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PECULIAR VICES OF COBALT MINERS.

Sunday There is Not Like That
of Any Other Similar Town
in the World.

(New York Tribune.)

Cobalt, Oct. 19.—This town has other points of interest besides its silver output. Cobalt, for instance, has its vices, lot, somehow, there is in these shadeless, grassless towns something which makes strong men yearn for things which they would shun in Fifth Avenue or in the little New England villages whence many of the silver seekers hail. Cobalt in its excesses, however, is inventive, rather than imitative, and although the camp is only five years old it has already invented two new methods of debauch entirely unknown at Creede, or Cripple Creek, or any other mining camp. Already in twenty buildings and shacks and log huts, the high priests of the new mining vices minister to the votaries. This makes one such place for every seven hundred and fifty men, women and children within five miles of silver ore. And the traffic which is enriching America, English, Canadian, French and even Polish purveyors is carried on with flagrant openness. The evidences of the previous night's excesses are piled high on the rough board sidewalks for all to see.

The habit seizes not merely the rough miners, young college men, the mining engineers of the camp, scions of great families, and graduates of the world's famous technological schools can be seen furiously chewing the thing they have bought from the prosperous Twenty. The other things come in bottles. Of this traffic the Canadian government must have cognizance; some of its school teachers have it, the people hint, but the government raises no finger to prevent, and allows the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railroad to make good freight returns from the traffic. Even, it is said, the little children in the public schools patronize these places, and the teachers recognize it by early rotting teeth and upset stomachs and general dullness.

20 CANDY STORES.

What are these strange, uncommon vices of Cobalt camp? Simply candy and soda water. For Cobalt, which tenderly approach with the idea that they are to be made to dance to the tune of revolvers on the very railroad stations, is distinguished by the number of candy and soda water stores patronized by the dissipating silver miners. By actual count there are twenty candy stores in Cobalt, in places five and six to a block, or as near a block as the infrequency of cross streets allow. And they are orderly, quiet law-abiding candy stores, without even so much as an automatic piano to grind out irreverent music. The stranger in town asks to be directed to the miners' dance halls and grogeries. He is told that there are no such places. If he wishes excitement he may go to the Salvation Army barracks, or to the three moving picture shows.

If he wants inward exhilaration, he has the choice of a nut sundae, or a chocolate soda, or a bottle of "sassprilla," or candy, and in the candy line he can get anything from the lollypop on a stick to the bob bobs. He sends his best girl on Christmas. Liquor saloons are not allowed in Cobalt; the dives were driven out years ago. There are a few "blind pigs," you are told, but they are few and far between. On a Sunday, when the mines are closed and ten thousand men are amusing themselves, the crowd gathers about the drug store across the street from the bank, munches candy or smokes, and listens to the Salvation Army. In the forenoon, it goes to the five churches in town. Many go on excursions to fish at Temagami, or run up to Haileybury, and at train time the stations are crowded. The returning trains in the evening, however, bring no riotous, drunken crowds. They are as orderly as when they went. And in the history of the town there has never been a case of larceny involving as much as \$100. The jeweller leaves his wares out all of Sunday in an unbarred window.

This seemed incredible. So the visitor tried to trap one of the engineers at LaRose who showed him a rich vein recently uncovered by a trench. "I suppose when you ran across that you had a large celebration?"

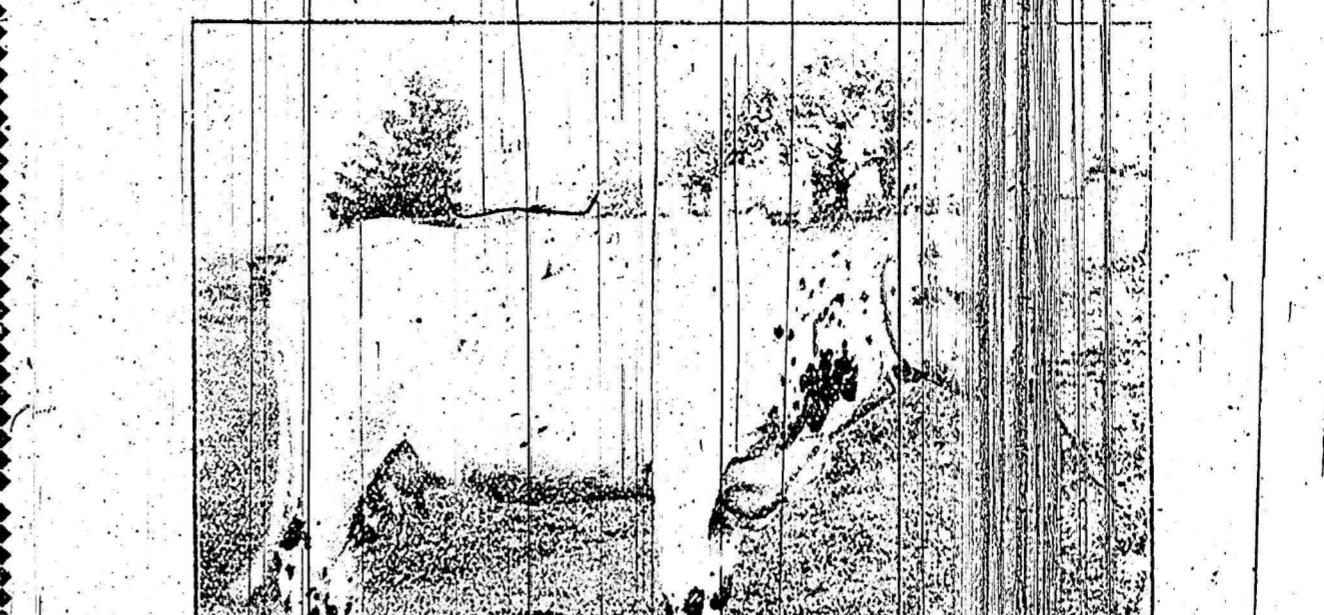
TOWN WITHOUT CRIME.

"Not so that you'd notice it," was the reply. "This camp is mining on an industrial rather than a firewater and sixshooter basis. And if you wanted to celebrate in the ordinary sense of the term you'd have to leave Cobalt, unless you can acquire a soda water jag. If you please, this camp is part and parcel of the effete East. Why, about a year ago, when there was a strike of

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