

CONTRACT SYSTEM IS ACCEPTED

The Miners' Union Accepted It Yesterday by a Large Majority--Work is to be Resumed on the Mines at Once--Citizens Greatly Rejoice.

The Miners' union yesterday adopted by ballot the contract system, and with it the agreement submitted by the representatives of the War Eagle, Centre Star and Le Roi mining companies. The vote was 218 for and 103 against, thus giving a majority of 115 in favor of the measure. When the announcement was made of the result the members of the union cheered themselves hoarse, so enthusiastic were they over the adoption of the measure. This brings to a close a struggle between the three mining companies and the union which has lasted since February 10, and which had it gone on for any great length of time, would have greatly injured the business, labor and property interests of the town. It also had a more far reaching effect as it acted as a deterrent to capital coming in here and elsewhere in the Kootenays and thus restricted the selling of mining properties. In addition to this it aided in depressing the stock market, and prevented to a large measure dealings in shares; in short, its entire effect on the mining industry, both here and elsewhere in the Kootenays, was most hurtful.

The commencement of the trouble in the camp is attributed by many to the passage of the eight-hour law. This led to the Slocan troubles, and a strike here over the question of wages which lasted for several months. The Slocan mine owners moved heaven and earth in order to induce the mine owners here to join them in their efforts to induce the miners in the Slocan to work for less under the eight-hour law than they had earned when 10 hours constituted a day's work. That the efforts of the Slocan mine owners bore fruit finally is evidenced by the memorial which was adopted at the meeting of the Kootenay board of trade and which was sent to the Legislature from that body protesting against the eight-hour law, and the testimony offered by the local mining superintendents when Mr. R. C. Clute, Dominion labor commissioner, came here a few months since to investigate the labor troubles.

When Mr. W. A. Carlyle was in charge of the operations in the properties of the British America Corporation he wished to let contracts, but the Miners' union refused to allow this, and subsequently other attempts were made to let contracts, but the union opposition to this prevented their consummation. This more than anything else, perhaps, aroused the opposition of the mining companies, and finally resulted, on the 10th of February, in the partial closing down of the War Eagle and Centre Star to make repairs and additions to the machinery it was alleged at the time. This was followed a few days after by the partial closing down of the Le Roi. A few men were kept at work for about three weeks, and then there came what might be termed a complete lockout of the men underground in all these three big mines, thus throwing out of work about 1,000 men.

Matters continued in this shape until about the 23rd of March, when the mine managers announced that they were ready to resume work on the three mines mentioned, but under the contract system, and the union refused to accept the terms. Matters drifted along until the 15th of March, when the Hon. Smith Curtis, provincial minister of mines, came from the coast for the avowed purpose of endeavoring to secure a settlement of the labor difficulties. After studying the situation for several days, and conferring with the management of the mines and the members of the union, he concluded that Mr. Ralph Smith, member of the provincial Legislature for Nanaimo, president of the Dominion trades and labor congress, and one of the mediators in the coal mine trouble in the vicinity of Nanaimo, was the man to settle the trouble, and he sent for him. About the same time the announcement was made that the Dominion labor commissioner, Mr. R. C. Clute, was coming to Rossland, having been ordered here by the Dominion government for the purpose of acting as mediator. These three gentlemen, Messrs. Curtis, Clute and Smith, have worked hard for the past two weeks trying to bring about a settlement of the differences that exist. Mr. Smith, as the chief labor man in Canada, from his position at the head of the Dominion Trades Labor Congress, possessed the entire confidence of the miners, while Messrs. Clute and Curtis inspired confidence by the disinterested and impartial manner in which they worked to bring about a settlement. In their efforts they were ably assisted by Messrs. Devine, Foley, Horrabain, Houston and others of the executive committee of the union.

