

ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

Two Dollars a Year.

ROSSLAND, B. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1898.

Fourth Year, Number 41

MINES AND MINING

A Favorable Report on the Okanagan Free Gold Mines.

WHAT MR. RITCHIE SAYS

Fred M. Wells Says That the Mountain Lion at Republic is a Great Property—The Porto Rico Cleanup Was More Than Satisfactory.

J. Fred Ritchie has just returned from a visit to the properties of the Okanagan Free Gold Mines, limited, which are located south of Camp McKinley. He left here on the 9th inst. in the interest of his friends who have invested largely in the shares of this company. Mr. Ritchie in speaking about his visit said:

"After a careful examination of the properties owned by the Okanagan Free Gold Mines, limited, I can honestly state that the reports of Dr. Langhammer, Ph. D., M. E., and A. S. Edgcombe, M. E., are correct and that the company undoubtedly possess properties of great value. The merits and value of the property are greatly enhanced by the excellent water power running through it which can be utilized for developing a large amount of power at a small expense. The power is derived from the Similkameen falls which are situated three-quarters of a mile above the property and is available at all times of the year. From the amount of ore which I saw on the dump and in sight, I believe the company will be fully warranted in erecting a ten-stamp mill at once, and that the property will be self-sustaining immediately the mill is in running order. There is enough ore in sight to keep the mill running for over a year."

Mr. Ritchie brought back some splendid samples of free-gold quartz, which are certainly well worth inspection by the shareholders and others interested in the company.

Mountain Lion a Great Property.

Fred M. Wells, of the Kamloops Mining & Development company, is in the city from Republic. Mr. Wells is enthusiastic over the prospects of the Republic camp, and says there is no doubt but that a big boom is certain here. The camp was quiet during the summer but with the coming of the cold weather there was a series of strikes, which has caused a rush in there. In the summer there were some idle men there, but now there are none apparently who are not employed. The regular stages are crowded daily, and some times there are two or three extras. It is difficult for a stranger to get a room, as all the hotels are crowded.

He says that a number of companies are being formed, and as soon as they are incorporated they begin the task of opening their properties, and the result is that a large number of men are at work. There have been excellent strikes in the Tom Thumb, Rebate, Morning Glory, Republic, Mountain Lion and other properties. The management of the Mountain Lion expect to have their large compressor plant in by the 1st of January, and will go ahead with the development of the property on a large scale.

"The Mountain Lion is the biggest mine in that section, if not on the Pacific northwest. The ore chutes on the Mountain Lion is 600 feet in length, 25 feet wide and 300 feet deep, as far as known, and is certain to be much larger. This body I have given the dimensions of is practically all pay ore, and there are chutes that will go from \$75 to \$88 to the ton. I know whereof I speak, for I put in about ten days in sampling it, and I did this work thoroughly."

The North San Poil and Ben Hur will soon start a union tunnel, which is intended to tap the San Poil ledge, which lies between the North San Poil and the Ben Hur. Once the ledge is encountered the intention is to drift both ways upon it. The union tunnel will have to be driven a distance of 900 feet before it strikes the ledge."

THE PORTO RICO CLEANUP.

The Mill Run Shows Values Around \$40.

Two big chunks of retorted gold, the result of the first ten-day cleanup at the Porto Rico, were brought to town Monday by A. B. Irwin and W. H. Corbould of the Canadian Pacific Exploration company, which owns the now famous property.

The cleanup proved even more successful than was expected. Although a number of inevitable delays attended the first trial of the new mill, due to short water supply, yet in 10 days the works handled over 140 tons of ore. Definite values have not yet been learned, but it is evident that the ore has an approximate value of \$40 per ton. One of the pleasing features of the cleanup is the discovery that the mill has saved 94 per cent of the assay values. Most of the gold is recovered on the plates. About 20 tons of concentrates was saved. The concentrates are more than usually high in the proportion of iron, and on that account an excellent market rate can be secured for their treatment.

The Porto Rico is working about 40 men at the mine and mill, and the employees of the mine form a little colony of their own at the property, six miles from Porto Rico, riding on the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway. Four machine drills are at work in the tunnels and stopes, and enough ore is already in sight to operate the mill at a capacity of 25 tons daily for the next eight months. Development work will be actively pushed. The ore can be handled very economically, as it is dropped through the chutes of the upraise from No. 2 to the No. 3 level, whence it is carried for a distance of 2,500 feet by a gravity tramway to the mill.

Mr. Irwin returns to the mine. Mr.

