

# Abandoned Mines May Yet Yield Millions

(Copyright 1912, by Frank G. Carpenter.)  
**MEXICO CITY**—Since I came to Mexico my eyes have been bulging at the stories I hear of the lost treasures of Mexico. They come from old prospectors, from mining engineers and from men posted as to the Mexican mineral territory. At the College of Mines, in this city, you may see gold and silver from workings which once turned out millions, but are now filled with water; and in the government records are notes of vast properties which have long since been abandoned. When Alexander Humboldt, the great scientist, traveled over Mexico, more than a century ago, he counted 3,000 mines, and I am told that fully 2,000 of these are not now in existence. Of some the very records have been lost, and they are now known only by tradition.

**Abandoned Mines.**  
 When Mexico got its independence by overthrowing the rule of Spain it entered upon an era of revolution which lasted for years. During that time some of the most profitable mines were abandoned. The water rushed in, their works were destroyed, and for a time their very existence was blotted from the knowledge of man. There are still many old dumps and the remains of old workings, scattered here and there, throughout the whole Mexican territory. Some of these old dumps are said to contain fortunes. It is used to be that a mine had to produce at least \$30 to the ton to be worth operating, so that rich ore only was taken and the poor left on the side. We have in the United States mines which are now paying well at less than 25 per cent, and the cyanide and new smelting processes are bringing out tens of millions of dollars worth of gold and silver that formerly went to waste.

**The Treasures of the Aztecs.**  
 Many of the mines of the Aztecs are still to be found. When Cortes had conquered Montezuma he got him to send his taxgatherers out over the country to make records of the location of the best mines. They brought back an itemized list, but it is doubtful whether it was a true one. Cortes was even less successful in his attempts to find where the Aztecs had buried their treasures. He tried to screw this information out of Montezuma, the nephew of Montezuma and his son-in-law. This prince was tortured by fire to make him disclose the secret. He at first claimed there was no treasure, but finally said that the gold had been thrown into the waters. Cortes then searched the lakes about Mexico City, but his divers found nothing, although they dug up a disc of pure gold as big as a cart wheel out of the garden of Montezuma.

The treasures of Montezuma are still undiscovered. They are said to have been worth \$50,000,000, and there are documents in pictures languages, which describe the shields, helmets, sandals and plates of solid gold, and the gold grains and dust which were worth this great sum. One tradition locates the burial site of the treasure at Coyocacan, not far from Mexico City.

**What Cortes Got.**  
 There is no question as to the extent of the precious metals of the times of the Aztecs. The king who preceded Montezuma, was a miser, and he had collected a treasure which Cortes says, was greater than that possessed by any monarch of Europe. Much of this consisted of grains and nuggets of gold and gold utensils and trinkets. Cortes had a great part of it melted and cast into ingots. He sent one-fifth of the product to Spain, and among other things, a gold cannon, which the Aztecs cast for him, and a plate of gold so big that a two-hundred pound boat could have been served upon it. He described how gold was sold in Mexico as an article of merchandise at Montezuma's capital, and expatiates upon the great beauty of the shields, helmets and plates which were carved by the Indians.

**Old Workings Which Pay Millions.**  
 Some of the best mining properties of today are old workings which have been pumped out and reopened. Take the Real del Monte near Pachuca, in the state of Hidalgo. That mine was yielding millions, when it was fighting with King George as to the tax upon tea. It had been abandoned again and again, and it is now owned by Americans, who within the last five years have made it pay something like \$5,000,000 in dividends.

