

THE MINING REVIEW

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Mining News of the Trail Creek District.

and British Columbia Generally,

It will Prove an Invaluable Medium for all

Advertisers who desire to reach, Investors, Mining Men,

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HOISTS FOR SMALL MINES.

The first step toward equipping a mine with machinery is usually when the shaft gets to a point beyond the capacity of a hand-windlass or a horse-whim, and the purchase of a hoisting-plant becomes necessary. At this stage the matter of first cost is generally the most important; but there are many other considerations, such as the supply of fuel and water, the difficulties of transportation, the site where the engine is to stand, and other points which those who have had experience will readily understand. Where there is no water-power available, a steam-engine is the first thing to be procured, with its accompanying boiler, and in many cases the transportation and erection of the latter is a formidable undertaking, even where the plant is small.

In such cases as these there is now an alternative presented which we think might be adopted in a great many cases. This is found in the gas or oil engine the use of which is now rapidly extending as its merits are understood and appreciated. While these engines are now being used in large works and built of large sizes, they are especially adapted to small mining plants, owing to their compactness and to the absence of the boiler, which is so large a factor in the steam plant. The fuel supply can readily be arranged for: where it is convenient a small gas producer, using almost any kind of fuel, may be provided, or in other cases the variety of the engine using petroleum or naphtha, which is the most easily transported of fuels, can be used. The water supply required with these engines is only for the purpose of cooling the cylinder. The quantity needed is small, as it can be used over and over again, and the quality makes no difference, so long as it will not actually corrode the iron of the cylinder. The management of the engine is easily learned, and the danger of explosion is removed.

For all these reasons the operators of mines or quarries who need power in the form referred to will find it to their interest to consider the gas or oil engine, and often to use it. Some very good and compact types of gas-engine hoists have been designed by different makers, and out of these it is easy to select one suitable for almost any case.—Engineering and Mining Journal.

MINING REVIVAL IN CALIFORNIA.

Our friends, the mining stock brokers of San Francisco, are puzzling themselves over the apparent anomaly now presented in California, where mining was never more active and the speculation in mining stocks was never more quiet. All over the State we hear of new mines being worked, new mills built, old mines reopened, and a general interest in the exploitation of the gold mines, which is leading not merely to prospecting and the location of claims, but to the actual investment of capital on a very considerable scale. While all this is going on, the public is staying persistently away from the exchanges; the old board rooms are given up to the small inside speculators, and the fluctuations in stocks interest no one outside of their very limited circle. The Gold Mining Exchange, which it was hoped would introduce a new element to draw the attention of the speculative public, languishes with the rest.

Perhaps the conditions are not so anomalous after all. The people who are working California mines and putting their money into them are doing it, as a rule, with the expectation of getting a return from the mines themselves and not from the stocks; they are making a business of it and look to business methods to secure a profit. When the speculative element enters into their ventures, it is speculation on the value of the mine itself, and not on the possible fluctuations of prices in the stocks. On the other hand, the public long ago learned to distrust thoroughly the management of the Cornstock companies, whose stocks furnish the great bulk of the transactions on the San Francisco Exchanges. The methods of the operators have come to be pretty well understood, and those who have money to use in this way now regard the results of inside and ring manipulation with apathy, and are quite content to leave the game to the insiders, with whom it has become a matter of habit, and not a very profitable habit after all. The brokers and operators have themselves alone to blame for this condition.—Engineering and Mining Journal.

PRECIOUS METALS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Great Britain is not usually looked on as a gold or silver mining country. In 1895, 6,600 ounces of gold and 280,431 ounces of silver were produced from British mines.



G. A. POUNDER, Pres. M. O. TIBBITS, Sec.

...THE...

Silver Bell Mining Company

Assays from surface ore: \$24.35,
 \$42.96, \$53.00, \$52.30, \$51.90, \$85.26.

Ore taken from the bottom of the shaft on Oct.
 26th, assayed \$103.14.

Situated two miles from Rossland, B.C., has good shipping facilities and all other conditions favorable for a paying mine.

Price on first block of Treasury Stock now FIVE (5) cents per share, subject to raise without notice. Order from main office, Rossland, B.C.

(NOTE. Before purchasing, Rossland residents and visitors are invited to call at the company's office and a representative will gladly show them the property.)

The Silver Bell Mining Company,
 ROSSLAND, B. C.

