

THE SIMILKAMEEN.

Special Report of W. M. Brewer, Traveling Correspondent of the Engineering and Mining Journal.

The mining recorder's office for this mining division is located at Princeton at the forks of the Similkameen and Tulameen rivers, with a sub-office at Nicola Lake town, situated on the Nicola river, into which it empties near Spence's Bridge station, on the Canadian Pacific railroad main line, and about 180 miles from Vancouver. The following are the boundaries of the Similkameen mining division, as re-adjusted by the department of mines during 1899:

Starting on the international boundary at the point where such boundary intersects the height of land separating the drainage area of the Skagit river from the drainage area of the South Similkameen river; thence northward along the height of land separating the drainage area of Skagit and Coquinala rivers on the west, from the drainage area of the Similkameen on the east, to a point on said divide where it joins the height of land forming the southern and western boundary of the drainage area of the Coldwater river; thence continuing northward following such height of land to the Nicola river; thence easterly following the Nicola river to Nicola lake to its northern extremity; thence easterly along the height of land between Salmon and Chapperton lakes to a point where such height of land joins the height of land separating the drainage area of the Upper Nicola and Upper Similkameen on the west from the drainage of Okanagan lake on the east; thence southerly along such height of land passing between China and Link lakes to a point where it joins the height of land forming the western boundary of the watershed of Twenty-Mile creek; thence southerly along such height of land to a crossing of the Similkameen river one mile above the mouth of Twenty-Mile creek; thence still continuing southerly along the height of land separating the drainage area of the streams flowing into the Similkameen above this point, where such height of land is intersected by the international boundary to the point of commencement.

The altitude at Spence's Bridge is 700 feet above sea level; at Nicola lake about 2,000 feet by aneroid reading; at the summit, which forms the watershed of Nicola river on the north, and the tributaries which empty into the Tulameen on the south, the altitude is 3,500 feet; while at Princeton, the principal mining town in the division, the altitude is about 2,200 feet; at the summit of Copper mountain, on which has been done the most extensive development work, the altitude is 4,000 feet.

The history of the division is most interesting, because it is the only land in British Columbia which has produced any considerable quantity of platinum. Discoveries of placer gold were first made on the Tulameen river and Granite creek, one of its tributaries, several years back, and after the Cariboo district had been worked. For several years no attention was paid to this mining district, except as a producer of placer gold and platinum. In 1884 a man named Jamieson discovered copper ore on the summit of Copper mountain while on a hunting expedition. Through the information he imparted to R. A. Brown, at present at Grand Forks, and better known as "Volcanic Brown," the Sunset mineral location was made. As the district was more inaccessible at that time than it is even at present, the location for base metals possessed very little value, but Mr. Brown had so much faith in the Sunset, and was so sanguine that the district would have a future, that he kept the location alive, and a few months back he organized the Sunset Copper company, and sold the property to that corporation, retaining for himself a large interest.

The following description of the Similkameen district, or rather that portion of it which has recently been visited by the writer, will include the mineral zones occurring from Lower Nicola, located about 12 miles below Nicola lake, on the Nicola river to Copper mountain, on the southern side of the Similkameen river, and about 12 miles from Princeton.

In the Nicola valley, between Lower Nicola and Nicola lake, are coal measures apparently of considerable extent. A large tract of this land was taken up several years back when the coal was first discovered by a private banking firm of Victoria. Some prospecting work has been done, and a limited quantity of coal has been mined, annually to supply the local market for fuel and blacksmith work. This is a bituminous coal and the writer is reliably informed that tests made by experts have determined that it is well adapted for coke.

A short distance northeast from Lower Nicola discoveries of borate have recently been made. From the specimens shown the writer and from the best information he could glean these prospects promise well, but up to the present time only a very limited amount of work has been done and not sufficient to warrant an expression as to the future. These prospects are located on what is known as Ten-Mile creek, Mammot lake, Sivash and Mill creeks, the latter emptying into the Nicola river at the town of Nicola Valley. The country surrounding these points is an ideal one for the prospector, because it is easily accessible for pack or saddle horses, while the feed on the ranges is amply sufficient to support a large number of horses and cattle.

