

The Midas Chronicle

1996

The Gold Circle Mining District, Elko County, Nevada

Donation

GREAT RUSH NOW ON

In Squaw Valley Over
Big Gold Strike--
Claims Being Staked Off
For Miles

*(Following are the first known
articles about the Midas strike
from Central Nevada, Battle
Mountain's newspaper, printed
on June 27, and August 29, 1907,
respectively.)*

A great mining excitement is now on in Squaw Valley. A letter received last night by the writer states that Jas. McDuffy is the discoverer of a rich gold strike. There is now a big rush on where the big find was made. It is said that claims have been staked off for miles. The place where the

"Friends of Midas" Formed

Friends of Midas is a nonprofit group organized in 1995 to preserve Midas and educate the public about its history. It is incorporated in Nevada and recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization.

Unlike other groups, Friends of Midas does not sell memberships. Instead, it encourages--and solicits!--monetary and property donations to further its cause. Donations are tax-deductible.

Friends of Midas produced this newspaper to provide you with historic news articles about the town and show you advertisements for long-gone businesses.

The *Midas Chronicle* will also acquaint you with present-day activities and the group's many projects. After all, the town may be quiet, but it's not dead!

Currently, Friends of Midas is involved in the preservation of the Midas Ceme-

tery and the Midas School. A town park, which will display historic mining and ranching equipment, is also planned. Details about each of these projects are provided elsewhere in this issue.

The group is also preparing for 1997, the 90th anniversary of Midas.

Unlike most newspapers, you're not required to pay before you read. But if you enjoy this publication, please consider making a donation to Friends of Midas.

In particular, the group is interested in locating old photographs and journals or letters written during the camp's boom years.

For further information or to inquire about making a donation to Friends of Midas, please contact one of the board members. Their names and the group's address are on page two.

Midas Joint Venture Explains Planned Drilling

Midas, Nevada. At a meeting held here in March 1996, Midas Joint Venture executives explained their plans to residents.

Other companies are also involved in the noticeable increase in exploration activities around Midas in recent years, but Midas Joint Venture appears to be the most active and closest to actual development.

As expected, Midas residents are quite interested in the company's plans. The content of the March meeting was summarized in *The Midas Touch*, a newsletter produced by Don Mellon.

In a later telephone interview, M. Craig Haase, Vice-Chairman and General Counsel for the Midas Joint Venture partners, provided the information for this article.

strike has been made has been named Gold Circle and is located on the northwest side of Squaw Valley, about six miles from the Squaw Valley ranch, Humboldt County.

The recent strike on Summit Creek, about 40 miles west of Tusciora and 10 miles northwest of the Squaw Valley or Fairclawn ranch, has created quite an excitement says the Tusciora Mining News. Phenomenal values have been found, one assay going \$8800 in gold. This will prove to be one of the biggest finds of the season as the mineral belt extends for over three miles in length and one mile in width. Shipping and milling ore has been uncovered in a number of places in good strong ledges that traverse the entire distance of the belt. About 45 prospectors are in the camp at present and more coming in every day. Work is going on steadily on all located ground and sensational punnings obtained.

This camp was discovered by James McDuffy, an old prospector. He and his two little sons pulled up on a malipi ridge overlooking this belt, and as there is a perfect circle of malipi around it, he named the place the Gold Circle district.

The company consists of Franco-Nevada and Euro-Nevada Mining Corporations," explained Haase. "We have been exploring near Midas since 1992."

Drilling began in 1994 with reasonable success. In 1995, drilling in the Rex-Grande zone, the most promising site, identified 2.5 million equivalent gold ounces.

"This doesn't mean we will mine that much gold," Haase emphasized. "How much can actually be taken from the ground remains to be seen."

Other potential targets, such as the Acme and Dempsey zones, were also noted.

According to Haase, much of 1996 will consist of infill and exploratory drilling to determine the extent of the ore body and minable gold.

By the end of the season, Midas Joint Venture plans to start construction on a decline shaft.

However, the best scenario, if the ore body is large enough, does not provide for a full mining operation until 1999 or later.

Until 1998, the number of employees in the Midas area is expected to be about 20.

Haase does not expect the operation to adversely affect the town. If mining starts, employees will be bused in. The company has acted already as a good neighbor.



MIDAS, NEVADA. Originally called "Gold Circle," Midas was well-established, but not large, when this picture was taken in 1912. *(Photo courtesy of the Nevada Historical Society)*

Friends of Midas
Gold Circle Drive
Midas Nevada 89414

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A local history
of Midas

The Midas Chronicle

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Friends of Midas
Midas, Nevada

This newspaper is dedicated
to the memory of
Tim Timmons
who loved Midas.

