ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

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THE OUTPUT IS GROWING

Shipments from the Mines Last Week Show Increase.

Prospect of Still Further Growth in the Near Future.

The figures representing the tonnage of ore shipped from the Rossland camp for the week ending last night afford interesting reading to all citizens who are disposed to read the data thus given as an indication of the camp's prosperity. The shipments are within a few points of the 7,000 ton mark, and the record thus established is the best attained since last spring, quite aside from the fact that a new standard is established for the current year. It is altogether likely that the record will not remain for any length of time before another and larger figure is reached. With two of the usually important shippers not shipping ore, the fact that the remainder of the mines are sending out nearly 7,000 tons in a week, is decidedly gratifying.

At the first of February the Miner predicted that the total for this year would be 50,000 tons of ore by the end of the month. That this estimate was conservative is demonstrated by the actual results. With a reasonable allowance for the shortage in shipments during the period in which the electrical power was shut off, crippling the mines, the total would have been substantially beyond the estimate made at the juncture when it was not known that there would be any interference with the output.

Looking forward to March without estimating in figures, it seems reasonable to expect that further and material strides will be made in connection with the output. There seems to be a feeling that before the end of the month is reached the War Eagle and Centre Star mines will once more be added to the shipping list, and this will naturally swell the output by a couple of thousand tons per week at least.

THE OUTPUT.

The output of ore for the week ending February 28 and for the year to date is as follows:

Mine.	Week.	Year.
Le Roi	5,603	38,533
Le Roi No 2	1,000	8,900
Cascade	30	180
Bonanza		60
Velvet	145	225
Total	6,778	47,898

AT THE LE ROI.

Mention has already been made in the Miner of the fact of the commencement of operations in the main shaft and the drifts on the 1050-foot level. Both these contracts are now in full swing, and a period of probably three months will be occupied in their execution. Other contracts are being carried out in various parts of the mine, and the usual stoping and development operations have been carried on along the usual lines.

The output of the mine during February was 19,000 tons. The additional men employed on the property in connection with the new contract brings the Le Roi's list of employees up to 560, a full complement

It is interesting to note in connection with the Le Roi that the Northport smelter is establishing something of a record in the matter of the treatment of ore. It is by no means unusual for the plant to treat 1000 tons of ore in a day, but up to the present time the works have not made it an object to handle this quantity of material day in and day out. Early in the month everything was got into shape to put the plant on a thousand-ton per day basis, but it became necessary to close down one of the furnaces for eighteen days pending repairs to the water-jacket. This has been attended to and the smelter is now handling its 1000 tons daily. The announcement is of considerable importance and general interest.

THE ROSSLAND GREAT WESTERN PROPERTIES.

The work in the Le Roi No. 2, Rossland Great Western and Kootenay mines for the week has been carried along without incident, saving an accident to the transmission rope at the Nickel Plate compressor, which entailed a shut-down on Tuesday. No time was lost in making the necessary repairs, however, and matters quickly resumed their ordinary course. In the Josie and No. 1 mines the stoping and development work has been a continuation of the program in force for the last month or two. Consistent progress has been made with the development on the various levels, and the results attained in stoping are indicated in the shipping list for the week. The usual crew is employed in the Nickel Plate, and work has been advanced steadily on the various levels. In the Kootenay the operations are still confined to development on the 400 and 600-foot levels, which are being pushed ahead at a good rate.

THE CENTRE STAR.

The management of the Centre Star is now devoting its attention exclusively to development work, pending the commencement of shipping operations. The station at the 700-foot level of the main shaft has been completed and a couple of contracts have been let and started for drifts east and west of the shaft. These are intended to open up the ore body at that level, on which considerable work was done on the east 600-foot level. Work is being carried ahead as usual on the other levels and in the main shaft.

WAR EAGLE.

A report was in circulation during the week that the War Eagle had discontinued operations temporarily, but of course the statement was manufactured out of whole cloth. It probably originated from the fact that some changes were made in the crew, but these did not materially affect the number of men employed. Development work is under way on the various lower levels of the mine, and the main shaft is still being carried down. A diamond drill crew is at work from the 800-foot level, and it is possible that another crew of diamond drillers will be put to work in the very near future.

STOPING IN SPITZEE.

During the past week the work on the continuation of the drift on the 100-foot level of the Spitzee has been carried ahead steadily, and with as much speed as the present method of hand drilling permitted. The drift is in an excellent body of ore, and commencing Monday this ore will be hoisted and placed in the bins for shipment. The mine will probably not forward the ore until a couple of thirty-ton cars can be filled.

