

Two Dollars a Year.

THE LE ROI SMELTER

Secretary Williams Gives His Ideas Regarding Its Location.

TRAIL CUSTOMS RECEIPTS

Nearly \$9,000 Collected in April From Customs and Inland Revenue—Tin Horns Have Cleared Out—Minor Events in the Smelter City.

Trail, May 12.—[Special.]—L. F. Williams, the secretary of the Le Roi company was in town yesterday. "We shall probably begin building our smelter about the 20th of next month," said Mr. Williams. "The site is still unsettled and it will hardly be decided upon inside of three or four weeks. However, in the meantime we shall have our plans completed and shall order the machinery, so that when the location is settled upon work may at once begin.

"The smelter may be built either at Northport or on Sheep creek, just this side of the line. A number of important considerations will influence the company in its choice. There are fuel, water and lime to be thought of, and each of these Northport seems to have the better end of it, for with the river at hand the freight rates on fuel is much more reasonable. As for the fear of an import duty being placed on ore by the United States, that is not bothering us. One of the considerations that would induce us to build on this side of the line is the chance that Canada might put an export duty on ore. In that event it would be desirable to have the plant in Canada.

Will Build a Concentrator. "We shall build a concentrator in connection with the smelter, and that fact will have an important bearing on the location of the works. As an export duty, if put in force, will doubtless affect the raw ore, it would be desirable to have the concentrator on this side of the line if we build the smelter at Northport, for then we could export the concentrates duty free, as they would class as a manufactured product like matte. It is possible that we may build the smelter at Northport and the concentrator in Canada. If we can get a large enough supply of water we may build the concentrator close to the mine. Otherwise it will probably go on Sheep creek.

Customs Collections. The customs report for the month of April, furnished by the King's Customs Officer Gordon, is as follows: Value of dutiable goods, \$24,191; Value of free goods, \$5,821; Total value of entries, \$30,012; Customs collected, \$7,193.49; Inland Revenue, \$27,818.70; Total collections, \$35,012.19. This report shows nearly \$1,500 more receipts than March, and is nearly equal to the month of February. It is expected that the customs for May will exceed \$8,000.

D. E. Stevens, of Kamloops, is the assistant customs officer at V. S. Key, who has been stationed in East Kootenay.

Local Brevities. Hector & Berg are building a large lodging house on the Bowery, next to the Victoria hotel. It will be a plastered building, 24x60 feet in size, and will cost \$1,500.

The swift justice meted out to the tin-horns who hung around Zedillo's gambling house, has given the crooked brotherhood ample reason to leave town and most of those who were not sentenced at the recent trial have shaken the dust of Trail from their feet. Constable Devitt says that he will make very warm for any people who try their trails here. So far there has been little of that business done here, and it is the intention to maintain the record.

Kake & Williams have announced their intention of quitting the contracting business. James Maloney, who was hurt by being run over by his team, is doing as well as could be hoped for. A number of young people enjoyed a pleasant party given last night by the Misses Maude and Ollie Hanna, prior to their trip to Spokane, where they will enter school. They left on the boat this morning.

Paralytic & Monette, the jewelers, have moved into their new store in the Butler building on the Bowery.

Mining Notes. Work has been suspended on the Guttenberg, in the Salmon River district, because of the water in the shaft, which is down 35 feet. The showing is very good and work will doubtless soon be resumed.

The shaft on the Little Giant, on Lookout mountain, is now down about 15 feet and several men are at work. The indications are good.

The Salmon river is on a rampage and is higher than at any other time in recent years. The bridges on the South fork crossing and at Dunsmuir's, were both washed out on the day before yesterday. The latter was a feet bridge about 60 feet long. The other was a wagon bridge 70 feet long and 20 feet wide built by the Kootenay Water Supply company. It cost about \$500.

HAPPENINGS IN NORTHPORT. Wrecked Engine Still in the River—Skeleton Found in a Cabin. Northport, Wash., May 12.—[Special.]—The dining room in the depot at this place changed hands on Wednesday. Frank Ritchet of St. Paul is the new proprietor. He comes well recommended, having been in the employ of the Pullman Dining Car company for some time. The river is rising at the rate of 12 inches per day, and the wrecked engine that fell into the river near the ferry has not been removed yet. It is nearly covered by the water. Mr. Corbin and Engineer Roberts were down to the wreck this morning investigating the work on the bridge and railroad. About 50 men are working on the grade on the opposite side of the river making a new landing for the ferry.