Messrs. Bernard MacDonald, the manager of the British America Corporation, and Edmund B. Kirby, manager of the War Eagle and Centre Star mines, proved themselves to be most courteous throughout the various interviews, and stood ready to explain matters to the members of the committee and to the mediators whenever anything came up that required explanation. One of the chief stumbling blocks to the settlement of the trouble was the matter of the recognition of the union in the matter of the awarding of contracts, and at one stage of the negotiations Mr. MacDonald was willing to do this, but Mr. Kirby refused to sanction it, and it is said, Mr. MacDonald to withdraw his assent to it.

The mine owners on Tuesday submitted their final proposition to the miners, in which they declared that they had made every concession that was possible. This was published in the Miner of yesterday, and provides for the resumption of work under the contract system, and the manner of method under which contracts shall be set. This document makes a partial recognition of the union, but the mine owners reserve the privilege of hiring either union or non-union men. It also provides that the union men shall employ all possible conciliatory efforts before ordering a strike. This was the proposition which was voted on yesterday by the Miners' union and adopted by so large a majority. It is understood that the men will go to work just as soon as the con-

tracts can be arranged for, and it is thought everything will be in full swing at the mines by Monday at the latest. It is claimed by the mine managers that before a great while that a much larger force than ever before will be employed in the mines, and one of the managers stated that before the snow flies that there will be nearly 3,000 men employed on the mines in this vicinity instead of 1,500 as formerly.

Too much credit cannot be given to the miners for their action. They have been temperate in their demands, and have shown a spirit of conciliation throughout the whole negotiations which is remarkable and which would serve as a model for other trades unions elsewhere. Had not been for this spirit, it is doubtful if the trouble would have been settled for many months to come.

There was great rejoicing in this city when the news was spread that the trouble had been settled, and citizens of all classes congratulated one another on the happy outcome. All felt relieved, and saw before the city of Rossland only a vista of prosperity where there had been for many days only a gloomy outlook.

BOARD OF TRADE ACTION.

Resolutions Expressive of Satisfaction at the Conclusion of the Trouble.

As soon as the result of the balloting was known, a number of gentlemen who had been anxiously awaiting the decision, decided that a meeting of the board of trade should be held, and that an official statement should be sent out from it over the Associated Press wires. Among those who were instrumental in having the meeting called were Governor Mackintosh, Hector McRae, J. S. C. Fraser and Alexander Dick. The special meeting was held in the Rossland club, and a large number were in attendance. The chair was occupied by Mayor Goodeve, and Mr. Bernard MacDonald, manager of the Le Roi and other B. A. C. companies, came down from the company's office to be present. During the course of the evening Mr. MacDonald very courteously furnished the board with information regarding the probability of increased development in the camp. On the strength of the data furnished by him the following despatch was prepared and sent to the Eastern papers: "Negotiations looking to settlement of labor troubles here were brought to a satisfactory conclusion tonight. This settlement is on broad lines, and is regarded as permanent. All miners resume work tomorrow, and shipments will also be resumed."

The management of the leading mines has announced that all properties will be worked to the full capacity of their machinery, plants, and as about a quarter of a million dollars worth of new machinery is being installed, this means that upwards of 2,500 miners will soon be at work. The output will be increased at once, and the shipments from the Le Roi, War Eagle and Centre Star mines alone will shortly average 1,300 tons per day.

The settlement of the labor troubles has resulted in a general feeling of confidence being restored, and citizens of all classes are rejoicing tonight. The number of miners employed in Rossland's mines before the shut down was about 1,500 and the shipments about 700 tons per day.

The following resolution was then adopted: That this meeting desires to place on record its appreciation of the services rendered in reaching a settlement of the labor troubles by Messrs. R. C. Clute, Q. C., and Ralph Smith as mediators.

During the progress of the meeting, Mr. J. S. C. Fraser pointed out that it would be well to draw some attention to the fact that the Velvet mine would also be a shipping mine very shortly, and that it would be well to include it among the mines which would soon ship ore from the camp.

While the board did not deem it advisable to include the Velvet among the properties alluded to in the statement, it was considered in a subsequent discussion of the board and Mr. D. V. Bogie urged the advisability of the strongest pressure being brought to bear upon the government to construct a wagon road to this mine in order that it might be made tributary to the Rossland camp. He went to the extent of urging that the people of Rossland should be induced to contribute \$10,000 to the road.

