

IS FROM SKAGWAY

Hardships and Difficulties of the White Pass Trail.

TOLD BY A ROSSLANDER

Though the Dangers and Trouble of Getting Over the Trail Are Great, They Are Not Nearly as Bad as Represented by the Coast Papers.

Frank Kelly, a miner and a resident of Rossland, arrived in the city a few days ago from a trip to Skagway Alaska. The object which Mr. Kelly had in view in going to Skagway was to inspect the country and the trail leading to the Klondike with a view to making a journey to the new gold fields early in the spring. The trip was a success in all particulars, as Mr. Kelly obtained all the information that he desired, and he must be congratulated on so successfully carrying out his mission.

It was early in August that he left Rossland, and it was about the middle of that month that he departed from Seattle in company with two of his school mates on the steamer City of Seattle. It was five days later when he arrived at Skagway.

There were about 2,000 people in Skagway, who, with but few exceptions were living in tents. The saloons and gambling houses appeared to be doing the greater part of the business that was being transacted. In fact it was a wide open camp and no mistake. A few, like everywhere else, seemed to be trying to drink all the whisky there was in sight, but the supply, like in other places seemed to be quite up to the demand. Mr. Kelly and his party decided to cross the divide by the way of the White Pass to Lake Bennett, a distance of 66 miles.

The party left Skagway with five pack horses, and although the dangers and hardships were great they were not nearly so bad as painted by the correspondents of the Pacific coast dailies. Mr. Kelly believes that a railway route be built from Skagway river about 18 miles, passing through a well timbered country and at the highest point is about 3,000 feet above sea level. In some places the trail passes over jagged rocks, but more frequently the mud was so deep that it was up to the girths of the horses. The poor animals had to be occasionally dragged out of the mud with ropes. In other places the trail runs close to the edge of precipices, where a slip would mean death to the owner and loss of the pack to the owner.

It has been claimed that tenderfeet were the only ones who were not getting over the trail, but Mr. Kelly says that the majority of men who did not get over were the victims of circumstances over which they had no control. The trail is covered with about 2,000 bodies of dead horses that have succumbed to its hardships, or have been badly injured by falling on the jagged rocks. After five days of creek fording, mud wading and mountain climbing, the party reached Lake Bennett. Snow had already fallen, and the party decided they had gained enough experience to warrant their return.

About 1,500 gold seekers were on the trail at this time, very few making any attempt to go beyond Lake Bennett, the majority returning to winter at Skagway. Boats at the lakes were selling from \$350 to \$1,500, and one ardent gold seeker vainly offered \$1,000 for a knock down Yukon boat made in Seattle. The Indians absolutely refused to carry knock down boats at any price. As an instance of the wonderful endurance exhibited by some of the Indian packers Mr. Kelly saw one of them at Skagway showing a certificate that he had carried 220 pounds in one pack from Dyea to Lake Lindemann. Many of the disappointed Argonauts were selling their outfits at Skagway for a mere song, flour being offered at 75 cents a sack of 60 pounds, oats 1 cent per pound, and other articles in proportion.

In four weeks Skagway had grown from a town of tents to a city of shacks, and a great number of men will winter there so as to make as early an attempt as possible next spring to reach the Klondike. Mr. Kelly also visited Dyea and Juneau. The latter place is very busy and work fairly plentiful.

RUSSIAN WAS REMOVED.

He So Bullied Coal Employes That They Struck Against Him. NELSON, Oct. 13.—(Special.)—There is, or rather has been, considerable dissatisfaction among the workmen employed on the construction of the provincial coal building in Nelson. In fact, a few days ago the men struck, and for two days not a stroke of work was done on the building. The trouble was all over the clerk of the works, a Russian, and the men claimed that he bullied them, and caused the dismissal of any one daring to thwart him in any way.

The men struck, and they were induced to return to work, it is claimed by them, by a threat that if they did not do so they would not be allowed to when the difficulty was adjusted. The men bided their time, as they knew Premier Turner was coming to Nelson. As soon as he arrived, a representative waited on him and laid the case before the premier. Mr. Turner in the right and told their representative that he would see that a new clerk was placed in charge of the works. He did so, and yesterday E. Bragg was installed as clerk of the work.

A Mine Found in Nelson.

Last night and today rumors of the discovery of a mine in the heart of Nelson have been rife. There was some truth in the rumor, for W. C. McLean, the contractor, has placed a discovery post on Latimer street, near Stanley, informing the public that he has located the Klondike mine at that point. While the workings were being dug in the sewer trench yesterday they ran into a four foot ledge showing copper and iron. Mr. McLean immediately took several specimens to an assayer, and instead of waiting for his verdict went out and planted his discovery post. It is causing no little talk and conjecture, for if it should prove to be a valuable property Mr. McLean may disturb some of the best buildings in Nelson—the Blair hotel, customs offices, etc. He has not decided just what he will do if the returns

ROSSLAND'S MINES

Foreign Capital Recoming Interested in the Camp.

