MINING SOCIETY HEARS
MR. W. S. HUTCHINSON

Interesting Talk On "Faults And Unforeseen Difficulties In Mining Development."

The Mining Engineering Society was addressed at its meeting last evening by W. Spencer Hutchinson '92. Mr. Hutchinson, who is a well-known consulting engineer, spoke on "Faults and Unforeseen Difficulties in Mining Development," with particular regard to the development of mining property in Arizona.

Arizona's mining center is located some fifty-five miles northwest of Phoenix, in the heart of the desert. The presence of a body of ore was first discovered in 1863, although evidences have been found of the early explorations by the Spanish. In spite of the dearth of water, from the day of its discovery until twenty years later, mining this ore produced $5,000,000 annually. In referring to the difficulties resulting from the absence of a water supply, the speaker stated that it was necessary to haul the water one hundred and sixty miles. In 1883, the supply of ore seeming to run out, the mine was abandoned and for twenty-five years stood idle. Then, in an attempt to re-establish activities, new ore bodies were found and a supply of water secured from five hundred feet below. A mining camp was started and all equipment installed. Among difficulties met were the breaking of two cranes and the loss of one of the wells from the breaking of a column pipe. Long waits of a month and more with expensive express bills for new parts taught the necessity of keeping duplicate parts on hand. In May, 1911, another fault was found. The milling operations in the mine were stopped and the work was directed toward the exploring and determining of the position of the faulted ore. The speaker next took up faults in general. Faults up to thirty feet displacement, he said, are easily worked out. A close inspection will usually enable it to be worked out satisfactorily. Faults of large displacement sometimes prove disastrous to mining enterprises. Do not make the mistake in studying faults of assuming a normal fault to be the most usual kind. A great many are thrust faults. The analysis of the fault problem is essential in mining work. The data required to determine a fault are, strike, dip, plus or minus direction, and distance of displacement. The determination of these must be gone into systematically.

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