STRUCK HARD ROCK.

The work in the Green Mountain mine has been carried along more slowly during the past week, by reason of the fact that in carrying down the main shaft a body of unusually hard rock was encountered some fifty feet below the 200-foot level. This affected the speed with which the shaft was being sunk, but the work is going ahead as usual. When the 300-foot level is reached a decision will be arrived at as to whether the shaft will be carried down another 100 feet at once or drifts run at the 300 to tap the ore bodies. It is probable that the company will decide to continue sinking to the 400-foot level at least before drifting at all.

SENDING OUT ORE.

The shipping operations are the principal topic of interest in connection with the Velvet mine at the present time. Up to date nine cars of ore averaging 25 tons per car, have been sent to the Hall smelter at Nelson, and two cars additional will be shipped today, having been loaded during the past couple of days. The continuance of shipments is understood to depend largely upon the condition of the roads over which the ore is hauled to the railroad siding.

IRON MASK.

Up to the present time no announcement has been made as to the resumption of work in the Iron Mask. That the management may issue such an announcement at any time seems likely in view of the fact that the workings are being constantly pumped, an expense that would be unnecessary were it not deemed advisable to have the property in such shape as to resume work on short notice. J. L. Parker, M. E., has completed his examination of the mine, which is understood to have been in the way of a check examination.

ON THE DEEP LEVEL.

At the Abe Lincoln the operations in the north and south drifts at the 200 foot level have been continued without interruption during the week. Nothing of special interest occurred during the period in question.

WAR EAGLE REPORT

STATEMENT OF THE FINANCES PRESENTED AT ANNUAL MEETING.

MANAGER KIRBY'S REPORT ON MINE WORKINGS AND PROSPECTS.

The War Eagle's fifth annual report, presented at the meeting on February 25, shows that there is owing to the Bank of Toronto $256,171 and to Mr. Gooderham $385,347. The accounts payable amount to $9,716.56. The assets in part consist of $1,699,329 in mines and mineral claims, $2,579 cash in hand; $224,300 in machinery, buildings and equipment; $18,122 in stores on hand, $89,589 in Monita Gold Mining Company's stock; $28,275 in Mugwump stock; $56,190 in Rossland Gold Mining Company stock; $12,500 in War Eagle Hotel stock; $25,734 accounts receivable. Manager Kirby says: "From the seventh to the eleventh levels a new depth of seven hundred feet on the vein is now accessible, and its exploration by levels is fairly under way. What its contents may be is yet unknown, and is a matter of luck. That its possibilities are great is evidenced from the fact that the main shoot down to the sixth level, a depth of 754 feet, has contained about 165,000 tons, with a smelter's gross assay value of $3,100,000. From the nature of the ground it is impossible to see ahead or to make any prediction as to the chances of success or failure. That these chances justify the cost of exploring it to a decisive point is beyond question. Its contents, whatever they may be, will be reached as promptly and as cheaply as possible."

THE METAL MARKETS.

LONDON, March 4.—Lead £11, 13s. 9d.

NEW YORK, March 4.—Bar silver 55; Mexican dollars 43 3-4; copper dull, 12 1-2@12.50; lead firm.

THE CASCADE MINE

A CONCENTRATING PLANT MAY BE INSTALLED AT THE PROPERTY.

POSSIBLE RESULT OF THE VISIT RECENTLY PAID BY MR. THOMAS.

The Cascade mine may be equipped with a concentrating plant of 75 to 100 tons daily capacity in the near future. This proposition emanates from E. W. Thomas, the Philadelphia fiscal agent whose connection with the property has been extensive in the direction of placing stocks in the east. Mr. Thomas left yesterday for the east after spending a week in Rossland and district. He was accompanied by a couple of friends, one of whom was a mining man. It is understood that the inspection of the Cascade by Mr. Thomas' expert adviser was most satisfactory, and that the concentrator proposition was advanced several stages as a result of the visit.

While here the party made a trip into the Ymir camp, and examined several properties there, including the Ymir mine and mill. It is possible that later negotiations for a property in the Ymir district may be closed up. The party was piloted by Eugene Croteau, secretary of the Cascade company:

Mr. Thomas is substantially interested in the progress of the Cascade, hence the proposal to erect a concentrator to handle Cascade and Bonanza ores. His idea is that the company should proceed to open up the ore bodies on a good scale until from 25,000 to 30,000 tons of ore is blocked out. This would justify the erection of the plant, and no delay would be encountered in going ahead with the scheme. Tests have been made of Cascade ore from a concentrating standpoint, and it has been demonstrated that the ore will concentrate ten into one, or thereabouts. This makes the product exceedingly high grade, and much of the present heavy cost of transportation would accrue to the company, after deducting a reasonable amount for the concentrator tolls. Ample water power is available close to the mill site.

