

Rossland Weekly Miner.

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THE BOARD OF TRADE.

If the Board of Trade of Rossland would direct its energies in some reasonably intelligent manner and not in the futile, hysterical fashion which seems to characterize it, some benefit might accrue to the city from its existence.

There has been no earnestness in the representations made from here—no insistence such as is absolutely essential to obtain favors from a government.

We are at a loss to see what is to be gained by this demand. On the face of it, too, the message bears the stamp of entire ignorance of the situation.

Messrs. Mackintosh, Harris and Baker have no doubt that there will be a regular boom in our shares, and one at least goes so far as to fix the date within the confines of the present year.

All these combined will produce the boom which is already on in London, in the shape of what might not inaptly be called a "boomlet."

Once an acrely conceive what the attracting favorable attention of the magnates of the mining world in the largest city in the world, and a city, too, that counts its wealth by the millions, will ultimately mean.

130 PER CENT PER ANNUM.

The usurers continue to ply their vocation in Canada for the reason that there is no law to prevent them. The money changers, notwithstanding the fact that they were driven out of the temple because of their unrighteousness nearly 1900 years ago, continue to pursue their Shylock-like practices, and there is no law to say them nay.

A bill has been introduced by Senator Dandurand against usury, which it is hoped will pass. Mr. Justice Gill, in speaking of the proposed law against usury, introduced by Senator Dandurand, is credited with saying:

"We should have had a law against usury long ago, and it should specify that judgments shall never provide for a higher rate of interest than six or seven per cent. Such a law has been opposed on the ground that it is a restriction on commerce, and that it would prevent the im-

portation of foreign capital. This pretense does not appear to have any foundation. From what I read, in other parts of the British dominions, in England and Australia, they have given discretionary powers to the courts to fix the rate of interest. I would, however, prefer a law which would provide that a judge shall never grant more than six per cent per annum.

THEY BRING GO-J NEWS.

The announcement made by Hon. C. H. Mackintosh and Messrs. Harris and Baker that there is to be a boom in British Columbia mining affairs in London is a most welcome one. Coming from such a source it seems certain to be true.

The sensitiveness of capital is shown in a striking manner by the way in which it is being withdrawn at the present time from the Transvaal owing to the trouble between the Boers and the Uitlanders.

wise. Those who would suffer most, as Mr. McKane says, would be the merchants and the employees in the mines, and especially those employees who have families depending on them. The mine-owners, of course, would be at a loss, from the delay in the development of their properties, and the large amount of money already sunk in the ground and invested in machinery which would be yielding no return.

The setback which the mining region would receive, however, would be the worst feature of the whole case. English capital, now looking toward our country with favorable eyes, would immediately turn its attention elsewhere.

The trouble now existing in the Slooan will doubtless have an injurious effect, but we are inclined to believe that there is little fear of similar difficulties in this camp. The most harmonious relations have always existed between the owners and the men, and both sides have shown a public spirited interest in the welfare of the spirit.

The town of Republic was visited by fire yesterday, and the business heart of the city was eaten out by the hungry flames. There was a scarcity of water and a dearth of appliances with which to fight the fire, and so the flames spread.

The loss in the neighborhood of \$80,000 and is a severe blow to a new town like Republic, and will fall heavily on some, and perhaps ruin others. There is consolation in the fact that 25 per cent of the loss is covered by insurance, and this will enable those who will thus be partly reimbursed for their losses to get on their feet again.

OBJECT LESSON FOR ROSSLAND.

The town of Republic was visited by fire yesterday, and the business heart of the city was eaten out by the hungry flames. There was a scarcity of water and a dearth of appliances with which to fight the fire, and so the flames spread.

It may be that there are some in the sister mining camp of Republic, which is partly made up of former residents of Rossland, who may need help until they can see some way of helping themselves. If they need aid Rossland should not be the last municipality to tender its good offices to its sister mining city.

Republic has but shared the common disaster that sooner or later overtakes nearly all hastily built wooden cities in the west. They are usually constructed in a hurry and of inflammable materials, and the means for fighting fire do not keep pace with the rapid construction of buildings.

CAPITAL IS SENSITIVE.

There is much that will commend itself to the sense of the community in the statements of Mr. John McKane, which appeared in yesterday's issue regarding the mining situation in the Kootenays.

The Republic disaster should prove a warning to the people of Rossland. It should stimulate us to redouble the safeguards against fire. It is certain that the precautions we have so used have on several occasions prevented the spread of small fires and so saved the city from de-

struction. Any means that will tend to lessen the chances of the enlarging of flames, other than those that are now provided, should be adopted. The dry season is on, which is admittedly the most dangerous period for fires, because everything is dry and flames are more easily communicated from one structure to another.

SHOULD BE DEVELOPED.

It is cheering to note that work is to be resumed on the Cliff mine. It was thought at one time that the differences that existed between the chief owners were irreconcilable and that the mine would be shut down until death allowed the heirs of the disagreeing parties to get ahead with the task of development work.

