ft. deep and the other to 100ft., ceased work. Surely it would not be a bad thing if a small percentage of the profits in surface workings was ear-marked for future development work in such cases, even if such a condition formed part of the lease covenants.

South and east from Mulga Queen it is about nine miles to Hoot Nui, which in the southern Maori tongue signifies "much gold," and at present it looks as if the mine will justify the name.

The prospectors of this mine were about three years trying hard enough, but getting nowhere, and surely they were plucky to open up here, for the outcrop is only a leader as thick as a man's hand. This they followed, and it did not go back on them.

They have opened two shafts on the vein about 400ft. apart; the vein lies pretty flat, underlaying to the north-east into a range of greenstone rocks, and gradually gets thicker as sunk upon. At 150ft. there is about 2ft. of quartz, and it would appear that the vein followed is a leader lying on the hanging-wall side of a lode formation, at about 150ft. deep. The rock underneath the vein (which by the way is gold-bearing from the surface as far as tried by drill holes) gives place to a very hard black sulphide ore, carrying in the vicinity of the leader coarse gold.

This is interesting as, being the only body of black sulphide ore found out in these parts, until a cross-cut is put through, it is not possible to say what size the lode is; but it looks alright so far, as the value of the stone in the leader and foot or so of black ore broken under the leader from the lode will average about £20 per ton.

A small crushing from here, put through the Mulga Queen battery, of 140 tons, produced over £3,000 of gold, and it looks as if the next big mine to be added to the list of producers may be the Hoot Nui.

It is interesting to note that the prospectors put their first profits into stock, some 30 draught mares and a very fine Clydesdale stallion are already on the run, and as these men have been in this country a long while, they know what the country is capable of, and what stock it will grow.

* * *

The occurrence and appearance of this ore body is particularly interesting, as showing the possibility throughout this country. The ore bodies of all the goldfields may be roughly classed under two headings, those with which we are so familar in other places, the quartz reefs, where along some line of cleavage or crack, the quartz has been

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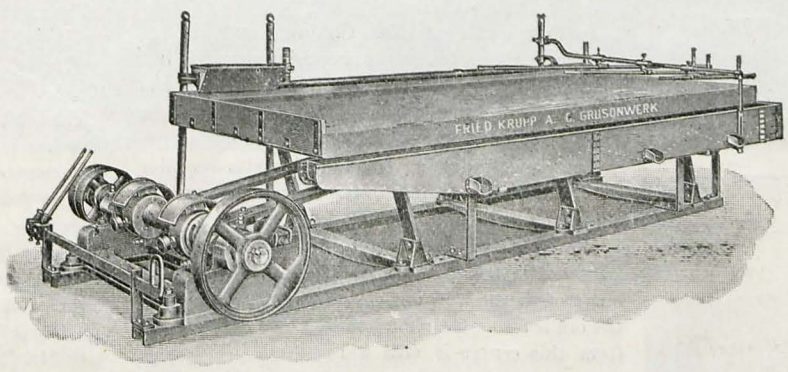
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slowly deposited from solutions, and with the deposit of the quartz, was also deposited metallic sulphides and gold.

The second class, which is so well typified in the great mines of the Golden Mile, represents ore bodies resulting from the alteration of the country rocks in their immediate vicinity. The change being, perhaps, generally caused by the intrusion of dyke rocks. During the process of alteration these rocks have become more or less silicified and the sulphides and precious metals deposited there, the gold itself being sometimes in combination with other elements.

As these latter formations have produced the greatest number of rich mines, it is sometimes taken for granted that such formations are always the richest, but as a matter of fact similar metamorphic lodes or ore deposits occur plentifully throughout the length and breadth of the country, and often carrying a little gold. It is only where the depositing of the gold has been phenomenal that the formation may be looked to as a payable mine.

Reverting to the Hoot Nui, it looks as if this show might give a good illustration of both deposits, for the leader lying on the hanging-wall is the typical quartz reef, while the lode formation immediately below it appears to be of the second class, and as the rock is very slightly altered at the surface its existence was not at first discovered.

* * *

The interesting question with all new finds is, will it form a permanent field? An important question when we realise the enormous areas of country not yet prospected. It is when travelling on the fringe of existing settlement that the considerations are borne in on one.

The first prospectors through the country may be looked upon more as "geographers." The necessity for finding surface water, or at least water easily available, was for ever before them, so that though they often passed over likely belts of country they had little time between camps for anything but a very cursory examination of the country; but in locating existing water supplies they conferred a great boon on those that followed them.

Thus, though that King of Westralian explorers, Forrest, found no gold, his tracks shown on the early maps assured the early prospectors throughout much of this country of the locality of water supply. Being a natural bushman, as well as a surveyor, his landmarks were placed so that other bushmen might easily locate them.

Another man who was a born "geographer" was Carnegie—a man but little known in this land, where he did such good service. And yet his name is known to most simply as one written on dotted lines representing tracks through the great unknown areas of the interior.

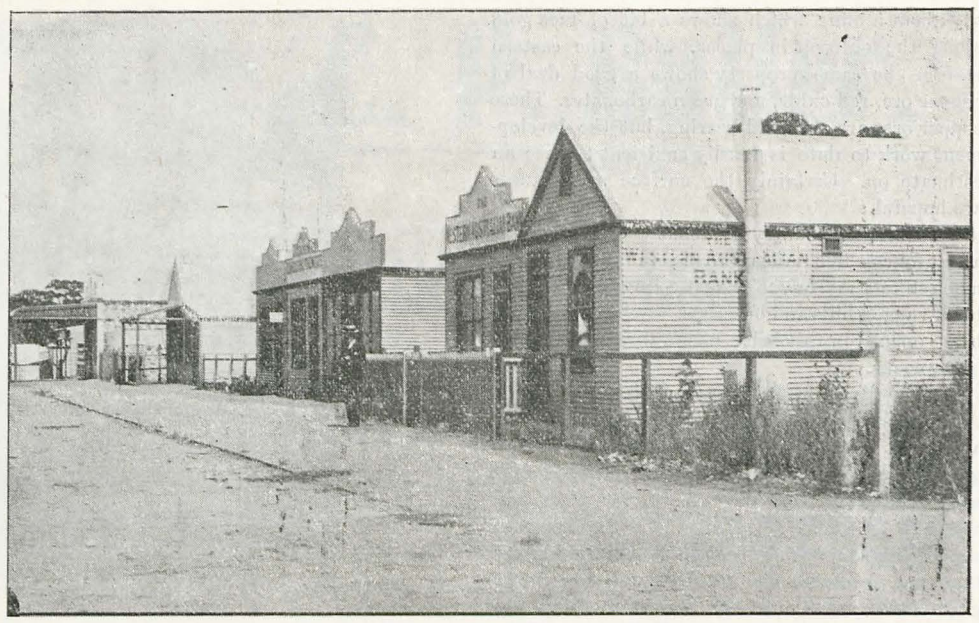
It is remarkable to contemplate how subsequent prospecting has been in a great measure restricted to the country within a few miles either side of these early tracks.

Thus, if we take one of them, marked D. W. Carnegie, 1896-7, starting from Doyle's Well, we will find that coming to Erlistoun Creek he passed over the latest find, the Hoot Nui; also the Mulga Queen, with £30,000 worth gold close to his feet, and onward within sight of Gregory Hills, the present outpost of settlement.

* * *

Both north and east from here for 500 miles is practically unexplored country. Some adventurous





WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BANK, RAVENSTHORPE, PHILLIPS RIVER.

parties of prospectors have at times traversed it eastward to the S.A. border. Apparently it is the same succession of belts of greenstone country, alternating with granites; these latter being at times covered with rolling sandhills, having the appearance of great sea waves.

There can be no question that in years to come new fields will be opened at intervals throughout the whole breadth of the land. Railways and roads will take the place of the solitary tracks now followed by the more adventurous prospector.

Throughout this country there are occasional great creek beds, and after rain for some months will be large water holes, which in some cases have given rise to the opinion of permanent water existing in places. It is very doubtful, however, if there is any permanent water throughout all seasons.

Yet it must be remembered that the earliest prospectors found wild cattle in the neighborhood and north of Earlistoun creek, doubtless strayed originally from the Murchison country.

* * *

Undoubtedly the two most flourishing towns out back are Leonora and Laverton. Both are at the terminus of important railway lines, and both have a fair number of steady-producing mines in their district.

The Gwalia is still a great factor in the distribution of that part of the wealth which comes back in the shape of wages, and though the life of any individual mine may be limited, recent developments would point to a long lease of it for the Gwalia.

The Tower Hill has entered the list of producers in real earnest, and the enormous gold-bearing formation in this property is now being handled at a profit.

To the north of the town the State battery is kept going from a number of smaller mines working in its vicinity, and still further north towards Diorite Hills a revival has taken place. Several old mines are being re-opened, and a few new ones developed.

* * *

Further north at Mt. Clifford, and also at Wilson's patch a few mines are being worked, but there is not much else doing until Lawler's is reached, where the E.M.U. is still the main source of employment.

This concern draws a good deal of its supplies from the mines acquired in the district from which the quartz is brought to the central mill on the old E.M.U. The ore is conveyed by locomotives along light railways from in some cases nine miles out, but though the working costs are remarkably low the ore is also mostly low grade. The gold output from this centre is still a large one, due in a measure to the production of the smaller mines working in the district.

The Leinster is apparently worked out, but the Vivien has to be regarded as a steady producer.

* * *

Thirty miles north brings us to Mount Sir Samuel mine, which has always given its metallurgist food for reflection. The development work during this year has been satisfactory, and the old mine is still producing a fair tonnage. Unfortunately a good deal of the values continues to be locked up in the ever-increasing tailings dump. The coppery nature of the ore precludes the use of cyanide for further extraction.

The sands are concentrated on leaving the tables, and the concentrates are roasted and amalgamated in pans, which process shows a good extraction of the value of the concentrates, but unfortunately only a part of the value of the sands is retained in the form of concentrates.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BANK.

THE YEAR'S OPERATIONS.

If there is one financial institution in the State that has to be credited with rendering great service in the development of the country's principal industries that institution is undoubtedly the Western Australian Bank.

Founded as early as 1841 the management and those interested may certainly feel a measure of satisfaction at the great and successful results attendant upon its operations from that early period in the States history to the present day.

The last half-yearly meeting of shareholders in this institution was held on the 7th ult., when the directors report indicated a sustained record of satisfactory trading, and a dividend at the rate of £1 per share was declared. The principal items will admit of mention. The net profit after providing for bad and doubtful debts, for rebate on discounted bills current, for interest on deposits, and for all expenses of management was £24,058 18s 3d; the balance from previous half-year £29,507 18s. 2d.; total, £53,566 17s. 5d. From this the directors resolved to pay a dividend of £1 per share (being at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum) free of dividend tax, £15,000; to transfer to reserve fund, £25,000; to carry forward, £13,566 17s. 5d.; total, £53,566 17s. 5d.

The reserve fund is now £350,000; transfer from profit and loss, £25,000; total, £375,000; reserved profits, £13,566 17s. 5d. Grand total, £388,566 17s. 5d.

The bank of which Sir George Shenton is chairman has in all 49 branches—many of them on the very remote goldfields—photos. of several of these will be found scattered throughout these pages. Owing to the increasing staff it has been found necessary to provide more room; to this end considerable additions are to be made to the Perth premises at an early date. The head office is presided over by Mr. H. D. Holmes, general manager, with Mr. R. L. Herbert as manager, and Mr. F. A. Kendall, accountant. The bank does its London business through the Bank of Adelaide, Leadenhall-street, where special facilities are available for the transaction of business by customers from Western Australia.

AGRICULTURE.

Introductory—Western Australia as a Field for Settlement—Liberal Laws—For the Farm Lands of the Territory—The Soil and its Products.

It is difficult to imagine a "settled country"—for ours is settled, in as far as being opened up by railways and dotted with townships entitles a country to be regarded as entirely re-claimed from the wild—so sparsely peopled. Particularly a country such as this, in which the Government does so much in the direction of rooting the settler to the soil. We give homestead farms of 160 acres, absolutely give them, to the immigrant. As soon as he provides proof of his *bona fides* by erecting a fence, and a cabin in which to live, he may apply to the State Agricultural Bank for a loan, to enable him to buy first season's stocks for profit, such as sheep and pigs, for whose increase there is a ready-money market at his door. With these advantages to the settler and these special inducements to settle, our agricultural advance should have been more rapid and considerably more pronounced. True, in the quinquennium (1902-6) the total area, cropped, cleared, &c., increased from 1,417,000 acres to 2,470,000 acres, but in the same period our imports of products of the soil, and by-products of the dairy, showed nothing like a corresponding decrease, while the total volume of trade (imports and exports) increased by the comparatively small sum of £83,000 in the five years.

The great want of the State is population—*per capita*—to divide up, very much more minutely than at present, the indebtness and revenue contributions with the object of making the former a less amazing burden, and the latter considerably less of a crushing exaction. The total population —at the time of writing—of the enormous area, one-third of all Australia within our coastal and boundary lines, is very little over a quarter of million souls. These, distributed about our 970,000 square miles of territory, would certainly not be within coo-ee of one another.

We are large importers of everything. In 1905 we consumed foreign products to the value of nearly £26 per capita, in which calculation is included over £1,000,000 worth of farm and garden and cattle country produce which might and, in view of many things, should have been grown. Our chief exports are gold (of which in 1905 we sent away, in sovereigns and bars, £7,545,000 worth), timber, wool, hides, pearls and shell, copper, tin and sandalwood. The high water mark of export was reached in 1903 when, with a gold output of £8,617,000, we shipped to the value of £10,324,732. Last year we were half a million short on these figures though every line except gold showed an increase.

It is remarkable that the chief items of import, after wearing apparel, &c., machinery and manufactured ironware, are the necessaries of life, which the farmer of the Eastern States produces and sends by thousands of miles of ocean way to us. And more remarkable, perhaps, is the shortage of local production when it is borne in mind that the consuming population is, at present, and will for many years remain far and away beyond the possibility of being locally over-supplied. Government is liberal to the farmer as far as it is permitted to be, under the Federal Constitution, but it is evident a greater measure of liberality and encouragement will have to be extended to induce the man on the soil to employ his holding to the limit of its possibility. Victoria built up a great farm produce trade by bonusing the farmer when, collectively, he had glutted the home market. But the Constitution of the Commonwealth forbids any such encouragement of the producer, and the consequence is a local wheat grower on the land who raises nothing else to any considerable extent. How long this variety of farming will continue it is difficult to predict. In view of the value of areas in specially selected country it cannot continue far past the imposition of the Land Tax on unimproved



MAKING A START ON VIRGIN COUNTRY.

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The RAILWAY has become deservedly popular with the Travelling Public.

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ALL LIQUOR SOLD IN THE HOUSE IS OF THE VERY BEST QUALITY.

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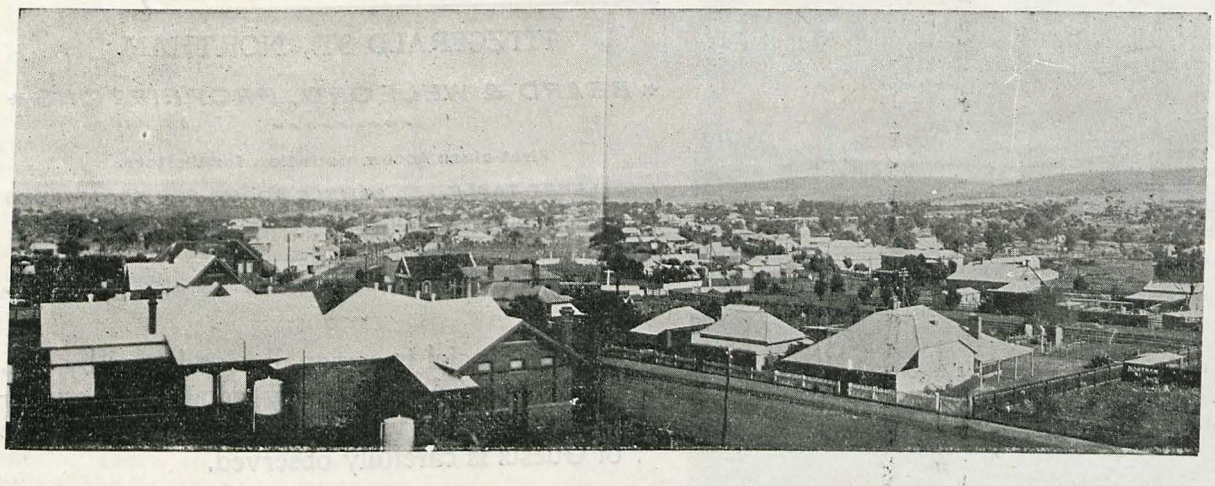
THE CULINARY ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN THE HANDS OF AN EXPERIENCED CHEF.