Passing from Nicola lake over the Summit, one travels through a section which for about 20 miles is probably barren of minerals, but near the head of Otter valley several mineral locations have been made during the past two years, the most prominent of these being the Big Sioux and the Cindinnati groups. These discoveries were made in a chain of mountains of a comparatively low altitude, which forms a portion of the range along the southern side of Otter creek and north-eastern side of the Tulameen river, and extends from the head of Otter valley to the forks of the Tulameen and the Similkameen. An old trail cut some years back permits the prospector to explore this range.

On the opposite side of Otter valley another low chain of mountains extends, which are traversed by the Tulameen river and its tributaries above the mouth of Otter creek, and from 25 to 40 miles southwesterly from the head of Otter valley. In this chain of mountains sev-

eral camps each one comprising a number of mineral localities, have been prospecting during the past two years and especially during the past season. These are Boulder creek, a distance of about six miles and Otter flat. The last mentioned has been prospectively developed, a seam of which is reported to have been uncovered. The measures in which this seam occurs lie westerly from the Tulameen river; the full extent of the field is not yet known, but one syncline was during the past summer located six miles in length and reports a seam of coal 10 feet in thickness, analyses of which show volatile matter 31.2; new-carbon and ash combined, 62.8; ash, 4.31. The coal is reported as possessing good seam qualities and adapts for coke. In the vicinity of this coal-head extensive deposits of non-titaniferous magnetic iron ore have been discovered; the analysis of a specimen made by the geological survey of Canada yielded 65 per cent metallic iron.

Another valuable mineral location is located on Otter flat and at an altitude of 7,700 feet above the flat. Prospecting has only been carried on during the past summer, and, of course, the work performed was of quite limited extent. Sources of sulphur ores have been opened on several claims. Most of these bodies give indications of considerable extent, so far as the outcrops being continuous along the line of strike were concerned. These ore bodies occur between walls of schistose rock, in the vicinity of granite dikes.

From the Tulameen Summit specimens of gneiss ore, carrying very rare values, have been brought in by prospectors very frequently during the past season. So far as concerns Kelly creek, prospectors had, at the time of the writer's visit, just commenced making explorations in that section. In fact the district directly tributary to Otter flat has not yet even been scratched over by prospectors, although quite a large number have been working during the past season. Proceeding southwesterly from Otter flat toward Princeton, the traveler passes the old placer camp at the mouth of Granite creek, where today there stands the remains of what must once have been a very prosperous mining camp. Two hydraulic companies installed plants for working the creek, after the placer numbers had worked out their claims. Both of these plants are idle today, mismanagement being assigned as the reason.

Near Granite creek the traveler enters the range of mountains which extend from Otter valley to the Similkameen river. The predominant country rock is a felsite, with numerous dikes of other igneous rocks, often having schistose structure occurring as intrusions. Brown rust stains, produced from the oxidizing of the iron in these igneous rocks, is a marked feature, especially in the vicinity of the mouth of Granite creek and from there down the Tulameen river, for two or three miles. From the surface indications this would appear to be a good field to prospect for low-grade gold-bearing ores of a free milling character.

The principal town or camp in the Similkameen district is Princeton, located at the junction of the Similkameen and the Tulameen rivers. The topography of the immediate surrounding country is rolling rather than mountainous, but within a few miles southwest mountains ascend to an altitude of from 3,000 to 2,000 feet above the river valleys. The rocks in the immediate vicinity of Princeton are sandstones, slates and shales in which occur coal measures, with seams of lignite of varying thickness. In the bank of the Similkameen river, opposite Princeton, a coal seam about six feet in thickness has been opened with a tunnel of about 100 feet in length. This seam has a good slate roof and sandstone floor; the dip is quite flat toward the south, but as the seam occurs at the top of a local anticlinal fold, it dips also at about 30 degrees toward both the east and west. At the outcrop this lignite was of poor quality, but as the tunnel was run in the quality became much better, as is shown by the following analyses of samples made by the Vermilion Forks Mining and Development company, the owners of a considerable area:

Table with 2 columns: p.c. p.c. p.c. p.c. and values for Moisture, Volatile matter, Fixed carbon, Ash, and Copper mountain.

on Copper mountain:

Table with 2 columns: p.c. p.c. p.c. p.c. and values for Silica, Iron, Alumina, Lime, Sulphur, Magnesia, and Copper.

Adjoining the Sunset claim on the west is the Sunrise. On this a vertical shaft has been sunk about 35 feet, and a cross-cut started from the bottom toward the Sunset workings. This location is about 100 feet lower than the Sunset. The ore has the same characteristics, except that much less boronite occurs, and the chalcopyrite is distributed very evenly throughout the diorite gangue. Between the Sunset and the Sunrise shafts there is a distance of about 400 feet and on the surface at intervals outcroppings occur, which indicate the occurrence of ore below them of the same character as that exposed in the workings. As the incline shaft on the Sunset was sunk at an angle of 57 degrees toward the northeast and the cross-cut run toward the southwest, it will be seen that eventually if the crosscuts on the Sunset and Sunrise are continued, the ground between the two openings will be proven and the thickness of the mineralized zone determined.

The locations along the trend of the mountain on which the most development has been done are the Helen H. Gardner, adjoining the Sunset on the southeast; the Oriole, in the same direction, and the Copper Farm, Vancouver and Triangie fraction to the northwest. The last named is apparently at the contact between the felsite and diorite, but sufficient work has not been performed on it to determine any material facts as to its future possibilities.

Other promising prospects in the vicinity of Copper mountain are the Lost Horse, Virginia and Olympia, on Wolf creek; Jubilee, about three miles in a southerly direction from the Sunset, and at about 500 feet higher altitude; the Copper Reef and Copper Bench, on the north-western flank of the mountain, with their trend to the Similkameen river. On the Ken-wern boundary lines extending almost westerly mountain side the principal locations are: Brooklyn, Magnetic, Princeton, Loraine and Red Buck. On all of these assessment work only has been done up to the present time, but the ore on the dumps and that exposed in the workings warrants the opinion that Kennedy mountain shows promising possibilities.

The water power which can be developed along the Similkameen river, and especially the one which has already been developed by the Anglo-American company, for the purpose of hydraulicizing, will certainly prove of great value in the development of the mineral resources in the surrounding mountains, because, owing to the scarcity of water on the summits, machinery driven by electric power will have to be employed in the mine workings for hoisting, etc. The Similkameen river is about 1,500 feet lower than the summits of either Copper or Kennedy mountains, consequently any idea of pumping supplies of water to the summits is out of the question. Small mountain streams and some springs will furnish a limited supply for domestic purposes, but for power purposes the Similkameen river will be the mainstay of the district. The supply of timber for both fuel and mine timbering is plentiful and of good quality, being principally pine.

CANADIAN PRODUCTS.

Their Competition With American Products in England.

American consuls in England, says a Times correspondent, are just beginning to give attention to the competition of Canada with the farm products from their own country. There has been a disposition among American politicians, and even among business men, to belittle the effect of the system of preferential duties devised by the Dominion—that of 25 per cent originally instituted having just been increased to 33 1/3 per cent. Mr. James W. Boyle, the United States consul in Liverpool, has made two reports upon this question, one under date of July 25th, and another on August 8th of the present year. I quote first from the latter as it gives attention to a general phase of the question which will be interesting as an introduction. He says: "On the 1st inst. Canada's new preferential tariff of 33 1/3 per cent in favor of Great Britain went into effect. This is one of a number of facts bearing upon what promises to be, in the not distant future, a burning question throughout the British Empire—a trade Zollverein, or preferential tariff, between and among the colonies of Great Britain and the mother country. Liverpool vastly interested in this question, Liverpool receives more imports from the United States than does any other single port in the world; and it is also the headquarters of the Canadian trade, both for import and export. Beyond question, during recent years there has been a great development of sentiment in favor of an Imperial preferential tariff; and I do not hesitate to say that this sentiment has a far stronger hold, not only among the mass of the people of Great Britain, but even among the politicians, than the party newspapers and party leaders concede. It is a very significant fact that for the last two years this question has been discussed more than any other at meetings of chambers of commerce and trade organizations of Great Britain and her colonies. The enormous possibilities—commercial as well as political—attaching to this question are emphasized by the recent federation of Australia and the proposed federation of South Africa, with the inclusion of the Transvaal and Orange Free State."