Dempsey at Gold Circle

With Senator Getchell

To Work at Macy Mine

Training Quarters Provided for ex-Champion to

Keep Up His Training; Property is

Valuable One and Ore Carries Good Values

(*Reno Evening Gazette,*
September 25, 1931)

Senator N.H. Getchell and Jack Dempsey left for Midas, in the Gold Circle district, Elko County, Wednesday, expecting to spend thirty days at the Macy mine, recently taken over by Getchell. Jack Dempsey, James McKay and "Tex" Hall, all of Reno.

Dempsey's headquarters will be in the Gold Circle Consolidated Company's office, and first-class training quarters have been provided where he can continue his conditioning. The arrangement of the gymnasium is similar to that at Lawton Springs.

His trainer and sparring partner, also his cook, are on the ground. Jack is scheduled to take a regular shift on the "Armstrong" hoist in order to strengthen his back and to do

been let to Mashner, Paul and Buyer.

The vein is developed to a depth of 170 feet, with some lateral work on the fifty and one hundred-foot levels. In the early history of the mine considerable ore was shipped to the Utah smelters, and some was treated at the Elko Prince mill. Records show that the ore carried values of \$26 to \$60 a ton, and that a small lot was settled at the rate of \$500 a ton.

From a few inches in width on surface the ore at the hundred foot point increased from two and one-half to five feet, and carried \$15 to \$40 a ton.

Getchell and associates have secured an option on one claim lying to the south of the Macy group of four claims from Con Volkert.

The mill of the Gold Circle Consolidated company is operating twenty-four hours a day,

"Gold Circlets"

(From the 1908 Midas newspapers)

The post office department has established a post office at Summit.

The handsome new auto of Eugene Dutertre makes regular trips from Golconda to Midas.

An annex has been made to Scotty's hotel and it will now accommodate 50 guests. The beds in this hotel are separated by canvas partitions.

There is some talk about a man named J.J. Taylor claiming some interest in the Midas townsite, but we anticipate that Judge P.A. Leamy, manager, will see to it that those who have purchased lots from them are protected.

Bill Moreland, he of the Cor-dove Cigar company, was in Gold Circle during the week and named the Gold Circle Investment company as distributors of this high-class cigar. A better selection could not have been made because this firm is a popular one and acquainted with the demands of the field.

comfortable for you.

M.M. Gibson challenges the world for a cracker-jack foot race. Gibson weighs 230 pounds. The conditions are: any like weight. As manager of the Crystal he has learned the sprinter's gait. The summons "Give us another" from all over the house keeps him on the move.

Over on Squaw Creek they are doing things to the right and the left and in the middle they are finding gold in place gold in the rock and gold in the gravel.

Fred Henkle handles cleaver and meat saw to perfection at the Gold Circle Meat Market. He is boss of the shop and a dandy at his business.

H. Riddels, manager of Maney Brothers & Company, is ready to fill large or small orders for mining supplies, groceries, etc.

During the past week additional gold strikes were reported on the Hiawathas and the War Eagles. It is the usual thing where work is done.

Midas Water Co-op A Success

Midas, Nevada. Thanks to the hard work of the Midas Water Co-operative, Midas has one of the finest water systems in Nevada.

In 1989, water users formed a group to administer the system. Now Midas enjoys the lowest rates of any system in the State, good pressure, and a steady supply.

For the first time, the system includes fire hydrants placed strategically throughout the town. New pipe has replaced the old wire-wrapped wood pipe, and a storage tank ensures a plentiful amount of water during dry years.

Dick Rowe, former Co-op President, explained that a moratorium on hook-ups has been lifted, and eligible persons may now apply for water connection.

Rowe also noted that the Co-op works closely with the State Health Division and Elko County to ensure that the water supply remains healthy and safe.

Mert Mickelson was elected President in July 1996.

The 1908 reports about a first-class Midas water system did not come true until the co-op took charge. Many dry summers and hard winters kept water from being supplied to the town.

thieves in the Gold Circle district was short-lived. The vigilance of Guy Harbin was too much for the get-rich-quick Mulqueen gang. They are gone with the kingpin behind bars.

Miss Lydia Wydhurst has come to make a home at Midas.

There are fortunes upon fortunes in the mountains of the Gold Circle district.

And the little donkey, the future packer for the finding of other mines, is at our door making the music we all know in Nevada camps.

Our friend, A. Dorsey, at the T-Bone is a clever servitor of the good things to eat.

Charles M. Geyman and family are partaking of the pleasures of Golconda Hot Springs this week.

The Gold Circle Hotel, under the management of Paul H. Moore & Co., is a popular resort for mining men. They can accommodate one hundred guests comfortably. All autos and stages stop here. Don't forget the place for Mr. Moore will make it

owns some of the principal producers in Midas.

This is said to be Dempsey's first venture in mining. At the conclusion of the strenuous training at the mining camp he and a party of friends expect to go to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, in search of elk and other big game. After the hunting trip he will visit with his mother in Salt Lake.

Midas Will Have An Ample Water Supply

(The Gold Circle Miner,

April 11, 1908)

mands. Probably there are one thousand people now in the district. This number is daily increased by arrivals of fifty to seventy-five persons.