Some Rossland men are in town closing a deal for the Foster property on Deep creek. Messrs. Smith and Smith, the two barbers of this place, have put seven men to work on their claims on Flat creek.

Mr. Corear, a young man who lives on Deep creek, reports that he found the bones of a man in an old tumbled down cabin about one mile from his home. He said he found the skull and some of the limbs, which had the appearance of having been buried for a long time. No doubt it was the result of an old prospector who had been living there, and was taken sick and died without any one knowing anything about it.

NELSON BADLY WORRIED. Feared That the New Squatter Law Will Work a Hardship. Nelson, May 11.—[Special.]—Delayed in Transmission.]—Considerable uneasiness prevails among those who have squatted on government lots in this city on account of the amended provisions of the amendment to the act governing the rights of squatters. Immediately preceding the passage of the measure, the legislature hurriedly passed a measure dealing with this matter, and although it is asserted by at least one person, who claims to have inside information, that one of the provisions of the bill insists upon the forcible eviction of the squatter after notification, without compensation for improvements or other redress. It is this case, it will work a great hardship and hundreds of parties who have built homes for themselves and gone to the expense of clearing government property in the expectation of being permitted to buy the same when the government saw fit to put them on the market.

New people coming to Nelson have so much difficulty obtaining living accommodations that they are almost forced to pitch their tents anywhere they can find a vacant piece of ground, and as between C. P. K. lots and those controlled by the government, it is much preferable to take the chances with the latter, as the prices and terms of the C. P. R. are not so favorable to parties of limited means. B.

Every one of the parties who have squatted on these government lots has done so with the idea of securing a title for them as soon as they are put up for sale. They must live some place and if they are not in the market when they are compelled to locate a home, they take up the property with the idea and intention of paying for them at the first opportunity. The Turner government is blamed for a good many blunders in its administration of public affairs but whether or not this blame is merited, it surely will not be guilty of the folly of lying in the face of over a thousand Nelson citizens who have wronged nobody by squatting on government lots.

A. H. Clements, the new city treasurer, leaves on Saturday on a few weeks' trip to Toronto and other Ontario points.

THE PILOT BAY SMELTER. Rumor That It Will Resume Operations About June 1. Nelson Police Men Resign Sooner Than Accepted \$65 Per Month—Excursions on the Queen's Birthday. Nelson, May 12.—[Special.]—It is reported on very good authority that the smelter at Pilot Bay will start up again about June 1. This will mean great things for the Kootenay lake country, as the monthly payroll should amount to about \$5,000.

City Policemen Winerals and Bigelow tendered their resignations to the council Monday evening, on the grounds that a salary of \$65 per month was insufficient. They contended that as corporation laborers were paid \$2.50 per day their services for 12 hours, with the added responsibilities in connection with police duties, entitle them to at least the same wages as laborers. The resignations were accepted and a new force will be appointed at once.

Two months ago Andy Dolan sold 30,000 shares in the Copper King group for 10 cents per share to Isaac Vipond of Montreal, who is connected with the British American Gold Mining company. On Saturday last Dolan disposed of another block of 20,000 shares in the same property to Ontario parties at the same price. This group is situated on Bear creek and comprises besides the Copper King, the Blue Jay and Diamond King claims.

The Nelson corner hand has been reorganized and a teacher has been engaged from eastern Washington. The band will go to Kaslo with the Oddfellows' excursion on the 24th.

The lacrosse boys have been asked to go to Rossland on May 22 to play the Rossland team. It is likely they will accept the proposition. The baseball team also contemplates a match with Rossland devotees of the diamond on Sunday, May 23.

Messrs. McArthur and Eastman are organizing a lodge of the Knights of Pythias in Nelson. If terms and arrangements are agreeable, Alderman Malone will build a three story building next to the Freemont house, the fifth story of the new place to be used as a Pythian hall.

Jack Campbell who has been so long manager of Alderman Teetzell's drug store, is about to open up business for himself in the booming town of Quartz Creek.

SILVER BELL MINE

One of the South Belt's Most Promising Properties.