That Cutting Acid—That arises from the stomach and almost strangles, is caused by fermentation of the food in the stomach. It is a foretaste of indigestion and dyspepsia and if neglected will develop into the chronic stage. Take one of Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets immediately after eating, and it will prevent this distress and indigestion. 50 in a box, 35 cents. Sold by Goodeve Bros.

FISK JUBILEE SINGERS.

The original company of these far-famed singers will give vocal concerts in St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Easter Monday and Tuesday. The programme will consist of the sacred, weird jubilee songs of the log cabin and the cottonfield, sung as only the jubilee singers can sing them. They claim that their special mission is to sing to the heart, and yet H. Neumann, one of Berlin's leading musical critics, says: "It is a fact that the Fisk Jubilee Singers have to be judged seriously from an artistic point of view." They please everybody whether musicians or not.

A MORAL WAVE IN MOTION

CHIEF OF POLICE INSTRUCTED TO STOP OPEN GAMBLING.

Disorderly Women Must Remove Their Haunts Around Lincoln Street Before July 1st.

The first meeting of the police commissioners was held Friday morning at 11 a. m. There were present Mayor Goodeve, Alderman J. Stillwell Clute, and Mr. Hector McPherson, being the full board. A deputation from the churches, Good Templars and temperance societies, headed by Rev. D. McG. Gandier, Rev. Geo. H. Morden and Mr. P. McL. Forin, appeared and urged their views as to gambling and the social evil.

The mayor's order of January 22 then came up for discussion. Commissioner McPherson's comment on this order, drawing attention to the fact that while the mayor had made a stringent order relative to the suppression of slot machines, yet he had made no specific mention of open gambling, nor had any steps been taken tending to the removal of this evil. Mr. McPherson instanced two cases on Spokane street, where he was informed and had every reason to believe, open gambling was carried on under the guise of cigar stores.

Commissioner Clute, in discussing the mayor's order, referred to the fact that many of the hotel keepers and saloon keepers were entitled to consideration, they being large taxpayers and a source of considerable revenue to the city, and further, that one of the owners of slot machines had the considerable sum of \$1,800 invested in the business. He thought, therefore, that the mayor should have given some reasonable time limit in order to allow these people to dispose of their machines or to make necessary arrangements for the cessation of their enterprise. He stated, however, that he was in accord with the general principle of the remaining portion of the order.

The chief was instructed, as far as possible, to suppress open gambling, and to close all places carrying on gambling under the guise of trade.

The matter of removing the disorderly women from Lincoln street and vicinity was then taken into consideration. The commission brought forward the fact that this matter was considered by the previous board of commissioners and the city council and that over a year ago it was conceded by all parties that these people must be removed from their present haunts. It was further shown that all the inmates and proprietors were aware of this impending action, but in order that no injustice should be done, the chief was instructed to notify all disorderly women to leave these sections on or before July 1st next.

The commission recommended to the council that a telephone be placed in the chief's residence, and that the summer uniforms of the police be procured at the usual time.

LIBERAL MEETING.

A Vote of Thanks Passed to the Arbitration Committee.

The regular weekly session was held last Thursday in the board of trade rooms, and there was a good attendance. Many new members were initiated. After the usual routine business a vote was moved by Dr. Sinclair and seconded by Mr. Morrison, thanking Messrs. R. C. Clute and Ralph Smith for their labors in bringing about a successful termination of the labor troubles.

Similar resolutions were moved by Messrs. W. J. Patterson and E. J. Grant, and seconded by Messrs. A. H. Duttie and John Robinson respectively, thanking the Miners' union and the representatives of the mine owners for the part they had taken in bringing these troubles to their happy termination.

The secretary was instructed by the meeting to write to H. Bostock at once regarding the necessity of adding \$20,000 to the supplementary estimates for the federal building, also urging upon him the repayment of the sums contributed by some of our citizens to the price for its site.

