

been compelled to close by reason of the conditions which existed prior to the granting of said bounty. Other mines have increased their expenditures on development, and have added, or are adding, to their equipment.

2. Many of these mines are now ready to commence production to an extent over and above the present capacity of the Canadian smelters to treat on an economical basis of smelting, refining and marketing of the product.

3. Under these conditions the said smelters are unable to make their treatment and marketing charges on a certain class of concentrates produced from low-grade ore sufficiently low to encourage the development and permanent operation of mines producing such concentrates. In many cases production therefrom is rendered unprofitable.

4. Until the said smelters have so improved their facilities for the smelting, refining and manufacturing of lead as to command the highest price at home and abroad for their product, these low grade concentrates cannot be economically handled in their entirety by said smelters as at present equipped.

5. A limited amount of time is necessary for said smelters to complete such facilities, to an extent as will be consistent with stable production in the future.

6. The rates now available are excessive in comparison with rates at present obtainable from European smelters on concentrated ores of the grade described in the following paragraph.

7. Under present conditions existing in Europe, a market is there available at satisfactory rates, for ores in the form of concentrates of a high grade in lead and low in silver contents, and to an extent capable of absorbing the surplus output referred to in paragraph 2.

8. A restriction of output from such mines as are immediately capable of large production will prevent their economical operation and any interruption of the present development, or restriction of available output, will act as a serious check to the lead mining and smelting industries, and contingent industries, and thus to the general prosperity of the community, thereby neutralizing the beneficial effects of the Lead Bounty Act.

9. The undersigned therefore respectfully request that the government take such action as will permit:

(a). The Canadian lead smelters at present operating, to export such surplus ore under the benefits of the Lead Bounty Act for a period commencing April 1st, 1904, to terminate 30th June, 1905, provided that the amount of lead in ore so exported shall not exceed 14,000 tons of 2,000 pounds per annum.

(b). The producers of said ore to receive the full benefit of the bounty, provided a sufficient amount remains available after the producers of lead ores, both mined and smelted in Canada, have received the bounty to which they are now entitled, at the full rate of \$15 per ton; otherwise at such reduced rate per ton as will absorb the unearned balance.

10. We respectfully submit that great benefit will result from the working of the low grade lead mines, which condition will be brought about by the granting of our request. Expenditures on this class of mines exceed those necessary on the smaller high grade mines now active. More expensive equipment is usually required, more men are employed, the tonnage produced and consequent transportation business created are larger, and resulting therefrom the benefits derived by the community generally are proportionately increased. An immediate and sufficient supply of ore will be obtained to enable our lead smelters to be operated at their fullest capacity and on the most economical basis, and, as the development of the said low grade mines will give the strongest assurance of a continuous and stable supply of ores, the smelters will be better able to take up the question of providing facilities necessary to the economical treatment of Canadian ores on a stable basis of production and manufacture in Canada of lead in various forms produced from such ores.

11. The foregoing statement of facts, and deductions therefrom, are the result of the most careful consideration of existing conditions, by the undersigned, as representing the lead mining and smelting industries, and in our deliberations we have viewed the subject from a broad standpoint, with a view not only of conserving and advancing our own interests, but with them the interests of the mining industry in general, its dependent industries, and of the communities which are dependent wholly or in part on said industries.

SOME NOTES FROM THE MINING CAMPS

The Coast.

ARRANGEMENTS have been completed for the acquisition of the Britannia mines at Howe Sound, by the Howe Sound Mining Company, the shareholders in the original syndicate accepting new stock to the value of \$2,500 for each share of the four hundred shares so held. The new company is capitalized at two million dollars and proposes to proceed immediately with the development of the mine on a large scale.

Last month seventy tons of ore was brought down from the Yreka mine, Quatsino Sound, for smelter treatment at Crofton. The mine has lately been obliged to shut down until repairs have been made to the flume, which was damaged some through the heavy fall of snow of the winter months.

The unsecured creditors of the Lenora Mine met in Victoria on May 3rd and decided in favour of accepting the offer made through S. M. Matson by capitalists in London, England, for the purchase of the property in conjunction with the Crofton smelter and Lloyd's sawmill and timber lands at Sicker Siding. The sum involved is \$1,500,000, which the new company agree to give for all the interests mentioned. In doing so, the mortgagees and Mr. Bellinger of the Crofton smelter are all given preference shares in lieu of their claims. Mr. Breen, the other partner in the Crofton smelter, accepts a cash payment for his share in the smelter. Mr. Lloyd also takes a cash value of about \$10,000 for his mill interests. The unsecured creditors to the amount of about \$250,000 are given second preference stock in the concern.

Atlin.

Mr. J. M. Ruffner recently secured the Deeks' group of leases on the south side of Pine Creek above Discovery. Both above and below the Deeks' group the ground has proved remunerative to the individual miner. The Pine Creek Power Co., directly adjoining the above mentioned property, took out \$35,000 last season, and Mr. Fritz Miller with ordinary pick and shovel methods won about \$11,000 during last summer.

It is understood that Mr. Ruffner is promoting an amalgamation of the Pine Creek Power Company, Stevedyke Consolidated Gold Fields, Limited, and the Eastern hydraulic leases. It is estimated that a cost of \$500,000 cash capital will be required to complete the deal and reinforce the plant.

Lillooet.

It is stated that the new dredge owned by the Iowa Lillooet Dredging Co., recently launched on the Fraser River, near Lillooet, is already yielding very satisfactory profits, an average of 40 oz. of gold per shift having been maintained during the past fortnight.

Cariboo.

The Rose Gulch Mining Co., Ltd., has been organized to operate on the South Fork of the Quesnelle River, in the Cariboo District. The property has been worked heretofore on a large scale and has yielded fair returns. It is proposed to build a dam 100 feet long by 25 feet high across Rose Gulch, and thus insure a sufficient supply of water for six months in the year.

Lardeau.

It is stated that the silver group of claims on Mohawk Creek has been sold to the Elwood Tinworkers Gold Mining Co., of Elwood, Indiana. The property has been developed by surface stripping. The character of the ore is a milling quartz.

At Camborne, both the Eva and Oyster-Criterion mills are in steady operation. Last month's clean-up from the former yielding approximately \$6,000, and the latter \$4,700.

Ainsworth.

The Highland mine is being operated to its full capacity under the supervision of Mr. B. Cortiana, and is producing about 300 tons of concentrates per month. The property is being operated under a lease and is now making a profit for the first time in its history.

Slocan.

A Helena, Montana, syndicate is reported to have