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THE EASTERN DISTRICTS MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

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NORTHAM and WAGIN.



NORTHAM.

values. Some of the rich Northam country is now worth and could be sold for £10 per acre.

It will not pay to devote this class of soil to wheat production, with wheat at 2s. 6d. per bushel. Intelligently farmed and intensely cultivated, this magnificient country would carry a tenant farmer to every hundred acres, and he would work to substantial profits, for there is not a possible product or by-product, of the land for which there is not a continuous demand in a high-priced local cash market. A bonus on butter production and bacon growing would no doubt encourage the farmer to produce these articles of every day consumption. At present we import, from the other States, bacon and hams and butter to the value of nearly £40,000 per month, while our imports of grain and pulse are valued at £30,000. Fruits and jams to the value of £7,000 a month reach us from eastern orchards and factories, and eggs to nearly the same value are imported. The wonder is, not that farmers are being attracted to the State, but that an acre of its available lands is unoccupied.

That the State can produce everything which is a necessity of every day life, in a white man's country, proof has been over and over again furnished. Cotton, for instance, is being grown, in the vicinity of Geraldton, with eminently satisfactory results, and the experts of the Agricultural Department, and practical cotton men, have pronounced the samples equal to anything grown in the United States. Tobacco growing, for profit, is being proceeded with in the Nor'-West by men who have approached the culture with complete confidence and with little anxiety as to the success of the venture. Coffee is being experimented with, and the results of the last couple of years have been, to say the least of them, encouraging.

In one part or another of the State anything which Australia can produce will grow and may be profitably grown. And for everything which can be produced there is, and will be for very many years, a local demand far in excess of possible local supply.

It is the practice of our eastern friends to decry the Western State. Which may be excepted as evidence that Federation effectually destroyed every germ of jealously, and that Australia, formerly worn, if not torn, by internal strivings, is now a People one and undivided, in sentiment and in fact. Or it may be accepted as proof that the Western State has been, as the Americans say, "buncoed" into a confidence game in which it has staked heavily, but out of which it can only come a loser. The Eastern press, almost without exception, refers to the State of W.A. as a land of "Sin, sand, and sorrow." Of sin we have our share—the unavoidable portion. Of sinful people we have our full percentage—mostly immigrants from the East, and elsewhere, there being no act upon our Statute Book enabling us to deport the immigrant convicted criminally of our neighbors.

* * *

The cities of the State are the hunting grounds of the Eastern and the alien undesirable, and the scattered and far apart mining camps probably shelter many a man who, had Justice not been defrauded of her due, would have been wearing the arrow-decorated soogee in an Eastern gaol, instead of running a gold-stealing plant on the fields of his maligned and not too-inquisitive Alsatia, which has given sanctuary to, and rehabilitated, more than one moral lapser and shocking example of Eastern manufacture.

* *

To deny that this is a land of sand would be to deny a great truth. There are patches of country in the State of Western Australia which would not grow a thistle to the acre. But there are also thousands of square *miles* of virgin soil only occupied by the giants of the forest, which, when subdued and cropped, will yield to the average of 1904 as under:—Wheat, 13·60 bushels per acre; maize, 15·26; oats, 17·74; barley, 14·75; rye, 8·92; peas and beans, 12·38; hay, 1·12 tons; potatoes, 2·49; onions, 3·68; other roots, 5·16. In that year also we produced locally 138,000 gallons of wine, and doubled the figures in 1906. In this latter season there were 195,000 acres under wheat, the yield from which was 2,300,000 bushels. 125,000 acres in hay cut 139,000 tons. The total area under crop in 1906 was 364,000 acres. In grass were 5,000 acres; cleared for next year's crop, 86,000 acres; in fallow 103,000 acres; previously cropped and now idle or being grazed, 220,000 acres; and ring-barked or partially cleared, 1,700,000 acres. This gives us 2,500,000 acres of what our Eastern friends call "sand," but which have been locally pronounced cultivable. Victoria in 1903 had 2,000,000 acres under wheat, from which were yielded 2,570,000 bushels. Western Australia in 1906 nearly reached this wheat yield with 2,308,000 bushels from 195,000 acres. Our "sand" grows wheat to a favorable comparison with the product of the soil of our "nastiest" critic. Averages may be interesting to wheat growers:—West Australia,



CLEARING THE LAND.



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BEARD & WELFORD, PROPRIETORS

First-class Accommodation for Visitors.

EXCELLENT TABLE, SAMPLE ROOMS FOR TRAVELLERS

Only the Finest Quality of Liquors Stocked. . . .

Three Well-appointed Bars and Billiard Room.

Association House of the Commercial Travellers' Association of Australasia

The Commercial is personally conducted by Mr. Fred Welford, and every detail in management conducive to the comfort and convenience of Guests is carefully observed.

Letters and Telegrams promptly attended to.

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All Classes of Stud Stock imported to the order of Clients, on Extended Terms of Payment.

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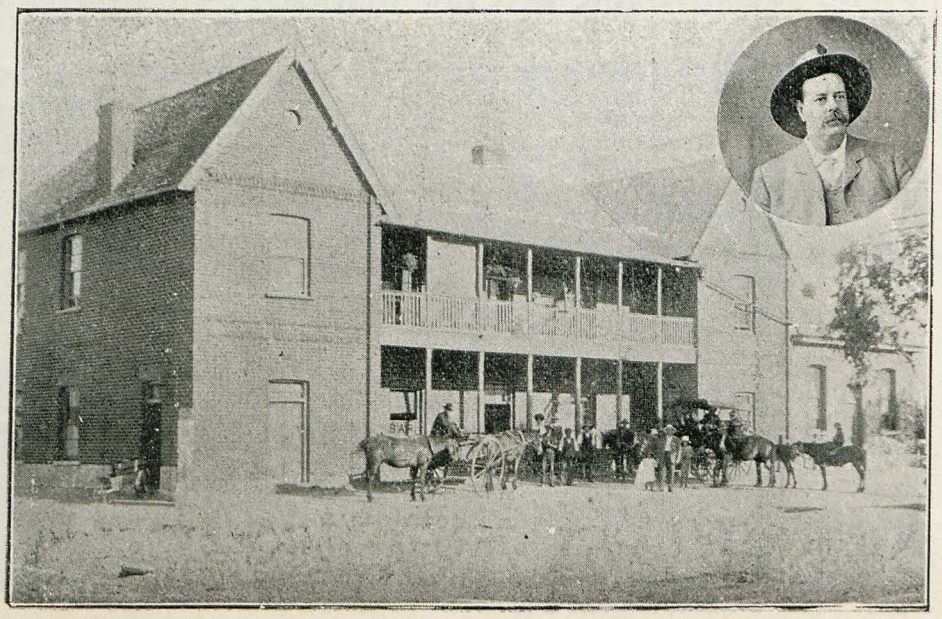
AUCTION SALES CONDUCTED WHEN REQUIRED.

York Hotel

YORK,

S. SWEENY, Proprietor.

Situate at the western end of Avon Terrace. York's principal thoroughfare, is another of this district's quaint and picturesque brick structures. This is the York Hotel, presided over by Mr. SAMUEL SWEENY, who came hither some 14 years since from N.S.W., and has since occupied many promintnt positions in York, and is a well-known and popular sportsman and cricketer. The York is an excellently conducted hostelry, and affords comfortable accommodation for visitors. Its situation is perfect—the views obtainable from various portions of the house being unsurpassed—the River Avon flowing, it might be said, past the back door, while the park, tennis courts, and golf links are similarly easy of access. The personal attention paid visitors in this house must also be mentioned.



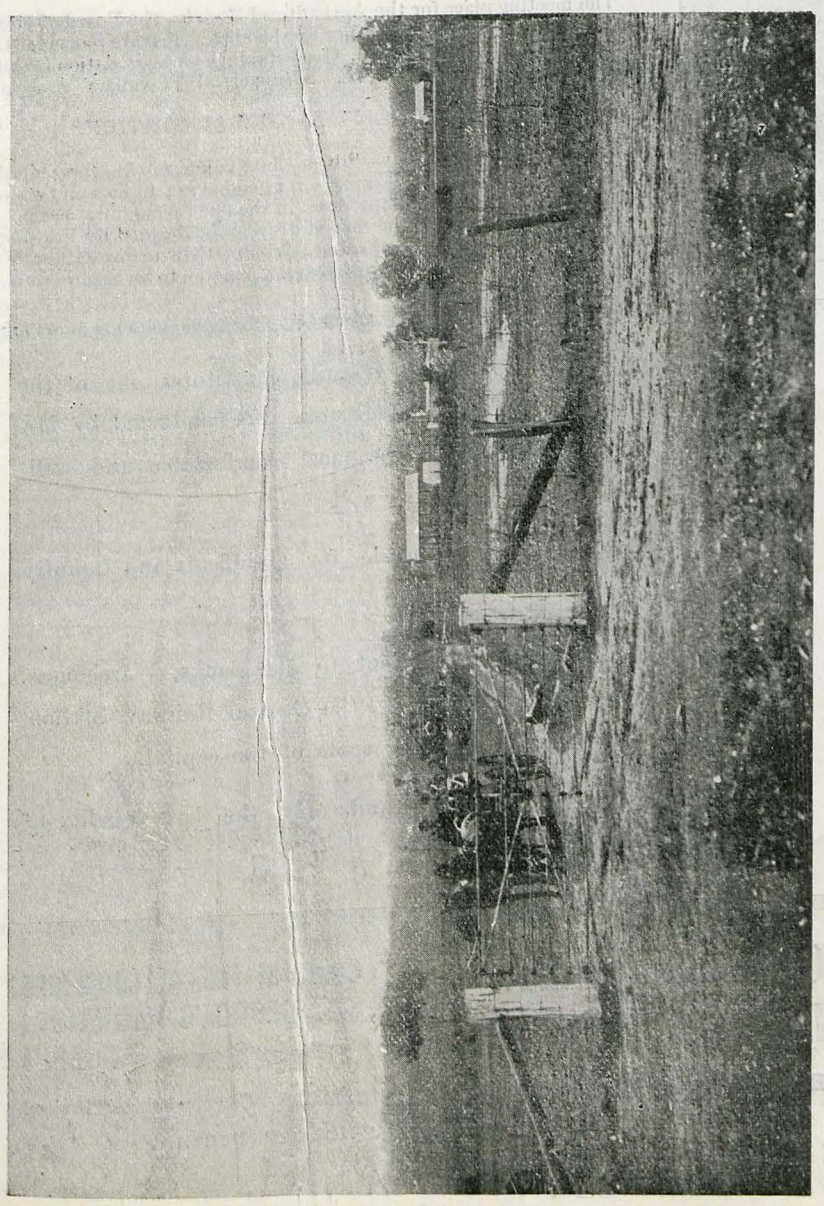
11·83 ; South Australia, 3·64 ; Queensland, 3·28 ; Victoria, 1·29 ; New South Wales, 1·24,

And out of our real sandy country, the wastes and desert where nothing grows but the grey mulga, and saddening spinifex, came in 1905 £8,305;000 worth of gold, won at a profit of £2,167,639 as shown by dividends amongst shareholders in the mines. This gold came from a total area, held under mining and mineral leases, of 60,000 acres ! From a total area of 420,000 acres being actually worked by the farmer and miner in a territory of 644,000,000 acres we are enabled to stand well forward in comparison with the Eastern States. It will be said that the comparisons above are unfair, as the 1903 crops of the Eastern States were the failures of a drought. We selected that year deliberately. In this "sand" land of ours *there is never a drought.* The word conveys nothing to the farmer in Sandgroper land. He does not know what it means. Fire, unless it burns his stack, has no terrors for the W.A. farmer. The bush fires in the East cannot happen in the West, because there is no "bush"—worth speaking of, and the forest timber will not burn in the standing tree. We have no floods, just as we have no droughts. For thirty years, 1876-1905, the rainfall has averaged 33in. in 111 wet days. The rains begin in April with 7 wet days, and continue through May (13), June (16), July (16), August (17), September (14), and October (11). These figures are averaged, out of thirty years meteorological statistics, and are dependable.

To the intending settler who has made up his mind as to what he wants, whether he desires to enter upon sheep or cattle breeding, mixed farming, broad-acre cereal and hay growing, dairying, fruit or vegetable culture, the selection of land suitable for his purpose is an easy task, and advice is easily given.



AT WEST NARROGIN.



AT WEST NARROGIN.

But to the man who has not made up his mind as to what branch of agriculture he intends to follow, the only advice we would give is to make up his mind, and then read carefully the following remarks on the various phases of farming, when suggestions as to the locality in which he should settle will present themselves, and he will thus be enabled to lay the foundation of a prosperous career on the land.

THE PROFITABLE WHEAT BELT.

To the west of the 15-in. rainfall line, extending from Mt. Curious on the Murchison River, south-easterly approximately parallel to the Midland and Great Southern Railways, thence easterly skirting the southern coast line, the whole of this country may be described as the profitable wheat and cereal belt of West Australia. But a small proportion of it is more than 20 miles from railway communication, or from some coastal harbor where the produce may be shipped. The great bulk of settlement during the past ten years has been confined to this area, and as a rule the settlers have all done well—some of them have made phenomenal progress.

Mr. Archibald McCall, in Sept., 1902, selected just inside the 15-in. line, and after paying the deposit on his land, had a capital of only £3 to begin his work on. He says:—"I had £10, two horses and a cart, and a wife and six children—four girls, whose ages were 16, 14, 11, and a baby, and two boys, the eldest of whom was eight. After paying the deposit on my land, I had £2 15s. left, with which I bought rations and brought my family to the selection. We all worked and got 40 acres in that season, and then I took a contract for clearing a road and 140 acres for some neighbors. This brought me in some ready money ; in the meantime my family went on clearing our own land, and the second season we had 100 acres under crop. I had earned enough to get wire for my fencing, and after that my time has been taken up on my own land.

Fruit Trees of All Kinds. Clean, Healthy and Well-grown.

GRAPE VINES—A specialty with us; strong well rooted; unexcelled. ORANGES, LEMONS, &c. All good healthy stuff Write us before ordering elsewhere. SHELTER TREES, HEDGE PLANTS, ROSES, CLIMBERS, POT PLANTS, SHRUBS. &c., &c.

SEEDS for the VEGETABLE GARDEN from 6d. per pkt. SEEDS for FLOWER GARDEN from 3d. per pkt. FARM SEEDS of all kinds, GRASSES, CLOVERS, LUCERNE (finest re-machined Hunter River Seed), MANGOLD, SWEDE, RAPE, RHODES GRASS (seed and roots), PASPALUM, DILATATUM (roots and best hand-shaken seed). AFRICAN WONDER GRASS, the wonderful grass for dry country. FORAGE PLANTS, all kinds.

Write for our new Catalogue and Amateur's Guide (Post Free) the best and most comprehensive published in this State. Monthly Calendar for Vegetable and Flower Gardens and Farm. Mention this paper when writing. **Floral Work of all kinds.**

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441 Hay Street, Perth, W.A.

EXCELSIOR BEER

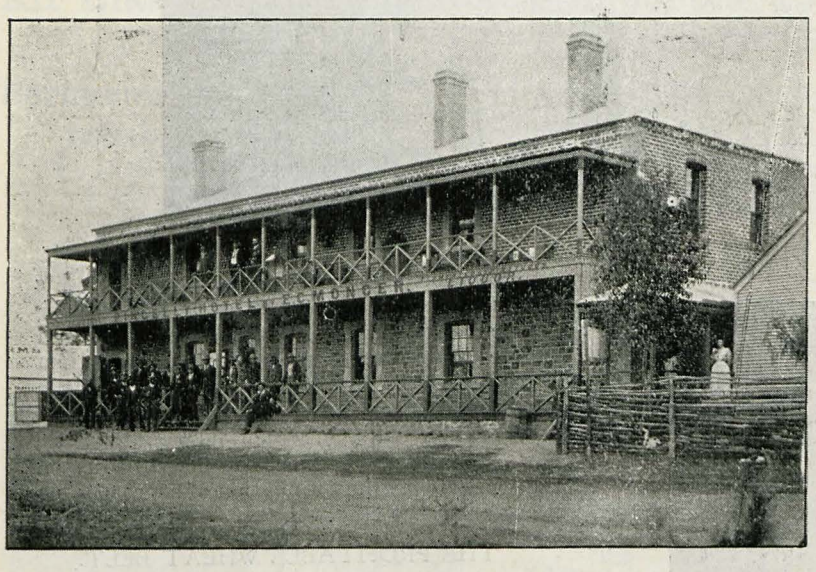
Brewed only from the Best Malt and Hops at the Famous Excelsior Brewery, Cue.

Ask for EXCELSIOR ALE—Note the WHITE HOOP on the Barrel—Bright and Sparkling.