A HOCKEY DANCE.

The Rivalries Are Dropped and the Competing Teams Give a Ball.

At a meeting of the Rossland and Victoria hockey clubs Thursday, it was decided to celebrate the spring and the end of Lent by giving a dance in the Miners' union hall on the 10th instant. This will be Easter Monday. A supper will be served and the best music procurable in the city will be provided. The dance program is in good hands. The special committee appointed are Messrs. W. E. D. C. Lawe, W. J. Vonner, E. H. Winn and Dr. Keating of the Victoria and J. W. Spring, E. V. Duthie, H. Ray and W. Dunn of the Rosslands. Tickets can be obtained from any of the above-named gentlemen, or from the banks. Ladies are admitted free, their cavaliers being charged \$2.50.

Have Purchased the Collins. Messrs. J. A. McKerscher, of the Lion brewery, and W. H. Patterson, the tobacconist, have purchased the Collins House saloon from Messrs. Mark Mosés and W. Stillwell. It is the intention of the new proprietors to run the Collins saloon in a first class manner. All the standard brands of wines and liquors will be kept, and the wants of the patrons of the place be carefully looked after. In time extensive improvements will be made so that the Collins will be first class in every respect. Messrs. McKerscher and Patterson are popular young men, and if any two individuals in Rossland can make a resort of this kind a "go" they can do it.

Stewart's First Pay Day. Contractor Stewart will have his first pay day for the Balfour extension employees on the 20th inst., when some \$36,000 will be distributed by checks on the Bank of Montreal, says the Nelson Tribune. Thereafter the men will be paid on the 20th of each month, and the next installment of wages will be considerably higher, as the number of men on the pay roll will be larger than at present.

THE COUNTY COURT.

Some Cases of Interest—A Point Affecting the Contract System.

The Supreme and County Court Chambers were held today, and after a brief session were adjourned till Thursday next, summonses being made returnable at 10:30 a. m. Whether the court will sit at that hour or at 2 p. m. will depend upon the amount of business presented.

There was nothing of interest developing during the sitting of the chambers yesterday but with the opening of the County Court the case of Baldwin vs. Sleeman brought up a curious point of law. The case turned upon the fact whether the issue was one of wages or one of contract. The defendant, Sleeman, was cutting wood for the White Bear, and went to the plaintiff, Baldwin, who garnished the White Bear for the amount that company owed the defendant. The amount thus held was \$4. The defendant claimed \$40 exemption as a wage worker. Counsel for plaintiff, Mr. Hodge, claimed that the cutting of wood was done under contract and therefore the exemption claimed did not hold. Counsel for the defendant, R. Armstrong, held and showed rulings that whether the labor was paid by day or per piece the money thus earned was wages. He urged that if the contrary was ruled that every miner in the camp under the contract system would not be able to claim that exemption which the law had specially provided for the wage earner. Judge Forin ruled that the exemption applied to those who labored with their hands, even in case they did employ an assistant. The exemption was, therefore, sustained.

The case next called was that of Raby Young vs. G. H. Owen et al. Mr. Le Maître appeared for the plaintiff and W. Whiteside for the defendant, George Owen. A decision had already been arrived at in this matter. This was the establishment of a mechanics lien for work done at the Dominion hall, against the lessee, J. Astley and W. Astley. It was now sought to establish the lien against G. Owen, the lessor, and evidence was called by the plaintiff to prove that he had given some directions about the work, and that he had not forbidden it. W. Whiteside, for the defendant, urged that the lien was not in court, as it was not in the hands of the register, and making his point, the case was adjourned with others till next Thursday.

THE WEATHER.

Rosslanders Treated to a Pleasant Fall of the "Beautiful."

I a. m., April 8, 1900.
Max., 45.6; min., 28.3.
Weather, rain to snow.
Wind, S. W., to N. W., to W.
Snowfall, 5.2 inches.
Rainfall, .073 inches.
Total precipitation, .593 inches.

