

# Chapter 5

## Frank M. Murphy - Arizona Gold Miner

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### Introduction

Successful miners in the 1890s and the successful gold miner today have much in common. As a Prescott radio broadcast from 1941 put it, this commonality includes a great knowledge of geology, geography, metallurgy, chemistry, physics, business and law. It required optimism in the face of disillusion and failure, the ability to visualize a great industrial complex from meager information, skill in both gambling and promotion and, above all else, inherent luck.<sup>18</sup>

### The Empire Builder is Dead

Frank M. Murphy was such a man in the 1890s and would do well in the 1990s. Until his death in Prescott on June 23, 1917, he was a fountain of hope and inspiration for the growth of Arizona. He railed the way for the industrialization that the state has seen since his death. He and his brother, Nathan Oakes Murphy, in their efforts to develop mining interests in Arizona, built railroads, started banks, opened resorts, bought newspapers and formed the body politic. They wrote and encouraged the passing of laws to promote Eastern capital to finance and develop Arizona.

### Birth of a Traveler

Frank was born on a farm in Lincoln, Maine, on September 4, 1854. While Frank was still very young the family moved to Wisconsin where Frank and his brothers grew up. Like many young men of the age, he went to California in 1877 and found employment as a stage driver. Coming to Prescott in March of 1878 he first worked at the haberdashery of Thomas Bray & Company. It was at this job that he developed a great interest in minerals. This interest was apparently well applied, for in 1883 he and Douglas Gray, a mining engineer, took an exhibit of Yavapai ores to Denver and later that year to Chicago.

The exhibit next went to the Worlds Fair at New Orleans. In 1884 while tending this exhibition Murphy met Diamond Joe Reynolds, Senator W. A. Clark and other nationally prominent characters who changed his outlook and formed his future.

### The United Verde Mine

In the years following his trip to New Orleans he persuaded Senator Clark to buy a copper mine in Jerome.<sup>4</sup> Through Frank's skillful negotiations Clark bought the mine for a price between \$250,000 and \$300,000. For his investment Clark got a return of \$100 million over the life of the mine and Frank gained a reputation as an Arizona miner and a venture capitalist.

### The Congress Mine

Murphy wanted more. Although he maintained the friendship and respect of Senator Clark, he persuaded Diamond Joe Reynolds to buy the Congress Mine in 1887 for \$60,000. He also convinced Reynolds to put him in charge of operations. Apparently he presented himself well, for he later represented Reynolds in all of his Arizona companies. A 20-stamp mill was erected on the property and within 16 months the mine produced \$750,000. High freight costs convinced Reynolds and Murphy that a railroad was needed. They closed the mine down in 1891 and started to plan the railroad.

Murphy's fortunes were about to change, however, for Reynolds died at the Congress Mine in March of 1891 while they were planning the reopening of the mines and construction of the railroads. Frank took the body of his dead benefactor to Prescott and on to Ash Fork by carriage. The entire trip was made during a violent storm. While crossing a swollen river, the coffin carrying Reynolds floated off the wagon and started towards Phoenix. Frank swam after the coffin and used his own body as a rudder to steer it to the bank over a mile from the initial floating.<sup>18</sup>

He eventually bought the Congress from Reynolds' heirs and had trains running to the property in 1894. By May 7 of 1891 the Congress Mine was Arizona's largest gold mine. Its reputation was such that it was visited by President William McKinley. During Murphy's time the mine produced nearly \$8 million in gold. In 1910 Murphy and E. B. Gage, a business associate, closed the mine. Today the mine is operated by Republic Goldfields, and is one of Arizona's few producing gold mines. This is the fourth time that it has been brought back to life after being shut down for extended periods.

## **The Santa Fe, Prescott and Phoenix Railway Co.**

This was the railroad that Reynolds and Murphy envisioned. With the help of Phillip Armour, N. K. Fairbanks, Norman B. Ream, Boise Penrose and the firm of Bowen & Ferry, the railroad was organized in May of 1891. They had convinced the Santa Fe and the A&P that the SFP&P would control a large amount of rail traffic in Central Arizona. Both the Santa Fe and the A&P funded the SFP&P, provided used equipment, and gave the line a lucrative freight contract.<sup>15</sup>

The railway connected Ash Fork to Prescott on August 17, 1893, and to Phoenix on February 28, 1895. Much of the early work was political in nature and Frank enlisted the aid of his brother, N. Oakes Murphy. Frank was later President of the Santa Fe, Prescott and Phoenix System and held that position until his death.<sup>11</sup>

## **The Poland Mining Company**

Frank M. Murphy and associates bought the Poland Mine in the early 1890s. They sank shafts on the rich surface outcrops and broke into a large ore body. This was one of many poly-metallic mines that Murphy and his associates acquired in the Big Bug and Lynx Creek Districts. It was this property and these interests that involved Murphy in bringing a railroad to this area and to invest in a smelter at Humboldt. A 20-stamp mill was built on the property and concentrates were shipped to the smelter in Humboldt. The Poland mill shut down in 1913 after producing \$750,000 in silver and lead.<sup>7</sup>

## **Prescott and Eastern Rail Road (P. & E. R. R.)**

Murphy's success with the SFP&P encouraged him to build the Prescott and Eastern Rail Road (P&ERR) from Prescott to Mayer. He had initially intended to start the line five years earlier but was detained. He extended a line into Poland and eventually to Crown King as the Bradshaw Mountain Railway. Both lines were primarily mining railroads and were planned to serve the existing mines, mills and smelters in the area. They also encouraged mineral development and provided rail service to the smelter at Humboldt for other mines in the territory and the Western US. The selected route would take rail to most of the gold producing districts of Central Arizona. Districts served by this line were Walker, through the Walker - Lynx Creek Drainage and Haulage Tunnel, Big Bug, Peck, Tiger, Crown King, Tip Top, Turkey Creek and several others.

To finance the railroad, Murphy floated bonds in Phoenix and asked the Arizona Territorial Legislature for tax relief. The bonds were based on Murphy and the Territorial Governor's (Frank's brother Nathan Oakes) reputations. They were easily sold. Tax relief until 1911 was granted by the Territorial legislature and financing of the railroads became an instant success.

Typical of Murphy's railroads, the chosen route for the Bradshaw Mountain Railway would have been considered impossible by most railroad engineers. To Murphy, who had pioneered Arizona gold mining in the 1880s, "impossible" had been downgraded to merely "annoying." The route chosen to Crown King had nine

switchbacks, several high trestles and a tunnel. The 4% grade to Crown King was too much for most of the locomotives available at the time. Special locomotives were purchased and delivered at great cost.

The railroad from Cleator to Crown King has been called "Frank Murphy's Incredible But Not Quite Impossible Bradshaw Mountain Railroad" by Arizona's Official State Balladeer, Dolan Ellis. His tribute is an interesting and clever description of its construction.