HOP ALE A Refreshing Summer Drink. HOP ALE

Try our Aerated Waters and Cordials—Pure and Wholesome.

The Excelsior Brewery, Cue. T. H. MARSHALL, Proprietor.



COMMODIOUS. COMFORTABLE. CONVENIENT

ADJOINING THE RAILWAY STATION.

—THE—

PINGELLY HOTEL,

E. C. MONGER & CO., Proprietors.

Good Meals. Clean Beds. The Best of Drinks.

The meeting place for the Agricultural Society, the Board of Health, the Pingelly Race Club, and other local bodies. Private rooms for Commercial Travellers and Visitors. Good stabling accommodation for horses and a roomy yard for vehicles. Commercial Travellers' Association House.

ADDRESS—OPPOSITE RAILWAY STATION.

The Monger Trophy.—Silver Cup, value £5 5s. (presented by Mr. E. C. Monger) for the Champion Ploughman; to be won two years in succsssion. Open to competitors in the open ploughing match. To be judged on points. In the case of a tie, to be decided by the ploughmen tieing making one strike out, driving their teams without reins. Rules and conditions of the open ploughing match to be strictly observed and carried out.

ROYAL HOTEL,

Corner of

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PERTH.

W. H. JONES - Proprietor.

THE ROYAL HOTEL, as re-built, constitutes one of the finest of Perth's City structures. As conducted by Mr. W. H. JONES it is one of the most comfortable and well-appointed residential houses as well.

Every provision is made for Goldfields and Country Visitors.

The ROYAL is convenient to the Banks, Warehouses, and other centres of commerce, the Central Railway Station, Trams, Ferry-boats, and beauty spots of the capital.

An Excellent Cuisine, and only the best quality of Liquors stocked.

J. H. Noble,

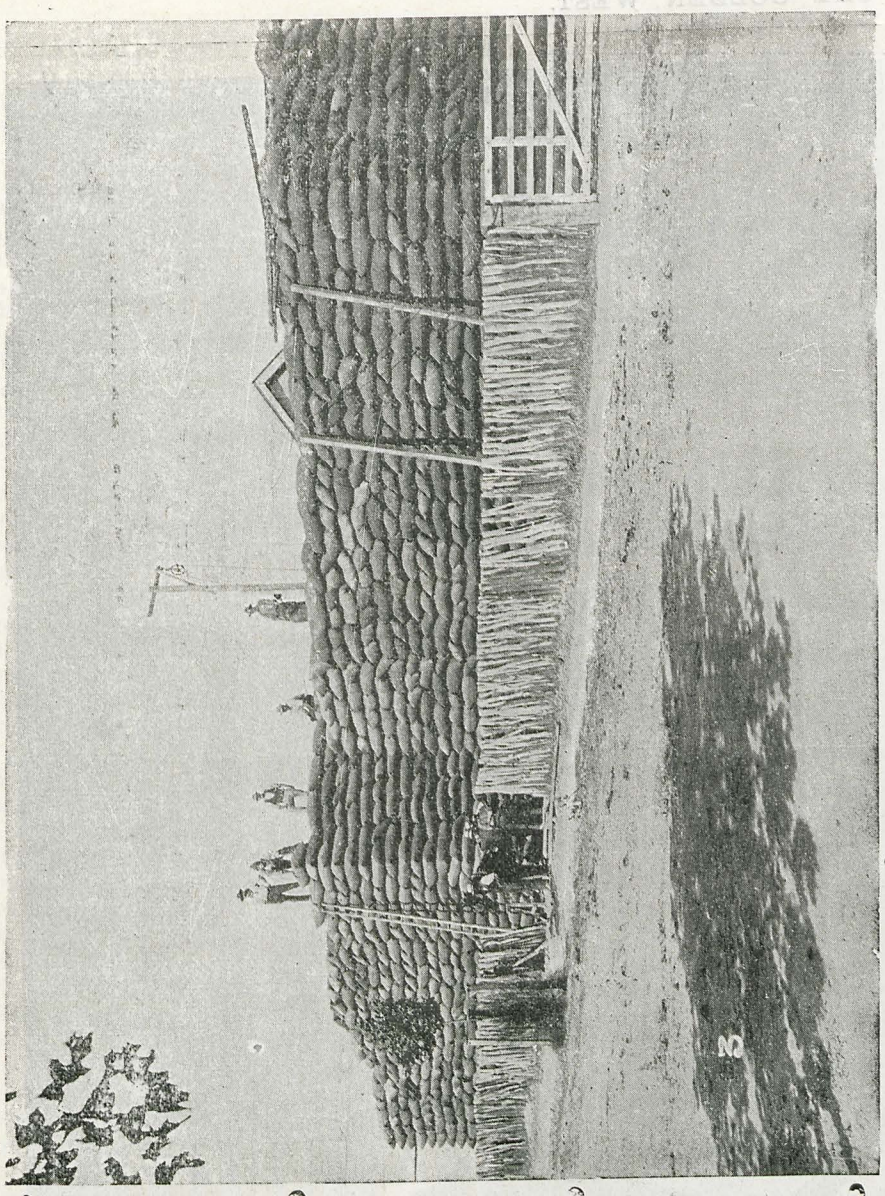
LEGAL MANAGER & ATTORNEY.
LAND and FINANCIAL AGENT.

Colonial Mutual Chambers,
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Mining Properties Bought, Floated, Financed, or Equipped with Machinery, on easy terms. Correspondence Invited.

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WHEAT AT KATANNING.

Kangaroo skins have been a good help to us in providing a little ready money, while their flesh was, and is yet, a common article of diet as fresh meat. The second year I got a loan of £75 from the Agricultural Bank, with which I bought an additional horse to enable me to put in the 100 acres. The third year we brought our cultivation up to 140 acres, and out of the previous year's crop I was enabled to buy a stripper and seed drill and cultivator, and made my team up to four horses. This season I have 200 acres under crop, 40 acres cleared and almost ready for the plough, 200 acres ringbarked, five miles of fencing erected, another three miles of posts up and waiting for the wire, besides which I have now five horses, five head of cattle, a large number of poultry, and have just completed a comfortable dwelling house of sun-dried bricks."

Mr. McCall is on his way to a comfortable competence within four years, just inside the 15-in. rainfall belt.

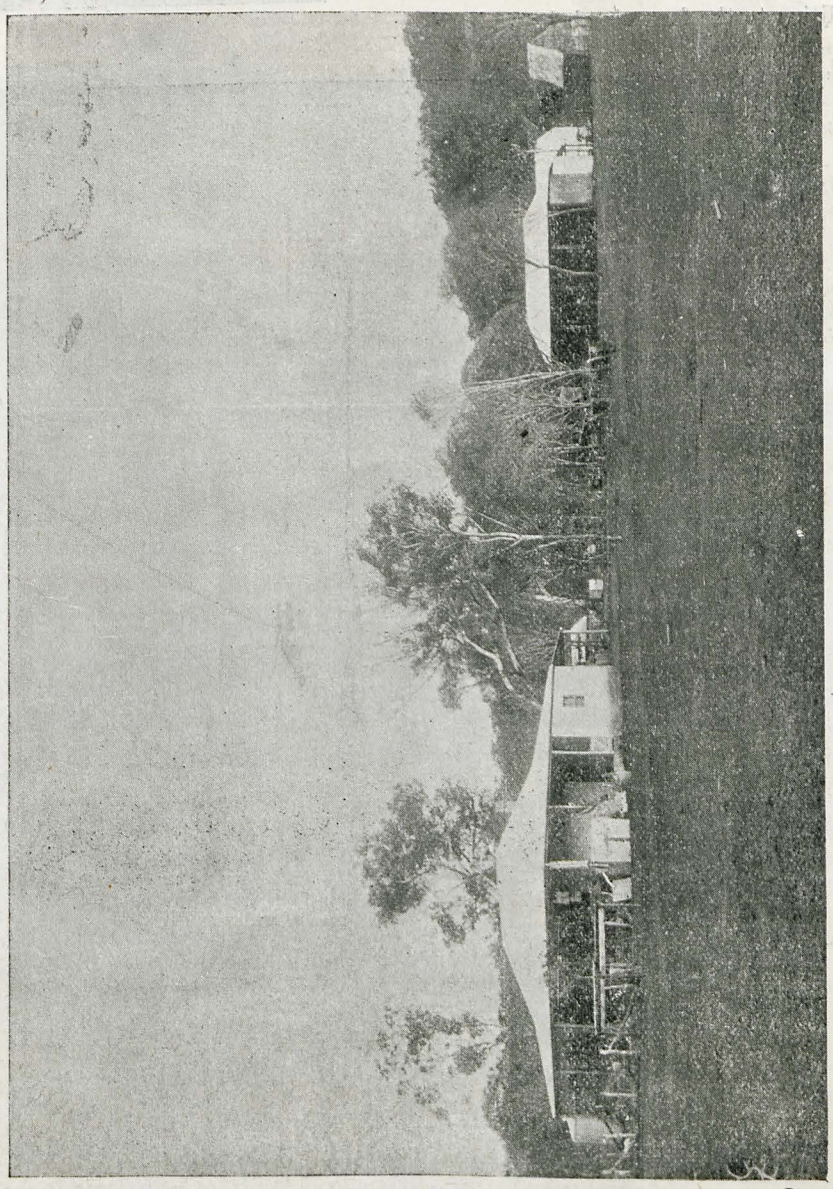
At New Jerusalem, in the same belt, Mr. J. C. M. Fisher and his followers, about 70 in all, have founded a settlement community on about 12,000 acres of which 1,200 are now under crop, and some 2,400 in course of clearing. These people are all of one religious belief—"Christian Israelites," and have their own Church, school, &c., and are a thoroughly contented and prosperous community.

All these people, however, have had many years of colonial life in either this or some of the Eastern States, and thus their pioneering difficulties have been minimised. At Boolkabin, which is an emigration reserve, about 20 miles east of Wagin, there are quite a number of new settlers recently arrived from England, without any colonial experience whatever. The writer recently visited these people, who arrived in the country only in June last, and all took up land near each other.

Mr. J. Cass is an engineer by trade, is married, but without family. He and his wife have worked with a will, and had (in November) 50 acres of timber burnt down ready for clearing off; also a small kitchen garden. Next season they expect to have about 70 acres under crop. "How do you like the country, and what do you think of your prospects here?" the writer asked. "Oh, I like the place very much," he replied, "and I am sure we are going to do well here." "Yes," Mrs. Cass joined in, "and we are happy, real happy here," and she looked it. Just the sort of bright, cheerful woman to lighten the most arduous labors of pioneer work, and convert the bush humpy of the early settler into a prosperous and happy home. Mr. Cass has constructed a small windmill of a bicycle wheel and geared it to a coffee mill, in which all the flour they consume is ground. It is probably the smallest flour-milling plant in Australia, but, as Mrs. Cass explains, it grinds all the flour they require, and would do more if they wanted it; it saves money, and provides them with a more wholesome bread than they would have by using the silk-dressed product of steam roller mills.

Mr. Kenward is another of the settlers who arrived from England in June last with three sons of 14, 17, and 20 respectively. They have 160 acres which will be under crop this coming season, and another 200 acres partly ready for the following season. A good vegetable garden is already looking well, and a patch of greenstuff for the horse. Mr. Kenward likes the country, and is well satisfied with his prospects in it.

Messrs. Fewson Brothers have done remarkably well also, when it is considered that they are new arrivals in the country, and have had no previous colonial or farming experience. Their country, like that of the two previously referred to, is salmon gum, Morrell and jam, with good red sandy loam. Since their arrival in June they have erected a lean-to house, planted and securely



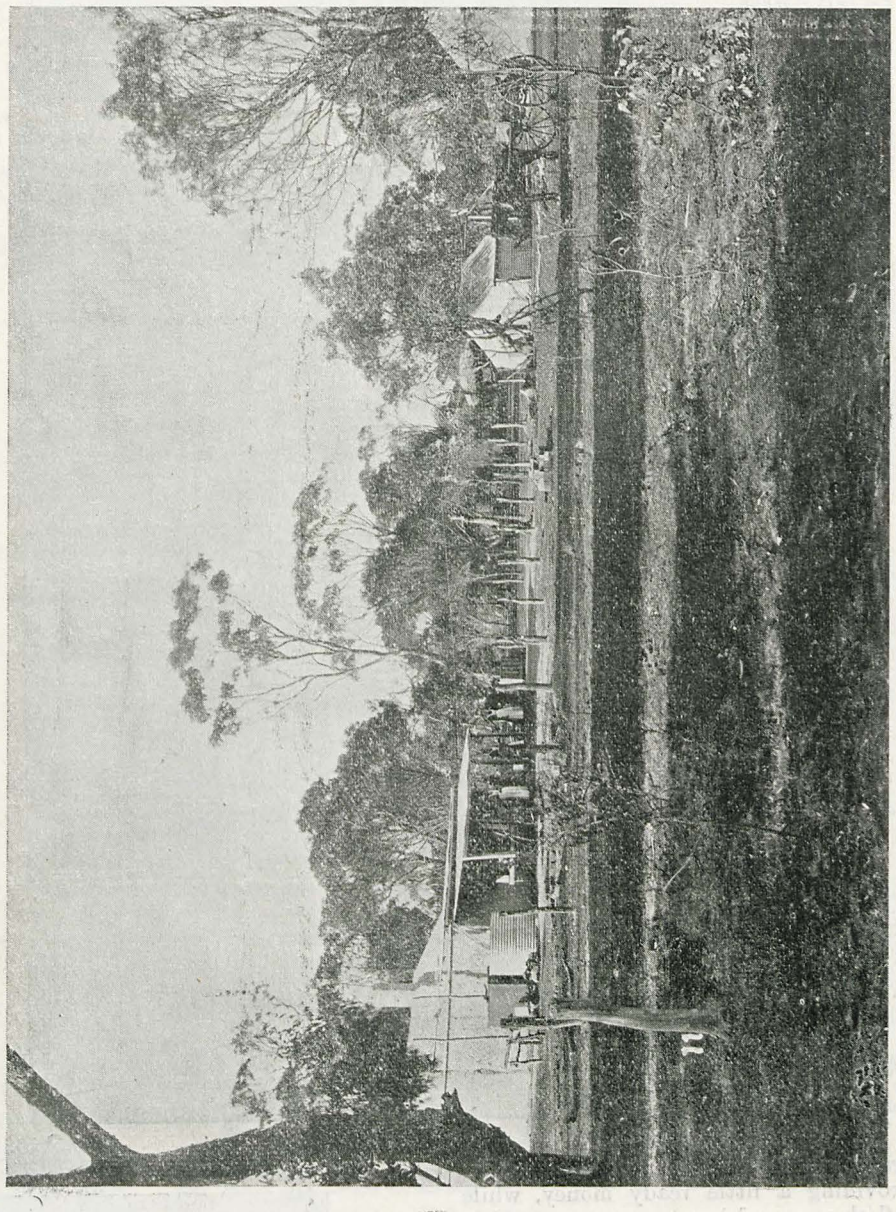
A HOMESTEAD AT COONDLE.

fenced with barbed wire and netting 2½ acres of apple orchard, in which the trees are looking excellent, and already have 120 acres of timber down ready for the firing season. They will have 150 acres under crop for the 1907 season. They have begun to accumulate stock on their farm, and have six horses, goats and fowls, which afford a plentiful supply of milk and eggs, and look with every confidence to a bright and prosperous future in their new home. Mrs. Fewson says—"You know it's so different to what we have been accustomed to in Yorkshire, but we feel so sure that we are going to do well here that we have sent for our parents, three sisters, a brother, and a brother-in-law to come out at once and take up land near us so that we may be all together again."

