CONTRACT SYSTEM

It Was Amicably Considered in Conference Tuesday.

SPIRIT OF FAIRNESS SHOWN

The Miners' Union Submits a Proposition and the Mine Owners will Embody a Plan in Writing, Which will be Considered by the Miners Today.

A conference was held in the office of the British American Corporation Tuesday afternoon for the purpose of considering the matter of contract work in the mines, which it is thought will bear good fruit. Bernard Macdonald, the general manager, and Hon. T. Mayne Daly, solicitor, represented the British America Corporation; Mr. E. B. Kerby, general manager, and Messrs. A. C. Galt and T. P. Galt, represented the War Eagle and the Centre Star Mining companies. Mr. James Devine, secretary and Mr. Chris Foley represented the Miners' union. Mr. Ralph Smith, M. P. P., Hon. Smith Curtis, minister of mines, and Mr. R. C. Clute, Dominion labor commissioner, were present as mediators. The conference was in session for two and a half hours, and was most amicable from beginning to end, and by the time that it was ended each side thoroughly understood the position of the other. Certain objections were stated on behalf of the union as to the contract system, like the following, and were answered fully and satisfactorily by the mine owners' representatives. It had been claimed that where five feet holes were drilled and the men employed to blast only blasted out three feet, that those who drilled the holes would only be paid for the three feet. The reply was that they would be paid for the full five feet drilled. These and other points were explained in a manner satisfactory to those who acted on behalf of the union men. The representatives of the miners outlined a plan under which the men would be willing to resume work, and today the mine owners will submit a proposition in writing covering the points gone over, and which will be in accord with the matters under conference yesterday. This will be submitted to the executive committee of the Miners' union, and after it has been carefully considered by that body, provided they think it does not need amending, it will be submitted to a mass meeting of the union for ratification.

The characteristic feature of the conference was the give and take conciliatory spirit which was manifested by both sides, and the opinion prevails among the majority of those who took part in it that an agreement which will meet the approbation of both sides will finally be arrived at. A decision should be arrived at within the next three days at the furthest.

NEWS FROM GRAND FORKS.

Items of Interest From the City on the Plain.

Grand Forks, B. C., March 24.—R. A. Dickson, a Toronto barrister, who located here last year, has gone to Victoria to take his qualifying law examination.

Alex McDonald, formerly of Grand Forks, is building a large hotel at Princeton.

The Stout sawmill is cutting 50,000 feet of lumber daily.

The executive committee of the board of trade at a recent meeting discussed the question of the alarming increase of the Chinese colony, and its effect on the local labor market. The feeling is general that an organized effort be made to discriminate against the Celestials.

Mrs. Jannie L. Backus of Spokane has opened a new hotel here.

L. E. Henderson, of the Henderson provincial directory, is in town.

A strike of free milling quartz near Carson, B .C., is reported.

Two feet of solid ore has been encountered in a shaft on the Dufour claim near Carson, B. C.

Hon. Smith Curtis, minister of mines, on his arrival here will confer with the board of trade respecting the wants of the district.

Robertson and Shields have taken a working bond on the Chloride and Tapioca claims in Summit camp.

The smallpox outbreak here has been stamped out. The two patients are convalescent.

At the forthcoming annual meeting of the Rathmullen company a proposition in favor of organizing a subsidiary company to develop a number of the claims in the group will be decided upon.

Four feet of solid ore giving average values of $80 per ton was encountered this week in a drift from the 130-foot level of the Golden Eagle in Brown's camp, north fork of Kettle river. Superintendent J. H. Fox brought the news to town, and says a pump and hoist will be installed shortly. The other claims in the group are the Laskey and the Junction City fraction. They adjoin each other. The ownership is vested in the Royal Victoria Gold Mining Company. The group is situated upon a spur of Volcanic mountain, and about 1,000 feet above and half a mile from the river. The distance from Grand Forks is about 10 miles.

