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YEAR'S GAIN IS GROWING RICH ORE AT VELVET

THE VELVET'S NEW ERA

Ore Production Shows Gain of More Than 45,000 Tons Over Last Year--The Week in and Around Rossland's Big Mines--Production of Other Camps

Manager Gray's Report on Ore Discoveries and Details of Work--Best Values in Velvet's History--New Mineral Zone.

Bright Outlook For Another Rossland Property-- Manager Gray Gives the Details on Which Optimistic Forecast is Based--Rich Gold and Copper.

such action as now taken have been needed. It was the and insulting disregard for nations which compelled us. It is now too late in the thing but diplomatic arrange- ment accepted as satisfaction for the fleet. The fleet have as- sured us scarcely time to deal- ers, and a financial settle- ment has been suggested long ago, and have been welcomed by the and ourselves. However, the proposition will receive care- ful consideration. Reconstruction in the parties is always better than and if the reconstruction of the finances can be accom- plished the satisfaction of our diplo- mats and individual losses, both in and Great Britain will have their ends."

Dec. 8.—The British min- ister, D. Haggard, and the Ger- man minister, von Pilgrim Bal- caracat at 3 o'clock this af- ternoon in the presence of the British minister, and of von Pil- grimm at the German minister, both the British and the German negotiations have been closed.

Dec. 8.—The Venezuelan minister on the subject of the restoration of the payment of the public debt, is sus- pended, and the consequence of the late- ly crushed. Notwith- standing the official character of this used to believe it, because it is possible that nations which en- joy friendly relations should prefer to assert rather than follow the diplo- macy, especially when the sup- ply comes fully within the scope of our laws, which are the principle of justice, which, with the other attributes of it have just redeemed. Had refused to fulfill his fiscal duties, and had justice and expressed their resources, but an attempt only to the extreme acts is expected, and will never happen."

OF LONDON PAPERS.
Dec. 9.—The London pap- ers contain comment on the uti- lization of Venezuela. They show no concern regarding the attitude of the States, which is taken to be on the side of a neutrality, but the papers are as to the exact extent Ger- man Great Britain are acting in Premier Balfour's rather eva- sive to question whether the joint or identical, together with the fact that the German official unlike that of Mr. Balfour, mentioned Great Britain as siding with Germany, and in- stead, to say the least, cur- rently is also made in the government is not pre- tending papers dealing with the before parliament, but on the is not considered that there is necessity to employ force, and that once Venezuela is that she has no show of sup- port from the United States will satisfy the Anglo-American de- mands.

OF THE TRUSTS.
The bottomless pit for a few minutes walked over to the ther- mal, he thundered when he had figures, "shovel in more coal, if the gentlemen down there are ing influenza!" responded, "your majesty," responded the head freman; "there is I stormed his majesty. You, not since the coal trust arrived. They've organized and we can't get a lump." laughed his majesty; "they're old tricks, are they? Well, a few barrels of oil. That'll be a good thing." The trust magnates have also "your majesty," explained the ty of Satan grew black. in a lot of hams and shoulders in imp up to sit on the safety- commands sternly; for his experience on a Mississippi, about and knew his business, hauled, but he could not tel- us pork packers' combine has us for several days, your ma- said briefly. he gave Cerberus a kick in the almost stopped the animal, and started for the door. "Well, and," "these trusts beat hell, and I, howed by the weight of his, leaned on his shovel and the ground.

Increased shipments from the Le Roi and Centre Star mines makes last week's production in the Rossland camp somewhat larger than for the preceding period. Over 7000 tons of ore was sent to the various smelters, thus maintain- ing the normal average of the camp. The Velvet mine resumed shipments during the week, the first car of ore reaching the Northport smelter about the middle of the period. The manage- ment wisely desisted from attempting to ship ore while the wagon road is doubtful, but now that the road is in admirable shape, ore is being moved as before. The probability of a long steady winter points to extensive ship- ments from the Velvet. It is stated that the standard established during the fall—\$20 per ton—will be main- tained.

The old trouble of meagre coke sup- plies is still vexing the Northport smel- ter, and probably has some effect upon the plans of the Le Roi. Three furnaces are in operation out of the battery of six, and until the whole plant is in operation the Le Roi is not likely to increase its shipments. The calciners at the smelter are also being used.