Just after midnight yesterday morning the wind, during the steady rain which had been falling continuously for over 24 hours, suddenly veered round one quarter of the circle, and blew freshly from the northwest. In other parts of the globe this would probably have betokened the approach of a heavy gale of wind, especially as the mercury dropped rapidly. As the morning approached the temperature was sensibly lowered, and before noon the

rain had changed its character and was falling in sleet. Frequent gusts of wind from the same squally quarter brought with them flurries of hail, which, towards 2 o'clock in the afternoon, developed into a regular winter storm burst of snow. The beautiful persistently fell with hardly a break until after midnight with morning, though the shifting of the wind after sundown to the west with a still further southerly tendency, betokened the breakup of the storm clouds. This came, but it was not until 1 o'clock this morning that the lightning clouds in the western horizon and the appearance of a few stars in the southern sky showed that the flurry was over and the spring allowed to take its vernal course.

Such a storm at this period is by no means unprecedented. Leaving last year out of account, as one which was merely a sport and not a fair sample of Rossland weather, as all good Rosslanders are willing to concede it will be remembered that when Mayor Scott was elected just three years ago, to the very day, the beautiful fell persistently on Lalonde and Scott voters alike as they wended their way to the polling booths. Yet the summer which followed was a particularly good one, and, with the exception of a little rain around the latter end of June and the beginning of July, there was very good weather from the middle of April clear into the end of October.

COLUMBIA & WESTERN.

The Spur to the Mother Lode Has Been Completed.

Mr. J. D. Sullivan, assistant engineer of the Columbia & Western railway, is in the city, and will leave on Monday for the Boundary Creek country. One of the dams that is being constructed on the Kettle river is directly under one of the railway bridges. This will necessitate a readjustment of the bridge, and he is going over to oversee the work. He reports that the spur to the Mother Lode has been completed, and that shipments from that mine will soon be commenced. The branch to the Brandon & Golden Crown and Winnipeg mines is graded and all ready for tracklaying, and this will soon be done. This will place these mines in a position to ship. The feature of the season, he says, is that the snow has departed a month or six weeks earlier than it did last year, and this enables railway work to be earlier commenced than was the case last year.

THE BROKEN BRIDGE.

The Work is All Finished and Trains Are Running on Schedule Time.

The first train to get through on schedule time on the Red Mountain line was the incoming train on Sunday from Spokane. The trains on Saturday crossed the bridge but they were detained for the completion of the structure, and the afternoon train—a consequence did not arrive till close on 5 p. m. The track is now in good order at the place where the wreck occurred, and there will be no further delay arising from this cause. The management is to be congratulated on the energy displayed. The bridge was finished within a week, and, as the gap was 450 feet long by 40 feet deep, the undertaking was not a light one.

Wonderful Field Glasses.

Mr. J. W. Spring the jeweler, has just got in the Zeiss stereo field glasses. These are like the ones which have been supplied to the Strathcona Horse. They have what is called triple refraction. They are much better than the old binocular field glasses. It is claimed that with a glass of this kind one can see an object 30 miles as easily as one can see one a mile distant with the naked eye. For instance, a horse can be distinguished from a cow at five miles distance. It is said that a bullet hole can be seen at a distance of 3,000 yards. The last claim is a big one, but the makers of the glasses say that this is so. They are a vast improvement over the old field glasses.

GENERAL DEBILITY.

From the Advertiser, Hartland, N.B.

Ralph Giberson, postmaster at Monquart, N.B., is also known as a prosperous agriculturist. Now stalwart and rugged, he scarce would be recognized as the man who six months ago was the picture of one suffering the terrible symptoms of general debility. He was run down in health, suffered much from dizziness, almost blindness, general dullness and depression of spirits. He had a poor appetite and such food as he ate gave him great distress. He was incapacitated for the work that fell upon him and was well nigh utterly discouraged. The symptoms bordered on those to which hypochondria is manifested. Through reading the Advertiser he learned of the benefits of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and by the hope held out by their testimonials he secured a supply and took them according to directions. The result was almost magical; immediately his symptoms became less distressing, and he steadily gained until now he is perfectly free from his old troubles. He gladly gives his testimonial, that all who read it may know the remedy. If ever they are troubled with general debility.