In the earlier report Mr. Boyle went at length into the question. He states it thus in his opening paragraph: "The statistics of the British Blue-book on trade for 1898 (recently issued) present two striking facts—that the notable increase in American imports last year was chiefly in manufactures, and that Canada is the leading competitor of the United States in forest and farm products. This Canadian competition in the British market is now keener than it ever was, and American farmers and shippers would be wise to appreciate the fact that the outlook is that it will increase. That there should be competition is inevitable; hence should be competition in the natural and normal productions of the United States and Canada and the equidistance of the two countries from this market. But during the past two years the Canadian trade has been given a great impetus through the operations of a system of government supervision and subsidies. Possibly influenced by the Canadian example, Russia is shortly to introduce the experiment of subsidizing a cold-storage service on ships bringing dairy products to Great Britain, and already Russia sends enormous quantities of these products to this market."

In proof of this interest, and as setting forth the methods by which it has been carried out, he quotes at length from the latest report of the co-operative societies. This emphasizes the persistent and successful efforts of the Canadian department of agriculture to instruct the Dominion farmer in the raising, or growing, or preparation of supplies for the British market, and also the agreements with railways and steamship companies for applying and perfecting cold-storage methods. He adds that "the above described system of government encouragement has been extended by a money grant for every acre in which there would be kept in use refrigerating room according to official plans and specifications, the subsidy being \$50 for the first year and \$25 each year for two additional years," and quotes at length some of the instructions as to the preparation of various articles. He also describes the effectiveness of erection of this system in arguments that might suggest, even to the most impatient commercial nations, the possibility of some modification of their consular system. I quote a paragraph from his description of the methods to the steps taken as above described to increase the sale of Canadian products, high officials of Canada have, during the last two years, travelled a great deal over Great Britain, making speeches before chambers of commerce and trade organizations setting forth the claimed merits of Canadian food products. The Dominion has nine or ten agents in the British Islands who, in some of the functions of a commercial traveller, with those of a commercial farmer produce displayed at their headquarters, and they visit agricultural fairs with movable exhibits. Several of the provinces also have special agents. It is a matter of comment that English newspapers of late have devoted more attention to Canada and Canadian products than was ever before known. All this, of course, has its effect. It tends to predispose the consumers of Great Britain in favor of Canadian products, and it certainly is an element to be taken into consideration in the competitive battle, although quality and price are overwhelmingly stronger than sentiment in matters of trade, here as elsewhere."

He quotes from the latest report of the Canadian minister of agriculture the following table showing the rapid growth of the exports of farm products from the Dominion:

Table with 2 columns: 1896. 1898. In. p.c. and values for Wheat, Flour, Oats, etc.

Articles. 1896. 1898. In. p.c. Wheat ..... \$5,771,521 \$17,313,916 200 Flour ..... 718,433 5,425,760 655 Oats ..... 273,861 3,041,578 1,010 etc.