RUNS INTO MONEY IN OUTSIDE CAMPS

THE IRON MASK MINE.

Gooderham-Blackstock Syndicate Is Not Trying to Purchase It.

The Iron Mask-Centre Star case is continuing to attract attention before the supreme court at Victoria. The appeal taken by the Centre Star from Justice Walker's ruling forbidding the Centre Star from working in the Iron Mask ground, has been argued, and is now under consideration.

In this connection the Toronto World says:

The recent appreciation in the price of Iron Mask has been accompanied by some talk in the west to the effect that either the Gooderham-Blackstock syndicate or that of the Corbin crowd were buying in the stock. In the hearing of The World T. G. Blackstock yesterday stated that he and Mr. Gooderham were making no further move towards securing any further interest in the Iron Mask, in which they already hold a good block of shares. The Corbin people, it is stated, already control 291,000 shares, and there is some 150,000 shares loose on the market, a good deal of it in Toronto and other parts of Ontario.

Referring to the Iron Mask-Centre Star suit, Mr. Blackstock stated that a hearing of one phase of the action would come up at Victoria in a few days and he and his colleagues meant to win it if possible. He spoke very hopefully of gaining the Centre Star contention that the Centre Star company should at any rate have the privilege to prosecute enough development work to prove whether or not they had the ultimate right to follow the ore bodies on to the Iron Mask property. Many of the United States circuit courts have decided favorably to similar contentions in American suits, and it is the intention of the present owners of the Centre Star to carry the action as far as the privy council in Great Britain if that is found necessary.

Iron Horse Compressor Starts.

The compressor of the Iron Horse commenced operations Tuesday. It is of seven drills and will be used in the development of the Iron Horse property on Monte Cristo mountain. The machinery for the compressor arrived here on Thursday evening and the work of putting it together was begun on Friday and on Sunday at noon steam was started. This was remarkably quick work. A bearing had to be fixed and some other repairs had to be made. This consumed the time yesterday. Everything now is in apple pie order and today the machines will be started in the double-compartments shaft and the work continued till a depth of 300 feet has been reached, and then crosscutting will commence for the lead.

Royal Gold Properties.

A. H. Stiles, of the Royal Gold company, has just completed the assessment work on the Pioneer group, adjoining the Double Standard. By open crosscuts a body of sulphides of iron 20 feet wide has been uncovered. Assays show \$5.20 in copper. The Royal Gold Mining company owns several groups of claims, and have quite a force of men doing the assessment work. They expect to push the development of the Royal Gold claim by continuing to sink the shaft to greater depth. The claims of the Royal Gold are located a short distance from Northport.

The Indian Chief Company.

At the last meeting of the Indian Chief Gold Mining company held at the office of Keady Bros. & Purgold on Saturday last, the following directors were appointed: James Hunter of Hunter Bros., A. S. Goodeve of Goodeve Bros., F. A. Hewer of Marsh & Co., W. T. McDonald superintendent of the Abe Lincoln mine, Kenneth L. Burnett, Ernest Kennedy and W. W. Weeks secretary Iron Horse Mining & Milling company. The election of the officers is deferred for the present owing to the fact that Mr. Hunter, who is the choice of the directors, fears that he has not the time to attend to the duties.

At the Salmu Consolidated.

Advices just to hand from the mine indicate increased activity now that the hoisting plant is in running order. Sinking is being pushed with all possible dispatch, and important developments are looked for any time now, as the showing is decidedly interesting. Work will be prosecuted without intermission, and all points to a season of prosperity at this property, which should be pleasing intelligence to all shareholders. A crown grant will be shortly issued.

THE TREATY OF PEACE.

It is Certain to Be Ratified by the American Congress.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—Hon. Clark Howell, member of the democratic national committee from Georgia, and editor of the Atlanta Constitution, after consulting with the leaders of both political parties at Washington, telegraphed as follows:

"With the adjournment of congress for the holidays the final decision on the peace treaty is as clear as it will be after a vote has been taken in the senate. Two weeks ago the matter was in doubt, but today it is as certain that the treaty will be ratified as it will be that it has been after the vote has been taken. Mr. Bryan has been in Washington for several days, and has conferred frequently and freely with the democratic leaders, in both the senate and the house. He advised the ratification of the treaty, and he is outspoken in the opinion that, aside from the question of national obligations, it is a matter of party policy for the democrats to throw no obstacle in the way of ratification."

Killed by a Fall From a Window.