It is understood that no definite arrangement was arrived at by Mr. Thomas during his stay in the city, but that the matter will be taken up immediately on his return to the east, and that further information respecting the proposition may be expected at no distant date.

CUT INTO THE BRICK

TWO FERN MINE EMPLOYEES WHO COLLECTED BY A NEW PROCESS.

SAWED OFF PORTIONS OF A GOLD BRICK AND ARE NOW UNDER ARREST.

(Special to the Miner.)

NELSON, B. C., March 3.—Simon Pleff and H. J. Labrash, of Ymir, are in the provincial jail in Nelson awaiting trial tomorrow morning before Stipendary Magistrate Crease on a rather unique charge.

It appears that on Sunday last P. J. Nicholls, lessee of the Fern mine, was superintending the monthly clean-up of the mine. With him were working in the laboratory the two prisoners. As a result of the clean-up there was a brick of gold valued at $700. This brick Pleff and Labrash are said to have kept possession of, informing the manager that their wages were considerably in arrears and that they would cut off enough from the brick to satisfy their claims. This the prisoners state they did, returning the balance to Mr. Nicholls, together with a receipt for the amount received. The latter from information received learned that the two men were coming in to Nelson by the evening train, and immediately left for this city on foot, and on arrival had a warrant issued for their arrest.

The two men came into Nelson on Sunday and proceeded to the Kootenay hotel, where they were shortly afterwards arrested by the police, two portions of a gold brick having been placed in possession of the hotel keeper by them on arrival. They were brought up for trial before Magistrate Crease today, but as the prisoners desired to be represented by counsel the case went over until tomorrow.

THE CONTINENTAL MINE.

Bad Roads Interfering With the Hauling of Ore.

Edward Baillie, auditor for the Idaho-Continental mine, near Port Hill, came in yesterday afternoon from the mine where he has been for the past few days. He states that 12 teams are hauling ore from the mine to the landing and they are moving about twelve tons a day. Four carloads have already been shipped. The roads have been bad this winter on account of lack of snow and for some time it has been necessary to make transfers from the sleighs at the upper end of the road, to the wagons nearer the lake. Wm. Roberts, superintendent of the mine, has gone to Duluth to confer with eastern shareholders of the company as to additions to the plant, which it is proposed to make.—Nelson Miner.

THE CONTACT MINES

DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPERTIES IN BURNT BASIN DISTRICT.

NEED OF FACILITIES FOR CONNECTION WITH THE RAILWAY.

H. P. Jackson, manager of the Contact mines, in Burnt Basin, has been in the city for a day or two on business in connection with the properties. Mr. Jackson gives some interesting details as to the proposition and the work done thereon during the past season.

The Contact group embraces nine crown granted claims located two miles northwest of Gladstone, which is the base of supplies. It embraces the Mother Lode group, which was acquired by purchase last spring. The ore carries gold and silver exclusively, and is admirably suited for concentrating, which is the process to be adopted eventually. The company includes some local people, but the stock is held principally in Scotland.

Three veins exist on the property, two on the Mother Lode and one on the Contact. These are from three to six feet in width, and the ore is believed to average between $10 and $12 throughout. In one lead a fifteen inch paystreak occurs, averaging $40.

During last season a tunnel was run on the No. 1 vein for a distance of 240 feet, crosscutting the lead at a vertical depth of 200 feet. From the point of intersection a drift was then run west for 65 feet along the vein. The ore was found to be continuous. As a result of the development from 7000 to 8000 tons of ore have been blocked out. Much of this will pay to ship in its present shape, but the absence of any facilities in the shape of roads or tramways between the mine and the railroad precludes shipping at present.

The company is a development concern, hence its plan of action for the future is only marked out up to a certain stage. It is the intention to equip the property with a tramway and mill, but whether this will be done by the present company or not will be determined by circumstances. The mill will be located on Macrae creek, near the railroad, where an ample water supply is available, and an aerial tramway to the mine can be constructed for some $4000, after which the ore could be delivered from mine to mill at a few cents per ton for transportation. The tests made as to concentration demonstrated that ore will concentrate almost ten to one, thus giving a high grade product for shipment to the smelters.