SPRING MEDICINE.

In the springtime the blood needs attention. The change of the year produces in every one, whether conscious of it or not, some heating of the blood. Some people have pimples, a little eczema, or irritation of the skin; others feel easily tired and have a poor appetite. A tonic is needed. The best tonic—the best of all spring medicines for man, woman or child is

DR. WILLIAMS' PINK PILLS

These Pills do not purge and weaken like other medicines. They make rich red blood, build up the nerves, and make weak, depressed and easily tired people cheerful, active and strong.

Pink colored pills in glass jars, or in any loose form, or in boxes that do not bear the full name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People" are NOT Dr. Williams'.

The genuine are put up in packages, with wrapper printed in red.

Sold by all dealers or direct from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

No other medicine in the world has offered such undoubted proof of merit. What Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have done for others they will do for you, if given a fair trial.

THE MINER

A Start is Made

STRIKES ON

Good News of the Sh...
Ore Showings of...
Mountain Trail a...
Made Over the Ca...

A force of men...
terday upon the Le...
has thus been mad...
state that this will...
Eagle and Centre S...
The certainty is t...
trouble in the camp...
past. A few after a...
sible shape of a fe...
marks the passing a...
agreement.

In the meanwhile...
of several properties...
the new host at th...
ered the main vein...
considerably larg...
When this is taken...
the discovery of a...
mouth of the Black...
the force of the res...
the Miner previous...
that time, namely...
the surface of mine...
ping the veins and...
and blow outs, is...
Owners would fre...
for the properties...
and width be bow...
them accurately k...
showings go. This...
the apex of the ve...
40 feet in width m...
tain carrying ver...
The strike of cop...
tain trail is import...
valuable ore depos...
portion of Trail m...
From this it can...
importance is reco...
the great dyke in...
been found in place...
hardly been more...
yet the situation...
actly the place look...
strange coincidence...
be the very body...
workings of the m...
the creosote thro...
the week will be...
establishment of...
will be a big thing...
existence of the gre...
the east of the gre...
and in itself makes...
uable mine. This fi...
tically worked for...
the existence of a...
From the Jumbo...
The one body know...
which shipments...
days which were dis...
excessive rates ther...
and treatment has...
not as yet fully e...
Shipments from the...
possibly from the o...
ed in May or poss...
yet another property...
list.

The amount ship...
week is in point...
telle but as an ear...
with the alterations...
tremely valuable. S...
to the Le Roi and...
former is made up...
the wrack around...
siderable ore has...
gradually filled up...
ets and a shipment...
machines now work...
of the Le Roi are...
past next week...
increased from this...
mer level is gained...
thereupon. No ore...
Iron Mask as the v...
stopped since Feb...
encountered in dev...
ing sent to the sm...
Evening Star upon...
pers, the state of...
the melting of the...
such that no heav...
over them.

pended as a list...
during the past w...
date:

Le Roi
War Eagle
Centre Star
Iron Mask
Evening Star
Le Roi
Monte Christo
Giant

Total
Le Roi—Work...
Besides the usual...
sary for the clear...
are six machines...
these were engage...
They have been s...
foot level. Two m...
ing on the 500-fo...
work on the upris...
the collar of the...
bing is proceeding...
take many weeks...
upon will be finis...
will have to be g...
progress of this m...
vein long known...
will be removed...
ping ore will be...
roots. This apex...
larger dimensions...
stated to be up...
capping, of course...
tains ore of diff...
This find, paralle...
at the new mouth...
nel, is fresh evid...
ping the surface...
of the Black Bear...
new timber shop...
mouth of the tun...
admit of the res...
pipes to be led...
passage. The brie...
tery of three bo...
house is about half...
have been shipped...
company, of Chic...
should arrive here

Iron Mask.—Thi...
the two shafts fo...