The formation consists of an acidic-eruptive rock, which, upon cooling, has been fractured into several joint planes. In places they reach the surface, and are indicated by mineralized croppings, in others they are only disclosed by underground work. Frank Robbins, M. E., superintendent of the Brooklyn and Stemwinder at Phoenix, in a report on the group, gave the following expert opinion:

"The property, as a whole, is well worthy of exploration. It is already more than a prospect, in so much as workable ore is exposed, which only requires a market. In fact, it may be called in its present condition, a good "little mine." The main vein appears on the surface, having a north and south trend, and extends into the adjoining Earthquake group.

No. 1 shaft has been sunk to a depth of 95 feet on the ledge, which in places exceeds six feet in width. A northeast drift 40 feet long from the 70-foot level struck a second ledge 12 feet from their intersection. Several crosscuts have determined this ore body to be from eight to ten feet wide. At the end of the drift a winze has been sunk 60 feet, giving a total depth of 130 feet. About half way down this winze a drift in the ledge 27 to 28 feet to the west discloses the vein five to ten feet wide, half of which is ore.

No. 2 shaft has been sunk to a vertical depth of 130 feet. From the 100-foot level a drift extends north 30 feet, and at its face the ore body is eight feet wide between well defined walls. From the bottom of the shaft a drift was un 12 feet. The face of the drift (4 feet) is in ore, but the width of the lead has not yet been determined. In this working the average values exceed $80 per ton in gold and copper.

A series of assays of Golden Eagle ore made by Frederick Keffer, superintendent of the Mother Lode, for L. S. Moulton-Barrett, a leading shareholder of Greenwood, gave returns ranging from $89.50 to $12.43 per ton.

Owing to the bad condition of the wagon roads between Grand Forks and Republic the management of the Republic mine have adopted a novel method of getting 20 carloads of machinery to the camp. The shipment will be sent by rail to Midway, and thence floated down the Kettle river in scows to Curlew whence it will be carried in wagons to its destination. Major Leckie, manager of the Republic mine, was in Midway the other day to investigate the feasibility of the scheme. Several tanks destined for the Republic mill are embedded in the mud between Grand Forks and Curlew. They will be hauled back to Grand Forks and thence re-shipped to Midway by rail.

SANITARY CONDITIONS.

Editor Miner: All citizens interested in the material welfare and good name of Rossland owe you a debt of gratitude for opening your columns to well-timed remarks on the prevailing sanitary conditions. In your issue of today you call attention to the fact that two stables have been allowed to remain in situations where they constitute a direct menace to public health and an unmitigated nuisance to the dwellers in their vicinity. Your present correspondent has occasion to pass every day the one nearly opposite to the opera house, and can therefore fully endorse your remarks with regard to it. The place where it stands is one on which no stable, however well kept, should be tolerated, as it is surrounded by dwelling houses, some of which are only a few feet away from its evil smelling doors. In this particular instance no provision for drainage has been made, and in consequence the lane and surrounding property is overflowed with the muck and filth which exudes from the doors and from under its foundations, while the lane to nearly half its width, has been made the site of its manure heap. That the property owners and dwellers in the vicinity have not long ago made outcry over this state of affairs, seems to your correspondent a remarkable case of supineness, but that the sanitary authorities have not taken steps in the matter seems at least as remarkable a deriliction of duty. Possibly the covering of snow which until lately has helped to hide the ugliest features, has had much to do with the neglect of all parties, but now that is removed and has left them revealed in all their naked nastiness, there can be no longer an excuse for delay in adopting remedial measures. The vicinity of this smelling evil offers an ample field for sanitary reform, and your correspondent respectfully invites all whom it may concern to interest themselves speedily in the promising, if putrid, field to which he calls attention.

With apologies for asking so much of your valuable space, I am respectfully,

A RATEPAYER.

Rossland, March 27.

Interesting Medical Cases.

London, March 28—Current issues of British medical publications are full of interesting accounts sent by surgeons and others at the front of incidents noted on the field and in the hospitals that are of great interest to the medical world. Most interesting of all are the many wonderful recoveries described. One letter just received tells of a private soldier who was struck by a portion of a shell, receiving a wound on the right side of the chest, leaving a large chasm and freely exposing the lung. Despite the fact that after receiving the wound the patient lay in a trench nearly eight hours before he received any medical attention, he stated several days later that he had suffered no shock and very little pain and that there had been no shortness of breath or spitting of blood. All this notwithstanding the fact that the lung remained plainly visible until the parts had commenced to granulate Another case reported is that of an officer who was shot through the abdomen. Making use of his slight medical knowledge the wounded man lay on his back for 12 hours and steadily refused to drink water. Six days later he was convalescent, having had no abdominal symptoms.