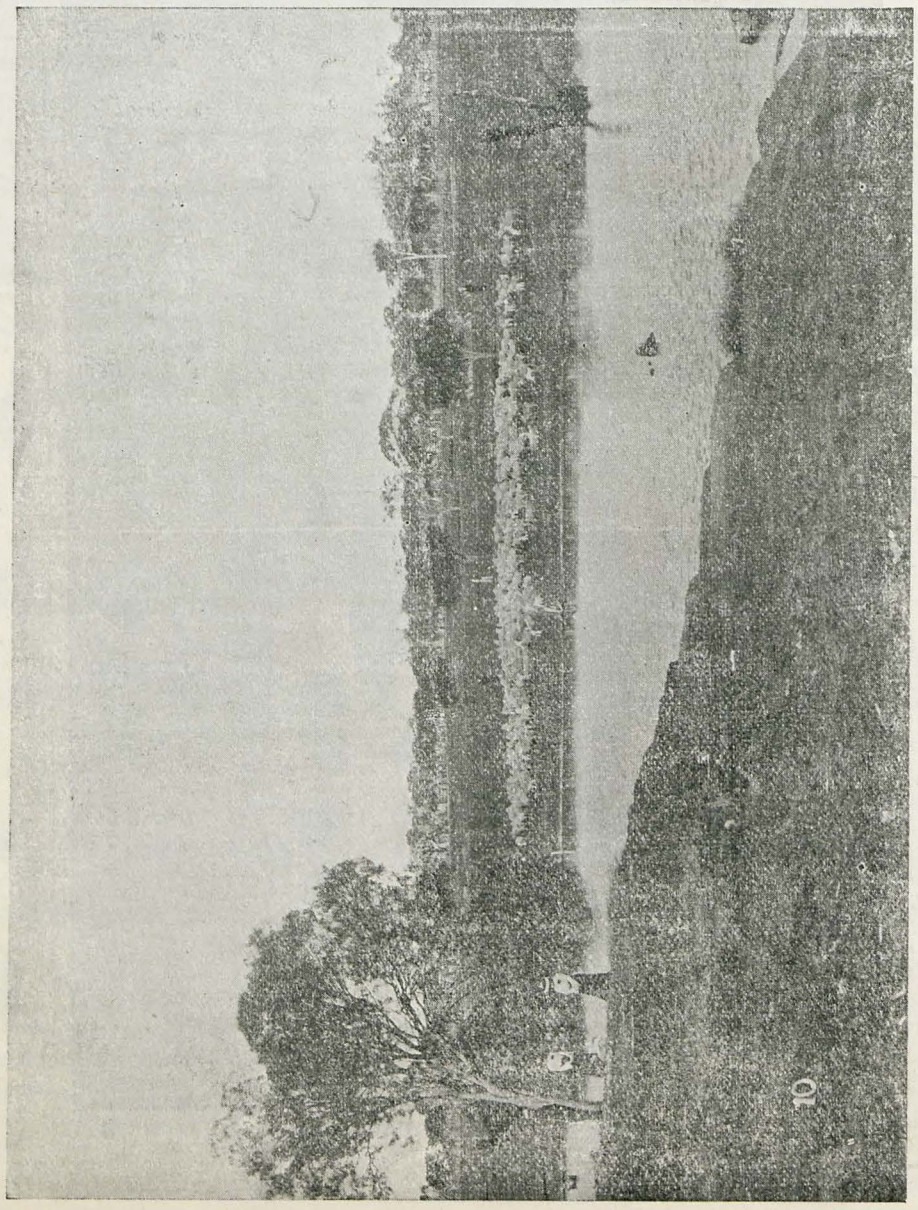
The growth of settlement in this belt of country, between the 15 and 30 inch rainfall lines, has been phenomenal during the past few years, and the interminable forest of white salmon and York gums and jam, penetrated only by the bush tracks of the sandalwood getters of a few decades ago, has given place to miles of smiling homesteads and fields of plethoric grain waving the harvesters to come on and reap their golden yield.

The bush tracks have given place to hundreds, nay thousands of miles of well-formed macadamised roads, feeders to the great railway system by which this wheat belt of country is already traversed, and to the agricultural spur lines which are already being thrown out to intercept the traffic and cheapen the cost of transit of the produce to a profitable market. Yet there is a large area of this land still available for settlement, and the Lands Department offers every facility and encouragement to those desiring to settle on the soil to inspect it and to secure homes for themselves in one of the most favored climatic belts in Australia.

In addition to the foregoing belts we have



A SETTLER'S HOME.



SHEEP ON THE O.S.R.

an extensive tract of country with rainfall of from 30 to 50 inches annually. This may be fittingly described as the Darling Range belt, and embraces all the country lying between the south-west coast-line and a line from about Cullalla on the Midland Railway south-easterly, passing through Chidlow's Wells on the Eastern ralway, the Collie Coalfields, the Tweed agricultural area, Perrup, Mount Barker (on the Great Southern railway), and thence to King George's Sound near Albany.

This embraces a vast area, and contains all the great timber lands of the State. Jarrah, karri, tuart, wandoo, blackbutt, and red gum here attain their fullest proportions, and afford employment to thousands of men at the mills which have been erected to convert the timber into a marketable commodity. In the 10 to 15 inch rainfall belt clearing can be done at a cost of from 15s. to 22s. 6d. per acre. In the 15 to 30 inch belt the cost is from 22s. 6d. to £3 or £5 per acre, but in the Darling Range belt, owing to the heavy nature of the forest growth, from £10 up to as high as even £40 or £50 per acre will be expended in clearing. This high cost of clearing is an effectual check upon the broad-acre farming which obtains in the lighter rainfall belts to which we have referred, but the rich soil which obtains in many parts lends itself admirably to intense culture.

Root crops and fruits, particularly the apple, here find a congenial home. The strawberry, raspberry, cherry, and all English fruits attain a high state of perfection in this belt, but owing to its geographical position, apple culture is destined to become here a staple industry for the supply of the European markets during the "off" season of Europe, when the northern hemisphere cannot provide fruit for itself.

This belt probably contains some of the finest apple-growing land in the southern hemisphere, while its geographical position is unsurpassed. Close to the coast-line, traversed by railways connecting it with Fre-

mantle, the nearest port on the great maritime highway to Europe; it possesses advantages for an export trade which cannot be approached by any other portion of Australia.

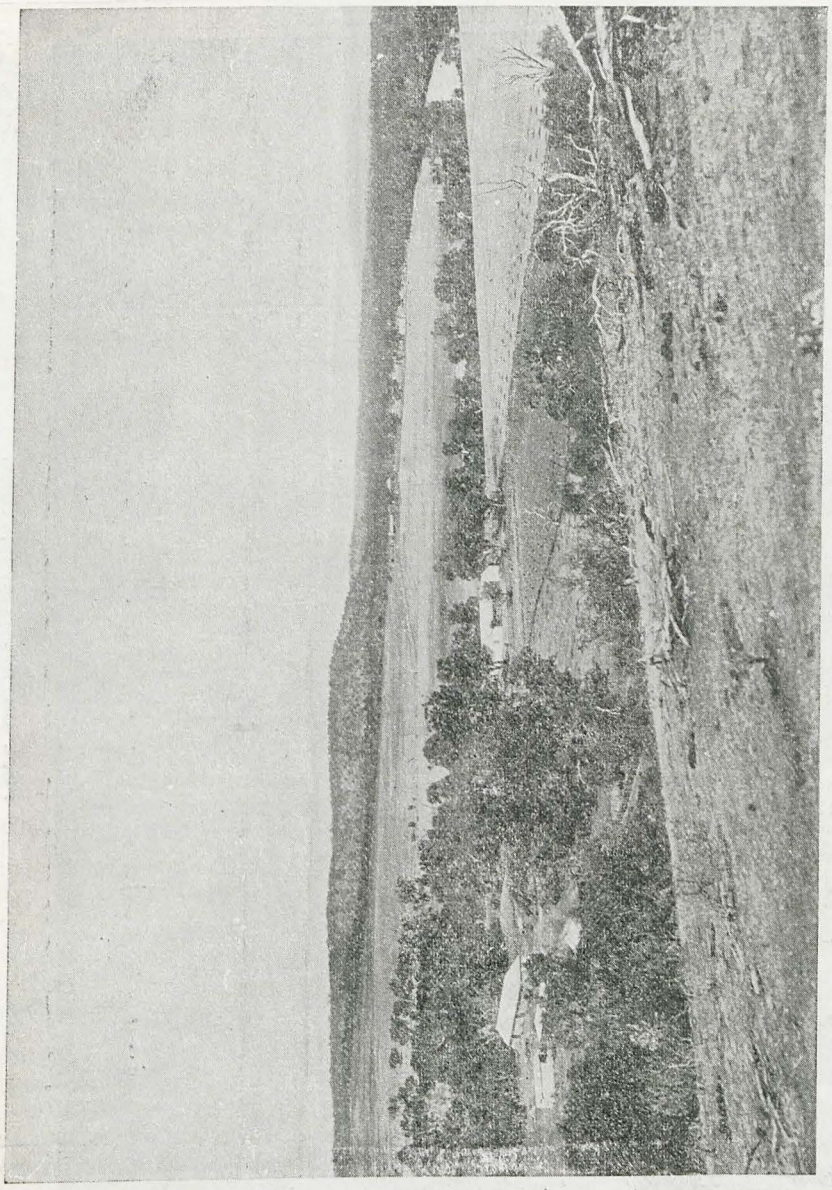
At Mount Barker, in the southern extremity of this great belt, Mr. Sounnes has an orchard of 100 acres of apples, from which he is already exporting 12,000 cases annually. Near it, Mr. Teesdale Smith will this season be sending away about 7,000 cases of this fruit, while dozens of others already have orchards just arriving at the profitable stage for export.

At Bridgetown, apple growing is already one of the staple industries of its people, while at Canning mills and Guildford the Illawarra orchard and that of Mr. Charles Harper, amply demonstrate the suitability of the northern portion of this belt of country for the growth of this fruit, which throughout is yielding large and profitable returns.

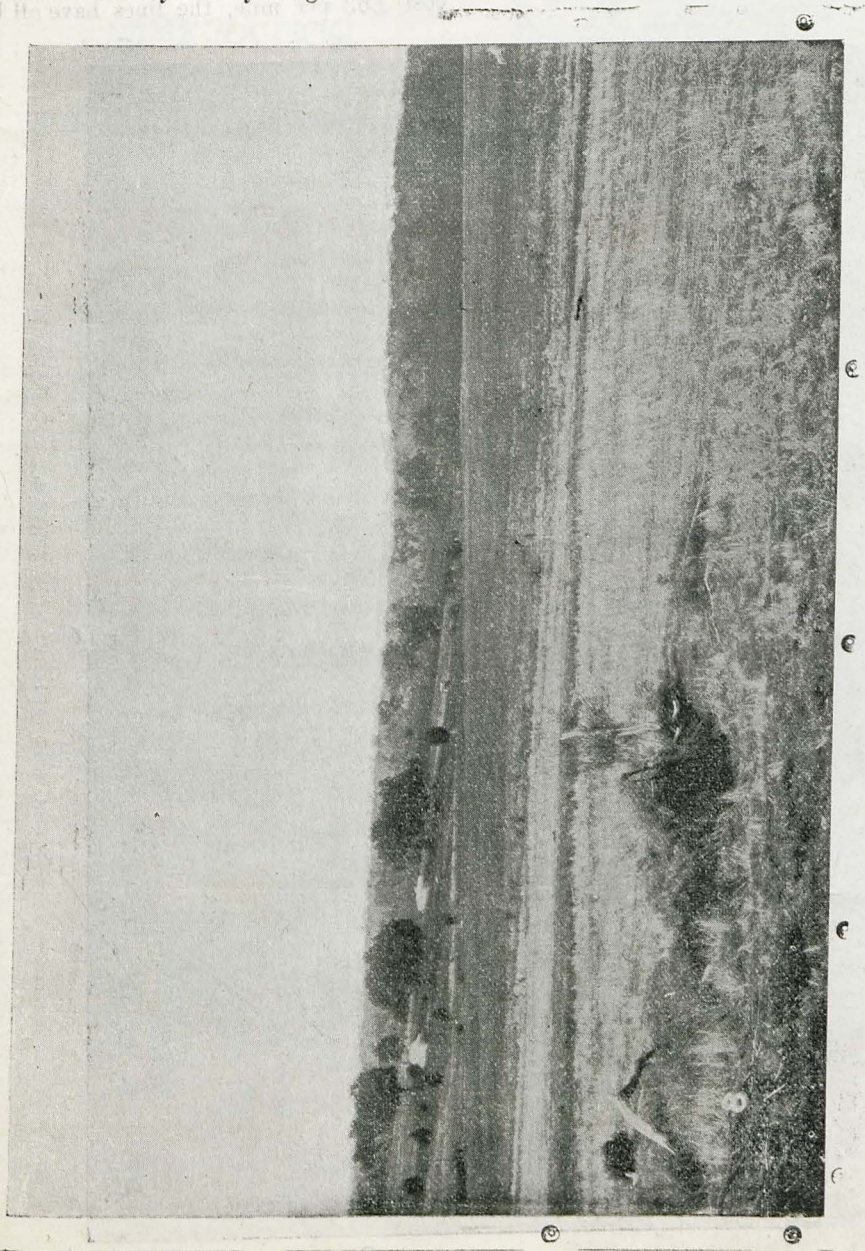
For stock raising too, this country becomes well suited when the timber is ring-barked, and the indigenous undergrowth got rid of. Natural grasses of good fattening quality then grow luxuriantly, and the time is not far distant when dairy farming will become an important feature in the extreme South-West.

Notwithstanding the great rapidity of settlement during the past few years, West Australia has not nearly overtaken her requirements in farm and dairy produce. During the season 1904-5 we imported 20,000 tons of wheat and mill products, 745,000 bushels of oats, 50,000 bushels of barley, 14,000 tons of potatoes, $3\frac{3}{4}$ million lbs. ham and bacon, $6\frac{3}{4}$ million lbs. of butter, $1\frac{1}{4}$ millions lbs. cheese, $5\frac{1}{2}$ millions lbs. preserved milk and cream, $1\frac{3}{4}$ million dozen of eggs, $4\frac{1}{2}$ million lbs. of frozen meat, 3,500 head of cattle and 38,000 sheep of a total of over £1,000,000.

This large shortage guarantees a ready local market for every variety of agricultural



A HOLDING AT GWAMBYGINE.



A FARM NEAR WAGIN.

produce, which commands a higher price than is obtained in the Eastern States, higher by the amount of freight, insurance, and commission which are charged on the imported produce.

With the foregoing brief description of the rainfall belts of the South-West Division of the State, intending settlers having made up their minds as to the nature of the industry they intend to follow will at at once be enabled to decide on the district which will be most suitable to them. The subsequent proceedings are easy ; the local Land Agent is fully provided with plans showing all the lands within the district, and Government guides, who know the country thoroughly, drive the intending selector on a tour of inspection of vacant land for three days if necessary, without charge.

The first selection that should invariably be made is that of the Free Homestead Farm of 160 acres, which is only granted to a head of a family, or a male over 18 years of age who does not already hold more than 100 acres in the State. The advice of the Land Agent, who in all cases is a Government officer, charged with a special duty of affording every information to intending settlers, will remove all subsequent difficulties in the way of applications.

For sheep breeding country—with a rainfall of from 10 to 15 inches—there is an extensive tract of land extending roughly from Mullewa on the Cue Railway southeasterly to about Southern Cross on the Eastern goldfields line, and thence easterly to the boundary of the State. This belt of country contains an area of 76,000 square miles (48,640,000 acres). Although much of it—so far as soil and climate are concerned—is very suitable for cereal growing, yet the distance of carriage to the railway would make wheat an unprofitable crop for market purposes. Hay and wheat, however, can be profitably grown for consumption by one's own stock on almost any portion of this country, and sheep-growing in



POOL ON AVON RIVER, YORK.

particular becomes the natural industry for the whole of that extensive tract of country. Much of this country with its natural grasses will carry a sheep to from two to four acres. Water, of course, has to be conserved in dams. Earth work for conservation purposes costs from 1s. to 1s. 3d. per cubic yard. In addition to the free homestead farm of 160 acres—a selector may secure 1.000 acres C.P. under residence conditions, 1,000 acres under non-residence, and (if married) his wife can also hold 1,000 acres non-residence. The prices of this land ranges from 10s. per acre.