Centre Star and War Eagle shipments remain about where they have been for some weeks. The past week saw the Centre Star's tonnage somewhat larger as compared to the preceding week, while the output of the War Eagle dropped slightly. The month's aggregate is maintained however.

The White Bear and Homestake are working steadily, on development exclu- sively, of course. Their operations will be followed with more than ordinary in- terest for reasons obvious.

The Nickel Plate and Kootenay mines are being submitted to a thorough in- spection by C. Williamson Milne, chair- man of the board of directors, who has spent the week in the city. Mr. Milne is examining the situation from every aspect and the report which he will make to his directors will undoubtedly have an important bearing on the nature of the company's intentions with respect to their Rossland properties. The inter- esting feature in connection with the Kootenay mine is, of course, the deter- mination of a system for treating its ores and the establishment of reductio- nary works on the plans adopted. It has been stated that tests indicate that Kootenay ore is admirably adapted for smelting on the pyritic system—an ideal ore for this process, in fact—and that it will yield a handsome profit after pay- ing the low costs of treatment by pyr- itic smelting. It has also been asserted that the Poble-Crossdale system of treatment by volatilization is adapted to the treatment of Kootenay ores on a profitable margin. The company now has in the Kootenay mine an enormous ton- nage of ore blocked out, and it would, therefore, seem reasonable to presume that the problem of realizing on these ore deposits is now under advisement.

entail is the construction of a concentrator and of a railroad to connect the mine with the Great Northern system, distant some sixteen miles. Herr Klockmann states that the plans for the construction of the railroad are completed and that work will be started in early spring. This has led to an alteration in the plans of the company in respect to the shipment of ore during the present winter. It was understood that the company would ship several thousand tons of high grade ore during the winter, but the statement is now made that the expense of opening and maintaining snow roads is such as to make it an object for the company to postpone shipping until the ore and concentrates can be handled at min- imum charges over their own railroad. Development work is proceeding steady- ly, and the considerable amount of ore taken out in the course of the work is being stored in the ore bins until next summer.

The Continental Mine Continues to Flourish

Herr Albert Klockmann of Spokane is in the city for a few days in con- nection with his local interests. Herr Klockmann has recently returned from an extensive trip to the east, where he was in consultation with the directors of the Continental mine in regard to the program for the coming year.

The development to date justifies the corporation's outlay, and has induced them to proceed with further expenditures, the effect of which will be to make the property an important factor in the silver-lead producing mines of the Northwestern States.

The principal feature of the program for 1903 in connection with the Contin-

That the prediction of a bright future for the Velvet mine was founded on a substantial basis is demonstrated by the details of recent ore discoveries. The following statement has been issued by the company:

The directors have pleasure in forward- ing the following extracts from letters recently received from Mr. Gray, the manager of the mine at Rossland. They also take this oppor- tunity of giving the following sum- mary of the net proceeds of the same, and their average values in gold, silver and copper.

THE OUTPUT.

Shipments from the Rossland camp for the week ending December 13 and for the year to date are as follows:

Week.	Year.
March 29	38,860
Le Roi No. 1	52,673
Centre Star	34,851
War Eagle	13,366
Roseland G. W.	2,400
Giant	40
Cascade	300
Columbia-Kootenay	30
Bonanza	60
Spitee	2
White Bear	5
Totals	107,990

Cable Received.	Tons.	Net proceeds from smelter.
February 23	69	\$1500
March 10	65	1201
April 7	50	1130
August 27	85	1223
September 5	33	2441
September 25	123	2027
October 13	97	1857
October 15	84	1684
October 20	181	4078
October 27	28	480
October 27	28	600
October 31	27	388
November 11	99	1827
Totals	1085	\$22,737

The output of ore from the mine has, since 1st September last, provided sufficient money to cover development and current expenses on the property.

EXTRACTS FROM MANAGER'S LETTERS.

October 6, 1902.—"As we have very good ore in the south end of stope on No. 5 level, assaying 2.10 oz. of gold and 13 1-2 per cent of copper, value \$57.10. I have great hopes of being able to make good returns and, coupled with the other points being opened up, will be able to resume and maintain steady shipments."