The railroad reached Mayer in 1898 and the Bradshaw Mountain Railway completed the line to Crown King in 1904. Although the Crown King Mine itself was essentially mined out by the time the first train reached the camp, it caused a revival of the mining activity long before it reached the district. Construction on the railroad encouraged many miners to stockpile ore at the site of the future siding long before the trains actually steamed into camp. As a result of this activity rich ore bodies were discovered in the Binghamton Mine (1910). The Copper Cobre Mining company delivered 300 tons a day to Middleton Siding from the DeSoto Mine by way of a 3,000 foot aerial tramway. Promotional efforts by Henry B. Clifford fraudulently promoted a new company to remine the Peck. Although the Peck bonanza itself did not contribute much to the railroad, several other lower grade mines were developed by Clifford's company and mined. Some of these mines were the Silver Prince, Black Warrior and Swastika. They mined until the depression of 1912. George P. Harrington formed the Tiger Gold Co., built a mill at the Oro Belle mine and took advantage of both the P&ERR and the smelters at Humboldt. The camp prospered from 1904 to 1912. It produced \$1,000,000 in gold and hefty dividends. Murphy owned interests in the Wildflower Mine, Crown King Mine, Tough Nut, and Tiger. All of these mines produced gold and silver during this period.

The railroad hauled ore and freight for numerous other mines in central Arizona but a large part of its success can be attributed to the mines that were acquired and developed by Murphy interests in the area.

## **The Walker District and the Poland - Walker Haulage Tunnel**

Murphy invested in many of the mines in the Walker and Big Bug Districts before developing his railroad. In May of 1904 he had completed The Poland Branch of the P&ERR and the 8,017 foot Poland - Walker Haulage tunnel. An unfortunate strike closed many of the mines in the district in 1903. A large tonnage of high grade ore, however, was shipped through the combination of haulage tunnel and Poland Branch from other mines in the district including the French Sheldon. The Poland Tunnel ceased to be used for ore transport in 1930. A mine that used the Poland Branch extensively was the Henrietta, producing over \$1,000,000 in gold before closing in 1910.<sup>18</sup>

## **The Arizona Smelting Company**

Any miner who has shipped ore to a smelter knows that ownership of a smelter has just got to be a lucrative and unflinching business. This obvious fact caused the

famous and eternal poet, "Anonymous," to write these lines.

Who steals our gold and silver, and copper, zinc and lead?  
Who takes the joy all out of life and strike our high hopes dead?  
Who never wrote a schedule that to anyone else was clear?  
The sulphur-belching, miner-welching, smelter engineer.<sup>21</sup>

"That" was a logical reason for Murphy and his associates to get into the smelting business.

The first Humboldt smelter was built in 1899 by the Val Verde Corporation after the P&ERR reached Humboldt in 1898. It was successful and operated until 1903 when a reverberatory furnace exploded and the wooden building burned to the ground.

In 1905, Murphy and his alliance of financiers built a new smelter on the ashes of the old. This smelter was larger and more efficient than the Val Verde Smelter and, at the time it was completed, it was the largest smelter in the Arizona Territory. The Consolidated Arizona Smelting Company (CAS) ran the smelter until the copper glut at the end of World War I. The company was forced into bankruptcy during the panic of 1907. It was reorganized shortly after the war by the Southwest Metals Company which ran the smelter until the 1930s.<sup>14,18</sup>

The combination of smelter and railroad were most important in developing central Arizona mining activity. Over the years that it operated, ores from innumerable mines and prospects throughout the state were delivered and treated.

To insure success of the smelter, the CAS and other Murphy companies acquired interest in several gold and base metal deposits in the state. Before construction they had developed adequate reserves in the Blue Bell and other mines in the district to justify the cost of the smelter.<sup>18</sup> Today all that remains of the smelter is the smoke stack, one reverberatory furnace and a partially reclaimed pile of slag.

## The Snowstorm Mine

Not all of Murphy's ventures were immediately successful. This is sadly reflected in a letter from M. Vickers, the superintendent at the Snowstorm Mine in his letter to Murphy of April 12, 1892. He says:

The Snowstorm Mine closed down today. Yesterday we were millionaires, today alas we are poor and poor indeed, which is life in Arizona.<sup>19</sup>

It was said of Frank Murphy that he was not bothered by failures or turn around in fate or politics. He would continue to persevere in the face of adversity and would hold to his position until the situation was reversed. His fortunes at the Snowstorm, however, never came around. Later there was a small production.

## Development Company of America

In 1901 Murphy organized the Development Company of America (DCA) through which he channeled many of his later business activities. The principal backers of this effort included Murphy, E. B. Gage, Wallace Fairbank and W. F. Staunton as directors. This was the holding company of the following companies which were financed through the sale of bonds by DCA. The bonds were secured by the stock of the subsidiaries. Stocks held by

DCA included Congress Consolidated Mines Company, Imperial Copper Company, Southern Arizona Smelting Company, Arizona Southern Railroad Company, Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company, Gila Copper Sulfate Company, Poland Mining Company, Lookout Copper Company and a large tract of timber in Mexico.

DCA was very successful for 8 years. It failed in 1911 for reasons described below under the description of the Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company. To satisfy creditors, DCA sold the following securities at auction in New York on June 2, 1911, for the amounts shown:<sup>16</sup>

|                                  |             |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Imperial Copper Company 6% bonds | \$1,015,000 |
| DCA 15 year 6% gold trust bonds  | \$30,000    |
| Tombstone CM 6% special bonds    | \$250,000   |
| Tombstone Cons Stock             | \$100,000   |
| Imperial Copper demand notes     | \$725,000   |
| Tombstone Cons demand notes      | \$1,500,000 |

All of these debentures fell into friendly hands.

## Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company

This was the venture that finally led to the failure of the DCA in 1909 and the loss of a substantial portion of Frank Murphy's fortune.

E. B. Gage had entered the Tombstone district in 1878. He bought interest in the Grand Central and other mines in the area. He then interested C. D. Arms, N. K. Fairbank, Fred Struthers and others to organize the Grand Central Mining Company. It became one of the most successful mines in the camp and the associates made a great deal of money before the mines struck water in 1882.

The unexpected costs of pumping water in a saturated limestone formation brought the Tombstone mines from a high level of profitability to marginal and worse. In 1887 only the Grand Central and the Tombstone Mining and Milling Company were in operation. The following year low silver prices reduced the profitability even further and all the mines in the district were shut down by the end of 1890.

In the next decade Gage quietly acquired the interest of many operators in the district and persuaded the others to join him in the formation of the Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company. TCMC was funded by DCA in an arrangement where TCMC stock was transferred to DCA and DCA sold bonds to support the dewatering operations. With these consolidated efforts, they attempted to drain the camp and prospect below the water table. A new shaft was sunk and new pumps were purchased. Although new ore deposits were found and a great additional tonnage was mined, the costs were much higher than expected. From 1902 until 1908 the mines were profitable.