Boxing and Wrestling Entries Close.

New York, March 28.—The entries for the boxing and wrestling tournament for the Metropolitan championships, to be held at the Broadway Athletic Club in April, closed today.

Fire in Car Works.

Kansas City, Mo., March 27.—Fire which broke out shortly after 1 o'clock this morning in the plant of the Kansas Car Foundry company caused a loss of fully $150,000.The plant is valued at half a million dollars.

Peace Declared.

Why devote all your time reading about the Boer war and the gold fields of Alaska? There are others matters of vital importance. You may make a trip East, and will want to know how to travel. In order to have the best service, use the Wisconsin Central Railway between St. Paul and Chicago. For rates and other information write Jas. A. Clock, General Agent, Portland, Oregon.

NEWS FROM GREENWOOD CAMP

GREAT BUILDING ACTIVITY IN PHOENIX AND GREENWOOD.

A Railway Party Surprised at the Growth of the Towns in the Boundary District.

Greenwood, B. C., March 21.—[Special.]—A party of railroad men composed of Captain J. W. Troup, superintendent of the Kootenay division of the C. P. R., accompanied by J. L. Lawrence, train master on the C. & W. at Trail, and H. L. Johnston, road master of the same branch, arrived in the city today and left for the east on this afternoon's train. Superintendent Troup was seen by the correspondent of The Miner and said: "Our party arrived at Eholt yesterday and proceeded on to Hartford Junction, walking from there into Phoenix, and spent the night there. It was my first trip to Phoenix, and I was quite surprised at the size of the town. We will have a big tonnage from Greenwood camp in the near future. No, I cannot say when the line will be completed from Hartford Junction into Phoenix. That belongs to the construction department, though I understand that as soon as the branch from Greenwood to the Mother Lode spur is completed the men will be put to work to complete the road to Phoenix.

"We are only operating the road as far west as Greenwood and it will be some weeks before we shall be able to get into Midway. The operating department will not take over the balance of the road until it is properly fixed up and ballasted. This will take a little time to do. Business along the whole line and throughout the Kootenays is good. We have no compaints to make, except perhaps that both the company and its passengers would appreciate no further bother from slides. Even on such a good piece of road as the C. & W. branch this is unavoidable at this season of the year," he concluded.

The warm weather of the past two weeks has helped out the building contractor to a large extent. During this period some half-dozen new cottages and residences have been completed and there are a number of others going up. Paul Johnson's residence at the smelter is going to be a big one. All the outside work has been completed. The building of the two rival steam laundries is progressing rapidly. Both will shortly be ready to receive their machinery plants, which are on the way.

The fire department boys entertained their friends tonight to a big "smoker." The department is in excellent shape, thanks to the hard work of Fire Chief Henton. A team has been bought and is now being drilled for the new hose wagon. The two hose carts have been taken out of the fire hall and placed on the streets at outside points, near by hydrants, in case of emergency.

TROUBLE AT CHESAW.

Residence of L. L. Patrick Blown Up With Dynamite.

Greenwood, B. C., March 27.—(Special.)—Information comes from Myers Greek by telephone of the blowing up by dynamite of L. L. Patrick's residence at Chesaw. Full particulars are hard to get. There have been troublesome times at Chesaw over townsite matters. Recently L. L. Patrick, who is mine manager for George B. Mechem, representing Montreal capital, staked a claim on land said to belong to Mr. Evans. He proceeded to erect a residence, and yesterday unknown parties blew it to pieces with dynamite. Warrants are now being procured for the arrest of parties implicated.

MARTIN'S FIRST SHOT.

He Opens His Campaign at Victoria—Speaks to a Big House.