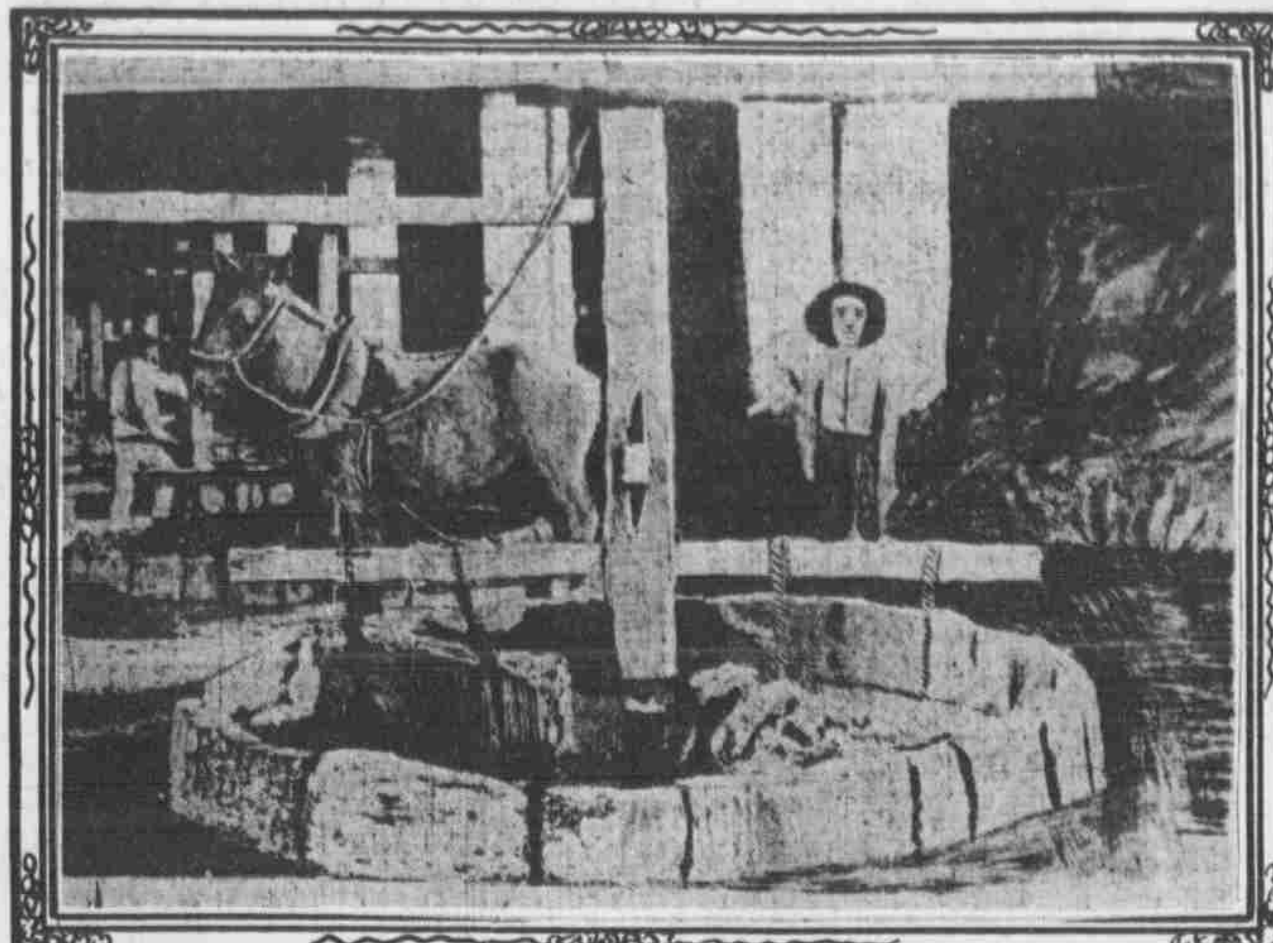
The Real del Monte was owned 153 years ago by a mule driver named Terros. He developed the mine and became the "Coal Oil Johnnie" of his time. He loaned the king of Spain a million dollars, and presently he had with several workshops fully equipped. In return the king gave him a title of nobility, and he was known as the Count of Regia. You may see his bust on the front of the national pantheon here in Mexico City. He gave the money to found that institution. The sum was \$200,000 and the aim was to beat the usurers by loaning money to the poor at a low rate of interest.

Count Regia once asked the king of Spain to come over and visit him, saying that he would plate the walls of his bedroom with silver and carpet the paths upon which he walked about the place with silver bars.

**Perseverance Lost and Won.**  
 Shortly after Count Regia's death a subterranean river burst into the Real del Monte, and it was under water when Humboldt came. He described its possibilities and his report formed the basis for a mining craze in which the property was capitalized and offered in England. The stock was in great demand and the five hundred dollar shares sold as high as \$60,000 each in the open market. Cornish miners were brought over and shafts of machinery installed. During the next

**Green Gables**  
 DAVID P. BAILEY  
**SANATORIUM**  
 Lincoln, Neb.

This institution is the only one in the central west with separate buildings situated in their own ample grounds, yet entirely distinct, and rendering it possible to classify cases. The one building being fitted for and devoted to the treatment of non-contagious and non-memorial diseases, no others being admitted; the other Rest Cottage being designed for and devoted to the exclusive treatment of select mental cases requiring for a time watchful care and special nursing.