The year 1909 was disastrous. The steam generators failed and the mine flooded. By August of 1910 the mine was again dewatered, but the amount of pumping required had increased to 71.5 millions of gallons per day. This was over 10 times the amount of water that had been pumped before the flood. The mine struggled to operate for another year but closed with a great loss

in 1911.<sup>15</sup>

It is an interesting side note that through Murphy's involvement in other mines and other railroads he was able to coerce the El Paso and Southwestern (Phelps Dodge's Railroad) to build a railroad from Fairbanks to Tombstone. As part of a complicated deal he also got special rates for freight from the EP&SW for the operations in Tombstone.<sup>17</sup> It was this interest that eventually caused Phelps Dodge to buy the Tombstone holdings of DCA.

### **Copper Mining**

In 1901 an improved copper market had attracted the interests of Murphy and associates, and they combed the territory for likely properties. Their exploration resulted in acquisition of options on the Christmas and Silver Bell properties. As a predictable Murphy approach, he supported these mines with railroads and smelters.

### **Phoenix and Eastern Railroad**

The Phoenix and Eastern Railroad was incorporated on August 31, 1901, to build a connecting railroad from Phoenix to Benson. The proposed route would go east along the Gila River to Dudleyville (Winkleman) to support the mines at Christmas then south along the San Pedro to Benson. By connecting with the SP at Benson it would allow concentrates from these mines to be shipped to DCA's smelter at SASCO, near Silver Bell.

The track eventually ended at Winkleman. Soon after its construction this route along the Gila became a legal battle ground for the Nation's largest railroads. In spite of the controversies some of this alignment is still servicing Arizona mines and smelters in the area.<sup>17</sup>

### **Bashford-Burmister Company**

To increase freight traffic for the railroad and to supply the mines along the route, Murphy and his associates formed the Bashford-Burmister Merchandise Company. The company supplied the mines with timber, tools, explosives, supplies, food, clothing and furniture. Many of the purchases by the company and its customers were financed through the Prescott National Bank.

### **Purchase of the Arizona Republican**

For many obvious reasons and because it was a good investment, Murphy and Dr. G. W. Vickers purchased the Arizona Republican newspapers in 1898. There can be little doubt the paper was a major player in the formation of Arizona Territory politics. It was known as the major conservative voice in the territory.

They sold the paper to Sims Ely & S. W. Higley in 1909. Today the *Arizona Republic* is the state's largest newspaper.<sup>18</sup>

### **Castle Hot Springs Hotel Company**

Frank, his brother N. Oakes and another partner bought the Castle Hot Springs property very early in their Arizona activities. They developed a resort on the property which brought wealthy Easterners to the territory for vacations. This early "guest ranch"

atmosphere was a perfect setting to promote the many Arizona ventures that the Murphys contrived. To serve the resort he developed a road and stage line from Wickenburg and Morrystown to the property. The resort was located on a beautiful remote site in Castle Creek and was used extensively as a "think tank" for business men wishing to hold a working vacation or seminar for its senior staff and their families.

### **President of the Prescott National Bank**

Frank M. Murphy and his business associates formed the Prescott National Bank to finance their varied interests. He was president of its successor, the Prescott State Bank, until his death. The bank had an international reputation and set a high standard for the other territorial banks.

When the 13th Convention of Arizona Bankers was held at the Castle Hot Springs Resort, in 1913, Frank had just rebuilt his empire from the edge of bankruptcy with DCA. He gave the "Address of Welcome" to the convention. In many respects the address could be appropriately given by a miner to the banking community today. A paraphrased and greatly shortened version is given below:

### **Murphy's Address to Arizona's Bankers**

Mr. President, members of the Arizona Bankers Association, and other guests, permit me to extend a sincere and hearty welcome.

Nothing but good can result from your coming together, exchanging views and discussing the important questions that call for the most careful consideration of those best equipped to analyze and suggest remedies. Many trying and complex problems are playing in the business affairs of the world. Unless dealt with fearlessly and wisely, many of these problems might easily result in the paralysis of business. Much depends upon the attitude and active interest that bankers and business men take in all public questions, political and otherwise.

I have no patience with those who contend that representatives of corporations and business should not take an active and honest interest in politics. In my judgment, those at the head of large corporations, who do not take an honest and active interest in politics, are not doing their duty and are not big enough for their jobs. It is the rankest kind of nonsense for business men to allow their efforts to be dissipated by reckless politicians and non-taxpaying, irresponsible citizens. Too frequently it is these people who make and administer laws. The results of honest effort should be passed to stock and bond holders who have had the courage to embark on a business. These profits will be reinvested in the permanent prosperity of this country and will assure profitable employment for labor under conditions fair to all concerned.

For the past few years every man engaging in business has been gambling. Any investment made is in danger of having national, state and municipal laws changed in such a way as to disorganize an investor's legitimate plans and take away the privileges and benefits to which investors are justly entitled. This condition must be

changed. It is to men like you gentlemen that the country must look to for improved national, state and municipal governments and not to the federations of labor, socialists, I-won't workers, non-taxpayers and scheming politicians. Our need is for governments that deal justly with all and make prosperity possible regardless of political sympathies.

Last year your President's address referred to the severe blow that the copper interests of this state had received as a result of starting the greatest war the world has ever known. He was justified in what he said. As you know the copper industry withstood that shock and today it is prospering to a greater extent than ever before. We are now confronted by a situation more threatening than the European war. A situation encouraged, I am sad to say, by our Governor who is aiding and abetting those agitators who influence the workingmen against their own interests and the welfare of this state. Arizona does not stand alone in troubles of this kind. California is suffering with us and the whole United States is highly charged with the destructive germ. Can the country submit to such recklessness and expect to prosper? I say "No!"

I observed from the remarks of Mr. Gompers while addressing the American Federation of Labor in San Francisco, Mr. Gompers favors political activity by labor organizations to assure the enactment of laws calculated to strengthen the grip of the Federation of Labor on the business affairs of this country.

He would like to make the laws of this land and enforce them. He would establish rules and regulations whereby the Federation of Labor could control and run the business of the country without investing a cent. It would appear that he is supported in this by Governor Johnson of California.

Would it not be better to encourage members of the Federation to save the money they are spending in disorganizing business and invest it in different kinds of business? They could retain absolute control of these businesses and by demonstration give some substantial evidence in support of the theories that Mr. Gompers advocates. They should invest in something, take a chance, buy some mines. They should find the money to develop and operate them under such regulations as they saw fit to impose. They should also buy farms, factories and railroads. It would not take them long to find that many things must be taken into account when conducting a business. They would find that comfort and satisfactory compensation for employees are most essential but quite impossible if a business can not be operated at a reasonable profit. The spirit in evidence today is not, "how something can be created," but, "how something can be taken from those who have it."

Scheming politicians and those slipping through life by preying upon the successful have always had a large following. They are ever active and untiring. The field is a large and rich one, but it can be devastated if the creative spirit becomes extinct or is so heavily burdened as to become inoperative. It is easy to see that the business of the country would become paralyzed under such circumstances and the consequences are frightening

to contemplate.