Victoria, B. C., March 27.—(Special.)—Hon. Premier Martin opened his general election campaign tonight with a monster meeting, at which he alone spoke, his address being exceptionally bombastic and a studied appeal to class prejudice. He urged that all opposition to himself or his policy was either inspired by eclipsed ambition or purchased by the corporations of capital. The speech was confined to a studied endeavor to introduce himself as the liberal leader in a party lines fight with the issues only between Martin and the Liberal government on one side and Charles Wilson and the Conservatives on the other. He urged the necessity of a thorough revision of the voters' lists as an excuse for delaying the generals elections as long as possible, and illustrated how it will be possible to carry on, with the sanction of the government by appropriations, the people's business until the first of August. The elections were, however, promised to be brought on on or about June 15, after the voters' lists revision, and the extra session convened early in July.

Dawson Appraiser of Customs.

Victoria, B. C., March 27.—C. E. Renouf, of the hardware firm of Nicholls & Renouf, of this city, has received notice of his appointment as appraiser of customs at Dawson. He will proceed there on opening of navigation and meanwhile will be attached to the customs house here for instructional purposes.

AN UNFORTUNATE SHIPPER.

Three Hundred and Fifty-one Fowl Smothered in a Box Car.

Peter Hessel was unfortunate in a shipment of hogs and fowl which he made from Colville to Rossland. He put a floor in a box car and put in hogs in the upper and lower sections. In the middle he piled up chicken coops, in which were 30 dozen fowl. The weather was cold and the doors of the box car were shut when he left Colville on Monday. Yesterday morning when the car arrived at Northport it was opened to see how the live cargo was getting on. The hogs were in good condition, but only nine of the 360 fowl were alive. The foulness of the air had smothered 351 of them. The shipper will be out considerably by his lack of thought in putting the fowl in a place where there was insufficient air. The wonder is that the hogs survived under the circumstances.

CHINESE AGITATION.

Leong Tai Lin Is Agitating Against the Barbarous Europeans.

Victoria, B. C., March 22.—It seems that the recent mass meeting of Chinese here which was addressed by Leong Tai Lin, an agitator recently from China, who makes Vancouver his headquarters, was not mereley for the innocent purpose of agitating against the tyranny of the Empress Dowager, but was part of a movement against all foreigners, British included. Chief Langley, of the Victoria police, has caused to be removed from the Chinese bulletin boards notices posted by the promoters of the meeting, which in part read as follows: "Foreign nations are causing great distress to our country. The barbarians have already acquired small portions of our empire, where they terrorize the people worse than tigers or wolves. Look at what the Russians have done at Port Arthur, the Germans at Kia Chau, the French at Kwong Kow Hong, the English at Hong Kong. The barbarians have brutally murdered our people and outraged our women. They have levied taxes on land and houses, and the oppression is unbearable. When you consider this you can see that our country is in a sorry plight. Now, if you were there what would you do? The oppression of our people by these barbarians is worse than the treatment of ancient tyrants.

"And not contented with this, these barbarians have expressed their intention of dividing up the whole empire. When we think of these things we are moved to tears. What will our people do? If they object they will be massacred and burned. Our empire will then perish and become like India and other subject nations. We ought, therefore, to be of one mind and discuss these matters and so form a strong body to defend our empire."

The leading Chinese merchants of the city are in no way connected with the so-called reformers, and have always held aloof from them.

From the Gazette.

Victoria, B. C., March 22.—That of a. J. P. for Queen Charlotte Islands is the solitary appointment noted in the Provincial Gazette of this week. The following companies are incorporated. The Minto Mines, of Nelson, capital $1,000,000.

Peoples Steam Laundry Company, of Grand Forks, capital $10,000 .

Grand Forks Lumber, Sash & Door Co., capital $15,000.

British Columbia Mfg. Co., of New Westminster, capital $25,000.

Captain Irving and D. M. Eberts, M. P. P., are incorporating a company to be known as the John Irving Tramway company to build a tramway from near Taku City thence to the west shore of Atlin of Atlin, near Atlin City, along Ponce Creek to a point near the west end of Kusinah or Surprise lake.

FROM THE COAST.