One pleasing evidence of the confidence in this location is that almost every man who comes in buys a lot or two and at once proceeds with the erection of a house in which to do business. While earlier in the history of the camp many lots were bought purely on speculation, these are now being built on as fast as lumber can be secured.

Midas has every favorable surrounding condition and the energy and business judgment of the people demonstrates perfect confidence in the fact that it is the center of a great mining field.

The mine is located two miles north from Midas and was owned by Judge Macy for years, who is one of the oldest residents of the district.

A tunnel has been driven a distance of 175 feet. This tunnel is expected to intersect the vein at less than five hundred feet, which will afford about four hundred feet of ore development and drain the mine of water. A contract for the tunnel work has

Every effort is being made to supply Midas with a volume of water sufficient for all purposes. This water will be furnished from half a dozen fine springs with a four hundred foot head, and a three-inch pipe will convey the water directly into town.

The townspeople have been very active in this matter and are disposed to do all that is necessary and proper to advance and facilitate the town's interests.

Midas is rapidly building up with substantial frame structures which are taking the place of tents. The merchants and business men already have large stocks of goods ample for all de-

Our town council we understand contracted for a hitching post in Central Park. Above mentioned post will have a number of big rings to which you can hitch your favorite BULL.

Gold Circle is still on the map. Our first shipment of bullion was sent out last week. The Rex Mill had a cleanup on the ore of Miles and [?] leasers on the Rex. May the good work go on. The Rex Mill is now running on the Prince ore. The cleanup will no doubt be large as the Prince is a big mine and has lots of picture rock. They have over 1500 tons of \$60 rock on the one dump.

Two 40# hammer drills were put into action in the shaft of the Elko Prince where they are sinking from the 750. The drills are giving good satisfaction.

Ice cream soda at Benneson's drug store next Sunday.

John Randall will soon return home from school. Joe and Charles are advised to lock up their "dress sox."

HOW ABOUT THE NEW SCHOOL HOUSE?

Midas School To Be Renovated

Midas, Nevada. Midas Joint Venture has announced its purchase of the Midas School and its plans to renovate it.

"We plan to use the facility as an office and housing facility," explained M. Craig Haase, Vice-Chairman and General Counsel for the company.

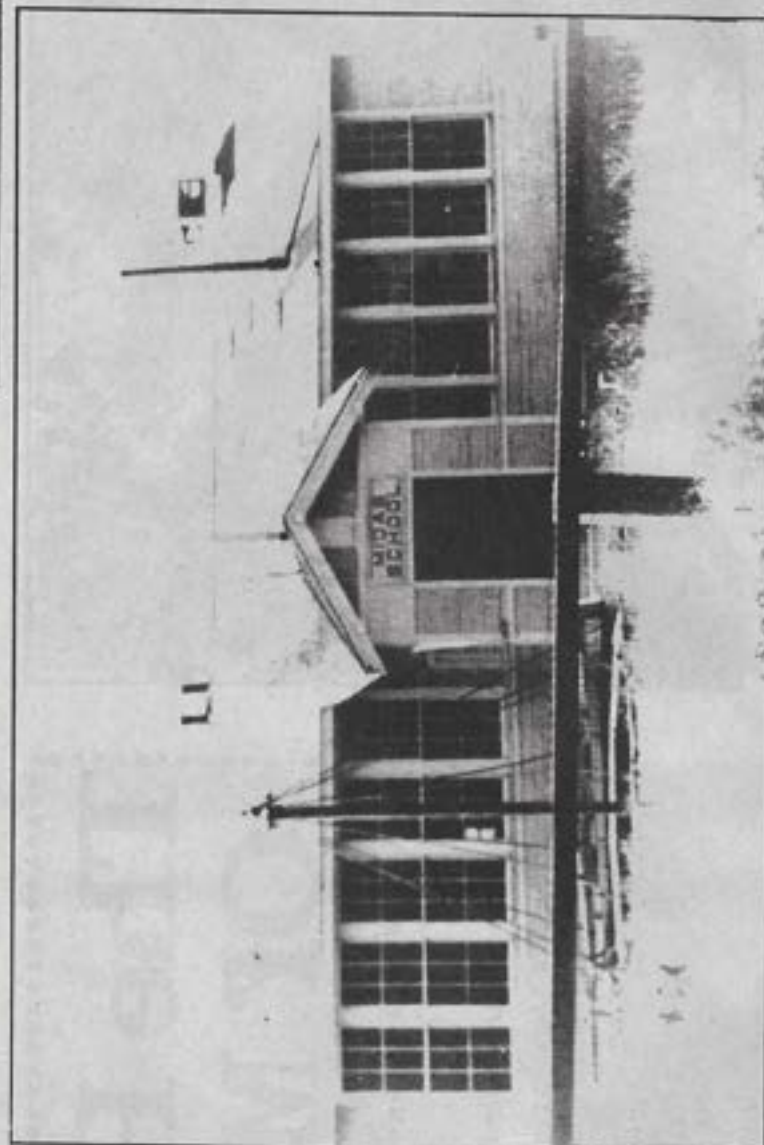
"But we also recognize the building's significance--few other Nevada mining towns can boast such a wonderful old building," noted Haase.