It is upon the law-abiding, patriotic, honest, able, energetic citizens of our country that the business future of the United States depends. You gentlemen have a large part to play in seeing that merit wins and the demagogue finds his place. If the time ever arrives when those who have become honestly identified with legitimate business, must surrender their rights and property to the dictation of labor federations or political influences not founded upon justice, then, God help those who live to see the day! I have been trying to do things all my life and I feel that there are strong influences now at work making it quite impossible to get results. This will undoubtedly continue to grow unless men like yourselves, men who have everything at stake, take some serious interest in the political affairs of our country. I fear that we have neglected to do so for too long a time.

Arizona is one of the richest states in the Union, when considering natural resources. Our prospects are brighter than ever before. Our great valleys are filling with energetic farmers. Our cattle, sheep and lumber interests are prospering. Nothing stands in the way of a great future but reckless politics. Politics which, I am pleased to say, will be materially clarified at our next election.

From one end of the state to the other there is more activity in the mining business than I have ever known, and we are in hopes some of our visiting bankers will get in before it is too late. We would particularly like to see the mining men of San Francisco and Los Angeles take a hand in the development of the resources of this state, thereby bringing us close to the prosperous cities of California, of which we are so fond, and likewise their bankers.

You doubtlessly observed that the address of the President of the United States, delivered recently at the Manhattan Club in New York was well received. I can assure you that it had a stimulating and helpful effect throughout the entire country. It would seem, however, that Mr. William Jennings Bryan would have it understood that the President can not know or understand the needs and wishes of true American citizens without he, Bryan, informing him. The more Bryan antagonizes the President, the more support the President will get from thinking people. The President's address touched the business as well as the political pulse of the country. He stimulated confidence when courage and patriotism must assert themselves. The policy of preparedness, as outlined by the administration should be overwhelmingly supported. It means not only protection, but a great stimulant to business such as confidence alone can assure. It quickens one's pride in himself and in his country. Let the peace-at-any-price howlers, howl! Windjammers will always be with us. Their real worth, however, is pretty well known.

I have tried to claim your attention longer than I should and I trust you will pardon me. I realize that the little I have stated is decidedly commonplace, but it represents the facts as I see them. I ask you to accept my sincere best wishes, coupled with the hope that we may be able to join hands in many undertakings of mutual interest and put them through successfully for

the good of our respective states. I have always been a pronounced optimist, and nothing would cause me to lose faith but indifference on the part of those to whom we must look for wisdom and patriotism.

## Conclusion

There can be no doubt that Frank Murphy was in a large part responsible for the development of mining in central Arizona. He took the proceeds from his first success, the Congress Mine, and plowed it back into more mines until it was gone and then did it again before he died.

In the process of developing his mines he built impossible railroads, bought and sold newspapers, opened hotels, fired smelters and funded banks. But let me mention his civic and civil accomplishments.

He worked for, promoted, developed and donated land to the Arizona Pioneers Home in Prescott. He donated the ground for the Mercy Hospital and then became its largest contributor. He donated the land for St. Joseph's Academy and gave liberally to its building fund. He established and maintained the Yavapai Club. With his associates, E. B. Gage and W. A. Drake he completed the Del Rio water system at a cost of \$300,000 and he established a zoo at Murphy Park.

Perhaps a suitable conclusion of his life's work can be summarized from his own words in 1915:

From personal acquaintances with the resources of this county - proven and in the process of development - I unhesitatingly proclaim that nowhere in these United States can be found more promising opportunities than are in evidence in Yavapai County.<sup>20</sup>

## The Honorable Nathan Oakes Murphy

Any biography of Frank M. Murphy can not be completed without mentioning his more famous brother, Nathan Oakes Murphy. N. O. Murphy came to Arizona to be with his brother. Originally he taught school, practiced law and assisted Frank in his mining ventures. He settled in Prescott in 1883 and married Sarah E. ("Nellie") Banghart. Through this marriage he became the brother-in-law of John H. Marion and Edmund W. Wells. Both Marion and Wells later became involved in Arizona politics and Wells was on the State Constitution Committee with Murphy. Oakes was appointed Secretary of the Territory in late 1889 and two years later to Governor of Arizona Territory by President Harrison. He was again appointed Territorial Governor and served from October 1, 1898, to July 1, 1902.<sup>8</sup>

One of N. O. Murphy's principal objectives as governor of Arizona Territory was statehood. Late in 1893 he led a special delegation to Washington to secure statehood. Although the effort did not succeed in this objective it did secure passage of the Arizona Enabling Act in the House of Representatives. The bill later died in the Senate but not before it introduced the issue to the Nation. It was Arizona's Democratic leaning that kept it from becoming a state until February 14, 1912. If they had been more conservative they would not have met the resistance of the Republican party during the Teddy Roosevelt era. N. O. Murphy, did not live to see the statehood that he had worked for. He died on August 22, 1908.<sup>9</sup>

During his terms as Territorial Governor, he supported the building of dams and vast agricultural projects for the territory. He stabilized banking, encouraged industry and developed the civil and civic climate. He led political efforts to reward developers of the transportation and communication networks throughout the area by deferring taxes until the developmental expenditures had been returned. While these practices were spurned by career bureaucrats and laborites they were championed by investors. N. O. Murphy may have been the most influential Territorial Governor of Arizona in getting outside capital for commercial development.

Among N. Oakes Murphy's legacy to Arizona is his State of The Territory report to the Congress of the United States in 1890.<sup>12</sup> In this report he describes the condition of the mining industry in the territory as "exceedingly prosperous" and details its annual production of silver, gold and copper.

Among the gold mines described in this report he particularly mentioned the Phoenix, Mammoth, Congress, Ora Belle, Ryland, Castle Creek, Crown King, Old Reliable, Harqua Hala and several placer mines of the Hassayampa and Weaver districts.

Some of his recommendations included:

An enabling act for the admission of Arizona as a State. Transfer of all public lands in Arizona to be donated to the Territory with title passing upon statehood.

Donation of all school lands to Territory for school purposes, and the selection of good sections in lieu of bad.

Removal of the Geronimo Apaches from the Territory.

Opening of the Indian Reservations to mineral location. Erection of public buildings, greater provisions for legislation, law enforcement and justice in the Territory.

Congressional funding for water development and the survey of the public lands.

With the exception of the transfer of the public lands most of his recommendations were eventually won at least in part although many, such as the mineral locations on Indian Reservations, were later given back.

At the very end of his report, in the area normally reserved for summaries, N. O. had this to say about the undeveloped resources of the Territory:

The possibilities of Arizona's full development cannot be anticipated and the probabilities are also beyond any possible conservative estimate. Opportunities for profitable mining, grazing and agriculture are practically limitless. The scope of our industries can not be measured. There are millions in precious metals in the rock-ribbed crevices of the mountains; millions in the nutritious grasses of the mesas and plains; millions in the extensive and marvelously productive agricultural valleys; and millions in the broad forest of timber in Arizona. Well directed labor and energy are at all times productive of independence and comfort here. The Territory is an empire within herself, with agricultural land enough for the home consumption of a population as large as that of any State in the Union; with a grazing territory unsurpassed anywhere; with forecasts of timber sufficient for the building purposes of a populous State for many years; with untold millions of mineral wealth in her mountains for export. Arizona, when appropriate legislation is had, and proper facilities afforded for the development of her great resources, will take a place of deserved prominence in the Union of States.