Ancient Mining



Old-Fashioned Mining in Mexico

twenty-five years twenty million dollars were spent in operating the property, and the output was only three-fourths of that amount. The company finally went bankrupt, and the mine went into the hands of others, who are said to have taken something like forty million dollars' worth of metal out of it. The men who own it now had to pay several millions in assessments before they could make it again pay, but up to July, 1910, they had received \$4,000,000 in dividends.

**The Wonderful Mines of La Lus.**  
 The mines about Guanajuato, which are now turning out millions for Americans, originated through the discovery of the La Lus mine, out of which more than \$500,000,000 in silver was taken. This mineral region was known to Cortes, and the La Lus mine was discovered in 1547, only fifty-five years after Cortes made his first voyage. It was found by a company of Spanish soldiers, who made a fire on a rock to keep warm and were amazed to find puddles of silver amid the flames.

They then investigated and found that the country about was full of silver. They began mining with Indians, carrying the sacks of ore to the surface by means of a notched pole. Each Indian had a bag of this ore on his back and he climbed with it out of the mine, in this way hundreds of millions of dollars worth of ore was taken out. Another mine more lately discovered right near the La Lus was the Valenciana. From 1760 to 1867 this mine produced more than \$300,000,000 in silver, and it was closed to the same cause as the La Lus.

**Bought by Americans.**  
 Later on these mines stopped working, and became filled with water. They were then bought by American syndicates, and are now being operated with the best of mining machinery. A great electric plant has been installed, the power for which is brought for more than 100 miles; and some of the old dumps are being worked over. It is claimed there is enough ore in the dumps to keep the smelters running for twelve years without going down into the mines, and that the average cost of production will be less than 50 cents per ton. Among the companies now operating there are the Guanajuato Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, the Guanajuato Development Company, the Guanajuato Reduction and Mines Company and the Guanajuato Amalgamated Gold Mines company, all belonging to United States capitalists.

**The Bantopias and Parral Mines.**  
 Other mines, which have been operated for hundreds of years and which are in existence today, are in Chihuahua, Zacatecas, Sonora and elsewhere. The Bantopias mine, which Boss Shepherd reclaimed, had been operated for generations before him, and the mines of Parral, one of which has given the poor mining king, Alvarado, his millions, was in a territory which was well known at the time Cortes died. In 1906 the mines were operated by 7,000 miners, most of whom were Indian slaves; they worked under the lash and for a century or so sent a steady stream of silver across the ocean.

The work was so hard that the Indians revenged themselves by flooding the mines, and they remained unused until Americans pumped out the water.

**A Poor Mining King.**  
 As to Alvarado he was a miserly poor until he made his great strike. He is now worth tens of millions, and there are some who put his possessions at \$5,000,000. I am told that he first bought every luxury he could think of, building a great palace, which he filled with plants and canary birds to such an extent that it was known as the house of song. He also became charitable, and one Christmas day gave away 100,000 silver dollars, piling the money on a truck and scattering it about among the people of Parral. This is the same man who once said he would give \$10,000,000 to the poor of his country. He even offered to pay the national debt.

Another notable king took out 35,000,000 ounces of silver from one mine in twelve years and then went to Europe to spend it. He lived as extravagantly as he could but left something like \$60,000,000 for his heirs to fight over.

**Stories of Lost Mines.**  
 The extent of the mining territory here is so great that you can get traditions of lost mines from all parts of the country. The mining regions are to be found in almost every state, but the principal ones are in central and western Mexico. They run from the border of the United States as far down as Oaxaca, a distance as long as from New York to Oklahoma City, and they go from there westward as far as from New York to Boston. The best mines are on the western slopes of the mountains from a half to a mile and a half above the sea level.

Gold is spread over a vast area of the Sierra Madre, and there are places in Sonora and elsewhere. The prospectors best chance is to take one of the disused workings or lost mines and follow it back to the original vein. I am told that there is a 12,000-acre ranch in Sonora, every square yard of which gives color to the prospector's pan. The source of this gold

was looked for generations, and was finally found in a hill ten miles away, but the vein has been worked out. Some day the old ranch may be run through the mill for the scattering bits of flour gold it contains.

In another mining region a prospecting party picked up a piece of rock weighing two tons, which was streaked with native silver. It was broken up and reduced, and found to contain \$4,000 worth of metal. The prospectors organized a company and searched the whole neighborhood, finally concluding that the great mass had in some way been carried down stream from a mining territory forty miles distant.