In 1927, Midas voters approved a bond for a new building to replace two rapidly deteriorating structures. The Midas School was completed in 1928; the debt was retired in 1935.

The next year, playground equipment was installed, which children of all ages have enjoyed in the 60 years since.

Classes were held at this facility from 1928 through 1951, then sporadically until the building was sold to a private owner in 1972. During those years, the number of students ranged from the state minimum of three to 50 or more.

After 1972, the school was owned by a consortium of Reno residents who used the building as



THE MIDAS SCHOOL. This structure served the Midas School District for over four decades. One of the two rooms usually was an apartment for the teacher.

(Photo courtesy of Friends of Midas)

a hunting lodge. Early in 1996, the company began renovation by replacing the roof.

Midas Joint Venture property to Friends of Midas for preservation in about five years, once the company no longer requires the building.

Recently, company representatives spoke of the plans for the schoolhouse, which include restoring it to its historic state as

establish a small trust fund to assist with the future maintenance of the Midas School.

In the meantime, Friends of Midas will work with Midas Joint Venture to display historical artifacts at the school.

The Midas School bell will be

Barrick To Donate Cemetery To County

Midas, Nevada. Barrick Goldstrike Mine is arranging to transfer to Elko County the land containing the historic Midas Cemetery. Friends of Midas has agreed to improve and maintain the site.

For years, the small burial ground was hidden in sagebrush southeast of town. Cleaning the site is the group's first project.

Restoration will be as historically accurate as possible, but no pictures or records of the cemetery have been located. Plans are based on interviews of residents of Midas in the 1920s and 1930s.

Recently, Tom Haltom volunteered to engineer the construction of the picket fence that will surround the site. Haltom is a licensed contractor and Midas property owner.

Henry Anderson, another Midas property owner and a stonecutter, has offered to produce a monument to mark the site.

In addition, Newmont Mining Company donated fencing materials; Conn Davis surveyed the parcel; and honor camp inmates removed brush and will manufacture the pickets. Other Midas property owners are also working

"Midas News Notes"

(Throughout most of the 1930s, the *Battle Mountain Scout* published a regular column under this title. Following are several selections from that extensive record of Midas social life.)

A large crowd motored to Battle Mountain Sunday, June 14, to attend the ball game between Midas and Battle Mountain. The score was 24 to 9 in favor of Midas. 6/26/31

Gordon Warren's pet dog died Sunday from the heat. 7/31/31

Nev. Gov. Balzar, Matt Penrose, Jack Dempsey, and Cal. Gov. Rolph were guests of Sen. and Mrs. Noble Getchell while here on their sage-hen hunt. They left August 8 for their homes, having had a nice trip. 8/14/31

A small dance was held here March 17. Radio music was supplied and all had a good time. 3/25/32

Robert and John Pilant are attending school after an absence of three months. They live out about four miles and were snowed in this winter. 4/8/32

Mr. and Mrs. P. Murphy have opened the Corner pool hall and are serving candy, soft drinks and ice cream. 5/19/33

The Midas Sunday School had

services and exercises on Memorial Day. They also decorated and fixed up all the graves. 6/2/33

The stage is set and the actors are about ready for their part in the Community Christmas program. The donations toward the children's tree and program have been so generous that Santa Claus will be able to remember every child. 12/24/36

Twelve ladies formed a new bridge club. They plan to play twice a month. 2/10/38

ders were committed on Main Street. But no church was built.

The last bust began in 1941, and the town headed for official ghost town status.

The next discovery was one of leisure activities. For the past 40 years, people have come here to hunt and fish. Some stayed to retire.

Recently, mining activity has increased, but people still come to Midas mostly for recreation.

Midas: A Short History

For the next 30 years, Midas cycled through periods of boom and bust. Populations ranged between 25 and 150, depending on the number of active mines.

Over \$4 million in gold and silver were extracted. The most productive time was 1916-1921.

The district was often the top producer in Elko County.

Midas had saloons, a red-light district, a jail, a town hall; mur-

The boom that resulted in Midas began in 1907. By 1908, fortune-seekers swarmed the hills. Two towns--Gold Circle and Summit--began, and the Gold Circle Mining District was formed.

But the deposits could not support the rush. In 1909, residents numbered less than 200, and Summit disappeared.

Gold Circle was the only town, but the post office changed the name to "Midas."