The number of excursion parties organized to visit the province during the present summer is a good indication of the interest which is being excited in the mind of the Eastern Canadian by British Columbia, and the people here should make it a point to impress the visitors with the fact that our hospitality is in accord with the magnificence of our scenery and the opulence of our mineral possessions.

MR. RADCLIFFE INCOG.

As long as men will stain their hands with the blood of their fellow-executions will be necessary. As long as juries will bring in verdicts of guilty of murder in the first degree and judges pronounce death sentences there will be need of gallows and hangmen. When one stops to consider the matter it is an awful thing for a lot of men to lead a fellow being out in cold blood and execute him.

WHY MARCHAND IS HONORED.

Some people are wondering why it is that France is so heartily honoring Major Marchand. People say that he was compelled to abandon Fashoda by General Kitchener, and that his mission, if it meant the occupation of a portion of the Egyptian provinces, was a failure.

Major Marchand is a brilliant young officer and the feats that he has accomplished fully entitle him to the praise and honors which his countrymen are now showering upon him.

It is true that he has been engaged for the past two and a half years in the mission, the purpose of which was to confront the Dervishes in the Upper Nile and to appropriate for France the lost provinces of Egypt. The logic of events were against him through the victory of the Sirdar over the Dervishes at Omdurman, and he was compelled to retire from that part of the field.

Major Marchand returned to town yesterday from a visit to Vancouver and Victoria. He reports that the British Columbia government, recognizing the great importance of Rossland has decided to spend a much larger amount than was originally contemplated on the government building which is to be erected in Rossland this summer.

THE PROVINCIAL BUILDING.

Government Has Decided to Erect One That Will Cost \$40,000. Anthony J. McMillan returned to town yesterday from a visit to Vancouver and Victoria. He reports that the British Columbia government, recognizing the great importance of Rossland has decided to spend a much larger amount than was originally contemplated on the government building which is to be erected in Rossland this summer.

This official executioner is at present in this province in a professional capacity, and a few days since he executed Casimir, the Indian murderer, at Kamloops. The death sentence was carried out with the usual skill displayed by this professional hangman. Then the cheerful Radcliffe journeyed on to New Westminster, where one Perrier is awaiting the carrying out of the death sentence, which will be done in a few days.

BOARD OF TRADE CONGRESS.

Many matters of much moment to the whole Southern British Columbia mining region should receive careful consideration at the joint meeting of the Boards of Trade, to be held in this city on the 3rd of August, and the result of the convention ought to be highly beneficial.

EASTERN EXCURSIONISTS.

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HORRORS OF THE TRAIL.

This paper a year since stated that the route to Alaska via the Edmonton trail was an impossible one, and this view is now borne out by facts which are daily coming to light. Some men have been endeavoring for 17 months past to get to Dawson by this route and have failed to do so.

DEATH ON THE TRAIL.

Nelson, B. C. J. jury today brought in the case of Reg. Clark, a witness against the man who last week was murdered in the railway trail. Brewster is clear, and it is thought this service he will sentence. All the other witnesses against the man were acquitted.

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A brakeman on a drunken in Duck Lake. Sirdar. He was up on the trail. He was up on the trail. He was up on the trail.

ALARMING REPORTS.

Alarming Reports of Death on the Trail. Twenty-nine of the passengers by the steamer Danube arrived in Victoria of famine, sickness, skeleton-straw Ed. of whose horrors is known. These were told on their trip that the message carrier at Telegraph from the government to the starving.

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Nile country and also the extension of her sphere of influence throughout the populous Central Sudan, from Bornu to Darfur.

Besides this he has done valuable work as an explorer. In speaking of his achievements in this direction an exchange says:

"No one had ever heard before of the Boku branch of the Mbomu river, on which he floated to within 45 miles of the Nile basin. No one had ever heard of the Sueh river, which carried him over 200 miles to the Bahr el Ghazal affluent of the Nile. No one knew till he discovered the fact that the Upper Mbomu would offer him a long stretch of good navigation; and when his officers told him that he could not possibly reach the Upper Mbomu past the obstructions in the lower river, he thought the matter over for a day and declared that the feat could and would be accomplished. Then he set about building the corduroy roads, 30 feet wide, on which his boats, with 2,000 men at the tow lines, were hauled around the 35 stretches of the falls and rapids in the lower river. And when he came to the region of the Congo and Nile water parting, where no streams were large enough to help him on his way, he personally sought for and found the nearest navigable point in the Nile system, then pulled his boats to pieces and packed the whole equipment on the backs of men through the scrub, a hundred miles to the new-found river."

It is not to be wondered at, therefore that Major Marchand's countrymen think that he is worthy of being honored and that they are loud in their praises of him.

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NEWS OF

Water Too Low to Launch.

FAILURE OF T

Arrival of the Steamer Orient with Coolie Immigrants.

Victoria, June 6

Empress of the North. The steamer Empress of the North today with showing that she has well opened class and 38 of while of Chinese and of Japanese.

The First Bank hands of a receipt \$16,000 and assets, \$18,000. The bank J. G. Price being bank was organized pany with a capital which not more than \$25,000.

THE ASSIZES

VERDICT OF

AGAINST

Two Navvies on

Killed and Mangled—Drowning

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