and deposit. Many veins are capped with iron, which is simply the oxidized product of the sulphide ores. Ordinarily, when the iron sulphide in its normal condition contains or contains gold, the oxidized outcrop will prospect in free gold. There are exceptions to this, however, but an assay by fire will show the presence of gold. Silver leads are also often marked by a line of iron croppings, and some impurtant and valuable deposits of copper ore have the iron gossan, though there may be no sign of copper aprearing in the iron croppings, that metal having been leached out.

Gold dredging, as carried on in New Zealand and, later, in California, Oregon and Montana, is a dividend paying proposition. The business has evolved from experiment to demonstrated profit. At Otago, N.Z., there are now about seventy dredges at work, some paying dividends from 10 to 200 per cent. The Electric Co., in South New Zealand, repoets securing gold to the amount of $300,000 in less than four years. Dredging there costs about 3 cents per cubic yard; an entire plant costs from $15,000 to $35,000.

Definitions of a Wild Cat.

First—Three stakes claiming a portion of the earth.

2nd—A hole in the ground containing chlorides of assessments, with streaks of expectations, blasted hopes and the owner a liar.

3rd—Capitalization at $15,000,000 and an elegant prospectus.

4th—Managing directors who do not know ore from country rock, or a tunnel from a shaft, but are experts in assaying Mamm's, Pommery, Greno and several other things including Blackjack, which is sometimes found in the hole in the ground.

5th—Development—a column or two paid write up of the progress of the company, including banquets, jags, etc.

6th—Several more write ups, jags, increased assessments, which call for an investigation, assaying as follows:

50 per cent. suckers.
10 per cent. boozerino.
20 per cent. assessment.
20 per cent. chlorides of troubles, lawyer's fees, etc.

The hole in the ground has caved in and the wildcat is dead.--Exchange.

Local Claims.

The properties contiguous to the Tenderfoot, Copper Creek, have been grouped together and will be taken over by a limited liability company, in conjunction with the Mersey, down on Criss Creek. These properties are copper-gold propositions, which by reason of their favorable position should be able to be worked very economically.

In the Kamloops Mining Division the number of Locations recorded during 1899 were 380 as against 364 in 1898, an increase of 16. Assessments recorded in 1899, 347 as against 232 in 1898, an increase of 115. Mining Receipts General for 1899 were $4,302.50, as against $2,297.80 in 1898, an increase of $2,004.70. Free Miner's Certificates $2,035.55 for 1899 as against $1,927.00