Midas to Fete

Brick Pouring

Gov. Balzar to Head Party from Western Part of State

(*Battle Mountain Scout, June 11, 1927*)

Midas will turn out in full force on next Wednesday, June 15 to celebrate the pouring of the first bullion brick from the new mill of the Gold Circle consolidated mines, it was announced in Battle Mountain yesterday by W.H. Englebright, superintendent of the company.

Governor Fred B. Balzar will head a group of citizens coming from the western part of the state and prominent mining men throughout the state have stated that they are planning on attending.

The mill of the Gold Circle consolidated mines began operation about May 15 and after that it required more than 15 days to complete the testing of the machinery before a trial milling began.

The mill has been running steadily since June 1 and began milling on ore running \$7 to the ton. Since that time the value has been stepped up every few

days until at the present time ore valued at \$25 per ton is being run through the mill. It is expected that \$40 ore will begin going through the mill next week, the superintendent said.

Mr. Englebright explained that with a new mill, when all the machinery is not properly adjusted, ore of small values per ton is run until all the machinery is working smoothly.

The recovery from the mill which is a cyanide type is exceedingly pleasing, the superintendent stated.

"Our assay sheets show that the mill is recovering 99 per cent of the gold and 96 per cent of the silver."

The mill is handling 75 tons daily at the present time, it was stated, and will handle more than its capacity of 100 daily in a short time.

The celebration scheduled for next Wednesday will close with a public dance in the evening and the Nevada public has been invited to attend the ceremonies in the daytime and in the evening.



Left: Martin and Annie Brown at their home on the north end of Midas, probably in the 1930s.
(Photo courtesy of Friends of Midas)

The People Of Midas

Near right: Bill and John Cody prepare to go out with their donkey cart, c. 1912.
(Photo courtesy of Lela Halsell Hampton)

Far right: Ellen and Arthur Primeaux in front of their store on Main Street, sometime during the 1930s.
(Photo courtesy of Friends of Midas)



Left: Partners Arthur Primeaux and Louis Wilkerson on Main Street, c. 1908.
(Photo courtesy of Northeastern Nevada Historical Society)



Near right: Twelve-year-old sledders Noreen Wilkerson and Theda Phillips. The building behind them was a restaurant on the corner of Fourth and Main.
(Photo courtesy of Edna Wilkerson Timmons)



Far right: Louis Wilkerson in front of his bar on Main Street, sometime during the early 1940s.
(Photo courtesy of Edna Wilkerson Timmons)

Left: Sister and brother, Desda and Gordon Warren stand in a wheelbarrow beside their home on Main Street, c. 1925.
(Photo courtesy of Desda Warren Wood)





Want to Know More About Midas History?

Get your copy of

*Forward with Enthusiasm
Midas, Nevada
1907-1995*

By
Dana R. Bennett

Contains 174 pages of Midas information and pictures.
Published by Great Basin Press in Reno.

Available from Friends of Midas
or order from your local bookstore

Midas Town Park Planned

Midas, Nevada. At the request of Friends of Midas, the Elko County Commission recently set aside a parcel of 12 lots in Midas for the establishment of a park and historic display area. The park will provide an additional tool for Friends of Midas to further its mission to educate the public about the history of the area. Although mining is the obvious industry connected to

Gold Circle Boom Is Growing Daily

*(The Battle Mountain Herald
& Central Nevadan,
April 2, 1908)*

Monday last 22 leases were let by the Gold Crown and Columbia Mining company and the roar of powder was a welcome noise to the inhabitants of Gold Circle. These properties lay about 12 miles southeast of the town and two or three discovery shafts show values averaging from \$104 to \$600 at 21 feet depth. The Gold Crown group was located by Menking and Schein and has been considered by all mining men who have visited the country as one of the best bunches in the camp. It won't take long to determine now whether Gold Circle is the best camp in Nevada or not.

The teams that left Battle Mountain loaded with lumber for the Circle looked like a circus parade. There were over 20 six and eight horse teams all in line moving across the flat at one time and the merchants of Battle Mountain feel they are al-

ready doubly paid for building the short cut into the camp from the railroad. There is about half a million feet of lumber here now for the Gold Circle Mercantile company that will be moved into the camp as fast as teams can haul it. There are over 150 head of horses on the job now and the men employed at it remind one of an anthill. All the stores have extra clerks filling orders and the bookkeepers of the different institutions think they are in the mystic maze. The sidetracks of the S.P. are pretty well filled up with carloads of freight for the camp. There are three cars of beer, two of grain, two of flour, 16 of lumber, and one of groceries. All parties visiting the camp from the east are going through this way and the hotels, stage and autos are taxed to their full capacity.

There are about 1,100 people in the camp today and it is estimated that there will be 5,000 in the next 30 days. There are nine lodging houses, 11 saloons, five grocery and general

stores, two lumber yards, two assay offices, four real estate offices, one bakery, two news and confectionery stores, one plumbing shop, two butcher shops, two feed stores and numerous other enterprises. There are several buildings nearly finished and contracts let for more. The lumber to be used on contracts let to this date amount to over 150,000 feet. This is the busiest town in Nevada today. No one has time to do anything but hustle. There are over 50 projects sold or bonded all to active mining men who know how to operate on a large scale and it is estimated that Gold Circle will soon have one of the largest payrolls in the west.