HOW IT IS BEING OPENED

Flat Is Down 80 Feet Between Two Veins Which Will Be Tapped When the 100-Foot Level is Reached—Good Surface Showing.

Many improvements and changes have been made at the Silver Bell property since the mine representative went out there last fall. He made another trip there yesterday and found it a very busy place. The best way to go there now is by the old Northport wagon road. This can be followed to the south end of Deer Park mountain, where the wagon road crosses the Red Mountain track. The railroad track can be followed for half a mile to the Silver Bell station, where a new wagon road starts up Silver Bell gulch, along the west side of the hill to the mine. It is almost a mile from the railroad track up to the mine, but the road is an excellent one and was made by the Silver Bell company for its own use.

A very compact and efficient machinery plant has been put in since last fall. It consists of a steam hoist, pump and drills. There was great delay in getting the machinery to Rossland, and after it arrived on the railroad it had to be hauled up to the mine on the snow. Its installation was completed about a week ago and everything is now running like clockwork. There are ten men employed and a power drill is in the shaft day and night. Manager G. A. Pounder throws a tremendous amount of energy into the development of this property. He is a capable, economical business man in good financial condition from the start.

The shaft has been put down 80 feet and will be sunk to the 100 foot level before crosscutting is done. No attempt has been made to follow the ore, but when the shaft was down about 60 feet a shot was put into what appears to be a wall on the hanging side and fine galena ore was exposed. The character of this ore is rich in silver. This is found on the surface in the form of carbonates, and these always run high. When the shaft was down about 55 feet a fine body of white quartz was exposed. Some mineral, but no attempt was made to explore it, though it appeared to be well mineralized.

Mr. Pounder thinks his shaft is going down between two veins, and that he has hit good ore in both when he reaches the 70 or 75 feet from the south vein. Mr. Pounder has been doing some surface work on both veins, and he has obtained some fine samples of ore. His test ore shows more iron, and probably carries a sulphide ore.

Mr. Pounder is doing all he can to make a mine of the Silver Bell. He has considerable bodies of iron ore, and the surface of this ground, and if he finds any more bodies in his crosscut he will have a reasonably sure thing on a mine. The property is admirably situated for working as well as for the delivery of ore for shipment.

GRAND FORKS IS LIVELY.

Passenger Traffic and Freight Business Both Heavy. Grand Forks, May 11.—[Special.]—The election being settled business has returned to its normal channel. The first business day after the election six property sales were made here to parties who intend building homes in Grand Forks and who had been waiting to see how the municipal contest would be decided. The incoming stages are crowded to their fullest capacity on every trip, and although freight wagons arrive in one or two continual streams, they are scarcely able to keep the depot at Marcus cleared. A part of this freight goes to the camps further north and west, but 75 per cent, as shown by the freight agent's report, remains in Grand Forks.

Louis V. Cuppauge, commissioner of streets, roads and bridges for the Osoyoos division, is now in this section on business connected with wagon road building. Mr. Cuppauge viewed the proposed route for a wagon road to Pass creek, a tributary to the north fork of Kettle river, and stated that he could safely promise that work would be begun in an easy grade up Pass creek to connect with the government trail.

The new trail will be built in such a manner that it will be an easy matter for mining companies with a little attention to go to get mining machinery in over it. The new wagon road and trail will open up easy communication with a large number of the most promising properties of the North fork and Pass creek and will be an incalculable benefit in developing the mines.

The Pathfinder company intend to connect their property with the government road and a ferry across the North fork.

Mr. Cuppauge while here also made arrangements for repairing the road between Grand Forks and Cascade City.

The Iron Colt Tunnel. A number of mining men have been out to see the big drill at work in the Iron Colt tunnel. Some of them were incredulous about the statement in The Miner that the tunnel is being driven five feet every 24 hours, but when they got there and saw the drill at work they are convinced. Superintendent Hancock to last night had run an eight-foot tunnel 25 feet, which is just one-twelfth of the entire length of the tunnel.

MINES STILL IMPROVING.

Kaffirs Lead the Recovery—Hall Mines Up 25 Cents—New Companies.—LONDON OFFICE OF THE MINER, 108 Bishopsgate Street, Within, E. C. LONDON, May 11.—[Special Cable.]—Mines continue to recover under the lead of Kaffirs.