## Henry W. Murphy

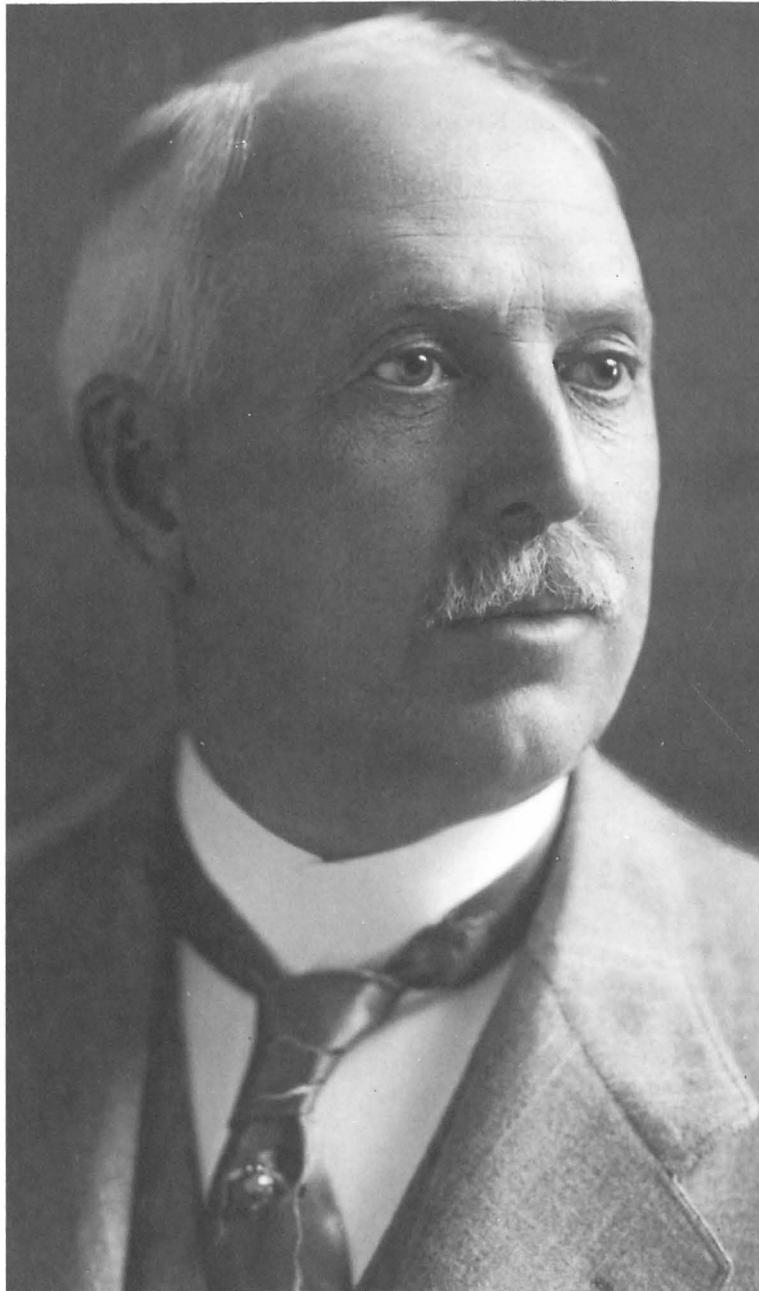
A third brother followed the others to Arizona in 1884

and became involved with the Congress, Jerome, Hillside and Poland mines. He died in September of 1902 after six years of prolonged illness.



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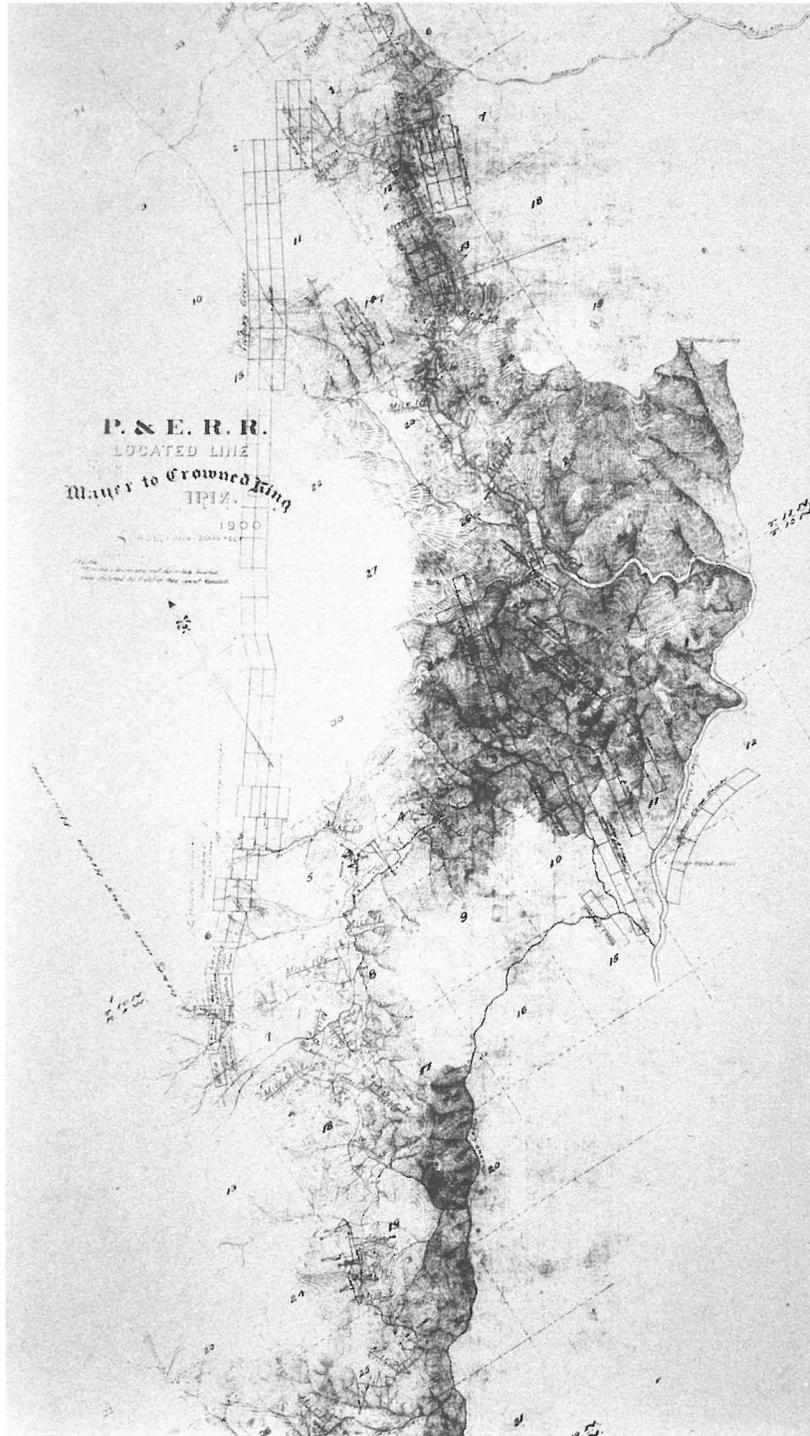
Frank Morrell Murphy, c. 1900. Courtesy of F.M. Murphy, III.



