

ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

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ROSSLAND, B. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1897.

Third Year, Number 6.

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TROUT LAKE MINES

The Rich Mineral Resources of That Portion of West Kootenay.

COMING TO THE FRONT

Horne-Payne Company Has Several Fine Properties Under Bond—Ore Carries Good Gold and Copper Values Besides Silver and Lead.

Revelstoke Mail: Like many other mining camps now known, chiefly for their quartz leads, Trout Lake mining division was first brought into notice through its placer gold. On the main river of the camp, the Lardeau, signs still exist which show that it was worked many years ago, but it was totally abandoned till the period of general activity brought about by C. P. R. construction in 1885-86. Then the attention of a few plucky prospectors was turned to it and from that till last year has been worked intermittently with, on the whole, average results.

As in most of the divisions of West Kootenay, the principal mountains in Trout Lake are the Selkirk. The principal river is the Lardeau and its forks and feeders, which flow into Trout Lake, the main body of water being about 20 miles long by one and a half wide. The summit between the northeast arm of Upper Arrow lake and Trout lake is low, but 1,000 feet above the level of the lake. From this point the drainage is all eastwards, thence south through the valley to Kootenay lake.

The country generally is overlain by great bands of stratified rocks singularly regular in strike and dip. These rocks are chiefly chloritic schists and massive limestone. The strike is northwesterly and the principal veins conform with the banding of the rock so strongly that groups of a score of claims in a line are located. This is particularly true of the limestone and schist contact on the divide between the Lardeau and Duncan rivers. On the west shore of the lake and at its foot the formation is granite and slate.

The leads are remarkably strong and rich in Trout Lake and can be traced in most cases for miles, and so far as tested show good values. The ore mined at depth is both steel and cube galena with quite a large percentage of gray copper and a very good showing of gold. The richest locations have so far been made near the summits about the height of summer snow. The Silver Cup is 5,700 feet above sea level. The Great Northern is 5,000 feet, Badshot at about the same as Silver Cup, yet several promising claims are lower down. The snowfall is about five feet on the average and the precipitation of moisture much greater than in the south end of the district. The scenery is exquisite and at Trout Lake City is superbly beautiful and should be seen to be fully appreciated.

The gold found in the Lardeau river is slightly "rusty," not sufficient however to interfere with amalgamation. The whole bed of the river and its benches contain coarse and fine gold, and alluvial deposits occur all along the main river and its branches, offering in some places opportunity of hydraulicking.

Great Northern Group. The Great Northern, one of the earliest locations, is now one of the leading mines. It is situated, with eight others, on the Great Northern lead on Bald mountain. It was bonded with the Hillside to the present owners in 1895, and work has been steadily pursued to the present time when, it is reported, it has been sold at a big figure to an English syndicate. It was opened by a crosscut which hit the lead at 30 feet and disclosed a fine vein. Tunnels and drifts have been driven and run for about 600 feet on the lead, which is about 40 feet wide. About 400 tons of ore on the dump and some is being worked. The ore carries a great percentage of gray copper, in cases about 20 per cent. The average assay, however, is 150 ounces silver, 10 per cent copper and from \$2 to \$15 in gold. This is a wonderful property, and if a railway were in would be a large producer.

The Broadview, under bond to the Horne-Payne company, is another developed property on the Great Northern ledge. A camp has been erected, a shaft sunk about 120 feet on the ore and a tunnel driven for depth about 120 feet. The ore is of splendid quality and very similar to that of the Great Northern. Considerable ore is already on the dump, which will average about 100 to 110 per ton. The ore body is of great width and it is a very valuable property.

On the Phillipsburg, Old Sonoma and True Fissure, operated by the same company, a fair amount of work has been done and is to be continued this year. The Old Sonoma has a crosscut in six feet, tapping the ledge, and the average of the ore is 145 ounces silver, 6 per cent copper and \$5 in gold per ton. The True Fissure has had much surface work done, the ore outcropping on the surface 50 to 60 feet across. This has been stripped and about 500 tons put on the dump. Other claims on this lead are the Silver Queen and Banff, upon which ordinary opening work has been done, everything going to prove the wealth of the lead.

The Silver Cup. The Silver Cup has the distinction of being the first shipper of the camp. It is situated on the south fork of the Lardeau, upon a strong lead about 30 feet wide with a vein of clean ore about two feet thick. This ore is very rich, the average assay from its last shipment made last winter being about 400 ounces of silver, 10 per cent copper and \$20 in gold per ton. The concentrates will go six to one. The average value of shipments so far is about \$250 per ton. A tunnel has been extended to 90 feet this year, and a 400-foot tunnel, to tap the ore body at a depth below the shaft bottom of 100 feet, is now being run. It is now almost in ledge matter, and may hit the ore body any day. The property is certainly one of the first rank, and is operated by Dunn & Farrell, of Vancouver. It is crown granted. The Free Coinage, owned by the same people, adjoining the Cup, is opened somewhat and gives indications of being a good property.