The new Fraser River Gold Mines was launched today. This is the first horn of the New Gold Fields of British Columbia, Tappier's company. It has a capital of £75,000 in £1 shares, of which 50,000 are offered for public subscription. The Ingersoll-Sergeant Drill company's prospectus will be issued to-night under the auspices of the Bullion Corporation. Hall Mines are 25 cents dearer.

KAFFIRS BOOMING AGAIN.

LONDON MARKET. LONDON OFFICE OF THE MINER, 108 Bishopsgate Street, Within, E. C. LONDON, May 10.—[Special Cable.]—There is a distinct recovery in mines. Kaffirs are fairly booming and British Columbians are firm. Vancouver Syndicate is flat at £5.

The prospectus of the Ingersoll-Sergeant Drill company is coming out to-morrow. The New British Columbia Development corporation has been registered with a capital stock of £10,000 in £1 shares.

The Adventurers of British Columbia has been formed to acquire options and assist the owners in mining leases and in opening and developing the same. The prospectus refers to the vast mineral resources of the province. The capital is £25,000 and is already subscribed.

CANADA'S PREFERENTIAL TARIFF

Legality to Be Submitted to Imperial Law Officers. LONDON OFFICE OF THE MINER, 108 Bishopsgate Street, Within, E. C. LONDON, May 7.—[Special.]—The Fairview company was registered yesterday with a capital of £100,000 in £1 shares. General powers are taken.

I hear that the legality of the Dominion's right to give preference to Great Britain in the matter of tariff reform will be submitted to high law officers of the crown.

ROOM IN FORT STEELE.

Population is Now about 1,000 and is Growing Rapidly. Walter J. King, of Fort Steele, arrived last evening from Spokane, Wash. He came down from East Kootenay on the Grand Pacific on his first trip this season. The one before she was wrecked. He reports things very lively in that section, prospectors and others going into the country in droves. Real estate in the town is advancing rapidly in price, and about 50 buildings are under construction. Two sawmills are running to their full capacity to supply the demand for lumber and a brickyard is about to be started.

Work was started on the Sullivan group last week and the St. Eugene is also getting ready to begin operations on a large scale.

The town of Fort Steele has a population of nearly 1,000, which is increasing at the rate of about 50 a day. The town boasts three good hotels and a banking house will open in a week or two.

IRON MASK IN GOOD SHAPE

Upraise From Big Tunnel Has Opened a Big Ore Body. Work to Be Resumed in the Shaft in Centre Star Gulch—Shipments Will Be Increased.

The Iron Mask will soon be in a position to produce a largely increased amount of ore. Recent developments in the mine have been of a very satisfactory character. The upraise from the long tunnel started at Centre Star gulch and ran through the Iron Mask into the War Eagle to connect with the old shaft of a little east of the War Eagle boarding house, is about completed, and it opens a chute of ore 93 feet high and from three to five feet wide. Drifts will be run on this ore and stopes started on the various levels.

The output of the mine has recently been about 80 tons a week. All of this has been hauled down to the Columbia & Western railroad in wagons and then transported to the Trail smelter. A new ore bin is now being built at the shaft house in Centre Star gulch, and a road will be constructed so wagons can load easily from the bin.

Work will also be continued in the Iron Mask shaft at the mouth of the long tunnel. Recently some very good ore has been taken from this shaft. The grade of all the Iron Mask ore is exceptionally high. Every ton shipped yields a handsome profit. The average in gold is perhaps as high as any ore in the camp, and it also contains a good percentage of copper. The Iron Mask company is now in good financial condition, and good reports may be expected of it from this time on.

MONTE CRISTO MINE.

Crosscut About Finished—Work on the Tunnel to Be Resumed. The crosscut on the Monte Cristo is still being run, but it will probably be abandoned today or tomorrow and the drill taken back to the clear ore in the footwall. A drift will then be started on the ore and continued indefinitely. The clear ore is fully as wide as the tunnel, if not wider, and ore will therefore be knocked down very rapidly. A carload will be shipped in order to get at its exact value.

MONTE CRISTO VEIN

It Is 25 Feet Wide and No Hanging Wall Yet. It Looks as Though Rossland Would Soon Have Another Big Mine—Facts as to the Assays—Shipment to Be Made Soon.