Subsidies Asked For the Island Railway —Yukon News.

Victoria, B. C., March 23.—The Board of Trade today unanimously passed a resolution urging the Dominion and Provincial governments to grant subsidies to secure the extension of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo railroad to the northern end of Vancouver Island. The proposal that British Columbia interests shall erect a building for the exhibition at the Winnipeg fair of the products of this province also met with favor.

Yukon papers just to hand note that Charles Hill has been committed for trial for murder in shooting his partner, William Blais, in the Pelly river district.

A committee of Dawson citizens have petitioned that the portion of the Yukon territory act providing for elective members of the council be put into effect.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

Martin Opens the Ball Next Tuesday Night—His Victoria Ticket.

Victoria, March 24.—(Special.)—Joseph Martin tonight announced that a public meeting is to open the general election campaign here on Tuesday night, when he will attack the sitting members for this city for treachery to their party in endeavoring to arrange a coalition with Cotton in the last days of the late session, and then flopping, led by Helmcken. Martin will put in the field for Victoria city, a full ticket. Dr. Hall, with promise if elected, of the presidency of the council, Contractor John G. Brown, Undertaker W. J. Hannad, late of Manitoba, and ex-Alderman John McMillan.

NEWS FROM CAPE NOME.

The Winter Comparatively Mild — The Rush Overdone.

Victoria, B. C., March 26.—The steamer Danube of this city, on her arrival here from the north today, brought two passengers from Nome, the new gold fields of Alaska. They are R. R. Macrae and F. H. Nagle, who left Nome on January 6th, and were 46 days reaching Skagway. They say the winter at Nome has been comparatively mild, 30 below being about the lowest temperature. They report hard weather on the trail and a very difficult journey, with a poor outlook for many of the hundreds whom they found making their way in with the hope of staking, though those who have claims will probably do well. The rush is being overdone. The excitement over the reports of rich finds on the Siberian coast has been cooled by the discovery that the Russian authorities do not allow foreigners to mine there unless holding permits from St. Petersburg, which can be secured only through very especial influence.

A Dead Issue.

Victoria, B. C., March 26.—(Special.)—Like an echo from the political past, the election appeal case of Stoddard vs. Prentice reappeared in the supreme court this morning, only to have the petition of appeal dismissed, the costs to be paid out of the $2,000 deposit, and the balance to be returned to the petitioner.

A New Superintendent.

Ernest R. Woakes is announced in London as the superintendent of the Granite, Queen Bess, Proprietary, Poorman mines, and other subsidiary enterprises of the Duncan Mines, limited.

ADDRESS BY MR. McMILLAN.

He Speaks in England on the War and the Action of the Colonies.

Mr. A J. McMillan, ex-Agent-General for Manitoba formerly of Coventry, and now residing in Kenilworth, addressing crowded meeting of the Warwick Road a P. S. A., on Sunday afternoon, spoke at considerable length on the Transvaal war, and particularly on the Colonial aspects of the war.

After referring to the tremendous enthusiasm in every part of Canada in favor of Great Britain, and mentioning that Canada had sent several thousands of men to South Africa; and that Lord Strathcona, the High Commissioner for Canada, is sending over 500 mounted men at his own expense to the front, this one item alone respresenting a probable cost of $200,000, Mr. McMillan spoke of the splendid contributions in men and money by all the principal Colonies of the Empire, and said that though the Colonies had sent thousands of men they were prepared, if necessary, to send thousands more to fight side by side with Britiish troops.

Mr. McMillan, reviewing the action of the Colonies, said: "This magnificent spectacle of the children of the Empire voluntarily coming forward from the remotest parts of the earth to help England in her hour of danger is one without a parallel in history and is in itself an effective reply to the malignant aspersions of those both at home and abroad, who would have the world believe that British rule is misrule, and that the days of the British Empire are numbered.