Murphy (second from left) and business associates Fennell, Frank Morgan, W. F. Staunton, Al Frances, Steward, E. B. Gage and W. A. Drake stand in front of the Crown King Mine, c. 1900, before the railroad. Courtesy of Sharlot Hall Museum.



Crown King terminus of the Prescott & Eastern RR, c. 1905. Courtesy of Arizona Library and Archives.



P&ERR Mayer to Crown King, c. 1900. Courtesy of Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources. This is a copy of the map used in the original presentation of the Railroad to the Arizona Territorial Legislature.





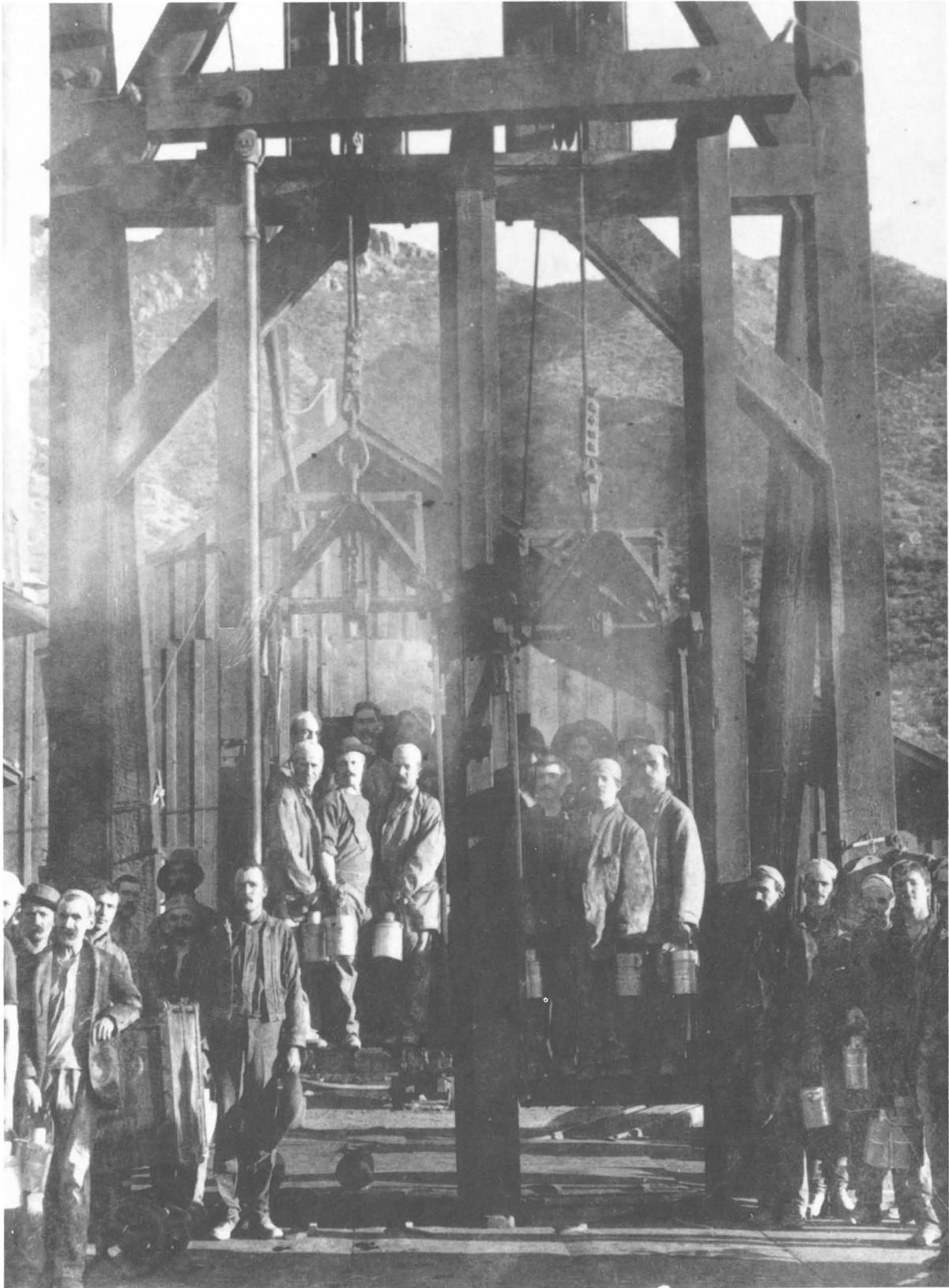
Mud Hole Mine area, Walker (Yavapai County), AZ. Courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



Eureka Mine, Walker, AZ. c. 1900.



Sheldon Mine, Walker, AZ. c. 1900. Both photos courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