Incidentally the company is desirous of having a wagon road constructed from the railroad into the Burnt Basin. In addition to their own property a number of other promising prospects would be enabled to bring in supplies and ship ore, while the cost of the road would probably not exceed that of the St. Thomas mountain road on the other side of the railroad.

ORE IN WHITE BEAR

FAVORABLE RESULTS OF WORK DONE DURING THE PAST MONTH.

STATEMENTS REGARDING BODY OF ORE STRUCK IN THE SHAFT.

The strong movement on the stock exchange in White Bear shares is due to reports of a promising nature from the mine. Within the past few days it is probable that not less than 50,000 shares have changed hands locally, and the selling price has increased from 2 1-2 cents to 4 1-4 cents. In view of the magnitude of the reports as to the property the increase is comparatively slight.

Work was resumed on the White Bear some months ago, and it was announced that the main shaft would be sunk for a considerable distance further than had been reached last spring, when the mine was closed down. To expedite this a new gallows frame was erected at the shaft house and other preparations made with a view to extensive operations. Since resumption sinking has been continued steadily.

The report is to hand that the ore encountered in the shaft several weeks since continued down for a distance of almost 50 feet, and that the limit of the ore body was reached this week. Work is now being carried ahead in the shaft in the ordinary rock. It is not stated whether the ore was lost through the dipping of the vein or for other reasons.

Superintendent Demuth is quite proud of the record achieved at the White Bear this month. He states that with one power drill the crew of 12 men made 90 feet during the month, or that this record will be attained by tomorrow night. Mr. Demuth maintains that the distance thus made in the short month of the year stands unparalleled in the history of the camp.

In connection with the ore said to be discovered in the shaft the statement is made that picked samples of the rock ran $40 in gold-copper values.

Bookings over the Spokane Falls & Northern yesterday included Mrs. Daniel Senior to Seattle, I. N. Bell to Seattle and T. A. Pippy to Portland.

THE CENTRE STAR TO SHIP

The Centre Star mine will commence shipments in a few days to the Trail smelter. The mine has about 1000 tons of ore ready to load on the cars at once. The fact is of special interest in Trail as well as in Rossland, for the reason that the Canadian Smelting Works will thus be enabled to blow in its copper furnaces, which have been dark for a couple of months, first because of the repairs under way to the plant, including the installation of the new sampler, and second on account of the lack of gold-copper ores, which will now be filled by the shipments from the Centre Star.

SEATTLE'S ELECTION

MAYOR HUMES HAS APPARENTLY AGAIN CARRIED THE CITY.

EVEN THE "FOUR HUNDRED" DECLARE FOR A WIDE OPEN POLICY.

(Special to the Miner.)

SEATTLE, March 4.—At 11 o'clock tonight Humes had 500 majority out of 3500 votes counted. It is safe to say that the Republican ticket will be elected, and the indications are strong that Humes will pull through by at least 600, although he is running behind his ticket. The vote is heavy, returns coming in slowly.

A peculiarity of the election is that the ward where the "Four Hundred" live is going for Humes, despite his wide open policy

The Seattle Times, Democratic, on Monday thus set forth the issues:

Humes is not the choice of the Republican voters of Seattle. The primary returns a few weeks ago show this conclusively. Humes did not receive at the primaries anything like half of the Republican votes in the City of Seattle cast at an ordinary election. The hired hobo vote of the First Ward gave him the greatest prestige. The same element stood for Humes in the lower precincts of the Fourth and in the water front precincts wherever these men could be housed and fed.

Humes is, however, the candidate of George U. Piper. To be the political boss of King county is Piper's life ambition. Humes is under Piper's control. The Republican platform was drawn up to suit Piper's wishes. No plank was allowed by Piper which would be considered inimical to the interests of the gamblers' ring. Why? Because Piper had obtained $8,500 from the gamblers with which to buy enough votes to nominate Humes.

Piper would be the "king maker" of the Republican party. He would build up another ring in Republican state politics like the old Cherry sreet combination, as it was called, headed by L. S. J. Hunt, McGraw and others. In Piper's opinion, the political firm of "Humes & Piper" is a good starter for such a ring. Then comes Johnny Clancy, the black jack king, who has recognition because of his abilities in organizing hoboes, floaterst and repeaters in the Firs Ward. Thus the firm has become "Humes, Piper & Clancy," with the gamblers as silent partners.

A pretty combination for the Republicans of Seattle to tie up with!