There are a number of old Spanish mines which are worked out and others which cannot be located. One of these is the Tiampo, which the Pima Indians claim was once the greatest mining property of all time, but of which the records show no existence. Wonderful stories are told of the San Nicolas mine, in Tamaulipas, which was abandoned at the time of the struggle for independence. According to tradition this mine was so rich that the streets of the town were paved with silver on special occasions, and silver bullets were cut from the ore.

**Rock Heaps Sprinkled with Gold.**  
 There is no doubt but that the old methods of mining have left fortunes in silver and gold on the dumps. Many of the mines were far away in the mountains and transportation was so costly that only the best ore could be worked. The methods were rude, the ore being crushed between great stones, and the metals taken out by the patio process. These methods are still used in some of the mines worked by the natives.

I have seen them getting out silver by the patio process. The ore is first ground to a powder and mixed with water until it forms a kind of mud. Then a mixture of vitriol, salt and quicksilver is added and six or eight blindfolded mules are driven around through the mud for hours until the quicksilver has gone through every part of it. As the quicksilver touches the particles of native silver in the ore it sucks the silver into itself, and when it is drawn off, it has the greater part of the silver and gold from the mud or crushed ore. The quicksilver is then put into a furnace and evaporated, the silver itself remaining in the furnace.

As I saw the mules trotting around in these big vats of silver mud, I remarked upon their sorry appearance, and was told that only the oldest and poorest of stock were used for the purpose. The reason is the quicksilver and vitriol rot off the hoofs, and after a year or so the animals have to be killed.

**Mining Theft.**  
 I am told that a great deal of silver and gold is stolen by the Mexican miners. The average Aztec has but little idea of property rights, and he takes what he can find as a gift from God. In some of the mines the workers are

given by Spain in Napoleon III. Another ancient Mexican pearl was of rose color. It was found about 200 years ago and was sold in Europe for \$50,000.

**Mexico's Opal Mines.**

Mexico has mines of fine stones, including emeralds, topazes, garnets and amethysts. The most profitable are those which produce turquoises and opals. The turquoises come mainly from Zacatecas, and the opals are found near Queretaro, where I once stopped on my way to Mexico City. I saw there hundreds of peasants at work in the mines. The opal veins lie in strata, scattered through a matrix so hard that dynamite is used to dislodge it. The country is so rich that traces of the minerals can be seen in the stones used for building purposes.

Some of the opals are stolen and sold by the workmen. Peddlers have them for sale at the stations, and even on the streets of Mexico City. The peddlers wrap the stones in black velvet or black paper, and when they show them it is under the rays of the sun, which bring out the full brilliancy of the gem at first glance. One has to be very careful in buying opals, for many of the stones are cracked, and the cracks concealed by soaking them for a night or so in olive oil. The finest stones go to Mexico City, and some of the best are sent to Europe and the United States. They bring all kinds of prices, from a few cents to hundreds of dollars, according to their color and the brilliancy of their opalescence.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

**His Philanthropy.**

At a banquet recently William F. McCombs, manager of the Wilson campaign, told of a conversation in a club in which several philanthropic personages were mentioned and lauded to the skies. The conversation had come to some length, Mr. McCombs said, when a man who was sitting in a corner arose with a merry smile flitting over his features and groined into the midst.

"Your philanthropists are all right," he remarked, "but I think it is only just that my next-door neighbor should be included in the kindly disposed bunch."

"We are willing to add him to the list," responded one of the others, "but is he really so generously inclined?"

"Well, I should say that he is," was the emphatic declaration of the first. "Dozent of tramps hammer at his back door, and I have never known him to send one away empty handed."

"You don't mean it?" returned the second, a trifle incredulously.

"That's right," rejoined the first, "he always gives them a letter of introduction to me."—Philadelphia Telegraph.

**Pathetic Ignorance.**

"Say, you," exclaimed the indignant householder, "you make me keep my ashes and garbage separate, don't you?"

"That's the law, sir," answered the man in the alley.

"Well, I keep them in different boxes the year round, and here you come, about once in six or eight weeks, and dump the stuff all together in your blasted old wagon! Why can't I mix 'em if I want?"

"You can, mister, if you want to, I reckon: all yer neighbors do, Giddap!"

This was another good and law abiding citizen convinced that it wasn't worth while and he joined the majority.—Chicago Tribune.