Undoubtedly much of the increase in Canada's exportations to Great Britain represents only a gain in transportation facilities in the form of American products is shipped via Canadian ports (Montreal principally) to Great Britain. This is especially so as to grain. I am informed that a great deal of American cheese (mostly New York creamery) comes here through Montreal and is sold as Canadian cheese. This is done not merely to save freight, but because of the prejudice which "filled" cheese has created in this market against the American product. The American cheese here referred to is equal to the best Canadian, but it cannot just now be sold on its merits if known to be American for the reason above stated. An American doing business in Liverpool in shipping hides from American cattle slaughtered here tells me that he is doing a big trade in sending these hides to Canada to be tanned, the leather being brought back to England. Within six months he shipped in this way 20,000 hides. He says that they can be shipped from Liverpool to Montreal cheaper than they could be carried by rail from Chicago to Montreal."

Adverting to the work of the year 1899, Mr. Boyle says there has been a great increase over 1898, which he explains as follows: "During 1898 there were 23 steamers under subsidy contract of agreement with the Canadian Government to provide cold storage service for the carrying over of butter, cheese, eggs, fruits and other perishable products to British ports. Since the present summer season has opened a number of ships have been added to the regular Canadian lines, the capacities of some of the old ships have been increased, two or three new regular lines have been established, and the number that of 'tramps' has grown. From Liverpool alone there have been six additional sailings a month to Canadian ports since January. The subsidy system has been extended. This system may be divided into three classes: (1) for the mails, (2) for cold storage service, and (3) for miscellaneous cargo. In some cases the Dominion subsidies are supplemented by the Maritime Provinces."

These reports do not need much by way of explanation, as the extracts given herewith will show. They do, however, demonstrate that the Americans are not only watchful in seeking markets for their surplus farm products, but in looking after possible competitors. One feature may be noted, and that is their timeliness. The reader will have noticed their dates. It may be of interest to know that the reports under review were issued together from the Bureau of Foreign Commerce in Washington on August 29, and that the advance sheets containing them were back in England ready for issue by the consul soon after the middle of September. The British trader is asking with more and more frequency and ever-increasing emphasis why his own Consular service does not emulate the example thus set, day after day and month after month, on the other side of the Atlantic.

Oriel Mining and Milling Co., Limited

Owning the Good Hope Group, Ymir, B. C. Fifty thousand shares are now offered to the public at 15 cents. The property is one of exceptional merit, having a clearly defined vein traceable for 2,000 feet. Samples taken from various points on the outcrop from the main workings at a depth of 70 feet, give excellent values averaging \$2.26 in gold. The ore is of a class that can be readily treated on the ground by milling and cyaniding. Among other well-known properties in the Ymir district are the Ymir, Tamara, Dundee, Blackcock, Wilcock, etc. For report and prospectus apply to

Rossland, B. C. Rolt & Grogan

WE CAN INTEREST YOU IN ACCIDENT INSURANCE

F. A. Daggett & Co., general agents of the Maryland Casualty Co., writes all forms of Personal, Accident and Miners liability insurance. Assets, \$2,232,000. Surplus to policy holders, \$1,434,000.

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

TADDY & CO. ESTABLISHED 150 YEARS London, Eng. 'ORBIT' Brand and PREMIER Navy Cut Tobacco AGENTS FOR CANADA, JAMES TURNER & CO., HAMILTON, ONT.

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS. Notice. Caroline mineral claim, situate in the Grand Forks mining division of Yale district. Where located: Near the head of McCrae creek in the Christina Lake section. Take notice that I, K. L. Burnet, F. M. C. B. 31,110, acting as agent for Ed Hamlin F. M. C. B. 31,056, Fred Lange, F. M. C. B. 31,055, and G. A. Paulson, F. M. C. B. 41,031, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the mining recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a crown grant of the above claim. And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements. Dated this 1st day of November, 1900. K. L. BURNET.

TRAINERS and ATHLETES MAKE USE OF Paine's Celery Compound The Only Medicine That Gives Nerve Force, Strength and Endurance.