DEVELOPMENT OF MINES

Steady, Healthful Progress the Rule All Over the District—The Sale of the Portland-Centre Star Elects Officers—Mining Notes.

(From Sunday's Daily.) The most important event in the week in mining circles was the purchase of the Portland by the New Goldfields of British Columbia. The price paid was \$19,000 of which \$9,000 was spot cash and the balance in the stock of the New Goldfields. The property adjoins the Velvet, which was recently purchased for \$2,500 by the same company.

The visit of Sir Charles Tupper, chairman of the New Goldfields, may well be counted another noteworthy event, for he went away even more delighted than ever with the outlook for the camp, and glad to consider further propositions from the owners of meritorious properties. As soon as the stage is reached when machinery can be used in the Portland, the Portland and the Velvet, an announcement is made elsewhere in this week's Miners that Lieutenant-Governor Mackintosh, who has just returned from England, has been instrumental in forming a company with a capital of £1,000,000 to operate in the Rossland camp. The company already has four properties under option, and expects to begin development operations by the first of the year.

The actual development of the mines themselves, while not marked by any phenomenal strikes, has been of the steady, healthful sort, such as is of the utmost benefit to the camp.

The Poorman. Five men are at work on the Poorman, stopping out the ore previously blocked out in the 100-foot level. The chute is about four feet wide, while three feet of it is of good paying quality, running from \$30 to \$40 per ton. Between three and four tons is being knocked down daily, and about 50 tons of ore is already on the dump.

As the new management of the Poorman mine in Rossland is ever ready to take its stockholders and the public into its confidence, a Miners reporter called at its office in Spokane to see if the company had formulated a general plan of development. Colonel Ridpath, who is taking great interest in the property, and who will shortly devote a large share of his time to giving it the same attention as was given to the Poorman, willingly imparted such information as was desired. In answer to a general inquiry as to the plan of procedure he said: "The following course of action has been outlined by Colonel Ridpath: we now have a shaft near the Jossie on our side line that connects at the 100-foot level, with a tunnel that has been used by the Jossie people to develop the east end of the Poorman. This shaft is being driven in the course of our tunnel the Jossie people agree to let us use their long tunnel, known as No. 1, which at present is within 30 feet of the Poorman's level and 120 feet lower than the level of the Poorman's shaft and tunnel, or when we make connection will give us a total depth on our ore body of 230 feet.

This advantage gained, the Poorman, through allowing the Jossie people to use the Poorman tunnel, means an immense saving to the Poorman, and this Miners is the first paper to give out this good news to the stockholders. "As to whether the No. 1 Jossie tunnel," continued Mr. Ridpath, "will be driven to the Poorman and a raise made to the Poorman tunnel 130 feet above, or whether a winze will first be sunk upon the ore body from the 100-foot level and afterwards connected with the Poorman tunnel, is a matter for Colonel Ridpath when he goes to Rossland next week. The men at present are cleaning up and doing other necessary preparatory work which will largely govern Colonel Ridpath's plan of development.

"It will immediately turn his attention to the extraction of ore already in sight, expecting that he can ship sufficient to readily pay for the development of the property. There is a splendid chute of ore showing on the surface. No ore has ever been shipped from this chute. This chute was missed when driving the Poorman tunnel. The color will probably be a bluish grey, and the vein will fill its dip is determined, when he will crosscut from the tunnel and tap it."

The new management feels that it can make the Poorman a mine within five months, and it thoroughly realizes that every economy will have to be practiced to accomplish this result.

At Work on the Waverley Group. Mr. Henderson of London and Boyd Wilson of Scotland, the foreign representatives of the Sophie mountain properties, the Galt and Florence, of the Waverley group, of which mention has hitherto been made, are now on the ground. Preparations have been made for the immediate development of the property, and before the snow is off the mountain next year they expect that they will be about ready to begin the shipping of ore. A force of six men has been put to work on the property, and they have begun the sinking of a shaft on the diorite that was found beneath the blue clay.

The Melrose, the Vincent, and the Faldon Side will also be worked energetically through the winter, and doubtless will prove valuable properties. The properties above named are on the northeast slope of Sophie mountain, and the ore is within easy access of the Red Mountain railway. They are also works that are being erected on the K. property. Mr. Lawlor of the Mon-Clon hotel, the principal owner of the local end of the above-named properties.

The War Eagle. Operations are being continued in the drifts at the 375-foot level in the main tunnel. The winze, which is being sunk to the 625-foot level, is progressing rap-

idly. It is being carried down in the hanging wall about 30 feet from the vein.