THE MINER has had frequent references of late to the good showing in the Monte Cristo. We are glad to say that the condition of the mine is improving constantly and that there is good reason to believe a large ore body has been found of profitable grade. About a month ago the face of the lower tunnel, then in about 600 feet, came into a mass of pyrrhotite several feet wide. Assays showed it to be pretty good grade—the best ever found in the mine up to that time. The tunnel soon cut through this ore body and was driven through barren ground for 10 or 15 feet when the ore was again encountered. Here still better assays were obtained, one running up to \$48 and the average being about \$15. The tunnel was continued straight ahead, no attempt being made to explore the ore bodies found. The face of the tunnel again came into barren ground and so continued for several feet when the ore was encountered for the third time in apparently greater mass than ever.

It was now resolved to run a crosscut in order to discover the width of the vein. This crosscut has gone through 25 feet of ore and vein matter. It started in on the foot wall and had not reached the hanging wall up to yesterday afternoon. The first five feet of the crosscut is in a solid clear pyrrhotite, no finer example of such ore having been seen in the camp. It passed through five feet of mixed ore, the solid ore predominating, then through about ten feet of well mineralized ledge matter. It looks as though the ore was gradually getting better as the hanging wall although there may be a radical change before the hanging wall is reached. Assays are being made every day of the face of the ore exposed by the crosscut, and those obtained last Friday showed \$10 and \$33. This is certainly an encouraging prospect. A round of holes was put into the best ore Thursday and the shots which followed that evening knocked down over 20 tons of fine looking ore.

Drifting will begin on the ore as soon as the crosscut is completed and a shipment will soon be made in order to determine more exactly the gold value. There is one decidedly favorable feature of the discovery: the ore carries a heavy excess of iron and will probably make a good premium for smelting purposes, and it will be a very valuable ore for fluxing.

It looks as though the Monte Cristo was close to being a great mine. It should be one, it would be the most important proof yet furnished in the camp that our iron ores gain increased value with depth. The surface assays of the Monte Cristo were always very low, running from a trace to a dollar or two.

JEWEL AND DENORO GRANDE.

Two Boundary Properties Being Developed by an English Syndicate. GREENWOOD, May 10.—[Special.]—Leslie Hill, engineer in charge, is actively pushing development work on the Jewel and Denoro Grande. The incline shaft on the Jewel is now down 130 feet. At 120 feet a station was cut, and drifts are being run both ways from the shaft on the lead. There are two shafts in each drift and very good progress is being made. The north drift is in 31 feet and the south drift 33 feet.

Just being started in the south drift. The country rock on the hanging wall side of the shaft is quartzite. There is a good hanging wall all the way down, but no foot wall has been found yet. There is a mass of green quartzite on the hanging wall, and a crosscut will be run through this to the foot wall. For the first 40 feet there was a streak of high grade ore on the hanging wall side. This ore averaged \$100 a ton in gold, but it was cut off by the ledge or horse of about 60 feet, but had suffered more or less disturbance. At the depth of 110 feet more ore was found but in bunches. A shaft has been sunk 12 feet through waste rock through the vein. The shaft is entirely in quartz which carries galena, iron pyrites and chalcocite, averaging \$14 in gold and six ounces in silver. At present there seems to be a very large body of ore in the Denoro Grande. The shaft of the Jewel is near the end line of the shaft of the Denoro Grande. It is claimed that the Jewel shaft for the Jewel will have to be run only 88 feet to get under the Denoro Grande shaft.

It is the purpose of Mr. Hill to work both mines from the Jewel shaft for the Jewel is on higher ground and is not troubled with water. A steam hoist has already been put up and a compressor will be purchased if the showing continues to improve.

McMynn Bound Over.

Grand Forks Miner. The preliminary hearing of W. G. McMynn was held at Murray last Friday before C. A. R. Lambly, S. M., and Justices Kerr and Hodgson, upon a charge of shooting with intent to kill, filed by Mr. R. J. Wood, the injured party, before J. P. E. Goson, on March 23. At the opening of J. P. on March 23. The manager reported that the company was making satisfactory progress. The company owns the Dundurn, Kootenay and Benton, situated on Dundurn mountain, three miles south of Sheep creek. The tunnel on the Dundurn is 60 feet.