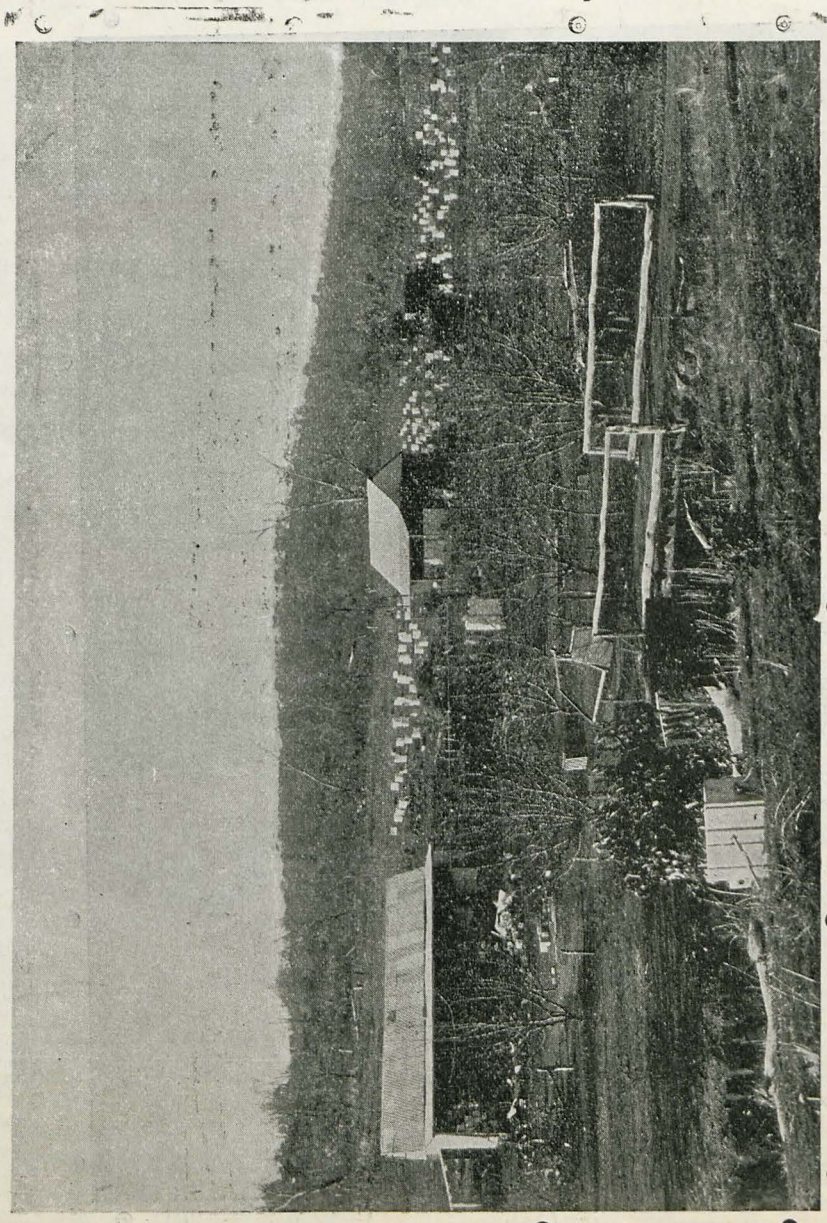
In addition to this—the Land Act provides for the selection of second and third class lands in areas from 3,000 to 5,000 acres at from 3s 9d. per acre upwards; but this class of selection is at present in abeyance pending some amendments being made to this portion of the Act in the Land Bill now before Parliament. The terms extend over a period of 20 years, during which equal half-yearly instalments are paid till the purchase money is liquidated.

If a man has, say, 5,000 acres with a fair proportion of first-class land, he should be able to run from 1,000 to 1,500 sheep. The average annual value of the wool is about 5s. per fleece, and from a flock of 1,000 to 1,500 sheep he should be able to sell as fat or stores from 200 to 300 surplus stock each year. The ruling prices for these range from 15s. to 22s. 6d. per head—an average of say £1. Thus, the settler in this belt of country may look forward with tolerable certainty to an income of from £450 to £700 per annum off a 5,000 acre holding.

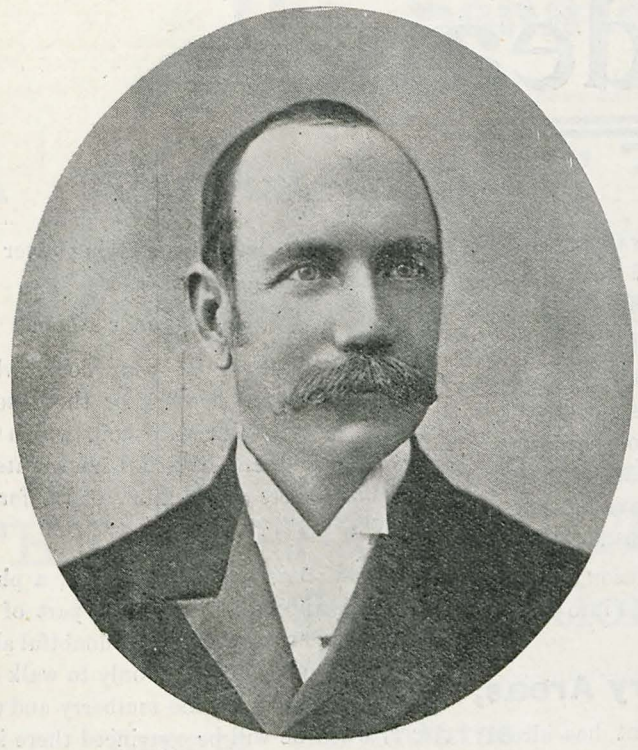
Now we come to the question of expenses in marketing. The average fleece of such sheep as settlers ought to grow will be about 6lb. Thus the wool for cartage from a 5,000 acre homestead would be from 6,000 to 9.000lb.—or roughly from 3 to 4½ tons—which will be carted at about £4 per ton per 100 miles. Thus, the cost of placing the wool produce of 5,000 acres on a railway station 100 miles distant would be from £12 to £18. Compare this with the cost of cartage of wheat the same distance from say a 100-acre clearing. The yield would be, say, an average of 12 bushels (much of this country will give a far higher average than that). This would give us 1,200 bushels at 63lb.—or 75,600lb.—approximately 38 tons at £4 equal to £152 for cartage of wheat 100 miles from 100 acres, as against £12 to £18 for cartage of wool the same distance from 5,000 acres.

Hence wheat-growing in this belt as a marketable commodity is out of the question—and efforts at cultivation should be confined to such clearing and other agricultural operations as will increase the sheep-carrying capacity of the land—either in laying down permanent grasses, or in cultivation of fodder crops for consumption green or dried as hay. This country is as yet practically untouched by settlement.

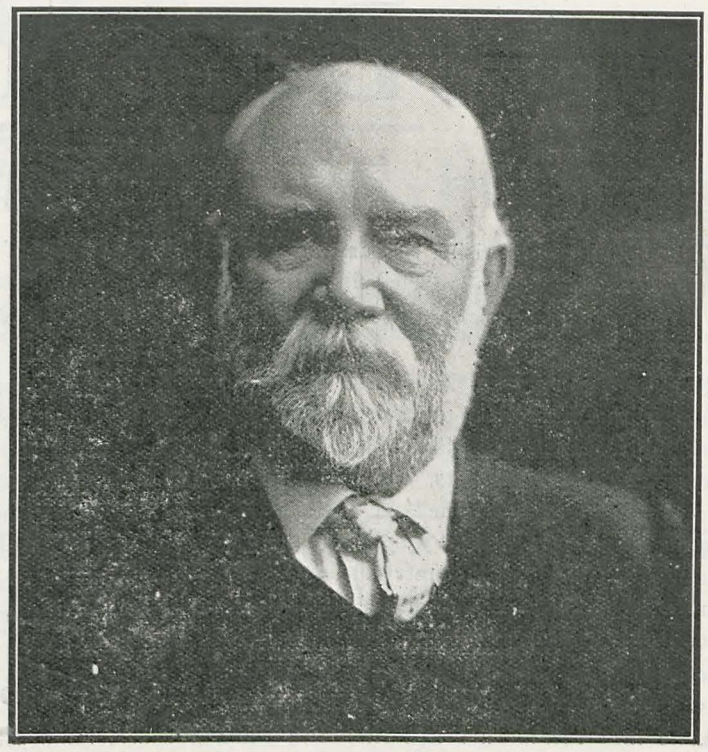
Perhaps one of the furthest out from the railway is Mr. C. J. Moran, a late Minister for Lands, who has shown his faith in the value of the lands at one time under his administration by taking up a considerable area of conditional purchase about 30 miles east of Wagin at Tamacurring. Recently the writer had an opportunity of driving over the whole of Mr. Moran's holding, which appears to be part of an almost limitless belt of rich red loamy land, well timbered with jam, York gum, salmon gum, and Morrell, with natural grasses, where the timber has been a few months ring-barked, waving from 15 inches to 2 feet in height. This country will carry a sheep to two acres, and about 800 sheep now on it are in the pink of condition. Mr. Moran has "taken his coat off to it," and has already erected nearly 30 miles of substantial dog-netted fencing with top and bottom wires barbed. Next to the rabbit-proof fence this is probably one of the best fences in the State, and cost £52 per mile, the lines have all been



FARM AND APIARY AT COONDLE.



THE HON. SIR E. H. WITTENOOM.



Mr. H. W. MILLS.

thoroughly cleared of all trees likely to fall on the fences, and this clearing is included in the cost. There are also two fine dams, one of which is excavated to a depth of 21 feet, from which 7,000 cubic yards of earth has been removed at a cost of 1s. 3d. per cubic yard. This property will pay, and there is an enormous area of country beyond it which will pay equally well, but only awaits the brain and brawn of settlement to make this extensive belt one of the most wealthy of the agrarian assets of Australia.

IMMIGRATION.

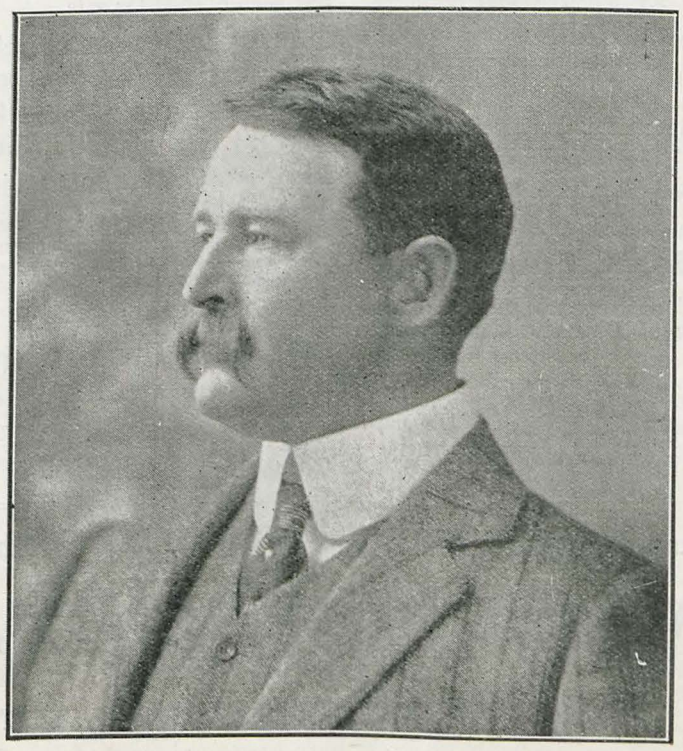
Assisted Passages—How They May be Acquired.

The Government grants assistance towards the passages of persons desirous of settling on the land, or engaging in farm or dairy work, or work of a similar nature, and to domestic servants and others who can satisfy the Agent-General in London, or the Colonial Secretary in Perth, that they will make suitable settlers. If an applicant is considered suitable and possesses capital of £100, or is in receipt of a fixed income of such an amount as may be deemed sufficient by the Agent-General, he can obtain a passage by the Orient Royal Mail line at £7 and upwards. If he is not able to comply with the necessary capital qualifications he may obtain reduced passages at £13 and upwards. Applications for assisted and reduced passages must be made to the Agent-General, 15 Victoria-street, Westminster, London, S.W.

Persons resident in the State may nominate their relatives or friends at prices ranging from £6 10s. to £14 10s., according to the line of vessel and class of berth desired. Such passengers are carried by the Orient and North German Lloyd steamers, via Suez Canal, and by the White Star line, via Capetown. Settlers and others who have left their wives and families in the Eastern States, New Zealand, and elsewhere can, upon fulfilling certain conditions, obtain an advance of passage money, including railway fares from port of landing to destination, repayable within a given time without interest, to enable them to bring their relatives to the State. This system is also extended in some cases to farmers, who have taken up land in the State, but who are not yet resident thereon. Applications for nominated and advanced passages must be made to the Colonial Secretary, Perth. Immigrants are met and welcomed on arrival in the State by officers appointed by the Government. At Fremantle the Government Agent goes out in the pilot steamer, and boards incoming mail boats some hour or two prior to the arrival of the vessel at the wharf, and is thus able to make himself acquainted with the various needs of the passengers. It is this officer's duty to assist new comers in every possible way by helping them to clear their luggage through the Custom authorities, baggage agents, etc., recommending lodging and boarding-houses, and finally introducing them to the various Government officials likely to be of use to them in selecting land, obtaining employment, etc. Similar arrangements are made for the reception at Albany of passengers by the White Star Liners. There is a Government Information Bureau right opposite the mail steamer's berth on the Victoria Quay, Fremantle, where travellers passing through the Port are cordially invited to call and spend a few minutes in the Bureau inspecting samples of West Australian products, which they will find exhibited, and obtain any information they require on all matters concerning the State. Information and literature relating to the State will be freely given on application.

* * *

It is interesting to point out that under the Immigration policy of the Government the sum of £10,417 13s. was spent for the year ending June 30 last. For the same period £10,148 7s. 6d. was received, thus showing a debit balance of £269 5s. 6d. In the matter of advanced passages the expenditure for the year amounted to £1,587 9s. 11d., and the refunds £1,714 16s. 9d.; 403 persons, inclusive of women and children, coming into the State under the conditions, It is estimated that the assisted passengers brought with them a total capital of, approximately, £17,006, being about equal to an amount of £110 per male adult, the stated callings of these immigrants (assisted and nominated) being as follows:—Farmers, 7; farm hands, 15; market gardeners, 3; fruitgrowers gardeners, 10; mechanics, 12; laborers, 28; carpenters and joiners, 6; clerks, 9; tailors, 3; domestic servants, 5; dressmakers, 9; housewives, 76; and others classed as miscellaneous, 68. The British immigrants numbered 677, while 69 came from various parts of Europe.



MR. CHAS. CLARK.

= Bassendean. =

THIS Estate, comprising an area of 1,455 acres, was selected in the very early days of the State's history.

It lies midway between Bayswater and Guildford, with a frontage to the Swan River of nearly three miles, consisting of well-grassed, loamy chocolate flats, and it is no doubt owing to excellence of the land having caught the pioneer's eye that it was taken up in the days when the whole countryside was open for selection and only choice spots were sought and settled.

This property had been in the possession of the Clune family for many years past, and only came into the market less than two years ago, when it was acquired by the present owners for subdivisional purposes, to which it is specially adapted.

The Perth-Guildford railway runs through the heart of the estate, bringing it within a quarter of an hour's rail from the centre of the metropolis. Recognising this, the owners cut up 220 blocks along the railway line. This subdivision is called the

Bassendean Townsite;

most of these have already been sold on the very easy terms of £4 deposit, balance £1 per month.

Every lot in this subdivision is a full ¼ acre, and it only remains for the Government to make a suburban station and complete about 1¼ miles of roadway to see one of the most prettily-situated and healthy suburbs of Perth blossom into full bloom.

The road referred to should be the main artery between Midland and Guildford to Perth, as it is by far the shortest route. Why it has not been made years ago is a mystery; and the owners to assist those who have already purchased there have offered to contribute £300 towards its cost.

To the north of this subdivision the whole of the estate has been surveyed into suitable blocks for

Garden & Poultry Areas,

and a considerable settlement has already taken place during the short period the land has been opened for sale.

As nothing is so convincing as ocular demonstration, intending gardeners and poultry keepers are invited to go and see

what has already been done.

There is still plenty of land just as good as that sold to be had on the same very liberal terms, 20 per cent. deposit and the balance over three years.

The third survey made to date is called

Riverside Subdivision.

and, as the name implies, refers to a subdivision of 336 blocks, varying from ¼ to 8 acres, on the river frontage, joining West Guildford, on terms extending over 18 months without interest.

This is a beau ideal spot for a home.

The Swan River at your door, which means bathing and boating for those so inclined. A rich chocolate soil, which will grow anything, and beautiful fresh water to be had anywhere at a shallow depth for the sinking.

The old Bassendean homestead, a photo. of which appears herewith, is part of this subdivison; and anyone at all doubtful about the quality of the soil has only to walk over to the house and see the mulberry and olive trees, when he will be convinced there is no need for concern in this direction.



BASSENDEAN HOMESTEAD on the SWAN

As soon as the station is built the owners will macadamise a road from the sub-division to connect, which will bring it within a few minutes pleasant walk from the railway.

Taking Bassendean all round, for City people wanting suburban homes, Midland Junction Railway Employees searching for a good patch of ground combined with good drainage not too far from their work, Fruit Growers, Gardeners, and Poultry Men requiring the right soil in close proximity to the City Markets—it just fills the bill, on top of which the prices defy competition, and the terms are extraordinary liberal.

Full information, plans, &c., can be obtained at any time from

Messrs. LEARMONTH, DUFFY & CO.,

St. George's Terrace, Perth, and High Street, Fremantle,

SOLE SELLING AGENTS FOR THE ESTATE.

The Senatorial Campaign.

A "States Rights" Party in the Federation.

Representative Citizens Contest the Seats for THREE SENATE VACANCIES.

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN PARTY for the Preservation of State Rights.