CONCORD, Mass., Dec. 21.—Oswald E. S. Barrett, national president of the Sons of the American Revolution, was killed by a fall from a window of his home here today. He was 60 years old.

RUNS INTO MONEY IN OUTSIDE CAMPS

Centre Star-Iron Mask Litigation Will Cost \$50,000.

VICTORY-TRIUMPH WORK

Large New Shaft House on the Property—Iron Mask Looking Well—To Finance the Bathmullen-A Horse Whim for the Evening Star.

In connection with the suits of the Centre Star vs. Iron Mask and Iron Mask vs. Centre Star, now before the supreme court in Victoria, over 100 affidavits, some of them of great length, have been filed with Fred Schofield in the registrar's office here. The costs of these suits will be enormous, as the counsel fees for the affidavits alone will reach to over \$10,000 and the services of the best mining experts have been utilized. Their expenses will far exceed the fees in the affidavits, and may easily be said that the costs in the suits will be over \$50,000 and may run into six figures.

The new buildings on the Victory-Triumph are completed. They include a shaft house, a blacksmith shop, and an addition to the bank house. The shaft house is one of the most substantial structures of its kind in the camp. It is of solid logs, 20 feet wide and 50 feet long, while the walls are 15 feet high, and the roof is nearly 30 feet above the ground. It has been constructed over the shaft recently sunk on the Triumph east vein, which is now down 100 feet. A new horse-whim has been forwarded to the property to be used in continuing work there, and extensive development will be carried on at the 100-foot level. It is expected that the present improvements will all be completed and work will be resumed underground about the first of the year. With the addition to the capacity of the bank house, the accommodations will be ample for from 15 to 20 men.

L. H. Moffatt left yesterday for the east to spend Christmas with his family in Toronto. While away he will be working in the interest of the Rathmullen Mining company, and the Kootenay Land company, in both of which companies he is largely interested together with O. S. Wallis, who lately left for England. Several offers of development money have lately been received on behalf of the Rathmullen company, and Mr. Moffatt on his trip east is satisfied he has a notable proposition to offer to clients in Toronto and return to Rossland the first week in February.

Ernest Kennedy of the Fairmont Gold Mining company, has secured the horse-whim formerly in use at the Giant. It will be forwarded to the Fairmont company's properties, the Morning Star and the Evening Star, near Xim, and will be used in the development of those claims.

A. D. Coplen, the president of the G. M. Mining company, is up from Spokane and is a guest at the Windsor. Mr. Coplen says that a deal is still pending whereby work may be resumed on the new Iron Mask vein, recently reported in THE MINER.

J. F. Herrick, the manager of the Iron Mask, is in the city on one of his regular visits. Mr. Herrick speaks in the highest terms of the recent find in the new Iron Mask vein, recently reported in THE MINER.

WALLACE A CANDIDATE.

The Mayor Will Offer His Services to Municipality for Another Year.

H. S. Wallace announced to THE MINER last night his intention to be a candidate for re-election to the mayoralty at the forthcoming elections.

Discussing the matter further Mr. Wallace stated that at first he did not intend to again run for office, but that recently several delegations had waited on him and persuaded him to change his mind. Additional weight was brought to bear on him by the circulation of a petition requesting that he should again be a candidate. The requisition, Mr. Wallace says, is still in the possession of his friends, for the purpose of securing more signatures, but it will be handed to him within the next few days.

When asked for an outline of his election plans, Mr. Wallace said he was not prepared to announce them just at present, but he proposes calling a meeting of his supporters very soon after the Christmas holidays for the purpose of organizing for the campaign. It is then that he will also be prepared to state for publication, the details with reference to the reasons that prompt him to seek re-election, and indicate what line of policy he favors for the government of the municipality during the ensuing year.

Mr. Wallace was asked to mention an opinion as to who would be in the field against him. In reply he remarked that he supposed the contest would be between Ross Thompson and himself. He does not anticipate the nomination of other mayoralty candidates.

Killed by a Fall From a Train.

WINDSOR, Ont., Dec. 21.—When about three miles from Windsor, the west-bound Michigan Central train noted a man lying alongside the track. The train was stopped and the man, who was unconscious, was taken aboard and sent to the Hotel Drua. When he recovered he stated that his name was John Ronalds, and while on his way to Essex he had fallen from the train. His arm and leg were broken and he had sustained internal injuries. He died three hours later.

RUNS INTO MONEY IN OUTSIDE CAMPS

A Lot of Ore in Sight in the B. C. Property.