Telephone connections have been made with the Dutton & Golconda line and you can talk to nearly any part of Nevada from the camp. Sam Levy just returned from a trip east where he has been purchasing pipe for the purpose of conveying water from springs above Midas to the town. This pipe line will be about eight miles long.

Midas Doctor Sought To Build Town

Midas, Nevada. Another project of Friends of Midas involves researching an early Midas physician, Dr. Edward Dunscomb. This work adds much to our knowledge of Midas history; the information found so far is included here.

Born in New York in 1838, Dunscomb graduated in 1863 from New York University Medical College. He was in Colorado from 1896 to 1905.

In 1905, Dunscomb was licensed in Reno. By 1907, he was in Tuscarora; in 1908, he moved to Midas.

Dunscomb continued to practice, but his interest in Midas was the same as everyone else's those first years: get rich quick.

With Al Gaebbert, he established the Dunscomb townsite on the Lucky Chance claims. The new town was to be near the Esmeralda mine about 2 miles from Midas.

In April 1909, Dunscomb, Gaebbert, and Dr. Mabel Young, a Midas dentist, created the Dunscomb Townsite Company. Young, as president, had sole authority to develop and sell town lots. In return the two men

would share half of the profits. The Elko County Commission approved the town's plat map, and the Battle Mountain newspaper noted that lots would be sold, beginning on June 1. The town, however, was not built.

Dunscomb did not make his fortune as a gold miner or a town founder. He continued as a physician until his death.

Dunscomb was related to a well-known and longtime Midas family, the Warrens. About



Dr. Dunscomb, Midas physician.

(Courtesy of Desda Warren Wood)

1910, his niece, Birda Ruth Holbert, married Charles Warren, a local miner.

Dunscomb attended the births of the Warren children, Gordon and Desda. He also delivered Desda's stillborn twin sister and attended to her burial in the Midas Cemetery.

Dunscomb was the doctor for many other births, illnesses, and deaths in Midas. When he died in 1915, the Elko paper noted that, as the only physician in town, he had also cared for himself by prescribing and taking his own medicine during his final illness.

He was not, however, able to authenticate his own death. The paper reported that the residents were "puzzled" about the proper recording of Dunscomb's death as he was the only one who could legally sign his death certificate. An Elko judge advised them to hold a coroner's inquest.

The article concluded, "The deceased has lived in this country for a number of years and was an eccentric old fellow, and without a doubt his death was caused by the gradual breaking down of old age." Dunscomb was buried in the Midas Cemetery on June 7, 1915.

owner, has volunteered to design a plan for the site. Priestler is a Senior Associate with Antunez and Associates of Reno, a landscape architecture firm.

Located on the east side of Main Street near the Midas Creek bridge, the park will incorporate the spring that runs through the area. Native vegetation will be used, and displays of historic mining and ranching equipment will be featured.

Priester anticipates that he will complete the conceptual plan for the site sometime during 1996.

Midas Miner Hurt

(Battle Mountain Scout,
May 27, 1932)

J.H. Green of Midas is resting easily in Elko today, having sustained a broken leg Sunday afternoon while attending his work as a miner. Immediately after the accident, Mr. Green was brought to Elko by car, arriving there about 9:00 o'clock after a seven-hour trip due to very bad roads.

We have about nine inches of snow here. The children have begun coaxing the last two days. (Midas News Notes, 11/20/31)