Senate Candidates:

Mr. CHARLES CLARK

Mr. H. W. MILLS

Sir EDWARD WITTENOOM

House of Representatives:

Swan—Sir JOHN FORREST
Perth—Dr. THURSTAN
Fremantle—Mr. W. N. HEDGES
Coolgardie—Mr. J. W. ARCHIBALD
Kalgoorlie—Mr. W. R. BURTON

Polling Day - - Wednesday, December 12

THERE are in the golden west at the present time two great political "camps"—they can scarcely yet be dignified under the title of "parties"—in one of which are pitched the tents of those who advocate the employment of every means to bring about our liberation from the very unsatisfactory federal bondage into which we entered half a dozen years ago, and in the other the lodges of those who continue to believe that the union will yet work out to a comfortable association of the people for the national benefit. It would be idle to say the yoke, as far as this State is concerned, has been anything but a chafing one. For six years we have fretted under it and not unpatiently, four of the five seats we are permitted to occupy in the House of Representatives have been held by the select of labor directly opposed to the one representative of State rights, the one free, unfettered spokesman for every interest except that of trades unionism. Our representation ranged itself under separate banners. Beneath the drooping folds of the flag of the State stood Sir John Forrest. Under the gaudy banner of "Australian Labor"—a few amongst a host—stood the four delegates of P.L.P. of Western Australia. Four gentleman, who certainly creditably, not incapably represented, not the people of the State, not the whole body of the electors, but the small body of selectors, the membership of the inner ring of Trades Union Labor. And it is feared by the unrepresented interests that much of the neglect and some of the disadvantages to which we have had to submit have been due to this divided representation.

It has to be admitted that the Eastern Labor caucus has first call on the voices of votes of all Labor members of the Federal Parliament. The boldest, stalwart amongst these men dare not attempt to break away from his fastenings. Even the leader of the party—the trusted J. C. Watson, who held the honorable office of Prime Minister, found his loyalty challenged when he proposed to keep a compact not to permit Labor to contest the seats of the Deakinites who stood behind him during his brief and troubled reign. We have seen, in this State, what may be the political position of a man bold enough to desert the narrow platform of local labor for the broad arena of State politics. Mr. Daglish, an ex-Premier, sits alone on the cross-benches of our Parliament, avoided by his late followers as if he were the leper of the Legislature. And for what reason? For none other than he had the hardihood to declare it impossible for him to serve the people while he continued a cog in the machine of Caucus. He was not—and is not—less a friend of labor than before. But labor cast him off, utterly and beyond pardon, because he denied the possibility of serving the whole body of the State while sworn to the service of a small section of the people.

It has been thought that men pledged to no party and to no person, and not doomed to serve a political machine, would more suitably and more satisfactorily represent the State. Out of this thought was evolved the fact of "The State Rights Party." The title is a broad and generous one. The only recognised leader of this "party" is the State—the whole mass of the people. Neither is pledged to another, every one is free to express his opinions in his own language and to steer his independent course for the common goal. They are voluntarily pledged to work together for the good of this State—without losing sight of the fact that they are members of the Parliament of the nation. The common platform is of few planks, and of these few the principle is "The preservation of State rights." Into this all the others easily dovetail. In the safeguarding of State rights our Senators will protest against such projected State wrongs as the abolition of the Braddon clause on the constitution, the doing away with the bookkeeping system as between the State and the Commonwealth, and against the threatened iniquity of pooling the revenues of the State and dividing the total equally amongst the whole populatien of the Commonwealth. Every suggested injustice to Western Australia will be regarded as a suggested invasion of State rights, and opposed with all the powers of men under no dictation and utterly regardless of what may be thought of them, or of what punishment may be attempted to be meted out to them in the way of ostracism in the halls of debate and non-recognition outside their walls, by the offended dignity of party chiefs. On national questions they will, we are free to anticipate, think and speak and vote nationally; on matters of local, domestic, and purely State concern, which they understand—and which the Eastern men do not—they will think and speak and vote narrowly—parochially. We are yet a young State—young in that we have not attained to the limits of our growth. We cannot afford to be broad and lordly in our liberality yet. We cannot be nationally patriotic until we have been provincially loyal. Our patriotism, for the immediate present, must begin at home, and not be transferred in bulk to the nation.

We have struggled through six years of Federal tion—through six very dear years for us. Those six years have been marked with white stones on the pathway of our attempted progress, as a period in our history in which

All were for "The Party"
And none were for "The State,"

and the experience has been bitter, saddening disappo inting, and denationalising. We have los prestige, status, confidence, and cash. Western Australia alone, of all the States, has not improved her financial position under Federation. We, alone, are worse off to-day than when we entered the Union. This should not be, and might not have been had we been represented in the Federal Parliament by men with fixed interests instead of, as we have been, by men whose interests (with the exception of Sir John Forrest) were neither permanent nor considerable. The opinion rapidly gained ground during the second term of the Federal Parliament that the electors had made a fatal error in not returning representative citizens whose prosperity would be accentuated by overy forward step taken by the State. The mistake is being attempted to be corrected in the campaign in progress, and if all those entitled to vote, who set State Rights above Labor's interests, will make a special engagement to go to the poll on the date as above set out, and place a cross in the square opposite the names of Clark, Mills, and Wittenoom, the State will have 50 per cent. of the possible representation in the Senate. The Eastetn Labor caucus has already the other 50 per cent., admittedly more than its share—as three Senators sit for 11,000 Trades Unionists, and are representative of nobody and nothing else.

We feel called upon to remind the women of the State that every vote will count. Every women on the rolls should make it her business to exercise a right which she enjoys, as the full equal of any man in the community—a right for which brave women are struggling and suffering in England to-day. It is a sacred duty which every mother should discharge—the duty of voting for the party pledged to the safe-guarding of every right of the State. That party, if returned, will see that we get what is coming to us, and that nothing is taken from us which we are entitled to keep. Its members are responsible men of substance, whose homes and possessions are here. They are the intellectual, social, and moral peers of any three men in the Commonwealth. They are men of independent means, with the time and the ability and the earnest desire to serve the State, and if

elected they will serve it loyally as free and unfettered representatives of the free and independent electors of the division of Australia, which should be the most prosperous in the Commonwealth, but which is, we regret to have to make the humiliating admission, absolutely the least prospe,ous. So much which might have advantaged us in the Federal connection has been permitted to go by default; we have given up so much to get so little in return; we have been neglected where we should have been served, and humbled where we had every reason to hope and every right to expect we would have been exalted. And the cause is—"The Cause." All our interests have been subordinated to those of manual labor, and the consequence has been degradation, disappointment, and something very nearly akin to despair. The possible remedy is in the alteration of our representation, and before we pronounce Federation a failure that straw of hope should be grasped at.

THE HON. SIR E. H. WITTENOOM,

Sir Edward Horne Wittenoom, K.C.M.G., is a native of this State, the son of Charles Wittenoom and grandson of the Rev. John Burdett Wittenoom, M.A., of Brasenose College, Oxford, the first colonial chaplain, who arrived in this State about 1830.

Sir Edward was educated in Perth, and after serving five years to learn the mysteries of stock and station work at the Bones, Northampton, started, with his brother, at sheep-raising on a pioneer station on the Murchiton. His ambition in those days was to become the owner of the best station and be the breeder of the best stock in W.A. This desire was to some extent gratified some years later, after acquiring the White Peak Station, near Geraldton, where his merino sheep and wool were considered amongst the best in the colony.

In 1887 a favorable opportunity for embarking in mercantile operations at Geraldton presented itself, which Sir Edward availed himself of, with the result that after seven years of successful business, he sold out to Burns, Philp & Co., of Queensland. During this period the rush to the Murchison took place, and both the Murchison and Geraldton were thriving.

In 1894 Sir Edward contemplated an extended visit to Europe, and was just completing his arrangements for leaving when Sir John Forrest invited him to join his Ministry. This invitation he eventually accepted, and took the portfolio of Minister of Mines. Minister of Education and Post and Telegraphs. As this was the boom time on the Eastern Goldfields, and people were pouring in in thousands, he was kept very busy. He remained in the Ministry until 1898, during which time he was leader of the Legislative Council, and the only representative of the Government in that Chamber. He was Acting Premier for some six months during Sir John Forrest's absence in London.

In 1898 he was offered and accepted the position of Agent-General, which office he held for three years.

MR. CHAS. CLARK

is a well-known goldfields barrister, whose name is by now familiar from end to end of the State. An Australian born in South Australia, in 1863, he matriculated at Adelaide University in 1877, and, adopting law as his profession, was admitted to practice at the remarkably early age of 22. In 1887, when 24 years of age, he was doing a big legal business at Broken Hill, from whence he proceeded to the Golden West, where he pursued his profession between 1896 and 1901. His investments had been wisely made, and in the last-named year he practically retired from active connection with the business with which his name had been so long associated. A few years were spent in world travel for the purpose of completing an education already liberal, and in the capacity of honorary commissioner Mr. Clark represented the State at its exhibition of "mines and minerals, &c.," at the Paris Exposition, and in the following year occupied a similar position at Glasgow, and did this country considerable service by cheerfully supplying information about Western Australia to all with whom he was brought into either social or professional touch. Mr. Clark has always been a prominent member of the Chamber of Mines, and holds large interests in the wealth-producing propositions. In 1904 he returned to W.A., and invested substantially in land on the Bannister. He is one of the good useful citizens who do not rush out of the country in which they "made their pile." Here, where he amassed wealth, he has invested it, and in the prosperity of the State his prosperity is involved.

Mr. H. W. MILLS

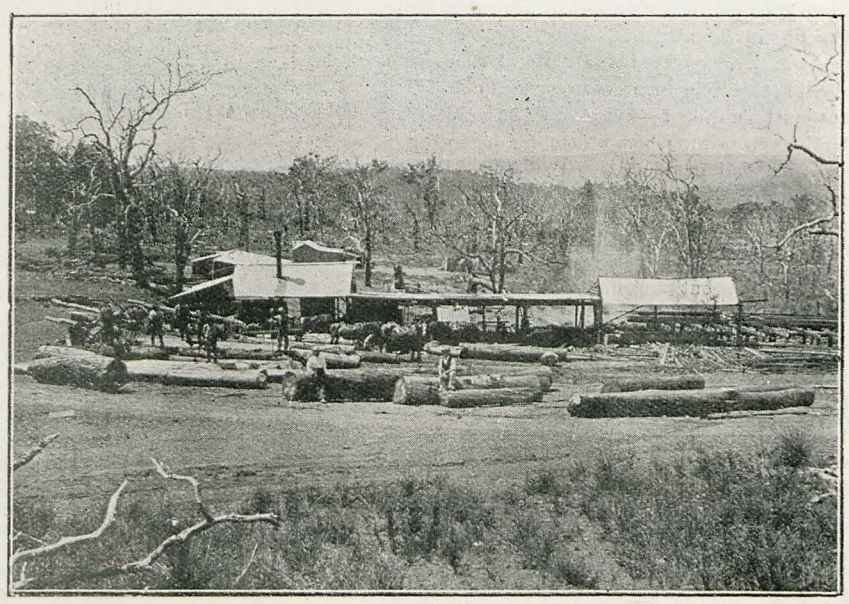
is a Londoner by birth, but Australian from ten years of age upward. He has had a really adventurous career. Almost on his arrival in the State he began to earn money, as in those days a smart boy had no difficulty in doing. (Nowadays Trades Unionism bars boys from earning anything, or learning a trade. The object of restricting the number of apprentices is of course to limit the membership of Unions to the disadvantage os employers). At fifteen years of age young Millf shouldered a musket in the Maori war, and was with the 1st Waikato Regiment in all its fights. In '67 he rejoined his father in Victoria, and became his business partner in a store at Elphinstone. He was elected a Shire Councillor, and subsequently President of the Shire Council of Metcalfe. Between 25 and 40 years of age he was in the service of the Victorian Education Department, and graduated at Melbourne University. He resigned from the Government service to assume the responsible position of manager of the property department in the Mercantile Finance Co., and was one amongst the thousands ruined by the land boom. In 1893 he came to W.A., and pushed out with the pioneers, being one of the first men on the rich alluvial field of Kurnalpi, and with Peake at the finding of Edjudina. On his return to Perth served in the Lands Department for a year, and then joined ex-M.L.A. C. J. Moran in business. Was beaten for Yalgoo by two votes for a seat in the State Parliament, and also unsuccessfully contested Sussex. He was twice Mayor of Busselton, and is now a Councillor of the City of Perth. On such a record of public service Mr. Mills, who has made many new friends during his Senatorial campaign, relies on his application to promotion. He is a cultured speaker, and quickly captures an audience.

MR. J. W. ARCHIBALD.

Mr. Archibald is an Australian, with large experience as a miner and metallurgist acquired in New South Wales prior to his immigration to this State in 1893. Naturally, he went to the gold areas, and he met with the varying fortunes of the prospector. In 1896 he was responsible for the introduction of capital to the Mt. Margaret field, and for five years was manager of the Malcolm Mines, Ltd., and a large employer of labor. He acquired the Guest Mine at Mt. Morgans in 1898, paying one of the shareholders £10,000 for his one-third interest. During Mr. Archibald's management the Guest was a paying proposition. It was subsequently acquired by Mr. A. E. Morgans. For the 13 years of his residence in the State Mr. Archibald has been connected with the north-eastern fields; he pioneered the Lancefield country, and is at present the owner of the Golden Spinifex at Duketon, the farthest out producing field. He has been a plucky prospector and investor, generally has a few men out looking for country—at his expense—and has been a large employer, whose policy was the economical one of paying good wages to the best men.



SOLE AGENTS FOR AUSTRALIA—
Borsdorff & Co. (Melbourne and Sydney.)
Represented in W.A. by F. D. SEWELL & CO., 17 Queen St.



The Darling Range Timber Mills.

THE accompanying Milling Industry is located in the Darling Ranges about 21 miles from the City, and is owned and directed by **Mr. W. F. Guppy**, a very well known Guildford resident. The area is an extensive one, and it will take many years to exhaust its supplies. The Mills, which turn out everything in the shape of **Highest Quality Cut Timber,** haavy and light, are fully equipped with modern plant, and are served by the Darling Range railway line.



Mr. J. W. ARCHIBALD.

THE GREAT WESTERN VINEYARD VICTORIA.—And Its Products.

The proprietor of the above industry, Mr. Hans W. H. Irvine, stands out amongst Australian vignerons, and much of the progress the industry has made is due to his efforts. In season and out of season he has ever striven to place the industry on sound commercial lines. On different occasions he has visited Europe to study the conditions of viticulture in France, in Italy, and other Continental countries, bringing out wita him on each occasion not only the best experts in wine-making obtainable, but the most approved modern appliances connected with the industry. The effect of his action has been more far-reaching than would appear at a first glance. Before him, all efforts to manufacture sparkling wines in Australia were tentative in their character and disastrous in their results ; but, nothing daunted by the failure of others, he determined to make Australian champagne, and make it not only a commercial success, but a wine which, when placed before connoisseurs, would "live upon their tongues and be their talk." The Great Western Vineyard wines have been successful wherever exhibited since 1873, obtaining ia all instances the highest awards in competition with the world, and have been specially recommended by the Victorian Government expert as wines of superior quality and exceptional merit. They are also highly referred to by Mr. E. Russell Budden, the celebrated analytical chemist, London, who says in his report : —"We have never had such high-class wines in England from Australia before ;" and, further, "They should be widely used in all cases of impaired digestion or nervous prostration, where the urgent need of a stimulant possessing these wonderful tonic restorative properties is clearly indicated ; while for those in average health I am confident that these wines may be strongly recommended for constant use on account of their undoubted digestive properties and absolute purity."

For Great Western wines there is a general and ever-increasing market all over the world ; the wines going direct to the consumer's door in single cases and upwards, anywhere and everywhere, either from the cellar or one or other of the distributing houses. The most important of these is that of Irvine and Co., of Collins-street, Melbourne, which is under the management of Mr. H. J. Guinn, the Melbourne partner, and there 10,000 dozon in glass is kept in stock to supply Melbourne and urgent interstate orders, besides which bulk parcles are stored aggregating 18,000 gallons, and bottling goes on daily. The sole West Australian agent is Mr. Phil Cople, of Moir's Chamber's, Perth.

THE DIESEL ENGINE.

The Diesel Engine (for which Mr. E. J. Ridsdale, of Surrey Chambers, St. George's Terrace, is the sole agent in Western Australia—his full announcement will be found on page 3)—takes its name from the inventor, Rudolf Diesel, engineer, of Munich. Like most other great inventions, involving bold departures from the well-worn paths, the Diesel Engine was not perfected in a day, or a year. Its early stages of development were marked by many great difficulties and partial failures. Disappointing though this was, even the failures showed that the theory was sound, and the principles were bound to end in success when the physical, chemical, and mechanical difficulties were overcome. The advantages of the Diesel Engine are—Cheapness and abundant supply of the fuel used. Extreme safety, the fuel having a very high flash point, and being practically uninflamable. There is no increase in insurance fees. Highest economy and lowest cost of power. Highest thermal efficiency. Extreme regularity and steadiness in speed under varying loads. Economy in lubricating oil, both as to price and quantity used. Absence of trouble in lubrication on account of the comparatively low temperature involved. Absence of heaters or vaporisers. Absence of naked flames. Absence of igniting devices of any kind. Great simplicity and strength of parts. Ability to start itself and be "on load" in one minute, any time. Economy in circulating water required, viz., about 4gals. per B.H.P. per hour. Small space occupied and great reduction in cost of building.

