

PRECIOUS STONE INDUSTRY

THERE WEP' RECORD-BREAKING IMPORTATIONS LAST YEAR.

Search for Diamond Fields on This Continent—Popularity of the Pearl—Where Precious Stones Are Found in This Country.

Precious stones of every variety were imported into the United States last year in larger quantities than ever before, writes the Washington correspondent of the New York Evening Post.

High prices paid for diamonds today have made the search for these precious stones in this country and Canada keener than ever before. There are four regions in this country where diamonds have been found.

The diamonds discovered in Tennessee and Kentucky which have been found in loose and superficial deposits, and those in the Atlantic and Pacific regions, which for the most part have been met with in washing for gold, are from sources which scientists of the Geological Survey have been unable to trace definitely, even in theory.

Sapphires are found in considerable quantity at Yogo Gulch, Mont., and workings for these gems is gradually developing into a great and permanent mining industry. It is expected that the production of sapphires in this section will soon be quadrupled.

Wholly unequal to the demand in the United States for emeralds has been the supply of this popular gem, which is imported mostly from Colombia. The emerald-bearing area northwest of Bogota is declared to be very extensive, the Government holdings alone being estimated at nearly 100,000 acres.

Pearls are as popular as ever, especially in the United States, and the present demand is causing a drain upon the pearl banks of Ceylon which has been recently the subject of an investigation by the English Government for the purpose of studying the life history of the pearl oyster, its parasites and enemies, and the methods for increasing its production.

Discovery of old and new gems in various sections of the country has stimulated the trade in American gems. Turquoise is already coming in to use as a gem and decorative stone, and is especially popular in semi-barbaric jewelry where a rich but not a precious gem is desired.

California gems are growing in popularity and the increased interest in them has stimulated the search for tourmaline, beryl, topaz and kuznite. These crystals are of especial interest to mineralogists, and George Frederick Kunz, the gem expert who has made a study of the region where these gems are found, thinks that it bids fair to rival the Ural Mountains, which for fifty years have led the world in the production of precious stones.

Some prospecting has been done in Maine for gems at Mt. Michael and other mining localities, but the tourmalines found did not exceed in value a few thousand dollars. Turquoise mines in California and Nevada have increased in production, and have more than made up for the decreased production of the turquoise mines in New Mexico and Arizona.

Black quartz, cut in the form of beads has been sold throughout the world in competition with rich green aventurine, which sparkles with specks of mica. Great quantities of this stone have been taken from the Black Hills of South Dakota.

Among the stones which have been found in large quantities in Amelia County in Virginia, and for which there is a considerable demand, are the amethyst, topaz, malachite and amazon stone.

Mr. Kunz attributes the record established last year for the importation of precious stones of all kinds, ranging from the richest gems to those of the poorest qualities, and even to every form of imitation, to the general "good times" the American people are enjoying. "This record," he says, "was achieved notwithstanding the Russo-Japanese war and was due to general prosperity."

AMEER LOVES A PRIZE FIGHT.

Curious Methods of Entertaining Oriental Monarchs.

Of all the devices adopted by the English government to entertain the ruler of Afghanistan during his visit to India, which is costing the national treasury the trifling sum of \$1,000,000, the one which seems to have been the most successful of all has been the boxing contests, and at his request matches of this kind are got up almost daily for his entertainment.

The Ameer is by no means the only Oriental monarch entertained by the British sovereign who has manifested tastes of this particular character. Thus old Nazr-ed-Din, grandfather and predecessor of the present Shah of Persia, got so worked up about boxing on the occasion of his first stay in England that nothing would satisfy him but a full fledged prizefight; that is to say, a real one, with bare knuckles and blood.

The diamonds discovered in Tennessee and Kentucky which have been found in loose and superficial deposits, and those in the Atlantic and Pacific regions, which for the most part have been met with in washing for gold, are from sources which scientists of the Geological Survey have been unable to trace definitely, even in theory.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

of the Board of Local Improvements of the Village of Downers Grove, DuPage County, Illinois.

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Local Improvements of the Village of Downers Grove, DuPage County, Illinois, passed a resolution at its regular meeting on April 5th, A. D. 1907, providing for the paving of Maple Avenue from the westerly Village limits to the easterly line of Blood street, together with all streets and alley intersections and junctions included in Maple Avenue, and as a connected system to be graded, drained and paved with brick, the estimated cost of said improvement being as follows, to-wit:

ESTIMATE table with columns for item description and cost. Items include brick pavement, macadam foundation, asphaltum filler, excavation, gutters, and inlets.

You are further notified that the 15th day of April, A. D. 1907, at the hour of 7:30 o'clock p. m., at the village hall of said Village of Downers Grove, DuPage County, Illinois, has been fixed as the time and place for the further consideration of said improvement...

Reed Smoot having explained and defended his religious views, it might be well for the other Senators to do likewise. It may be somewhat difficult for most of them to say what they really do believe, but the process would be all the more salutary on that account.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE Estate of Isabella Ann Dunn, Deceased. The undersigned, having been appointed executor of the last will and testament of Isabella Ann Dunn, late of the County of DuPage and State of Illinois, deceased, hereby gives notice that he will appear before the County Court of DuPage County, at the Court House in Wheaton, at the Court Term, on the first Monday in June next, at which time all persons having claims against said Estate are notified and requested to attend for the purpose of having the same adjusted.

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G. H. BUNGE Attorney at Law. Office hours: 1:00 p. m. to 5 p. m. Office at residence, corner Warren and Highland avenues, Downers Grove, Illinois. Chicago office, 504 Security Building.

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