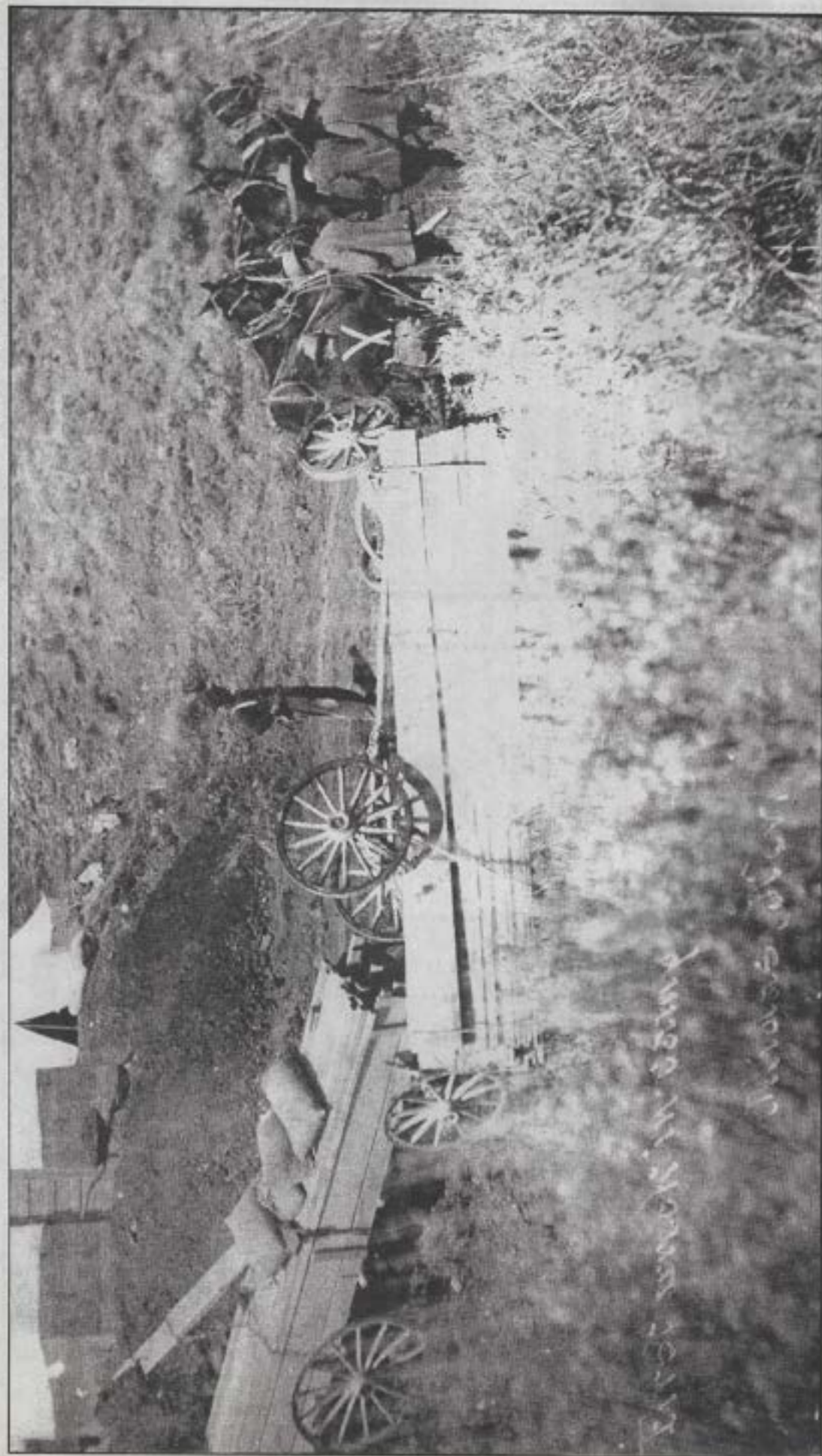
School Official Settles Dispute

(Elko Daily Free Press,
May 31, 1916)

Last week we were paid an official visit by Miss Kenemeyer, assistant deputy of public instruction. For the last six months this town has been a seething cauldron of discontent about the election of the school trustees for the ensuing terms.

A mass meeting was held at Cody's hall with the result that F. Macy and R.T. Noble were appointed.

Miss Kenemeyer made a most favorable impression and handled the situation with consummate skill and tact. At present all is quiet along the Potomoc.



CRASH! The first wreck in the new mining camp of Gold Circle involved these two lumber wagons. Most likely, this picture was taken in the spring of 1908 when most of the town's first buildings were constructed.

(Other accounts of the West's earliest mining disasters.)

Acquitted by Elko Jury

Charged with Murder of Del Young at Midas Cabin

(*Battle Mountain Scout,*
November 13, 1931)

Mrs. Mary Young of Midas, who was acquitted by an Elko county jury early Sunday morning on a charge of murder, arrived in Winnemucca Monday and is the guest of Mrs. Curtis True.

Mrs. Young expects to remain in Winnemucca for several weeks and will then leave for Current Creek in White Pine county where she plans to remain for some time.

The jury which heard her trial on charges of murdering her husband, Del Young, returned a verdict of not guilty shortly after 3:00 a.m. Sunday morning. Two women and 10 men composed the jury which deliberated approximately four hours before reaching the verdict, according to Judge L.O. Hawkins who presided during the trial. He returned to his home in Winnemucca Sunday.

The state's case against Mrs. Young was based for the most part on the testimony of E.O. Heinrich, criminologist, who investigated the scene of the shooting. Young was shot through the back of the

head on May 23 at their cabin one mile below Midas.

Following finding of her husband lying on the floor of the cabin with the bullet wound through his head, Mrs. Young walked to Midas and informed friends there that he had shot himself. Heinrich was called in to the case and went to the cabin and conducted his investigation on June 4 and 5.