TAMMANY IS ALL RIGHT

Its Owners Have Refused an Offer of \$30,000 For It—A Strike of Rich Ore Made in the Silver Cup Which Has \$1,000,000 in Sight.

The news from the other divisions this week is of an encouraging character. In the Silver Cup in the Trout Lake division a three-foot vein of ore has been encountered that will yield \$1,000 to the ton. The manager of this mine estimates that there is \$1,000,000 in sight in the workings. In the Slocan rawhiding is in progress and the shipments during the continuance of the snow promise to be large. Appended is the weekly summary:

BOUNDARY COUNTRY.

On the Morrison mine the shaft is now down 70 feet, all in ore, and samples run from \$30 to \$350 in gold.

Manager Harrison says there are 20,000 tons of high grade ore in sight on the B. C. claim in Summit camp. This is the property recently reported bonded to E. G. Edwards, Leckie, for the Montreal Goldfields syndicate.

The best shafthouse in the Boundary section has been erected on the Brooklyn mine in Greenwood camp. The two large boilers and hoisting engine have been installed and sinking is being carried on. Frank Robbins, the resident manager, has gone to Rossland for a few days to examine some mining properties.

Austin Hammer, a half owner in the Big Copper mine in Copper camp, says that negotiations are in progress for the sale of the Big Copper to an eastern syndicate. J. Moran holds the other half interest. The Big Copper has an enormous showing of high grade copper ore and if the deal is closed it will be a big price.

Messrs. Trethewey and McKenzie, well known mining men and residents of Kaslo, have been in the Burnt Basin along with Mike Shick, examining the Mother Lode group. It seems that Shick and Jackson, who control the property, have made a very satisfactory deal subject to the report of Trethewey and McKenzie.

J. R. Reid informs the Cascade Record that his Rossland associates in the Tammany group, Burnt Basin, adjoining the Mother Lode, have declined to accept the offer of \$30,000 for a seven-eighths interest in the property, recently made by a Butte, Mont., firm.

SLOCAN DIVISION.

The Mollie Gibson Mining company have made their final payment of \$40,000 on the Mollie Gibson group. The property was bonded for \$110,000.

Ore from the Wakefield is being hauled to Silverton for shipment. Over 2,000 tons are expected to be shipped this winter.

The Black Grouse group is to be floated in London by Major Furlong. During the week W. H. Sandford, manager of the Northwest Mining syndicate, inspected the property and called a satisfactory report, to be followed by written details. The Black Grouse will be taken up on the basis of a prospect, with first class showings.

Everything at the Bosun is in first class shape and the ore showings are most satisfactory. Two carloads of ore have been shipped during the week and another shipment will be made today. Returns have been received from the Aurora and Selby smelters on two carloads of ore, giving net profits of \$1,464 per car.

The Marion has improved a great deal during the past week, and there is now showing in the main workings 10 inches of clean ore on the hanging wall and four inches on the foot wall. The ledge gives signs of becoming fully mineralized.

A. Thompson has disposed of a quarter interest in the Queen City group to P. W. Ellis, the wholesale jeweler of Toronto. The group consists of three claims, the Queen City, Rockingham and Capital, situated one mile east of the town. Good ore has been obtained from the property, though not much work has yet been done.

Shannon, Goettsche and McPherson have a good thing in the Hartney group, on Silver mountain, and every week improves the situation. They are now in over 50 feet under ground, and the ledge is widening. The paystreak has also widened during the week, and they now have close to six inches of clean ore.

The first shipment of the season was made recently from the Comstock mines near Silverton, two carloads of galena being consigned to the smelter at Tacoma. Upwards of 3,000 feet of development has been performed upon the Comstock property, and large amounts of shipping and concentrating ore have been blocked out. The company expects to have its 50-ton concentrator running about the end of January.

Fields company are very likely to purchase the Enterprise mine on Ten Mile creek.

The Ivanhoe has commenced to raw the Blue Bird, recently leased by Scott McDonald, has commenced shipping ore largely.

The Ruth company have let a contract for a lower tunnel, on which work has been commenced.

The London & British Columbia Gold hide and ship. This will be a steady shipper for the winter. It will send five ore daily.

It is reported that a large body of ore has been encountered in No. 4 tunnel (the lowest one) of the Rath mine. It is significant.

The White Sparrow Mineral group, near the mouth of the first North Fork

THE STOCK MARKET

Toronto Buyers Are Absorbing Republic Shares.

BUSINESS IS VERY LIVELY

Dear Parks Are in Increased Demand—Iron Masks Are Being Picked Up—Prices of Novelties Increasing—Jumbos Are Selling.