In the War Eagle extension of the Iron Mask tunnel work is being continued steadily, but there is no material change. Nine drills are at work, and on an average 100 feet of work is being accomplished weekly. Three carloads of ore were shipped to the Nelson smelter this week. It ran high in copper and iron, and was wanted for fluxing. The stopes in which the ore knocked down was being stored are nearly filled, and if more ore is broken down it must be thrown on the outside dump. Geo. H. Gooderham, one of the directors of the company, who was in the city Saturday, made a trip through the mine and was much pleased with the showing.

The Centre Star. Oliver Durant, the manager of the Centre Star, is back from a visit to Butte, where he attended the annual meeting of the company. The officers elected were: P. A. Largey, president; Geoffrey Lavelle, vice-president; P. G. Bonnell, secretary; T. M. Hodgins, Butte, treasurer; Oliver Durant, manager. The directorate includes A. H. Tarbet, Sir Charles Ross and the officers with the exception of the secretary and treasurer. The development of the property is proceeding very favorably. The operations include the sinking of the shaft near the Iron Mask ground.

The contest between the Iron Mask and the Centre Star over the possession of a vein is now in the courts. The Centre Star has secured an injunction restraining the Iron Mask from working in the disputed ground, and the case will be heard Tuesday at Selkirk, when the plaintiff will ask that the injunction be made permanent.

The Bryan. Superintendent J. W. Boyd of the New York-Kootenay company, which is developing the Bryan which is located at the west side of the Red Mountain railway, reports that during the week he has been cross cutting the vein at a depth of 50 feet. The showing, he says is remarkably good. The ore is in great quantity, and is of a high grade, and at present it is a perfect network of calcite. He expects that the next blast will strike a porphyry wall. The assays run from \$8 to \$100, and will average \$15. Superintendent Boyd feels so encouraged by the showing he will at once begin sinking the shaft to the depth of 150 feet and then he will again crosscut. Should the present showing keep it is the intention to erect a stamp mill and to treat the ore on the ground.

Sunset No. 2. The new compressor plant is working capitally, and rapid progress is being made in the main tunnel, which is now in about 225 feet. The course of the tunnel has been turned somewhat to the south, and promising bunches of ore are being met. It is probable that work may be started in a few days on one of the adjoining veins. The plant has recently been connected with the city water works and with the telephone system.

The Evening Star. The main tunnel is now in about 210 feet and the ore body continues to show up very favorably. A crosscut was started Saturday to disclose the width of the ore chute. The workings on the surface of the vein further down the hill are looking well, and a new wagon road has been built to connect with them. If the direction of the ledge can be established, work will be resumed in the original tunnel to tap the lead.

Iron Ore. Work is in progress on the main tunnel and in the drift where the ore chute was recently met. In the main tunnel promising stringers of quartz are being met. There is also a drift except the development is showing up continually increasing quantities of white quartz with which values have been associated. Sixteen men are at work on the property.

The Lily May. The new compressor plant on the Lily May is getting rapidly into shape. The boiler is in place, and the engine was installed Saturday. The compressor building has been finished, and, by the way, it was just three days in construction. If all goes well, the boiler will be fired up this week.

The Monte Cristo. During the week a full force of men has been at work on the Monte Cristo, and good progress is being made. Superintendent Plunder is a man of action, and he has all his energies to an endeavor to make a mine out of the Monte Cristo, and feels certain that he will be able to accomplish that object.

The Jossie. Operations are being continued in the workings from the 300-foot level in the shaft, and it is hoped that the lead will be recovered shortly. The company will have a meeting in its office here on November 8, to confirm the sale of the property made at the meeting held recently in Spokane.

The White Bear. John Y. Cole, the manager of the White Bear, is back from Toronto, where he attended a meeting of the directors of the company. He expects to resume work on the property with a full force of men in about six weeks. A promising new lead has lately been uncovered.

The Cliff. Work is being continued on the surface workings, which are showing up well. Three carloads of ore was taken out last week, but none of it was shipped. The open cut between the two tunnels is showing up especially well, while the higher workings are also developing favorably.

The Velvet. The development of the Velvet continues to show up ore bodies of the most flattering character. Assays ranging in the vicinity of \$60 have been secured, and not only does the ore show up good values, but it is found in large bodies. A shipment of 10 tons have been made to the Trail smelter.

The Abe Lincoln. The wagon road to the mine has been completed, and a large new cabin for the

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men is under way. A crosscut has been started from the bottom of the 60-foot shaft, and is now in 7 feet. No wall has been discovered yet, but some well mineralized rock is being encountered.

The Elba. The Elba, in the South belt near the Crown Point, is being worked in two places, and the showing is considered very satisfactory.

The Le Roi. Development is continuing in the 600-foot level, and stoping is in progress in the lower galleries. The mine was never in better shape.

The Crown Point. Operations have been resumed in the main tunnel, which is being driven to recover the ore body.

