

THE GOVERNMENT WILL DO ITS DUTY

Licenses to Be Granted to East Kootenay Coal Prospectors--The Kootenays' Salvation--Lasting Prosperity in Sight--Prospects of Big Boom in Southern B. C.

VICTORIA, March 12.—(Special to The Miner.)—The Prior government is in a tight corner as a result of its persistent refusal to issue licenses to prospectors who have made locations of coal and petroleum lands in the extreme southeast corner of East Kootenay.

There is now positive proof that the provincial authorities are party to the deep laid scheme to steal the lands in question. Some time ago a reserve was placed on a large territory in Southeast Kootenay for the benefit of the C. P. R., or more properly speaking, the Columbia & Western Railway, the intention being to juggle the public out of its rights to not only the surface of the ground, but the coal and petroleum that exist below. Through the customary negligence of the attorney-general's department the order-in-council proclaiming the establishment of the reserve failed to make any mention of coal or petroleum. There is, consequently, no valid reason why coal and petroleum licenses should not be issued.

It has now come to light that prospectors who located coal and petroleum last summer were acting on the best legal advice. Some thirty or forty miles were located with the greatest care. In every instance particular pains were taken to comply with all the requirements of the law. So much so was this the case that nothing was done without the supervision of competent engineers and lawyers. Applications were then made to the government for licenses, the necessary fees accompanying each application. The applications in each instance were refused by the commissioner of lands and works. The moneys were remitted to the applicants but they were promptly returned to Victoria. This is how the case stands at present.

The government's persistent refusal to issue these licenses being burdensome to the applicants and to the districts now affected by the Fernie strike, the situation became the talk of the Kootenays. The independent newspapers of the district grew interested in the matter and they have been busy exposing the whole nefarious transaction. This has aroused the people of the interior districts of the Province, and the various boards of trade and members of the legislative assembly have been compelled to consider the situation.

The government has remained stubborn in the hope that the prospectors would not make a fight for their rights, but now that it is apparent that nothing but speedy justice can stop the indignation of the public, the ministers are becoming very anxious. The time is drawing near for the assembling of the legislature. Col. Prior and his associates will then be forced to explain the reasons that prompted them to perpetrate this outrage in East Kootenay. It is now known if they fail to give complete satisfaction, the East Kootenay question will be made the feature of the session, with the result that it will put Messrs. Prior, Eberts, Wells, Prentice and McInnes forever out of British Columbia politics.

If the government had promptly issued the licenses last year, there would now be no fuel famine in the Kootenays today, for the reason that the coal in the "reserve" would now be available.

It is reported here that hundreds of locations have been made on the "reserve," but that only about 40 of them have fully complied with the requirements of the law. The balance are "snow" locations or out and out fakes of professional grubstakers.

VICTORIA, March 12.—It is reported here that the government will shortly surrender to the expression of public opinion with regard to the East Kootenay coal lands. About forty licenses will be issued.

868 MEN AT WORK

Authorized Statement of Crews Employed in Rossland Mines.

\$34,100 to Be Distributed in Wages Today.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

A report was in circulation yesterday that seventy or eighty men had been laid off at the Le Roi mine. On all fours with the average panic report, there was no truth in the story. Some special work was under way in the principal stopes in the mine, and the mine management concluded that the work could best be performed with the men out of the way. Hence the day shift did not go underground in its usual force. Today all the men are at work again, the whole matter being simply a lay-off of one shift. Prior to this a few extra men in the machine shop and blacksmith shop were laid off, their services not being required to handle the work in the respective departments. The men were extra employees, however, and the mine is working the usual quota of employees and will continue to do so. This statement emanates from the management, and may be relied upon.

Probably few citizens have taken the trouble of late to inquire into the strength of the crews actually at work in the mines of the Rossland camp. The Miner took the pains to consult the various managements on this point yesterday, and secured the following statement of the number of men who draw pay from the mines this week:

Le Roi	360
War Eagle and Centre Star	286
Josie Mine	75
Kootenay	30
Velvet	50
Number 1 (Le Roi No. 2)	21
White Bear	18
Silica Works, Green Mountain, O. K.	15
Total	868

Various critics have referred to times in Rossland as "pinching" and "strenuous," but the foregoing figures would seem to indicate an excellent basis for the belief that times are not nearly as "pinching" as some would make out. With the advent of spring the crews at various mines are certain to be increased for reasons that have been pointed out from time to time, and the outlook for a prosperous summer is undeniably bright.