The stock market kept up its good tone all through the week, and yesterday was one of the liveliest days that there have yet been among the share investors. One firm sold \$12,000 worth of shares yesterday and the other brokers report a big business. There have been large buying orders from Toronto within the past two weeks. Two hundred thousand shares of Black Tails and San Poil have been purchased in Toronto. The principal purchasers have been David Coulson, general manager of the Bank of Toronto; Mr. Henderson, assistant general manager of the Bank of Toronto, and their associates. There has been a large movement in the local shares, and the feeling is that the flurry is one that will last for some little time.

Among the local shares Deer Parks were the principal movers, and the price ranged from 18 1/2 to 20 cents. It is estimated that fully 100,000 shares changed hands during the week in this market.

Manager Mulholland of the Deer Park is reticent as to his intentions in regard to shipping, and answered queries in relation to the matter in a non-committal manner.

All the Iron Masks that were offered yesterday up to 85 cents were picked up and some sales of these shares were made during the week at a shade over this figure. In one instance a sale was made at 88 cents.

Novelties took a rise yesterday and sold at 4 1/2 cents. Tuesday they were selling at 3 1/2 to 4 cents. The advance was caused by the rumor to the effect that the British America corporation had purchased the control in the Novelty company on the basis of 6 cents per share. It is claimed that 60,000 Novelties changed hands here yesterday.

Iron Horses sold freely at from 16 1/2 to 17 cents. The compressor plant has been started, 23 men are at work and three shifts are pushing the work on the double-compartments shaft. The intention is to push the shaft to the 300-foot level. It is anticipated that the Josie ledge will be encountered at a depth of 150 feet. The ledge dips and it is expected it will come into the shaft at this depth.

There has been quite a lot of trading in Jumbos. This is due to the reported bonding of the control by Senator Cox of Toronto and associates. Jumbos sold from 45 to 48 cents and were in fair demand yesterday at the latter figure.

Monte Christos moved rather slowly and are selling at 10 1/2 cents.

There is considerable demand for White Bears at 7 cents.

Spitzees are being sought for by investors.

For the shares of the Republic group there has been an increased demand during the week. Lone Pines sold at from 21 to 23 1/2 cents. They were firm at the latter price yesterday. Rebates advanced from 17 1/2 to 25 cents during the week. They were firm at the latter figure yesterday. Jim Blaines sold freely at from 50 to 52 cents during the week and the latter figure prevailed yesterday. Black Tails moved some at 28 cents. San Poil are selling for 7 1/2 cents, and there is a general movement all along the Republic line.

There is considerable movement in the Ymir group of shares. Sarah Lees are in demand at 7 1/2 cents. Fairmonts are moving well and the sale of Dandees during the week has been large. Monarchs are also moving.

In the Toronto board \$1.25 was bid and \$1.27 asked for Cariboes (Camp McKinley).

The sale of the shares of the Okanagan Free Gold Mines, limited, continues to be large, and the interest in them is increasing since the recent visit of J. Fred Ritchie to the properties of the company.

THE HOMESTAKE.

Very Creditable Progress is Being Made in the Shaft.

The report on the condition of the Homestake Mines, limited, which was submitted yesterday afternoon at the statutory meeting held in the company's offices on Columbia avenue, showed that some unusually rapid work has been done in connection with the development of the property. With a crew of 13 men, working in three eight-hour shifts, the 6x10-foot shaft has been sunk 37 feet in the last 21 days. The average is over a foot and a half per day. Since work was resumed on November 14 the shaft has been deepened from the 123- to the 180-foot level.

At the meeting yesterday afternoon, which was purely a formal one to fulfill the statutory obligations, over 500,000 shares were represented either personally or by proxy. George H. Bayne presided, and Thomas S. Gilmore, the secretary of the company, was present in his official capacity. The meeting was an open one, and an invitation was extended to THE MINER to be represented. The report of the chairman showed that the indications in the shaft were considered encouraging, and that mineralized rock was met in the shaft's hanging wall. Nothing was done about levelling further assessments, as that matter is in the hands of the board of directors.

The first annual meeting of the Homestake company will be held on the second Tuesday in August next.

Weller & O., Plumbers and Fitters.

Purgold

active with east. Deer mines, owing the 20th of this week, but we purchase at continue in Spitzee treating the market, there has been a ready sale for of 10% acreage the Derby. The railway recent alterations covered a good to \$15 in gold.

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