**The Home Beauty Parlor**  
 By Betty Dean

**Babbette:** Your eyes are weakened and over-strained, that's all. Don't let them frighten you into wearing glasses until you try this simple home treatment. Dissolve an ounce of crystals in a pint of water. One or two drops on each eye every day will make all you need to restore the sparkle, youthful brilliancy, and rested feeling to your eyes. If the lids are much inflamed, rub a dabs of absorbent cotton in the tonic and laying them on each eye while you rest about ten minutes. Crystals tonic may be called an eye beautifier.

**Judy:** If ordinary methods fail to reduce your flesh I would recommend a course of this simple, harmless home treatment: Put a ounce of paraffin in 1 1/2 pints hot water. Take a tablespoonful three times a day. For those who find exercise tiresome, and are weakened by strict diet, I know of no such valuable aid in overcoming excessive fat. If your skin is inclined to flabbiness use soap for Debora.

**Healie:** Your hair needs exercise or a drill with some good tonic and you can do wonders in putting vitality and luxuriance into your hair and can promptly relieve the dandruff and itching scalp if you will use this remedy. It costs little and you can prepare it with a gentle massage and it will work upon your skin, eradicating wrinkles and restoring that velvety, youthful glow.

**Winifred:** Your skin, in fact anyone's is too delicate for the ordinary face powder. Try this lotion, which is very easy to make. It will make you money, besides being fine to whitening the skin and rid it of sallowness or blemishes, and absolutely takes the place of powder in every way. Dissolve 4 ounces of borax in 1/2 pint hot water, add 1 ounce of glycerine and 1/2 pint hot water or witch hazel. Let stand a day. This makes a big quantity and is far better than the ordinary "household" kind. It will be very becoming and seem like a part of your skin.

**Maisy O':** Yes, you can buy the plain catbox shampoo at any drug store.

**Florence G.:** You should not neglect that "tired" feeling it may develop into something serious. If you will take this tonic and blood purifier faithfully it will probably be all you need to set you right. The prescription is an old, reliable one and the remedy can be made at home at little cost. For an ounce of kardia add 1/2 pint alcohol and enough water to make a quart. Sweeten with 1/2 cup sugar. Sift thoroughly before using is the right dose for adults. Delicate children will be helped by this, too, but the dose must be regulated.

**Deborah:** Your husband admires other women because of your own carelessness about your looks. If your skin is wrinkled or saggy you need the bracing, equalizing effect of some simple jelly-cream which can be easily and cheaply made at home. Try this one, which is the best of plain home made. Get from your druggist one ounce alcohol and dissolve in 1/2 pint cold water, adding two teaspoonfuls glycerine. Use. This works upon your skin, eradicating wrinkles and restoring that velvety, youthful glow.

**Curly-Locks:** I am very much opposed to the use of soap on the hair. The alkali in soap coarsens the hair, irritates the scalp and in time will make the hair follicles decay, neither do I approve of egg shampoos. The animal substance mixes with the oil in the hair and is hard to remove. After all, plain catbox makes the best shampoo, cheapest and easiest to handle. Dissolve one teaspoonful in a cup of hot water. It lathers well and takes out all excess oil, leaving the scalp stimulated and every

HOTELS AND RESORTS.

**Chicago Beach Hotel**  
 A Summer Resort  
 Ten Minutes from Theatres

Bathing, canoeing, yachting, golf, tennis, riding, motoring—all the sports of lake and country. A splendid hotel, amid cool shade trees and fresh lake breezes. Large, airy rooms, single or en suite, with private baths. Service and cuisine unusual in excellence. American or European plan. Ten minutes ride to theatres, shopping and business centers. For rates or booklet, address Manager  
 Chicago Beach Hotel, 51st Boulevard on the Lake Shore, Chicago  
 Telephone Hyde Park 4000 (16)

Comfort Accessibility Moderate Rates

**NEW WESTON HOTEL**  
 Madison Avenue & 49th Street  
 NEW YORK

One block from Fifth Avenue and within easy walking distance of Theatres, Shops and Clubs

REFINED SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT  
 COURTEOUS SERVICE

175 Rooms with Bath, Restaurant  
 La Carte with reasonable charges

SPECIAL RATES FOR JUNE, JULY, AUG., SEPT.