In this State Mr. Ridsdale has already supplied two 33 B.H.P. and one 20 B.H.P. engines of the Diesel type for the Menzies Battery Water Supply.

On this page appears a photo. of Mr. E. L. Lloyd, a leading mine-owner of Cue, in his uniform as honorary superintendent of the Cue Volunteer Fire Brigade. A team from this smart brigade competed this year at the Victorian Fire Brigade's demonstration, Mr. Lloyd accompanying and managing the team. In other directions Mr.



Mr. E. L. LLOYD.

Lloyd has evinced his interest in Cue affairs (as referred to in the district's mining matter), and the local school-children owe many entertainments to his thoughtfulness and generosity.

* * *

Further back, in "Some Early Finds and Their Prospectors," reference is made to the Austin Expedition, otherwise the intrepid party led by Robert Austin, which in 1854 pulled out from Mt. Kenneth for the unknown. That Austin was of the stuff of which bushmen and explorers are made was more than evidenced by his getting out to and back from that portion of the Murchison country in which a counterfeit lake to this day bears his name.

Among the members of the Austin Expedition was one named Cant, now a resident of Geraldton. Of it he is the sole survivor—though old in form and grey in years.

At 87 Mr. Cant does not feel as young as he did when he went out with Austin. Neither would his photo. published hereabout imply that he is. For all that he can recount many interesting episodes of that time when his world was young and Western Australia a *terra incognita*.

THE EDWARDS' MECHANICAL ORE ROASTING FURNACE.

On page 56 of this issue will be found the announcement of the Edwards' Mechanical Ore Roasting and Chlorodising Furnace, of which the Edwards' Ore Reduction Co., of Ballarat, Victoria, are the proprietors. To discuss the merits of the furnace just here, would be to repeat what is already known and been proved throughout some of the leading mining fields of the world, and that in itself is sufficient recommendation. In this State, it may be said, the Edwards' furnaces are in use on the following mines :—Great Boulder Perseverance (six of the duplex type, roasting 90 tons per day), the Golden Horseshoe, the Lancefield, the Kalgurli, the Ivanhoe, Lake View, and Great Boulder, all of which are doing great work.

THE GOLD OUTPUT.

From 1886 (in which year the official records of gold produced were initiated) up to October 31st of this year the total output of gold from West Australia, was 16,373,878 fine oz., valued at £69,551,724. For the 10 months of 1906, ending October 31, the yield was 1,502,191 fine ozs.

DIVIDENDS.

To the end of November of the present year the cash dividends paid by Westralian mines totalled £15,470,529.

MULGA AND SPINIFEX.

Miscellaneous Mems.—Of Some Men who helped to make the Country—And Others—The Back Tracks of the Interior.

IN last year's issue of THE GOLDEN WEST was presented an interesting account of the discovery of Coolgardie. At the time it was remarked that there were other versions of the happening. One of them follows :—

That Bayley first reported the discovery of the great goldfield which for some time bore his name has never been disputed. But that he was the discoverer was something he does not appear to have claimed for himself and his mate. As a matter of fact, the field had been discovered years before—how many is known only to the Great Timekeeper. Of this there was furnished very complete evidence soon after the rush of the pioneers of settlement who followed the men who blazed the track. In the course of the search for the metal which Bayley and Ford had no difficulty in finding, the quartz blows to the south of Fly Speck Flat were given a very thorough examination, and in the course of this it was found that a long length of the outcrop had been pegged.

* * *

The pegs were very old, wind and sun worn, and the notices, pricked on pieces of tin by a nail point, as is the practice in Tasmania and New Zealand, were undecipherable, Under what was afterwards known as the Little Blow were discovered the skeletons of two men, but there was absolutely nothing by which the identification of the remains could be effected. The probabilities are that the prospectors had reached the locality in the dry season, and after making the strike had been unable to make their way either backward or forward to civilisation. They had remained by their find, and died on the threshhold of their fortune.

* * *

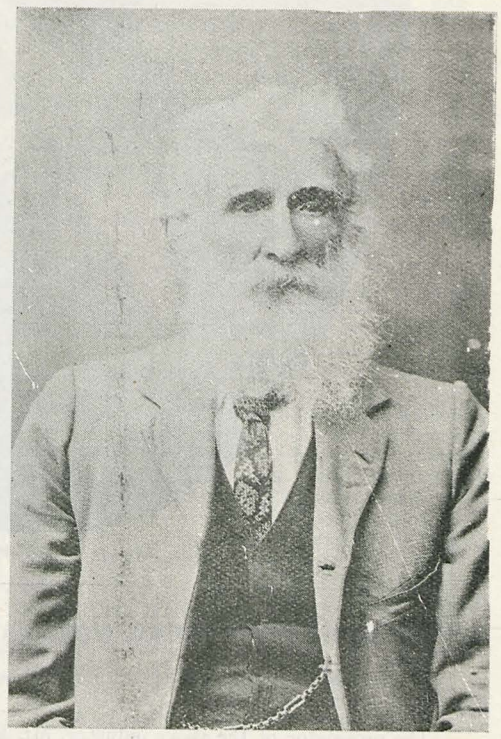
Of the actual finding of Bayley's Reward there have been numerous versions published. The following is another story, as told by one of the participants in the discovery, and of this also neither Bayley nor Ford was the discoverer :—At the time of their first appearance at the Cross, after one of their trips out, they were undoubtedly on alluvial gold, and were particularly careful not to let the information that they had struck it rich get abroad. About June, 1892, in consequence of a labor strike, Southern Cross was full of men doing nothing, and of these, three—Harry Baker, Dick Fosser, and Tom Talbot—started out east. They followed on the tracks of Bayley and his mate, and came upon them in camp.

These were the men who found the reef destined afterwards to make Westralia world-famous ; and they assert that when they struck the golden outcrop there was not a stone broken on it nor a peg put in the ground. In the course of the day they knocked out some marvellous specimen stone, which they carried in and showed to Bayley and Ford, to whom they described the find and its locality. But they had omitted to peg in the area or take any steps at all to secure it.

* * *

Next morning Bayley happened along as they were at work breaking specimens from the cap of the reef, and, after a little good-tempered chaff, he observed : "It's unfortunate for you that you are inside our pegs. My mate and I have known of this patch for some time. Come round and see the pegs, and if you think it's good enough, peg on to the end of us before anybody else gets out here." The new-comers scarcely protested. They saw that Bayley meant business, and to make any hard kick might have meant losing what was of more consideration to them than more or less of the dross which eventually perishes. They pul led off, and pegged what was afterwards Bayley's No. 1 South.

That night Bayley saddled up and started for the Cross, where he reported the strike and displayed the gold on 17th September. On the evening of that day the first teams—two waggons and a dray belonging to I. J. K. Cohn and Felix Murphy—carried the belongings of a hundred swampers to the field, and within a fortnight the East began to pour in its thousands of treasure-seekers.



W. CANT,
Sole Survivor of the Austin Exploration, 1854

Amongst the men already on the ground were scores of prospectors—men who are crowded in a settlement, and who seemed to enjoy the excitement of breaking new country and finding new gold very much more than the excitement which is associated with the development of discoveries. New strikes were reported every few days, and to these and the adjacent areas the steps of the pioneers were ever ready to be turned.

* * *

In October, 1893, the late Billy Frost, one of the best men among hundreds of good ones, came in from Siberia with a report of rich alluvial. There was the usual maddening stampede, and it would seem the community had become bereft of all ordinary common sense. Good claims were abandoned, and men started for the new find without so much as a water-bag in many cases. Their "perish" was not any mere figure of speech. To reach Frost's find miles of arid barren desert had to be negotiated, and it is no matter for wonder that the rush was disastrous. News was not long in reaching Coolgardie of men perishing for lack of water, and relief parties were promptly formed and despatched to bring back the suffering.

How many there were who never came back is at this distant day a matter altogether of conjecture. That the guardian angel of at least one man was not unmindful of him in that unfortunate exodus is attested by the following fact :—Amongst those who started out was George



SOME OF THE MEN WHO HELPED TO MAKE THE COUNTRY.

Roberts, who in November, '92, made a sensational discovery of specimen stone on the Great Western. On the morning of the second day out from Coolgardie he announced his intention of returning, giving as the reason that he had most realistically dreamed he had found, in a particular part of the block he was working, a slug of 36oz. in weight.

His mates tried to laugh him out of his intention, but Roberts remained firm and left them. They proceeded, did a fine substantial perish, and got nothing. He went back to his holding, and inside two hours uncovered his dream slug, which turned the scale at a trifle over 36oz.

Norseman, which was discovered in July, 1895, by prospector Sinclair, promised for a length of time to become the fashionable field of the State. For some unexplicable reason, or maybe for no reason except that it was nearer to South Australia than any other then discovered Westralian field, the crow-eaters chose to bestow their special countenance on the country, and a good deal of Adelaide money went there—to stay.

Norseman was a promising field, and has always been as promised. Occasional rich dabs in the quartz and good patches of alluvial have kept it well before the mining public, and its one consistent producer furnishes the proof that it is a goldfield. But our opinion is that the goldfield of that section has yet to be discovered. The railway—when it is built—may help to present something in the way of justification of this opinion.

* * *

Menzies field was named after one of the prospectors. Menzies and McDonald, two good men, pushing out from the crowd, discovered an outcrop from which they took a number of moss-grown patches of quartz rich in gold. The strike was in August, 1894. Its finder, or founder, had in the brief space of the 10 years which elapsed between his discovery and his departure from the State, known all the delights of affluence, and the double despair of abject and hopeless poverty, had been familiar with the soundest men in the mining world of the State, and, later on, been glad to be permitted the privilege of responding to an occasional and very frigid glance of recognition in the street.

What a land of ups and downs is this 14-year-old State of ours. Menzies spent £1,000 on the decoration of his drawing-room—he never occupied the house—and we recollect seeing him on the occasion of one of the contests for the Menzies Cup—a trophy he donated to be competed for by oarsmen—standing on the Terrace looking so very much the worse for wear that had he attempted to take his place amongst the spectators of the race he would probably have been ordered to betake himself to the observation of another and less exclusive pastime.

At the time of his strike it seemed as if his luck was dead in, and everything was coming his way. He lent his name—one to conjure with—to an Adelaide syndicate which struck gold—so it is said—in the crow-eaters' country, and Menzies Barossa was a household word there for a season. But Menzies Barossa was one of the pups which never fattened, and neither Menzies nor anyone else did any good out of it.

Like all of his class, Menzies took the frowns of Fortune much as he accepted her smiles, and when he found himself moneyless—and friendless—pulled out of the country, and fared forth elsewhere, again in pursuit of the fickle goddess.

* * *

In '94 and early '95 discoveries were reported every day, and rich fields came into being every month. Of those which boomed may be named Broad Arrow, Black Flag, Lake Lefroy, Mt. Margaret, Kurnalpi, Pindinnie, Niagara, Yerilla, and dozens of minor diggings whose names are already forgotten by all but the pioneers.

And it is as certain as that the sun will appear in the East to-morrow morning on schedule time that each and every one of these fields will from time to time present its surprise in the shape of a rich pocket of gold ferreted out of its nesting place by the patient persistent fossicker, who steadfastly refuses to permit himself to read the "Ichabod" of any place where gold has ever been found. The fossicker more than any other gold-seeker has it firmly borne in upon him that beyond the pick's point is fortune and he remains—the rejuvenating possibility—the man behind the pick.

* * *

Kanowna (White Feather) and Bulong (I.O.U.) were discovered about the same time, but these were rather alluvial fields to which capital was not attracted. These were the Ophirs of the small man, and from the rich patches many took what in less extraordinary times and circumstances would have been a fortune. Bulong died young. But Kanowna, practically abandoned, came in '97, and for a year at least its golden glories rivalled those of old Ballarat. Though the credit of the recrudesence is undoubtedly the due of Sim and Gresson, there is no doubt the rich alluvial was the discovery of the pioneers who had rushed away in the beginning, when every other day brought its story of another find of surpassing richness. The golden patch on which men were was never half so good as the one the other fellow had got on to 10 miles away in a south-easterly direction, or north by west or thereabouts. Directions as to the locale of the latest strike were not always as clear as the notices at railway crossings to "look both ways before attempting to cross." The second rush to Kanowna brought together a community of 20,000 people, mostly men, such as may not be massed in any centre in Australia for years. The alluvial was marvellously rich; the cement was rich, and the pug, the wonderful Kanowna pug, which was not amenable to any existent method of treatment, was supposed to be stiffened with gold.

* * *

Kurnalpi was one of the richest alluvial patches in the State—not in the value of its output, as in the liberal disposition of its treasure for easy finding. Reidy, the prospector of the field, loaded his pack horse with slugs and specimens specked by his niggers before another white man got on the ground. And Reidy when last seen in civilisation was absolutely penniless.

If ever a class of men in Australia heeded the Scriptural injunction: "Lay not up treasure on earth," surely that class is the one in which the prospector is enrolled.

Yerilla was another field from which much was expected. "The Qneen of the Earth" sent stone into Coolgardie such as had never been seen in that repository of marvellous riches. Parcels were auctioned publicly, and bidding was as keen for these productions of nature as it could have been for any work of the artistic goldsmith.

Such discoveries were not uncommon, though not to such an extent as in the apparently rightly-named "Queen of the Earth." Early in 1895 Hayes Bros. brought in from the 25-Mile (Coolgardie) less than three hundred weight of specimens estimated to be worth £3,000, and about the same time Mt. Catherine was discovered.

The opening in March, 1896, of the railway from Southern Cross to Coolgardie, and on September 8 following to Kalgoorlie, meant a crowding out by civilisation to which the bona-fide prospector could not—at any rate did not—submit. He went further out and prospected. As far as Kalgoorlie and Coolgardie were concerned he was finished. Which is to be regretted. These fields have only been "gone over"—rushed.

Some day they may be prospected. Some day another seeker after a strayed horse will find another field somewhere in the 28 miles which separate two of the richest districts Australia ever knew, and every man in the country who can speak, the present writer included, will want to know in a loud indignant voice whether it wasn't a fact that he had said so all along.

Bearing in mind the position in which the Cinderella of the colonies was compelled by her arrogant sisters to remain in for so many years, entirely on account of her poverty, there is almost pathetic reading in the frequent reference to the discovery of gold in the earlier days of the settlement.

"In the latter part of 1852 three or four parties were despatched to the eastward of York and Newcastle seeking for gold. . . . . Owing to the scarcity of feed and water, they were forced to abandon the search when but a short distance from the now well-known Yilgarn fields."

"In '53 rich specimens of gold-bearing stone were found out eastwards by shepherds, unfortunately unable to re-locate the find."

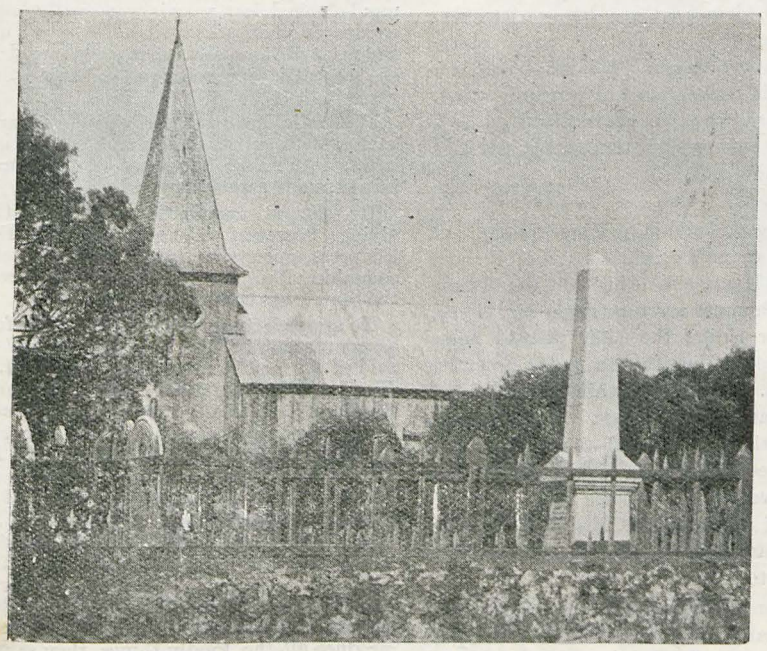
"In the following year a discovery of gold was reported from Cardup, 25 miles from Fremantle, and in a few days the place was rushed by over 100 men. But the stuff was the "new chdm's gold," which has fooled occasional later prospectors—mica and pyrites in a formation of decomposed slate. Mr. A. C. Gregory, who examined the country, hinted at salting. "The chemical agents used by those who found gold in the rock had been adulterated with the precious metal, either accidentolly or by design, to attract attention—as had been the case on more than one previous occasion." Half a century ago attempts were made to breed the "cat" which flourished so exceedingly in the late nineties.