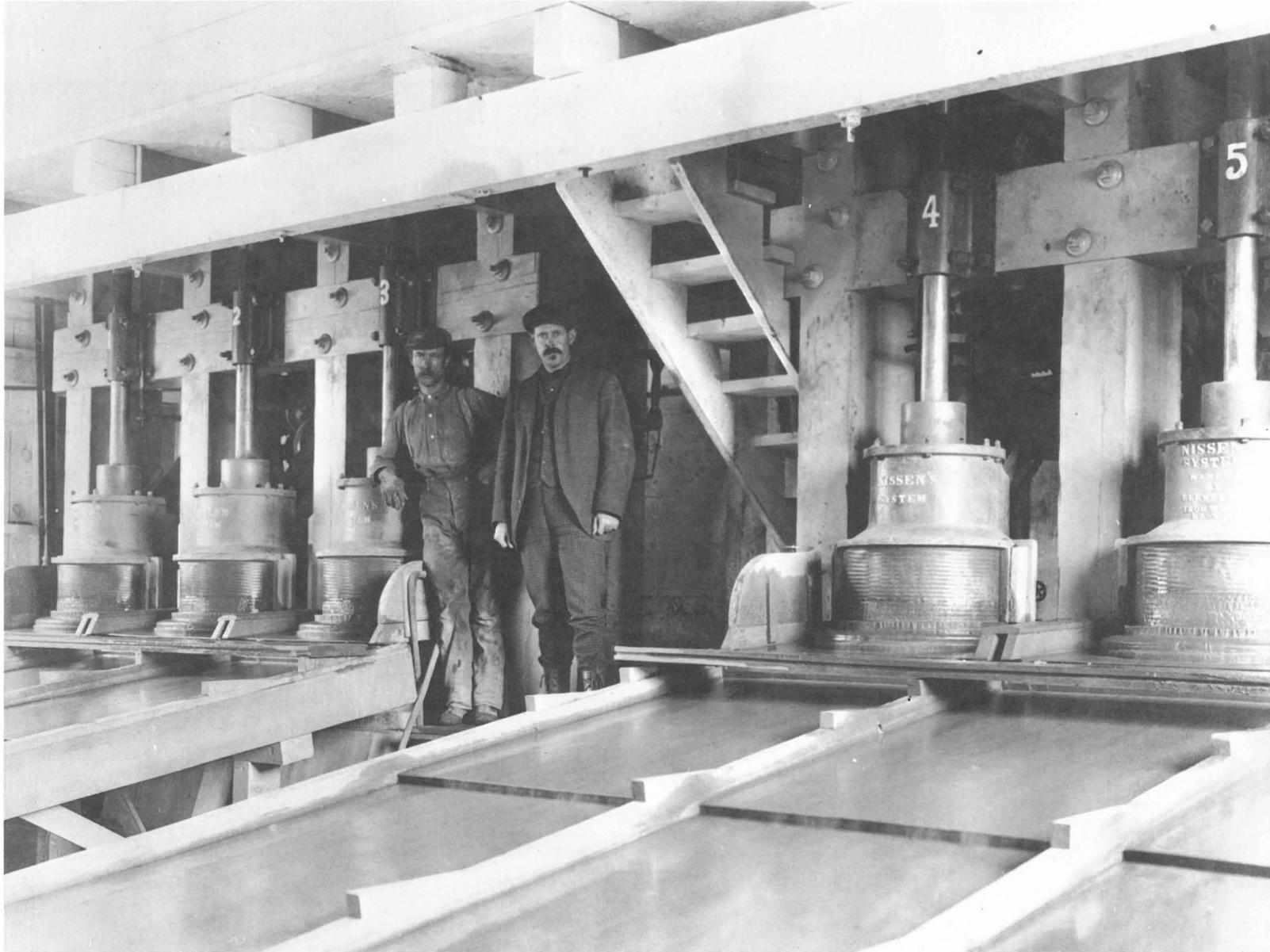
Miners starting the shift at one of Murphy's mines, c. 1905. Many of Arizona's mines were closed during the labor movement of the period. Some were never reopened. Courtesy of the Arizona Historical Society/Central Division.



The Metals Milling Co., Walker, AZ. Courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



Interior view of mill operated by the Metals Milling Co. Gravity tables in right foreground. Courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



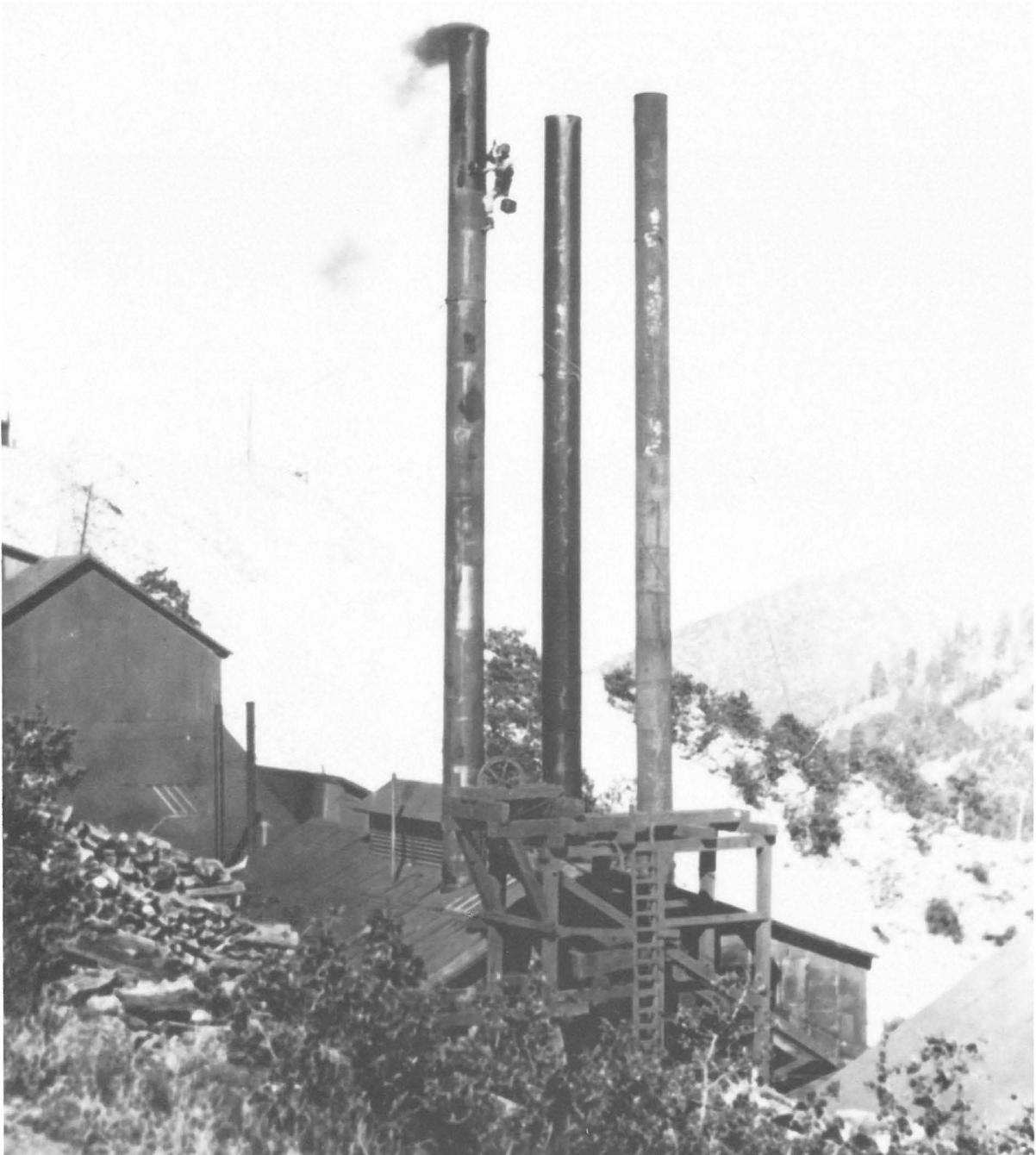
Concentration equipment in the Home Run mill, Groom Creek, AZ. Courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



Poland Mine area, Yavapai County, c. 1900.



Poland mill, c. 1900. Both photos courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



Poland Mine stack painter, c. 1914. Courtesy of the Arizona Historical Society/Central Division.