Trainers and athletes in every department of athletics must be vigorous and healthy men if they would excel in bicycle races, football, running, jumping, skating and snowshoeing. The athlete should have a well-balanced nervous system, strong blood and pure, and the organs of digestion should at all times be in the best condition. For many years Paine's Celery Compound has been the chosen health restorer of our best and most prominent athletes. It has done wonderful work and kept in condition men who have made world-wide reputations. The celebrated John Graham who has trained athletes in Harvard and Columbia Universities, and who is now superintendent of Boston's famous gymnasium, says: "I have used Paine's Celery Compound to my benefit, and have no doubt that any person undergoing great physical strain will find it a grand strengthener."

Dr. D. E. Kerr, the well known dentist, and family, leave tonight for San Francisco. Dr. Kerr will remain until Dec. 1, but will leave his family in San Francisco for the winter.

Bluebell mineral claim, situate in the Trail Creek mining division of West Kootenay district. Where located: On the west slope of Sophie mountain. Take notice that I, Kenneth L. Burnet (agent for the New Goldfields of British Columbia, Limited, F. M. C. No. 1449,174), free miners' certificate No. B. 31,110, intend sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the mining recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a crown grant of the above claim. And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements. Dated this twenty-fourth day of October, A.D., 1900. KENNETH L. BURNET.

Bluebell mineral claim, situate in the Trail Creek mining division of West Kootenay district. Where located: On the west slope of Sophie mountain. Take notice that I, Kenneth L. Burnet (agent for the New Goldfields of British Columbia, Limited, F. M. C. No. 1449,174), free miners' certificate No. B. 31,110, intend sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the mining recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a crown grant of the above claim. And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements. Dated this 18th day of October, A.D., 1900. F. A. WILKIN.

"Golden Terra" Fraction mineral claim, situate in the Trail Creek mining division of West Kootenay district. Where located: On Trail Creek, about two miles east of Rossland, between the "Palo Alto" and the "Jo Jo" mineral claims. Take notice that I, Wm. B. Towns- end, F. M. C. No. B. 30938, agent for C. W. Doud, F. M. C. No. B. 41234, intend 60 days after date to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements for the purpose of obtaining a "crown grant" of the above claim. And further take notice that action under section 37 must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvement. Dated this 27th day of September, A. D., 1900, at Rossland, B. C. WM. B. TOWNSEND

European plan, \$1 to \$2. American, \$2 to \$3. HOTEL GRAND THOS. GUINEAN, Prop. Newly Furnished and Equipped With All Modern Improvements. Cor. Howard and Main Aves. Spokane, Wash.

Greenwood, B. C. Railroad employee Kootenay division way, especially the to make Greenwood are justly indignantly scandalously untrue. Vancouver regarding held in that city alleged connection of certain passenger division, great pipe dream of the foundation of "spotters" who riot. Even to his pole, superintendent, goes on record truth was grossly irregularities that in themselves a railroad circles. The truth is not dismissed and no investigation alleged, and so far system being "na that, too, was an employ one "apo name of J. G. Cas a mining operation the employ of the evidence at the passed over the Sam Woods, the acor. This was to accomplish his personal friendships, which secure evidence himself and a witness here and in Vancouver, e by a local emp through his solic he has deman Vancouver Prov was first publi name was not d by way of immu the most credib ice conductors ition leaving no identify. The re members of sta of the Columbia sented, the rep destitute of any rious imputation A WEST Carmi Will Se ing and Greenwood, B. The Carmi min shipping list th government is over the west fible for many numerous emp to be placed i Carmi is own ce represents H. Thurston, v his headquarter Thurston shot England. Toda s-ndent of the el for tenders o from the This amount o

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CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS. Notice. Velvet Fraction No. 1 mineral claim, situate in the Trail Creek mining division of West Kootenay district. Where located: On the west slope of Sophie mountain. Take notice that I, Kenneth L. Burnet (agent for the Velvet (Rossland) Mine, Limited, F. M. C. No. B. 45,340), free miner's certificate No. B. 31,110, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the mining recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a crown grant of the above claim. And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements. Dated this 1st day of November, 1900. K. L. BURNET.

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