The Sunshine and Towser are first and second extensions of the Silver Cup and have great surface showings. They were bonded last September by the Horne-Payne company for \$35,000 and have been opened up to a limited extent. On the Sunshine a two-foot vein of rich silver-lead ore has been struck that goes about \$157 to the ton with some gold and copper. These properties with some more work will likely be shippers this year.

Other promising properties upon this group and upon which development has been done are the Morning Star and Brewster & Macaulay's which go very high in gold. A trail was last fall cut to this group from the valley of the south fork. About ten claims are located on this lead and several others, about five, are located back of it.

Gainer Creek Mines. The Badshot group covers five claims on the headwaters of Gainer creek in the lime belt and is a very promising group. It is now reported bonded. On the Badshot claim a shaft has been sunk about 100 feet, and a long crosscut tunnel run to tap the ledge has now about reached it. About 100 tons of ore, averaging 200 ounces in silver, 80 per cent lead and some blismuth, are on the dump. This will be a very large shipper large and with development.

The Black Prince group, also on Gainer creek, but on the other side from the Badshot, is one of great promise. It also covers five claims. On the Black Prince a tunnel has been run about 250 feet and a shaft in ore for 35 feet. The vein is from 10 to 20 inches wide and is of very high grade. Some ore is on the dump and work will be pushed further this season. Average assays from surface showings on this property are 100 ounces silver, 60 per cent lead and some copper. Other claims adjoining the Black Prince are the Contract and High Grade, good looking properties. About 40 locations were made in the neighborhood of this creek last prospecting season.

Wagner and Abbott. The Wagner group, on the headwaters of Healey creek, has had a lot of development work done. It is on the Duncan slope at the summit and shows a large outcrop. The ledge has been tapped at good depth and a 24-inch vein giving good silver values has been disclosed. This would the Lardeau-Duncan railway go in this will be a much improved property, as it suffers now from lack of transportation facilities. It is under bond to a Spokane syndicate for a large sum.

The Abbott group, also near the summit on this side, comprises seven claims. A large amount of work has been put in here and a long tunnel run to catch the ore body. Like the Wagner, it is now hard to reach for development purposes and is not to the fore as much as others. It has been shut down for some time, but 400 feet of work has been done. It is said to be bonded to the Horne-Payne company and may be worked this year.

Later Discoveries. The Holy Moses group, the property of the Lardo Mining and Development company on the west fork of the Duncan, has been opened up somewhat. The lead is about 30 feet wide and is crosscut at a depth of 40 feet. It looks like a good property and will be further developed this year.

On Hall creek and on the Duncan above it about 60 locations were made last season, and considerable prospecting will be done there this year.

Down the slope of Healey creek, towards the foot of the lake, lies the American, a property of some merit and lately bonded. A trail has been cut from the lake and a quantity of ore, worth about \$100 per ton, is on the dump. The vein here is about 16 to 18 inches wide and shows signs of improvement.

On Canyon creek, on the west side of the lake, about 18 miles from Trout Lake City, a strong lead of good ore was found last fall and eight claims located. A sample of ore from one of these surface showings went 157 ounces silver and 80 per cent lead. These claims, it is said, have also been bonded. The formation here is granite and slate. Several locations have been made all along the shores of Trout lake last summer and fall and many more will be staked this summer. Most locations to the present time carry silver and gold.

The Poole group is situated between the forks of the Lardeau river, and is about six miles distant from Trout Lake City. It is a promising and accessible group of seven claims. The lead can be traced two miles, varying in width from 20 to 40 feet and is heavily lapped with iron. At a depth of 30 feet on the May-iron. A native copper specimen has been got. The galena contents are not very high, about 40 ounces in silver, but go well in gold. A bond has been or will be made on some of this group.

North Fork of Lardeau. Several locations were made up this creek last summer, chief amongst which are the Cascade, Big Five, Red Plume and other groups. The old locations have remained unopened, with the exception of the Pilot Knob group, which has had a 160-foot tunnel run. This has exposed a clean ore vein 18 wide, and assaying 150 ounces in silver, with some copper. The Horn ledge, on the north fork, one of the main ledges, has 13 old locations on it and several recent ones. The lead is heavily capped with iron, and is traceable for miles. It must run largely undeveloped till a railway goes into the country.

One of the best of the new locations on this fork is the Big Five, in which some rich copper glance has been found on the surface. This property has been bonded to an English syndicate for a big price.

GOSSIP OF LONDON

Powers All Distrust Each Other On the Eastern Question.

SOME OF THEM WANT WAR

Germany and Russia Disposed to Crowd Greece With a View to Crushing Her—Leonard to Testify Before the South African Committee.