Blacksmith shop at Poland Mine. Courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



Val Verde smelter, Val Verde (Yavapai County), AZ. Courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



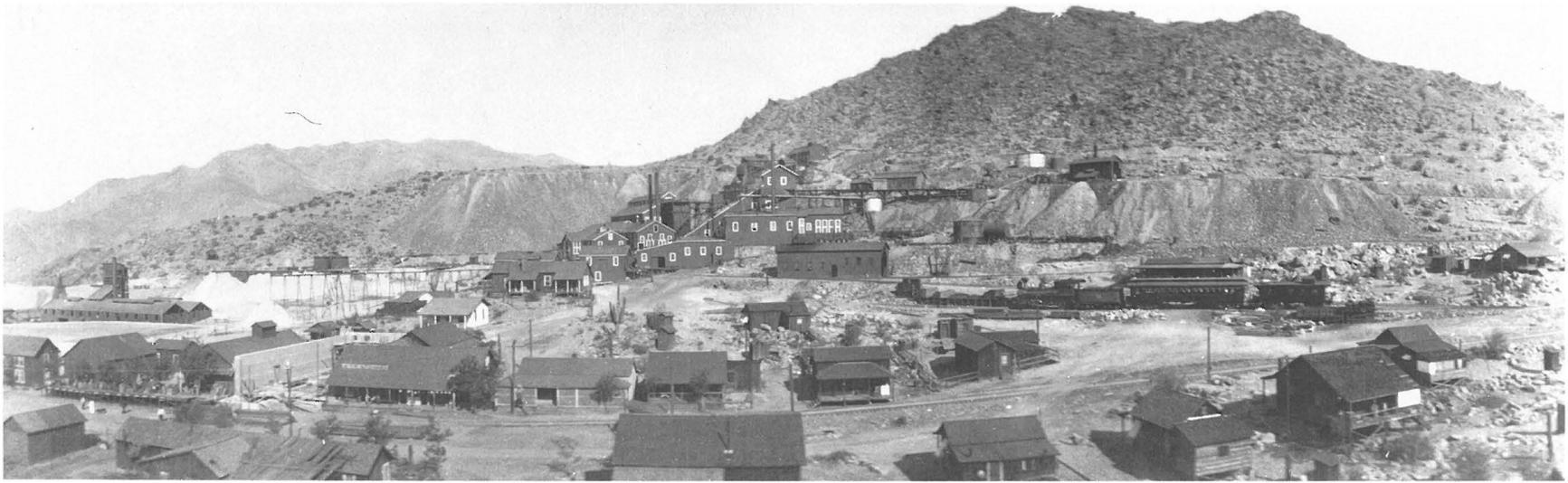
Rigby Reduction Co., Mayer, AZ. Courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



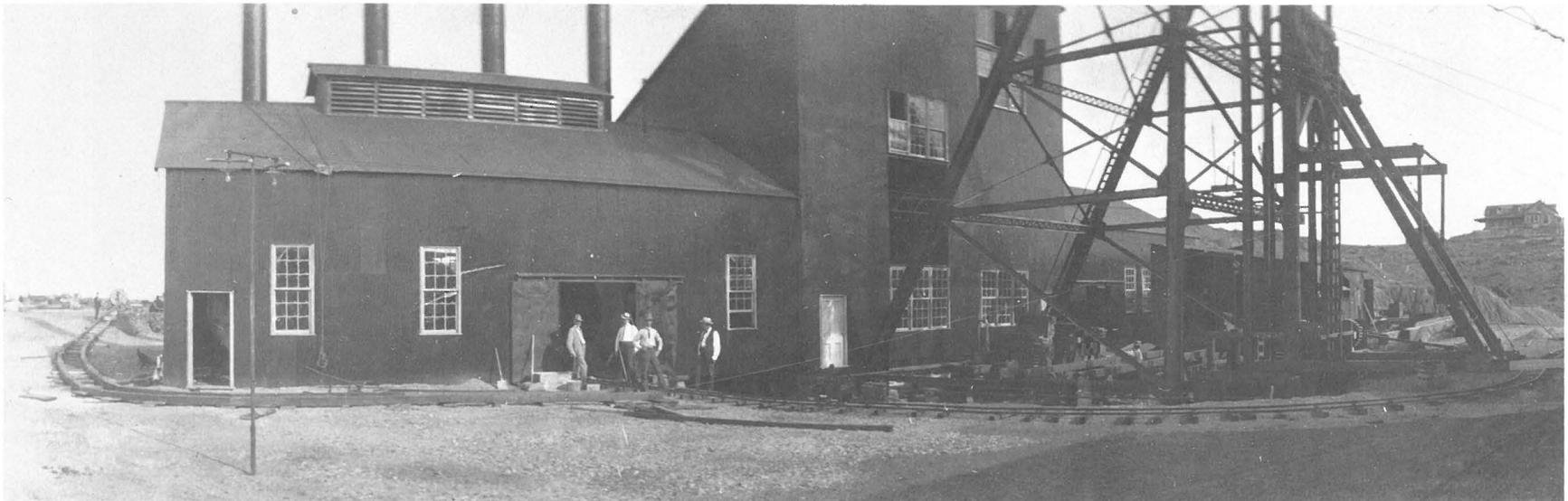
Surface works of Brindle Pup Mine, c. 1910, One of the many Bradshaw Mines that benefited from the activity generated by the P&ERR. Courtesy of Sharlot Hall Museum.



The Henrietta Mine, c. 1910, was another of the Bradshaw mines to make extensive use of Murphy's railroads and smelter although it was never owned by Murphy or his interests. It is doubtful that this property could have been successful without these facilities. Courtesy of Sharlot Hall Museum.



Congress Mine, Yavapai County, c. 1900.



Hoist and boiler plant of the Tombstone Consolidated Mines Co., c. 1905. Both photos courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



The Castle Hot Springs Resort, c. 1910. Courtesy of Sharlot Hall Museum.



A prospector and his palace in the Bradshaw Mountains, Yavapai County. Courtesy of Frank M. Murphy, III.



The train heads home on the Prescott and Eastern Railroad, c. 1910. Courtesy of Sharlot Hall Museum.

A news item . . .

January 20, 1904

Some very important mineral discoveries have been made in the past few days in the immediate vicinity of Nogales, though the companies are endeavoring to keep their discoveries secret until the extent of the precious metals can be determined. Both molybdenite and wolframite in high grade are in the discoveries, and while the exact location is not known it has been learned that these metals are found in both Arizona and Sonora, Mexico, and lying but a short distance from the corporation limits of the city. The official announcement of these exploiting companies will doubtless be forthcoming and in all probability this field will be another of Arizona's bonanzas.

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A news item . . .

### **Kuntzite Found in Northern Arizona.**

January 28, 1910

The Gazette says: For the purpose of securing specimens of kuntzite which he will present to experts in San Diego, Frederick Webb will leave for the place where he discovered that gem last week.

He still keeps the location of the find a secret, but it is known to be somewhere between Phoenix and Prescott, near the S. F., P. & P.

Before returning to Phoenix again he will have prospected the ledge more thoroughly. With his specimens he will go to San Diego and show them to the people who are interested in the kuntzite deposits near that place, which were the only ones known to exist before Mr. Webb made his discovery.

The supply of kuntzite is limited and Mr. Webb knows that he will have no trouble in disposing of all he can procure at good prices. The first specimen he found is worth not less than \$50. He also found specimens of beryl and tourmalines, which he intends to have cut and polished.

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Miners with lunch buckets and candles, Cochise County. Courtesy of the Arizona Historical Society/Tucson, #15935.

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