Express Eugene's Choice.

VENNA, May 12.—The Neue Freie Presse says ex-Empress Eugenie is urging the appointment of the Bonapartists for the rulership of the island of Crete under the autonomous regime proposed by the power.

CITY OF SPOKANE MINE.

Superintendent McGuire of the City of Spokane received detailed instructions yesterday to close down the mine and proceed to the Lardreau country to take charge of some of the Lillooet Gold Field's company's properties there. The showing in the mine was so favorable when work was suspended last week that Mr. McGuire concluded to do a few days' work on the City of Spokane before leaving. If nothing is found in the next 10 feet, work on the claim will be discontinued.

Strike on the White Bear.

It was reported last night that an important strike had been made in the White Bear. This is not surprising, since there has been a most favorable showing in the west drift for several days. There were strong indications of proximity to an ore body. The drift is the one started some time ago from the 100-foot level.

Great Western Nearly Ready.

The east shaft on the Great Western was pumped out yesterday morning and timbering of the shaft has been begun. The shaft was put in for the bucket to run on and it is expected that a drill will be put to work in the bottom on Monday.

No More Locked Coaches.

Instructions were received yesterday from the controller of customs at Ottawa to put a customs inspector on the Red Mountain train between Northport and Rossland so that baggage can be inspected en route to Rossland. This will do away with the nuisance of keeping passengers locked up in the coaches after the train arrives, until the inspector looks through the hand baggage. The salary of the new officer will be paid by the Red Mountain railway.

Physician for Quartz Creek.

Dr. A. W. Hogg will leave for Quartz Creek this morning to enter on the practice of his profession there. He arrived in the province recently from South Africa. He was surgeon in charge of the Fort Victoria column in the first Boer war, and is the only surgeon with the column to which Major Wilson and his party belonged at the time of their massacre by the natives.

Inspector of Animals Appointed.

Dr. Hickingbottom received a telegram yesterday from the agricultural department at Ottawa instructing him to inspect all horse coming in at Rossland, Trail and Nelson. Dr. Hickingbottom was inspector of contagious diseases of animals on the lower Fraser river for two years for the provincial government and also veterinarian for the minister of agriculture for Ontario.

Flourish Waives Up.

SPOKANE, Wash., May 12.—[Special.]—Homer King returned here from a trip to the Florence, Idaho, district. He reports a great influx of miners into that district, and predicts that the coming season will be the most active in Florence since the days of the early gold excitement.

IT IS JUST LIKE HIS LUCK

Heinze Got a Big Mine in the Kootenay and Columbia. Main Tunnel Has Never Been Out of Ore Since He Bought the Property Last March.

The condition of the Columbia and Kootenay mine continues to be of the most satisfactory character. Mr. Heinze himself told a friend of his in Butte the other day that he had a big thing in the Columbia and Kootenay. The long tunnel continues in solid ore. It has not been out of ore since the property passed into Mr. Heinze's hands last March.

The wagon road from the mine is now in pretty good condition and it is expected shipments will be resumed immediately. Several hundred tons of ore are now on the dump. Some of the ore now being taken out has the appearance of being very rich. It is a clean, fine grained pyrrhotite and its heavy per centage of iron must make it very valuable for smelting purposes.

It now looks as though Mr. Heinze had obtained a great feeder for his big smelter in the Kootenay and Columbia. In a short time its output will be sufficient to make him independent to a large degree of every other mine in the camp, and it need not be surprising if he soon extends his railroad around Columbia hill to the mine.

Dundurn Company's Meeting.

The first annual meeting of the Dundurn Gold Mining company, limited liability was held yesterday afternoon at their office here. The following officers and directors were elected: A. A. Mackenzie, president and managing director; Daniel Tuomey, vice-president; W. L. Mackenzie, secretary-treasurer; board of directors, A. A. Mackenzie, Daniel Tuomey, A. Macdonald, R. J. Campbell and R. K. Scott, of Winnipeg; D. Mackenzie and W. L. Mackenzie. The manager reported that the company was making satisfactory progress. The company owns the Dundurn, Kootenay and Benton, situated on Dundurn mountain, three miles south of Sheep creek. The tunnel on the Dundurn is 60 feet.

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