In '61 a shepherd brought in gold-bearing stone found 25 or 30 miles east of Northam, "but most unfortunately he was unable to find his way back to the spot."

In '64 a convict serving a sentence at Fremantle said he had, in '56, found gold in the vicinity of Camden Harbor, and had sold eight nuggets to a Liverpool (Eng.) dealer for £416. He was taken to the locality, but refused to help the party in its search, and that find was never re-located.

In '65 Mr. C. C. Hunt discovered and named Hampton Plains, and travelled over what is now Coolgardie. (It was on Hunt's track Bayley and Ford made their strike.)

In '80 Mr. E. B. Beere, a farmer in the Toodyay district, took into Ferth a stone which he thought by its weight contained copper. It was left with boatbuilder Lawrence, after having been used for years as a paper-weight in an office, and while in his possession came under the notice of prospector Dick Greaves, who at once pronounced it gold-bearing.



Old Church at Northampton, founded by Mr. J. L. Horrocks, Pioneer.

From a pound of the sample he dollied 6oz. of gold, which he sold at the bank for £4 an ounce. But Beere had gone the way of all flesh, and the scene of his find was never traced. Greaves headed a party to prospect the country, and reported the finding of alluvial in the Wongan Hills, but could pick up no trace of reefing country.

Bayley, after the finding of Coolgardie, made no secret of the discovery of good gold in another and, as yet, unprospected part of the country in the vicinity of Lake Moore, and more than one of the earlier prospectors to-day tell of finds to which they have been unable to re-make their way, but to which they hope yet to return.

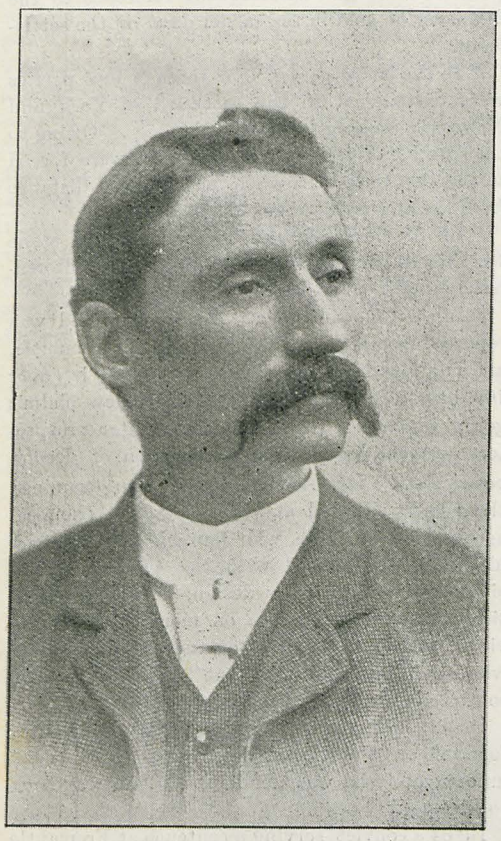
* * *

One of the pioneers of Northampton was Mr. J. L. Horrocks, who owned and worked the Gwalla Mine in 1859. That Mr. Horrocks took more than an ordinary interest in the district is evidenced by the stone church built by him in '63, which still stands, and by other good works, the memory of which obtains.

His idea was that the house of worship should be open to all denominations. To this end he had two pulpits erected, one for the Church of England and the other for the Nonconformist section of the community, whilst a platform and reading desk was also provided for those who were opposed to the pulpit. There was no pastor; and the Northampton world, seemingly, went very well then. Mr. Horrocks would appear to have been well-beloved by his fellow-colonists. Upon his death his property reverted to the Shenton family. The bell of the old Northampton Chapel, it may be mentioned, was removed some time subsequent to his death to the Wesleyan Church, Perth, where it has seen many years of service, and still remains.

* * *

Prominently associated with the Laverton district is Mr. H. S. Mackenzie, whose experience of Western Australia covers a big



Mr. H. S. MACKENZIE.

throughout the Murchison and Nor'-West country. On the Kimberley field Mr. Mackenzie was among the pioneers, and was storekeeping at Ruby Creek in '86 and '87. Concerning the early period of the Kimberley field, Mr. Mackenzie has a fund of interesting matter to relate, and some of his narratives of the "big" days of that region are of historic interest. In '93 he and a Mr. Marsh were proprietors of the mail coach service which plied between Geraldton and the Murchison Goldfields.

Some years later Mr. Mackenzie decided to investigate the business possibilities of the Northern fields, and settling at Laverton, proceeded to embark in business as an auctioneer, forwarding and general commission agent, etc., in which line of commerce he is at present engaged. Though a very fully occupied man, he has yet found time to devote some of his energies to town interests as chairman of the School Board of Advice, a body which has done excellent work in the district, securing full time schools at Laverton, Lancefield, and Burtville, and erecting good school buildings at the two former centres. As member of the Local Board of Health for the past six years, during the last three of which he has occupied the position of chairman, Mr. Mackenzie has helped to see that the ratepayers' money has been judiciously laid out, which the present improved state of the town proves.

That there are at times circumstances to cheer the dull monotony of the back country those that have frequented it—if only now and again—will concede. Perhaps one of the most amusing items out Laverton way is the love—great and enduring—existing between those two well-known identities Frank Hann and Carr-Boyd.

Whether it is with the desire of stimulating a general interest in their respective enterprises that the one is given to referring to the other deponent knoweth not.

* * *

Carr, it may be remarked, overlanded to the South Australian border in 1894, and doesn't mind saying so, or pointing to the marked tree, printed above, as evidence of the fact. Hann has also made something of a similar trip. He also experiences no diffidence in recounting the achievement.



FRANK HANN, Bushman and Explorer.

Hann has also done a lot of other service opening up, or attempting to open up, stock routes through the "Never Never," and his record for good work in this connection will certainly stand. He is a great bushman; can get out and get back where others would perish, but is not the best prospector in the world.

* * *

Carr is also a good hand at getting through; is a better judge of gold — when he sees it in a sovereign—than Hann, and at his best would have made a top-notch press advance for a big circus, his capacity for riding the high piebald horse banging the drum and boosting the outfit generally being proverbial. That he is white when wanted though those that know him best will not deny. Hann is essentially a Nomad—loves the awful silence and dreary solitude of the mulga and spinifex, is never more at home than when exploring some of its waterless wastes looking for likely country, and never so ill at ease than when civilisation has to be returned to.

Carr is different. Though at home in the bush he also feels an absorbing interest in the compensations of the town and the joys that money can buy—when you've got it.



Carr-Boyd in Possession—Says he marked this tree in '94.

The greatest injustice that Hann ever did Carr was, seemingly, when on one of his last year trips out he re-named a lot of hills and dales that the "old horse" reckoned he had already cornered. In witness whereof an item from Carr's narrative. " . . . Why, great heavens, man, we were on half a tin of dog a day, and the heat was awful; our camels were knocked up. . . . Another week and not one of us would have got in. . . . Why, my track to the border in 1894 is at least 84 miles shorter than Hann's and good. On his there are 27 sandhills! . . . His Millie's Range is my Wanda Range; his Saunders' Range is my Neil McNeil Range, and so on all through the piece. . . . There is copper, gold, and, I am sure, silver in that country, besides opals, and there *might* be diamonds. . . ." Here's luck.

* * *

I wonder if the "Old Horse" will fill his accustomed carved jarrah in Glowrey's big bar this Xmas tide, and day-dream of those undiscovered Eldorados in the No Man's land east of the lonely Erlistoun. Last seen he was on one of the back tracks that make for the Golden Spinifex.

"THE GOLDEN WEST."

:o:

Last Year's Issue—As Others Saw It—What the State, Interstate, and Foreign Press Said—Generally Appreciative Notices—An Acknowledgement.

When the first issue of "THE GOLDEN WEST" was launched last year it was hardly hoped by its conductor that the notices bestowed upon it by the press of these and other parts would have been so generally appreciative as they subsequently turned out to be.

Westralia during the previous ten years had had such a plethora of mining and special issues that it was with no small amount of diffidence that the initial number was promoted.

Its success completely dissipated those misgivings, however, and the recognition bestowed by the press, upon what may be termed an effort to do something like justice to the principal resources of the State, was certainly gratifying.

To appreciatively acknowledge therefore in the present issue of "THE GOLDEN WEST" what was said of the last by the papers concerned, viz., the *West Australian*, *Daily News*, *Fremantle Mail*, *Sunday Times*, *Western Mail*, *Truth*, *Boulder Star*, *Kalgoorlie Sun*, *Coolgardie Miner*, *Norseman Times*, *Geraldton Express*, *Murchison Advoeate*, *Day Dawn Chronicle*, *Leonora Miner*, *Narrogin Advocate*, *Narrogin Observer*, *Beverley Times*, *The Express*, *Pilbarra Goldfields Newe*, *L.V. Gazette*, Melbourne *Argus*, Melbourne *Punch*, Adelaide *Register*, Sydney *Daily Telegraph*, *Sydney Bulletin*, *Wellington Post* (*N.Z.*), *The Tribune* (Lond.), *Financial News* (Lond.), *Mining Journal* (Lond.), and *Aberdeen Free Press* is almost permissible. Hence these lines. To reproduce all the kindly things they said would be to increase the space of this present production by many pages.

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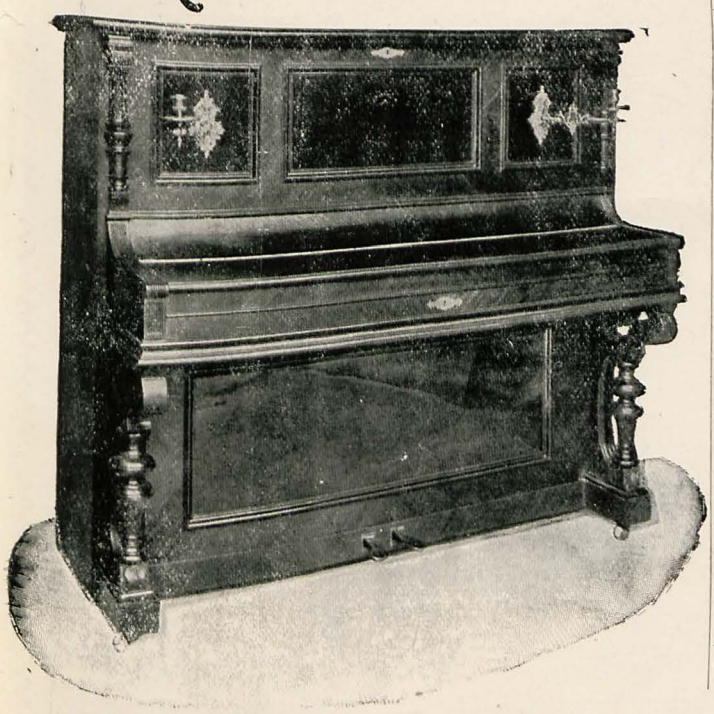
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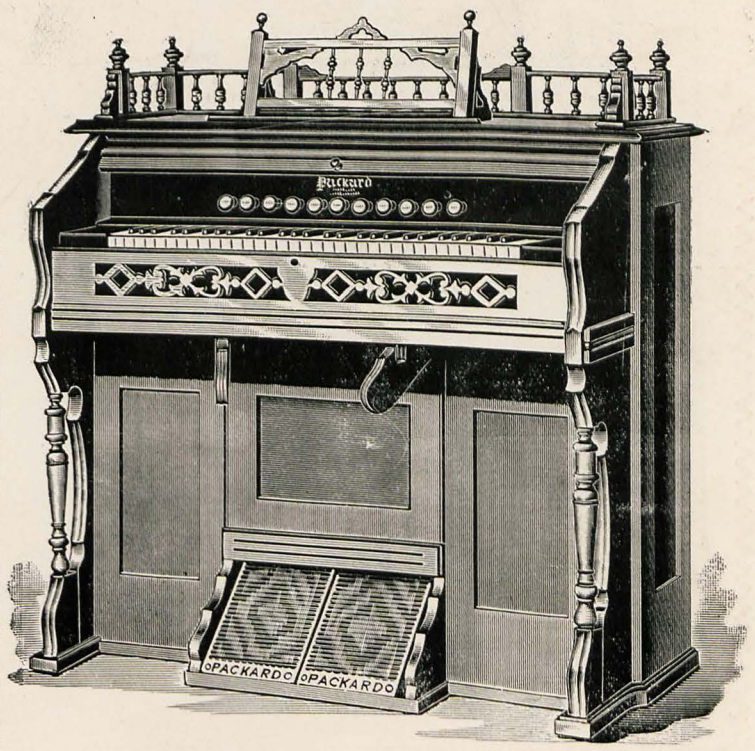
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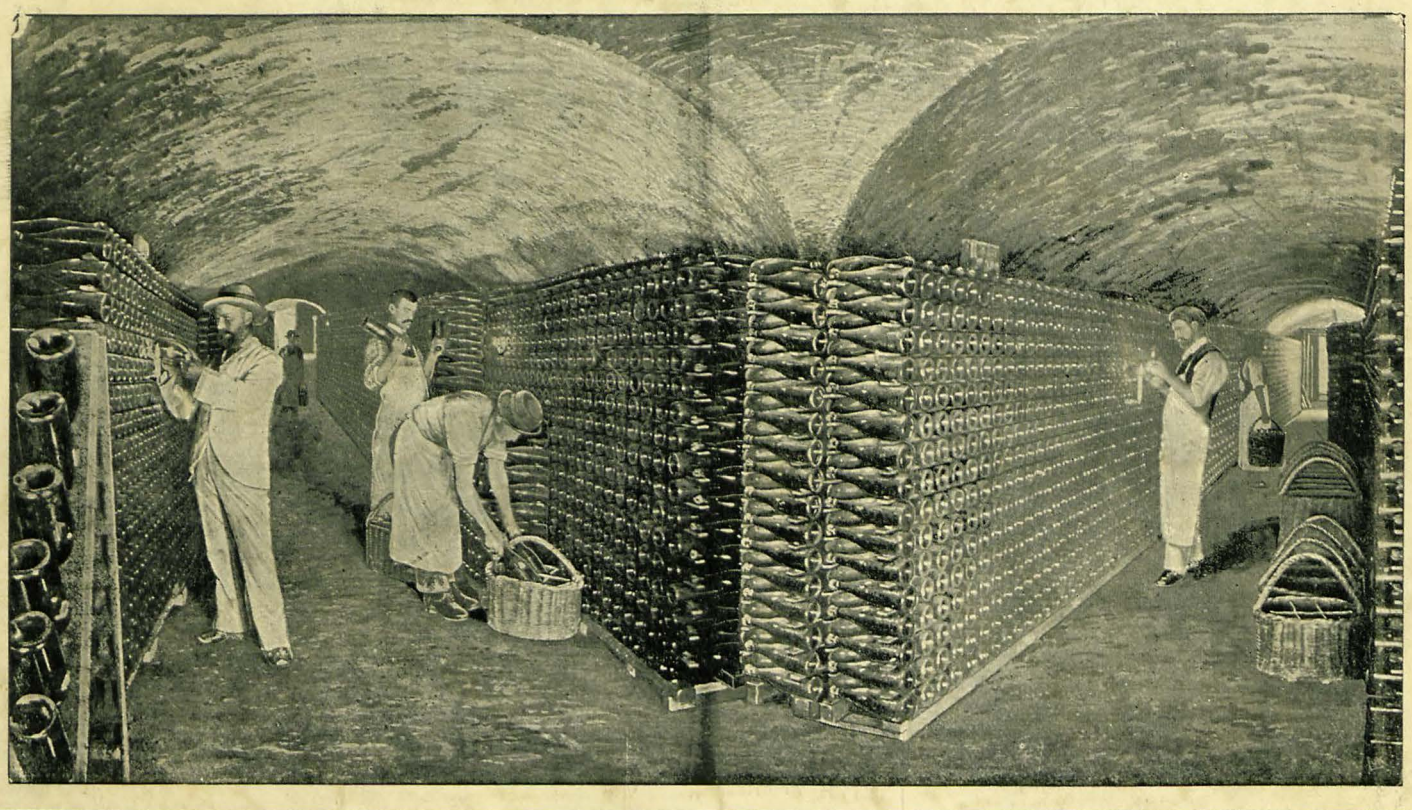
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