"And why are the Colonies prepared thus to spend their treasure, and shed their blood on behalf of Great Britain? Do you think they would do so if Britain was fighting in an unjust cause, or was waging war on behalf of the tyrant and the oppressor? Not for one moment! I can speak for Canada, and I will tell you why Canadians are helping you today. It is because they believe that government of the Transvaal, though a republic in name, is in reality nothing better than a tyrannical despotism of the most dangerous character, a government rotten and corrupt to the core, the administration of which is inimical to human progress. And Canada and the other Colonies of the Empire are fighting shoulder to shoulder with the troops of the Motherland, because, in addition to what I have just stated, they have lived and are living still under that flag which has given them representative institutions, under which the right of individuals are safe-guarded and freedom in all its broadest sense is enjoyed by all alike.

"We in Canada appreciate the great measure of liberty which Great Britain has given us. We know how good a thing it is to be counted citizens of the strongest and best governed Empire in the world. And, intending to remain a part of the British Empire, we do not propose to allow the Boers or any other nation to wantonly attack Great Britain without doing our utmost to defend her against attack, and to aid her in repelling her enemies.

"I dislike war. I hate it with a perfect hatred ,and recognize that in this enlightened age it is out of place. It is but a survival from barbaric ages, when might rather than right prevailed. But whilst we may dislike war, with all its untold agony and woe, and whilst we may do all that we can to inaugurate that era of universal peace of which poets have sung, and which the noblest and best amongst men have longed for, and have toiled and are toiling to accomplish; whilst I say all this may be, yet so long as the nations of the earth decline to settle their differences by arbitration, we must be prepared to defend ourselves, and when necessary to take up arms in a just cause. I believe this present South African war to be a just and necessary war, and, believing this, I hope it will be prosecuted by a united people at home, and by a united Empire, until the British flag is firmly planted at Bloemfontein and at Pretoria, there to remain permanently a token to all men that civil and religious liberty shall henceforth be the heritage of those who settle there, regardless of their race, their color, or their creed.

"Non-progressive government, such as witnessed in the Transvaal during recent years, is not in consonance with 19th century ideas. Its tendency is to stifle enterprize, to hinder the investment of capital, and to retard men's efforts to export the natural wealth of the country. Nature has lavishly deposited vast stores of gold in the Rand Lying in the ground it is useless, extracted it adds to the wealth of the world by circulating through channels of commerce, and so becomes the property of the human race. No government has any right, by legislative restrictions, to deprive mankind of wealth such as this, or to throw serious obstacles in the way of its development. Under British rule I am firmly convinced that the majority of the Boer race will be happier, and will enjoy better government than they do today.

"The lessons of this war will not, I trust, be lost upon us. It has shown very clearly that our war office needs thorough re-organization. The ignorance and arrogance displayed by the officials of this department are incomprehensible. And I trust that when the war is over, and the nation is flushed with victory, it will not forget to administer proper punishment to those men whose indifference and incapacity has brought desolation unnecessary into many a home; and brought the nation well-nigh to the verge of despair.

"This war also has shown foreign nations that henceforth ,if they wish to fight England, they will have to reckon not with England alone, but with the whole strength of the Empire. And I hope it has demonstrated to the British themselves that the Colonies are one with them, and that they desire to take their fair share in the responsibilities of Empire Too long England has underrated the importance of her Colonies. Let us hope she will do this no longer. This war has shown that we are one people, and the day, I believe is not far distant when the great self-governing Colonies of the Empire will be represented in a truly Imperial parliament at Westminster. I love England, because amongst nations her influence is good. Speaking as a Colonist, let me say: We love England because she has given us free institutions and allowed us to work out our own salvation, whilst giving us the protecting influence of her power; and now that we are getting older and stronger, we are prepared to stand by Great Britain, and show the world that her people are united and strong, and that she is the 'centre of an Empire world-wide and invincible.'"

At the conclusion of the proceedings the audience sang "God Save the Queen." —London Times.

WORK AT GLADSTONE.

Activity in Mining Development—Snow Disappearing.

Gladstone, March 23.—[Special.]—Owing to the warm sun and rain of the last week or two the snow is rapidly disappearing at Gladstone, which has for the last three or four months enveloped everything in its mantle of white.

Work which has been suspended at some of the principally developed claims will be rapidly pushed forward and ore sent to the smelter at Trail.