October 12, 1902.—"Stable Shaft.—This has been sunk down and is now 24 feet deep, and has yielded about 25 tons of good mineral, samples of it as- saying:

	Gold.	Copper.
Black iron	.52 ozs. 2.5	\$13.50
Mixed ore	.60 ozs. 7.0	23.10
Picked copper ore	.55 ozs. 32.8	47.95

"The ore taken out without any sort- ing will, I estimate, average \$25 per ton; and I hope very shortly to send down a carload of it."

"The vein is holding, and we have over two feet of solid mineral showing in bottom of the shaft. This will now be taken up by the crosscut men- tioned in this week's work as No. 1 East Crosscut of South Drift."

No. 5 Level—"No. 1 West Crosscut off S. W. Drift.—We have just struck some very good ore here and have every encouragement to continue it; the new features being developed, which is worthy of study and may lead us to locate a new mineral belt of ground."

October 19, 1902.—"Level No. 5 S. W. Drift.—We have opened up a very fine showing of very good mineral from two to three feet wide, and the work has only been started here three days; an opinion that it will be found to be a continuation of the ore opened up in crossing the S. W. Drift. From this point I expect to get out quite a quantity of ore and materially assist the shipments."

"Stable Shaft.—There has been a marked improvement in the grade of ore, more copper coming in, and showing very strong in the bottom of shaft. There is over two feet six inches of mineral showing, and I am very pleased with the way the mineral is continuing down."

"With only a windlass, naturally the work is slow, but as soon as possible it will be started from below to win this ore to better advantage. Everything points to the expectation of being able by careful prospecting to develop good bodies of ore in the

The discoveries of high grade ore in the Velvet mine since the management of the property was assumed by Wil- liam J. Gray have entirely altered the outlook for that well known Rossland property. The possibilities now ahead of the mine are very properly described as "immense," and too much prominence cannot be given to this fact inasmuch as the Velvet is essentially a Rossland mine, and its prosperity will contin- ue equally to the prosperity of the Golden City.

The development and equipment of the Velvet mine has in the past placed a large sum of money in circulation in Rossland, and the proprietary company has manifested genuine enterprise in the manner in which they have maintained their policy of active exploitation in the face of various drawbacks and without the encouragement, until a comparatively recent date, of valuable ore deposits. Now it would seem that the Velvet com- pany are about to reap the harvest from their large investment. It is distinctly pointed out that the situation does not as yet warrant forecasts, but it is equally emphasized that the pros- pect is very bright indeed, and this as- sertion is backed up by details of ac- tual discoveries that place the Velvet in an altogether new light.

Manager Gray is an engineer of wide experience, and he is reported as mani- festing no small measure of enthusiasm in referring to the outlook for the prop- erty in his charge. When interviewed, however, Mr. Gray is disposed to be conservative in his reference to the pros- pects for the mine. His statements, if they are made on a basis of the average reader to conclude that the future has many years of extensive and profitable operating in store for the Velvet mine.

The person given by the Toronto com- pany for bonding the Rossland group was that during the winter season they would be able to work them, when they could not hope to work the other claims further up the mountain. The company purchasing the claims will be known as the Cherry Creek Mining Syndicate, Ltd. It is their announced intention to proceed with work on the claims during the current month if the necessary supplies arrive.

Alec McPhail, who is an old Ross- lander, having resided in this city for and on during the past six years, spoke interestingly of mining conditions in that section of British Columbia. He thought that in the course of a few years the headwaters of the Kettle river would be the centre of prosperous mining communities and that the mines there would be substantial moneymak- ers. The country, in his opinion, is rich in the most valuable minerals, and only needed capital and transportation fa- cilities to develop it, all of which would naturally come as soon as its resources were thoroughly understood by the outside world.

In speaking of the Rossland group, three of which he bonded to the Cherry Creek company, he said that the ore ran from 16 1/2 to a ton up, all free milling and easily worked. The Cherry Creek com- pany, he had no doubt, meant business, or else they would hardly have bonded so many claims and for such a sum of money. He looked for a boom next year in mining matters in that section.