(Copyrighted 1897 by the Associated Press.) LONDON, April 3.—It is just a month since the so-called concert of the powers threatened the blockade of Crete, which has proved quite ineffectual, being continually evaded, and today the confusion in European councils is worse than before. The replies in the house of commons of the parliamentary secretary for the foreign office, Mr. Curzon, to inquiries on the subject, show it to be by no means certain that all the powers have actually agreed to blockade the Greek ports. The latest news indicates that France and Italy are still adverse to this course. The fact is that the powers distrust each other and this distrust reduces them to impotency. None of them wishes a general war, nobody being able to force what its eventual result would be.

It is believed that Russia and Germany and perhaps Austria want a localized war, hoping that Turkey, being victorious, will lay Greece at the mercy of European dictation. In the meantime the two combatants, as well as the powers, hesitate to incur the odium of commencing the conflict. Germany's attitude, which is setting on the other powers while herself abstaining from any active share in the struggle, is universally condemned as being a disgraceful diplomatic betrayal.

Germany is evidently playing her own game and still willing to send to Crete whatever troops she may desire, hoping that the Greeks to hostile action on the frontier, something that seems to be extremely probable, as the king of Greece stoutly maintains his original determination, and the premier, M. Delannoy, declares that nothing will prevent war if the powers persist in refusing their consent to the union of Crete and Greece. Russia is confident that Greece will lose the first battle and that Bulgaria and Serbia will not move except at Russian orders.

Crete Wants a Ruler. The admiral of the foreign fleets in Crete waters continue daily asking for definite instructions from their respective governments. They have urgently advised the appointment of a European governor as they are incapable of ruling the island. It is a remarkable fact that Colonel Vassos and the Greeks inspire the greatest sympathy among all the foreign correspondents, the futile measures of the powers being daily denounced.

Gladstone has written another letter on Crete affairs and with reference to the contest of Europe, he says the attitude of the powers recalls the days of Castlereagh and Metternich, when Greece was unable to buy armaments in Europe on credit, while Turkey had no difficulty whatever in doing so. It is stated that Greece will try to raise an international loan of £1,000,000. The reports that Greek insurgents have already crossed the Macedonian frontier turn out to be incorrect. A well informed diplomat at Vienna declares the powers are determined to maintain the blockade of Greece if that nation declares war, and thus deprive her of one of her most formidable means of attack.

It is understood that Russia has stopped Turkey's negotiations to sell the island of Crete to Greece, a threat to occupy Anatolia if the negotiations are persisted in. In connection with the warlike aspect of affairs in Europe and South Africa it is significantly announced that Lord Wolsey, the British commander-in-chief, accompanied by his side of camp, will soon start for Gibraltar to inspect that fortress.

South African Affairs. The details of President Kruger's claims against Great Britain for indemnity, as a result of the Transvaal raid, are not definitely known. In addition to the sum of \$3,339,665, which is said to be the expense which the railway and telegraph companies, burglers, etc., suffered the Transvaal demands £1,000,000 for moral and intellectual damage. It appears as a separate and additional item.

A sensation among the members of the Johannesburg reform committee, is to be sent an exhaustive statement dealing with the grievances of the Uitlanders of the Transvaal. The radical members of parliament have unearthed the fact that the present czar escaped taxation amounting to £10,000, succession duties on money lying in the Bank of England when his father died. This neglect on the part of the government towards Russia will be warmly debated. The government has refused to allow stands to be erected in the public parks for the queen's jubilee procession. An offer of £20,000 was made for permission to erect a stand in the Green park facing Piccadilly.

At the last election the Reform Club every candidate bearing a German name was black-balled as a demonstration against Emperor William.

It is reported that the jubilee parades will include the grandson of Gladstone. The French president, M. Faure, will receive the secretary of the peace society, who will present him with an international petition in favor of arbitration. It will be written on vellum in ten languages and is signed by members of religious denominations throughout Europe and America.

THE MYROSE COMPANY. Representative Coming to Inspect Our Mines—Commander Deal.

LONDON OFFICE OF THE MINER, 108 Bishopsgate Street, Within, E. C.

LONDON, April 3.—[Special Cable.]—It is quite probable the Commander option will be taken up by the Gunnis-Neame syndicate, which is backed by Vivian Gray & Co., one of the leading firms of brokers in the city. The deal depends to a large extent on politics. If the situation in the Levant improves it is almost a certainty the sale will be closed.

John Taylor, manager of the Mysore mines, India's leading mining concern and one of the richest gold mining companies in the world, is sending a representative next week to British Columbia to inspect mining properties there on behalf of the Mysore company.

A Pretty Landscape. In the window of Goodbye Bros' drug store is an exceedingly neat pencil sketch of the Norway mine, which has frequently been mentioned in The Miner and which belongs to the Bruce company. The sketch is by C. S. Darnley, architect, and shows the Columbia river and the lower part of the town of Trail, which the mine adjoins.

The Coxey Shaft. The Coxey has a magnificent showing of ore in the bottom of the shaft. The shaft is now down 30 feet and has been in ore for the last seven or eight feet. The ore runs only about \$9, all values, but will concentrate and is therefore all right. It carries about three per cent copper.