He showed conclusively that Young was shot by someone who held the gun not less than six inches nor more than 20 inches from the back of the head. The person firing the gun placed Young's cap over the end of the gun and fired the shot through the cap, Heinrich proved. He also found 45 blood spots on Mrs. Young's dress. His testimony was accompanied by 29 exhibits including many photographs of the lethal bullet and others fired from the same gun by Heinrich later on during his laboratory work in Berkeley. These things proved that the gun found lying in a pool of blood by the side of the slain man was the

gun with which he was killed. The defense placed Mrs. Young on the stand as the first witness. She told her story of the shooting and of her married life with Del Young. They had lived together harmoniously and peacefully for 25 years, she declared on the stand. She told of hearing a shot shortly after their return from Midas on May 23, having spent the day in that town. She went to the cabin and found her husband on the floor. A pool of blood was on the floor by his head. She picked up the gun and stooped over the dead man and then dropped the gun in the blood and left for Midas.

Joe McNamara, defense attorney, in his arguments to the jury, contended that when Mrs. Young dropped the gun in the pool of blood, the blood splashed on her dress. He claimed that an unknown prowler shot Young. The case required one week and the work of Heinrich was not only interesting but was so conclusive that even McNamara admitted the corrections of the testimony given by the expert.

Mining Action

(*Battle Mountain Scout,*
May 24, 1934)

Senator Noble Getchell, manager of the Betty O'Neal Mine and also the largest owner of the property, closed a deal Tuesday with Richard Wesson for his group of claims in the Gold Circle (Midas) district. The Wesson claims are one of the most valuable small properties in that mining district, says the Humboldt Star.

A short time ago Mr. Getchell gained control under bond and lease arrangements of the Eastern Star group of claims. The Wesson claims, it is understood, were purchased outright. Mr. Getchell will prosecute development work on both of the properties at once and it is thought by Midas people that his advent in the camp will mean much in the way of mining activity there.

Duane Bush and E.S. Dyer were at Midas yesterday to witness the starting of the Red Hill-Florence large full Diesel engine. The 200 horse power engine has been idle for two

months for overhauling. Starting yesterday the engine will not be closed down for several years, and the shut-down was to place the engine in running order for the long usage.

The Red Hill Company will continue to do development work on the 500 foot level of the Missing Link shaft after the water is taken from the shaft, which will require a period of several days.

General Manager McMahon was at Midas yesterday to witness the starting of the large engine. He directs the operation of the company at their Midas camp.

It is thought that management will erect a small cyanide mill during the coming summer to take care of the ore bodies already exposed and will continue to do development work at the same time.

Mr. Bush and Mr. Dyer returned last evening from the camp, making the round trip there and back in a day.

It is Gold Circle's way to be great and it will be greater still.

—The Gold Circle News,
September 26, 1908

1908 Ads for Midas Businesses

Gold Circle Assay Office

E. J. Hood,
Proprietor.

**RELIABLE ASSAYS
ARE GUARANTEED**

Samples in the morning and
Assay Certificates the same
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Midas Nevada

Silver Dollar Restaurant
SHORT ORDER HOUSE
OPEN DAY AND NIGHT

A. B. Chaffin, Boss of the Ranch.
Good, too.

The Crystal

A full stock best grade
liquors, Beer and
Cigars

Nightly entertainments
A merry enjoyable time
for the entertained.

M.M. GIBSON, Mgr.
Midas, Nevada

Home-Like Lodging

Nice Clean Beds at Reasonable
Prices.

Location on principal part of
Main Street.

MRS. E. C. HILLS, Prop.

E. J. Bridges



**Summit
Nevada**

Full Line of

**Groceries
and
Miners'
Supplies**

**Wholesale Liquors
and Cigars**

**The LOWEST PRICE
HOUSE IN THE
GOLD CIRCLE DIS-
TRICT**

Gold Dust Saloon

Asbill & Co.
Proprietors.

Don't forget the
Number for you
will find the best
drinks and the best
cigars and the best
attention at our
place.....

Midas, Nev.

...The... Northern

Remember
the number, for
Win. Frost always
carries a complete
stock of the very best grade of
Wines, Liquors and Choice Cigars.

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Nev.

Livery and Feed Stables

Saddle Horses a Specialty
Local Express

Stage Line to Fraser

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O.K. LAUNDRY

EAST STREET, MIDAS

Clothing Cleaned
Guarantee Good Work....

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M. H. LANE

Attorney and Counselor at Law
Corner 4th and Main St.

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FRANK L. REBER

Notary Public

MIDAS NEVADA

WILLIAM YOUNG

CONTRACTOR
and BUILDER

Plans and specifications furnished
on application

MIDAS
NEV. DA

HOTEL NEVADA

Two-story Frame
Furnishings New
Accommodations Up-to-Date
European Plan

No. MAIN ST.
MIDAS, NEV.

MRS. BUDGETT
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Blossom & Blossom

BUTCHERS

Fresh Meats Every Day

A choice piece of Beef, Pork, Mutton or Fresh
Sausage can always be had here

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JOHN A. MOFFAT

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Townsite Office

Midas, Nevada