

## KOOTENAY COUNTRY.

The Week's News From the Great Inland Mining Regions.

## THE LARDO REPORTER SUSPENDS

Want of Support—Rich New Strikes Made—Kootenay Lake Claims Another Victim—Prisoners' Conspiracy Baffled.

(The Miner.)

Haskins, the locator of the Haskins group is reported to have made two more finds of galena. He has been prospecting up the Lardo.

A petition is being circulated having for its object the liberation of E. E. Coy, who received a twelve months' sentence at the Kaslo assize for indecent assault. The construction of the Kootenay Hydraulic Placer Mining Company's enormous works at the mouth of the Lardo creek pines. He reports many of the placer mines doing fairly well and the discovery of quite a number of gold quartz ledges on the surrounding mountain sides.

A few days since a large bear was killed on the wagon road about a mile and a half west of Coy's Creek. The bear was about 13 feet long and weighed about 400 lbs. It was a fine animal and attracted the attention of about twenty persons who were passing along the road. A rifle was procured at Kemp's springs and Frank Clute brought the animal to the ground the first shot. The cubs were allowed to escape.

The majestic gold quartz claim, located about one mile west of the Poorman, and about seven miles from Nelson, was bonded this week by its owner, John Miles, to James R. Pearce, for a period of 90 days, the consideration being \$10,000. There is a 70-foot tunnel on the majestic run in on the lead, which shows a vein of quartz about three feet in width, which is said to average \$40 per ton free milling gold.

Judging from all accounts, a trail will be laid to the head of the Lardo creek, which empties into the head of Crawford's bay. The Cockle brothers, who have a fine ranch on the north end of the bay, have for several years endeavored to have such a trail constructed leading into East Kootenay, and now extensive mineral discoveries between these points is liable to cause the construction of this thoroughfare.

It appears that the Big Bertha mineral claim on the west side of Jackson creek, about 15 miles west of Kaslo, is now being worked by the Haskins group. It will take every lawyer in the Province of British Columbia to untangle the web of litigation likely to grow out of it. All adverse claimants are sanguine of success in the end. In the meantime calls for a shipment of valuable ore from Kaslo until such time as the ownership is decided.

A number of capitalists have recently come from Chicago to inspect the mica mines near Volmer, Idaho. These mines have produced large quantities of this mineral in times past which cut in sheets as large as 8x12 inches. It is of the fine color variety. British Columbia has mines of the purely transparent kind, and much more valuable for commercial purposes and electrical uses. It now behooves prospectors to keep an eye out for this valuable substance.

From all reports the late strike in the Lucky Jim mine continues to improve, adding value to the property every day. Dr. Kibbourne, the principal owner, and who has a bond on the remaining interests, is deserving of all the good fortune that may come in his way, as he has been one of the most nervy and daring outside investors yet to try their chances in this country. He had expended about \$14,000 upon the property when the strike was made.

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A suit will be brought against the postmaster-general for \$9,000 damages, owing to the miscarriage of letters from Kaslo to Victoria. One of the Kaslo attorneys has been instructed to begin action before the supreme court at Victoria.

Canadian Pacific railway people have purchased the telephone line from Kaslo to Nelson, and it will be worked in connection with the telegraph line from here to New Denver, construction on which is progressing rapidly. Watson is expected to be reached some time this week.

Two very promising discoveries were made last week about eight miles west of Nelson by Jas. H. Starnsman and Ike Holden. One was a six-foot vein of gold bearing quartz, the surface showing a number of small pieces of gold. The other was a seven-foot vein containing copper.

One of the holders of a fourth interest in the Snowbird, in the Whitewater basin, has sold half his share, or a one-eighth part of the whole, to Thomas Garland, of Portage La Prairie and Kaslo, for \$10,000, \$5,000 being cash down. On this basis the whole property is considered worth \$80,000.

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Mr. Ellison has a splendid field of wheat on the bench across Long Lake Creek. It is spring wheat which Mr. Ellison is changing into fall wheat and the expected increase in its value is success. On his Simpson ranch in the Mission valley Mr. Ellison has a large force of men at the hay, which is an enormous crop. It is expected that 400 tons will be taken off it.

A prospector named Greenwood was drowned in Duncan river on Wednesday. The Eureka mine is improving with every stroke. It now shows five feet of solid ore in the breast of the cut. Messrs. Sery and Harrington have discovered a big body of ore on the Duncan river slope, assays of which give the astonishing results of 650 ounces to the ton.

One of the holders of a fourth interest in the Snowbird, in the Whit