To Further Debate Much-Debated Subject

The Rossland Liberal Association fore- takes tomorrow night in their meet- ing rooms at the board of trade suit- able. The session will be for members exclu- sively, and the principal topic of general interest on the order of business is the consideration of the resolution urging the government to bonus the lead indus- try.

The resolution to be taken under fur- ther advisement is the one which was passed at the public meeting held recent- ly. The same motion was introduced by the Liberal Association through the means of a notice of motion, and as the preceding sessions were open to the public tomorrow night will be the first opportunity which the members will have of considering it as an organi- zation. Immediate action was not deemed necessary until the subject had been further debated elsewhere, and in the intervening weeks this expected de- bate has taken place.

So far as Nelson is concerned the question is apparently closed with the Nelson board of trade, a unit in favor of protective duties on lead and its prod- ucts. The Slovan has taken a similar ground, but it is a well known fact that the lead miners are anything but a unit on the subject, some of the best mine managers and owners having pub-

licly gone on record in favor of a bounty against protection. East Koot- enay is apparently sold for a bounty, and its interests are vitally concerned, as the St. Eugene, North Star and Sullivan mines, all located in the East Koot- enay division, can probably produce more lead than any six or eight mines in the Kootenays.

Rossland Liberals will probably take the subject up again tomorrow night, but it is quite possible that definite ac- tion may be postponed for another fort- night or so.

FEELING OVER PROSECUTIONS.
HAVANA, Dec. 15.—A delegation, headed by General Maximiano Gomez, waited upon President Palma today, and requested that no further prosecu- tions be brought against the men who were concerned in the recent strike. President Palma promised to consider the matter. The veterans have shown considerable feeling over the prosecutions of the former strikers after the workmen promised to return to work at the veterans' request.

THE INDIANS PROTEST.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—The secre- tary of the interior today transmitted to the senate the official protest from the five civilized tribes of Indians against the untiring of Indian territory with Oklahoma as one state.

Enjoyable Dance of The Rathbone Sisters

One of the most enjoyable dances of the year was given last night at Odd Fellows' hall by Maple Leaf Temple No. 4, Rathbone Sisters. The dance was the second one given in this city of the order, and proved not only more successful than the previous dance, but more enjoyable as well. Odd Fellows' hall was comfortably filled by the time the first dance was announced. By 10 o'clock all the available space was taken up, which speaks well for the success of the dance.

Before issuing the invitations the Rathbone Sisters at their last meeting decided to appoint a special floor com- mittee to prevent confusion. The com- mittee in charge last night and appoint- ed by the Rathbone Sisters were Mrs. Wm. Roberts, Mrs. Schott, Mrs. McKown and Mrs. O. L. Hart. Miss Grossetta, Proctor Joiner, George Mellor and wife, H. P. Jones and Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Nellie Bissell.

New Chapter in Fern Mine's History

Among the visitors to the city during the past few days, and a guest at the Macdonald-Thompson banquet, was Ernest Rammelmeyer of Nelson, a well known mining man. Mr. Rammelmeyer was identified for some time with the management of the Emily Edith mine at Silverton, but recently he has taken over the Fern mine at Hall Sliding on a bond.

The Fern mine is well known in the Nelson section, where it was regarded at one juncture as a bonanza. The property was owned a few years ago by a company which issued a large amount of stock. Then a mill and compressor plant was erected on the property and some eminently satisfac- tory mill runs were made. The com- pany distributed several dividends and the result was that Fern shares went to a dollar and were in strong demand at any figure under that sum. Many people invested, and then there was a

crash. The ore was not forthcoming to keep the mill running, the product of the mine lost its value, the ore pinched out entirely or some other reason brought the concern up with a sharp turn. Mine and mill closed down and the shareholders whistled for their profits.

Since then the property has been worked on a royalty or lease, but it returns barely paid working expenses and the lessee did not have the funds to prosecute development on a scale large enough to open up any extensive ore bodies.

Now Mr. Rammelmeyer is taking the Fern over on a bond, and it is safe to predict that the property will have a fairly show under his management. Among other things he is entirely over- hauling and remodeling the ten-stamp mill and putting it in first-class shape to do thorough and economical work. The future of the Fern will be watch- ed with keen interest.