Among the number we hope to see the Harlam property, the Mother Lode and Ennismore giving a good lead, also other valuable properties within the vicinity only requiring a little capital and labor expended upon them to bring them before the public. Information respecting any of these claims will be gladly given by Mr. Belgrove, proprietor of the Gladstone Hotel, which, by the way, affords excellent accommodation to visitors stopping at Gladstone.

Intending investors should not overlook this little camp, situated, as it is, in one of the prettiest valleys of the Boundary country, and what is more to the purpose, surrounded by rich prospects, and the railway within ten minutes walk.

A pack train here would find employment and excellent accomodation for horses, etc.

An abundant supply of pure water is obtainable, and sheltered as it is on all sides by mountains, makes it a very desirable townsite for the supply of miners for miles around. Lots can be secured at a very cheap rate at present, $150 to $200 being the price asked, but this will only last a short time, owing to the shipping of ore from properties all round here. Forward is the watchword of the camp, so that any intending speculator should take the chance now offered, unprecedented in the history of the Boundary country, (at least that is what the Gladstonians say.) A telephone could be erected at a trifling expense between the town and mines.

One or two other valuable properties I have forgotten to mention are Mr. Coopers' Golden Age and the Havannah claim, which hope to ship ore shortly.

Work has been carried on at the John Bull throughout the winter, the length of tunneling now exceeding 200 feet.

It is understood a fresh contract has been secured by T. Makinson on the same claim for crosscutting purposes.

A SEASONABLE COMPLAINT.

Curious Condition of Affairs Between Grand Forks and Republic.

Columbia, B. C., March 26.—(Special.) The condition of affairs now existing between Grand Forks and Republic, Wash., are as follows: All passengers, baggage and freight of all kinds, can be taken to Republic without any delay, but not a single man, horse, or wagon, in fact nothing but the birds, can cross the boundary line into British Columbia at Nelson, Wash., on account of the smallpox at Republic. People from Republic can go via Meyers Falls and the G. N. R. R. to Rossland and to Grand Forks, B. C., only a few more hours ride, and double the expense, and they are back in British Columbia all the same. What a farce, no protection at all. Why not lift the quarantine entirely, or accept certificates of health at Nelson the same as at Northport? The officer at or near Nelson refuses to allow papers from the American customs officer at or near Nelson, Wash., to be taken across to Grand Forks, B. C. There is no smallpox in Nelson, Wash., nor has there been. This condition of affairs ties up all business from this point to Republic, yet there are hundreds of tons of freight for Republic at Grand Forks, billed for Republic.

COTTON'S PLATFORM.

Favors State Ownership of Railways When Finances Are Better.

Vancouver, B. C., March 27.—(Special.)—Hon. F. Carter Cotton has published the platform of his party. While favoring state ownership of railways, he considers the province at present not able financially to assume the liabilities of millions required to carry it out. He advocates free trade in railways as adopted in the Western States with option of purchase by the province at stated future periods. The platform is generally approved as outlining a practical policy suited to the requirements of the province.

Mr. A. B. Irwin, who was formerly a mining operator in this city, arrived here yesterday from Spokane.

Okanogan Free Gold Mines, Limited.

Notice is hereby given that an extraordinary general meeting of the above named company will be held at the office of the company, Wallace block, Columbia avenue, in the city of Rossland, on Tuesday, the 3d day of April, 1900, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of sanctioning the reconstruction of the company, and if the resolutions which are to be offered at the said meeting are duly passed they will be submitted for confirmation as special resolutions to another extraordinary general meeting of the above named company, which will be held at the office of the company on Wednesday, the 18th day of April, 1900, at 4 o'clock p. m.

All proxies should be deposited with and in the hands of the undersigned on or before the 31st day of March, 1900.

The transfer books of the company will be closed from the 1st to the 4th of April, both days inclusive .

Dated at Rossland, B. C., March 23, 1900.

KURT K. PEISER,
Secretary.

W. L. ORDE & CO.,
(Successors to Dickinson & Orde)
Mining Stocks Bought and Sold
On the closest margins.
Wire 'phone or write.
46 Columbia Avenue .....Rossland, B. C.