What about J. W. Godwin, the candidate nominated by the Democratic convention, who is a business man. He is a heavy taxpayer and his business record and his home life is as an open book. He has made a success of his own business. He has not been a professional pensioner on the public treasury since his residence here, as has Mayor Humes. He is under no obligations to the gambling houses and the dives below Yesler Way.

TRAIN TELEPHONE.

A Successful Experiment on the Illinois Central Railway.

CHICAGO, March 4.—In a test just made a train crew 400 miles from Chicago talked over the telegraph wires to Chief Operator Parsons of the Illinois Central railroad at the Twelfth Street depot. As a result the railroad telephone was decided to be a success.

The train was stopped near Fulton, Ky., and the telephone was connected with the regular telegraph wire running to Chicago. In spite of the fact that the message had to travel over iron wires which ran parallel to more than a score of other wires, every word was distinctly heard by Mr. Parsons.

The inventor asserts it makes no difference whether or not telegraphic messages are being flashed over the wires simultaneously with the telephone messages. This was tested by the successful transmission of a telegraphic communication from Fulton at the same time Parsons was conversing with the crew.

AN OPTION ON IRON MASK

The Mine May be Sold to Montreal and New York Men.

A Possibility of Its Being Worked on a Larger Scale.

Montreal and New York capitalists have taken an option on the Iron Mask mine. This report is made on excellent authority, together with the statement that the deal for the purchase of the property is being handled by M. S. Logan, mining promoter of this city, who has been in the east for several months. Mr. Logan has a strong clientele in the cities mentioned, and has already influenced the investment of capital in the mining resources of the Kootenays.

The examination of the property made recently by J. L. Parker, M. E., was for the information of the prospective purchasers, and the fact that the deal was on explains the policy of the mine management in keeping the property pumped out instead of permitting the workings to fill, as would have been the natural course after the shutdown was decided upon. The cost of pumping the mine represents a considerable outlay, which would have been saved had the company not desired to have the mine in such shape that it could be examined without difficulty by the representatives of parties who might enter into negotiations for its purchase. The terms of the agreement entered into are not announced. In fact the persons connected with the Iron Mask locally are not in a position to give information on the subject, as the negotiations have been conducted direct between the possible purchasers and the company's head office at Spokane.

On the occasion of his last visit to Rossland D. C. Corbin, president of the company, intimated that something of this nature might be expected to eventuate during the winter. The present company, he stated, had concluded that to operate the Iron Mask with the maximum margin of profit to the shareholders it would be necessary to decrease the cost of production by inaugurating an important system of improvements about the property, aggregating possibly $80,000. They were not prepared to go into this matter at that time, and the inference to be drawn from Mr. Corbin's remarks was that the mine might be disposed of and the new owners left to make alterations on such a scale as they deemed advisable. One of the principal changes to be effected with a view to lowering the cost of production is in connection with the main working shaft, which is now in such shape as to render the hoisting of ore possible only at a cost which could be substantially reduced by enlarging and straigtening the shaft.

Last year the Iron Mask shipped several thousand tons of ore that was said to carry higher values than the product of any other Rossland mine. One drawback to the shipment of ore was the fact that wagons were utilized to haul the product from the mine to the Canadian Pacific yards where it was loaded on cars for the Trail smelter.

The outcome of the negotiations now under way with a view to the transfer of the property will be watched with keen interest. The Iron Mask is properly numbered among the important mines of the Rossland camp, and the resumption of work therein such as would undoubtedly follow its acquisition by a new company would be regarded with great satisfaction by citizens generally.

SHUT DOWN.

The sharp thaw and the attendant breaking up of the roads has brought about an alteration in the program of the Bonanza mine on St. Thomas mountain, and instructions were sent out yesterday to the superintendent to shut down the property. The company has satisfied itself as to the smelter value of the ore as a result of the recent shipments, and with the work accomplished during the winter the shutdown leaves the mine in a satisfactory condition.

THE BOER DELEGATES.

Arrangements for an Interview With Secretary Hay.

WASHINGTON, March 4.—Wessels and Wolmarens, accompanied by Montague White, consul general for the former South African Republic at New York, who have been in Washington for several days past, have arranged for a reception by Secretary Hay. This reception will be purely unofficial, the Boers occupying the status of private citizens of another country sojourning in the United States. The delegates themselves are reserved when questioned as to their mission and as to their pretensions respecting official recognition by the department of state, merely saying they had several different proposals for their guidance under consideration and had not yet reached a determination.