The Red Mountain. The compressor on the Red Mountain is closed down until a survey of the property can be completed.

The Jumbo. A full force of men is actually at work on the long tunnel, but no particular developments have occurred.

Mining Notes. The Aberdeen Bell group, on Mackie mountain, near the Heather Bell, is undergoing some favorable development. Supplies are being packed in to the Keystone group in the Burras pass, on which operations will be continued all winter.

The Mackie group, near the Heather Bell, has been purchased by C. E. Hope of Vancouver, for \$10,000.

A BIG TRANSACTION. Sale of the Royal Canadian Group to an English Syndicate. A meeting of the shareholders of the Royal Canadian Mining and Development company was held Friday afternoon in the offices of Major W. S. Cooper, on East Columbia avenue. S. A. Hartman was made president and Geo. A. Fraser vice-president.

The company decided to accept the proposition recently made for the purchase of its claims by an English syndicate. The English company is to be incorporated with a capital of £100,000, of which the Royal Canadian people will receive \$30,000 in shares, and the promoters an equal sum, while £30,000 in shares will be put into the treasury, and the remainder of the stock, £10,000, will go to the brokers.

The Chance of a Lifetime. First block of pooled shares in Belcher Consolidated Gold Mining company, owning the famous Elmore, Christina and other mines, is now open for subscription, at very low price. Already largely subscribed, and will be all taken in a few days. Next issue at a higher price. See sample of ore in Mr. Claborn's window, next to Miners office. Fifty dollars will likely bring you \$2,500. Easy terms. For printed particulars, terms, and application forms, apply to Smith Curtis, 204 E. Columbia avenue, Rossland. 10-6-97.

THEY KEEP Notable Men From All Visit Rossland.

MR. GOODERHAM He Thinks It Likely The Associates Will Build Lieutenant - Governor Has a \$5,000,000 Com

Among the arrivals in the were the Hon. Charles lieutenant-governor of the Territories; George H. G. the firm of the Gooderham Toronto; John Hargraves, Ontario's representatives, and the head of the Empire Toronto. The party is in the west, and from here coast. The visitors will reach San Francisco and Denver to reach Toronto about a month.

A War Eagle Sm Mr. Gooderham is large in the War Eagle Consolidated and his visit here is in connection with the company's property Saturday. "The company is serious in the erection of a smelter treatment of its ore," said ham Friday, "and my is in connection with its west side of the river opp If we can make satisfactio with other mines in shall construct the smelter to custom work, but if build it to have a smelter. We hope to be on about the first of the work may be finished in month."

New English Com Lieutenant-Governor Ma came through from Toro party, spoke most optimis the esteem in which throughout the east. He said he had organized a England with a capital of operate British Columbia gave assurance that holder ore properties would have in securing capital for ment.

What Mr. Taylor This was the first trip west made by John Taylor member of the firm of Jo Sons, the wealthy soap ma, and he was most favor with the resources and the Province and of Rossland. "All the froth and foam the development of the ca suddenly disappears," said "and I look for steady, hea oment until Rossland sha the great cities of the west not engaged in mining, yet own business we have fou increasing trading in this are now glad to place o credit, where six months a have done so with reluctan "The tremendous crops the east this year have ceaser, and it is to be exp mines here will receive no aid this winter from easter

SHOOTING AT EU

John Martin Shot in the Hennessie. GRAND FORKS, Oct. 15. The man who was supposed shot accidentally at Eureka days ago, is known as John it appears from the follow with the wounded man, w the Jubilee hospital her shooting was not accident first supposed. The woun can his story by saying: John Martin shot in Hennessie camp. On the aft 13th inst. I, with my two p and James Walsh, went ou Hennessie's cabin, on hi We conversed generally an each other, when Henness took up 45-90 Winchester went outside the house. I appeared about 10 feet from with the rifle levelled in at. The next instant it went striking my partner on and glancing off it struck thigh from the front coming. As soon as the shot was fir ran away and as he was pa where a couple of days w they finally heard him say "I have got him this time," of citizens from Eureka left in pursuit of Hennessie w put me into a tight rig and here for medical treatment. The wounded man further had known Hennessie for years and had never had with him and always thou was of sound mind until months ago when Henne shot Jim Clark in Eureka Great excitement prevail this whole lower country of affray and the sincere person is that the would-be brought to justice.

A MESSENGER SE

F. D. Wright Will Put Nelson. F. D. Wright, of the R sender company, has just from a visit to Nelson, wh for the purpose of look ground with a view of branch of the messenger Mr. Wright says he was p ressed with Nelson and place has quite a future be is considerable building Nelson, which a \$30,000 Wright has about made up put in a messenger servic will cost about \$1,000 to er put in 300 electric call bo about the number that will be required there. The p similar, although not quite as the one that is being op city.