Single Room with Bath . . . \$1.50  
 All Outside Rooms . . . \$2.00  
 Single Room with Bath . . . \$2.00 Day  
 Double Room with Bath . . . \$3.00 Day  
 Parlor, Bedroom with Bath . . . \$4.00 to \$5.00

Further Reductions for Week Occupancy

S. G. CLAYTON, Proprietor

**WM. DREYER**  
 Expert for braces and arch supports. Maker of deformity, orthopedic appliances of every description.  
 3033 Grand St., Tel. Reel 7826.

Best of All Farm Magazines.  
**TWENTIETH CENTURY FARMER**  
 Reaches Farmers and Stockmen.

**I Can Make Your Fat Vanish by the Gallon!**  
**I CONQUERED OBESITY PAST MIDDLE-AGE**

I Ate Everything I Liked—Went Through No Exercise—Wore No Special Clothing—Took No Weakening Baths!

I Explain My Simple, Speedy Home Treatment to You—FREE!

I, Lucile Kimball, a married woman past middle-age, attacked by obesity for years, finally conquered the fat monster. Everything you ever tried, I tried. I went through exercise, wearing the latest fashions, and I ate every morsel of food, gave up sweets, fats and starches, wore elastic clothing, tried electricity, massage, osteopathy, vibration, hot and vapor baths, swallowed pellets, capsules and teas—gained as rapidly as I lost. So would you with those so-called treatments.

For years, my friends have asked me to tell them how I got rid of fat and kept it off. They know that fat will go through the exercise, dieting, and the various "fad" treatments, but they do not know that I am free from obesity, happy, healthy, supplied with energy, and fifteen years younger. I was afraid that my Home Treatment might prove temporary. I waited months. My fat did not return, and I stayed young, but my fat did not come back. I tried every diet. I tried my Home Obesity Treatment on friends. They were equally benefited—men and women of all ages. And finally I told the world the simple of fat man's own life was the world.

You have figured fat by the pound. Your "methods" and "treatments" have stretched living tissues more than fat. What did you gain? Nothing! Your fat came back the moment you stopped your exercise or diet. It did not go if you tried anything else. My Home Treatment is not exercise or diet. It is a "diet" in its broadest sense—not starvation diet, not "excessive diet," not diet of any kind.

Eat anything you wish: vegetables, salads, poultry, fish, fowl, nuts, eggs, that you want—when you want it. Drink what you want—when you want it. I don't interfere with your food or drink. No bandaging over, rolling, playing golf, horseback riding, doing exercises of any kind. Sit in your chair at home, or in your chair at your work, and let the fat melt away from your body, and it will melt. It goes away rapidly. It melts from your cells. You feel better—stronger. Healthy returns to women: strength to men. You need not wear any kind of corset. You never need any body-size. "How wonderful!" is my constant remark, and it is absolutely harmless. It is so simple, you need devote only ten or four minutes each twenty-four hours to its use.

**Spend Just One Penny!**  
 All fat treatments are alike in their aim: to stretch the body's natural elasticity and to destroy the fat cells. It tells how I overcome obesity, how I get rid of my fat. I give you the key to success, and I give you the key to the fat man's life. You can be free from the grip of the fat fiend. I know that you can. This is the key to success, and I give you the key to the fat man's life. You can be free from the grip of the fat fiend. I know that you can. This is the key to success, and I give you the key to the fat man's life. You can be free from the grip of the fat fiend. I know that you can. This is the key to success, and I give you the key to the fat man's life.

**Lucile Kimball, Suite 386, Times Building Chicago, Illinois.**

**The Pianos We Handle Are Noted For Two Things, First, Value, Second, Price**

After all is said, value is what counts in the end.  
 A critical inspection will prove to you that the best values are given in the following makes:

**MASON & HAMLIN PIANOS**  
 \$550 and Up.

**KRANICH & BACH PIANOS**  
 \$400 and Up.

**KIMBALL PIANOS**  
 \$280 and Up.

**BUSH & LANE PIANOS**  
 \$350 and Up.

**CABLE-NELSON PIANOS**  
 \$250 and Up.

**HOSPE SPECIAL**  
 \$190 and Up.  
 Terms to Suit.

**A. HOSPE CO.**  
 1513 Douglas St.  
 Used Pianos, \$35 Up.  
 \$1.00 PER WEEK

DRINK AND ENJOY  
**Metz**  
 BEER  
 "THE OLD RELIABLE"

Metz BEER "THE OLD RELIABLE"  
 Wm. Bergerhoff, Berlin, Prussia  
 BREWERY, METZ, FRANCE