Today is pay day at various mines. The War Eagle and Centre Star companies will distribute \$27,500 in wages among their employees, with other disbursements on voucher accounts bringing the aggregate up to \$53,000. The Le Roi No. 2 company will pay its employees at the Josie mine \$5,200 and at the No. 1 mine \$1,900. The Rossland-Kootenay company will pay the employees of the Kootenay mine \$2,000. The total wage roll to be paid here today is, therefore \$34,100, with other disbursements by various mines of fully

AS MUCH MORE. THE LE ROI COMPANY PAID ITS ROSSLAND EMPLOYEES \$52,000 ON THE 10TH INST.

WHITAKER WRIGHT

THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER IS ORDERED BY THE COURT TO PROSECUTE.

WRIGHT FOUND TO HAVE GONE ON A VISIT TO THE CONTINENT.

LONDON, March 11.—Justice Buckley, in the chancery division of the high court of justice yesterday, made an order directing the official receiver as liquidator of the London & Globe Finance corporation, limited, to criminally prosecute Whitaker Wright, the well known promoter, and utilize the assets of the London & Globe company to pay the costs of the prosecution.

The demands for Wright's prosecution have been incessant since the collapse of the corporation. After the public prosecutor declined to proceed the fund projected at a meeting held in this city January 16 to initiate the prosecution of Wright and others connected with the failure, was started, but it was generally felt that the proceedings ought to be of a more official character, hence the application that the receiver should be allowed to take action.

A warrant for the arrest of Whitaker Wright, director of the London & Globe Finance corporation, was issued today. Following the order to criminally prosecute Wright a summons for the latter was obtained yesterday evening, but when an officer went to the residence to serve the summons he was informed that Wright had gone to the continent on account of his health.

In the commons today Swift McNeill (Irish Nationalist) asked the home secretary what steps were being taken to prevent Wright from attempting to escape from justice. The home secretary declined to answer such a question without notification.

SONGS AND PIPES.

Curriers Will Hold Jolly Smoker on Friday Night at Lancaster.

The members of the Rossland Curling club will formally wind up the season on Friday night when a smoking concert will take place at the Lancaster on St. Paul street north. The event promises to form a pleasant wind-up to what has been an eminently successful curling season.

J. S. C. Fraser, president of the club, will preside, with A. H. MacNeill, K. C., in the vice-chair. A pipe will be in attendance, and the music of Scotland's national instrument will accompany the toasts to her national game. The Highland sword dance will be put on by R. W. Grigor and J. M. Macdonald to the lay of the pipes, and other features under the head of dancing will be a buck and wing performance and a cake walk.

The program includes the names of Messrs. John E. Hooper, J. H. Watson, A. B. Mackenzie, H. G. Oliver, A. B. Barker, J. S. Deschamps, Dr. Couillard, Eugene Croteau, T. S. Gilmore and S. F. Parrish for songs; the Roberts-Armstrong-Coffin-Anderson quartette and Messrs. Jenkins, Sanford and Nelson for recitations. Music will be furnished throughout the evening by the orchestra headed by Professor Paul Kaufman.

A QUESTION OF ROADS

Supervisor Killeen Is in Rossland Today on Business.

Suggested Roads to Murphy Creek and Burnt Basin.

(From Sunday's Daily.)

H. C. Killeen, provincial supervisor of roads, bridges and trails, arrived in the city last night and will spend the day here. He is en route to the Kettle valley in pursuance of his duties.

Mr. Killeen was approached last night by a representative of The Miner with respect to the various applications for roads in the Rossland district. Referring to the proposed Burnt Basin wagon road, Mr. Killeen said: "I have been over much of the proposed route, but will make another trip over the ground as soon as I can return after the snow goes off. It is absolutely essential that I should be able to examine the conformation of the ground before making a report to the department. At the present time, with the snow many feet over the ground, there is no use in my attempting to make an inspection. As far as construction is concerned it is a matter that rests with the department. If it is shown that conditions warrant the outlay, the road will undoubtedly be built, the object of the department being to accomplish the most good in every district within the limits set by the appropriation for roads. If conditions in Burnt Basin are such that a road is necessary to its future prosperity, and if activity in mining will be promoted thereby, the department is likely to comply with the request, but such a decision rests first and finally with the department. I should say that from five to seven miles of road would be required to secure an entrance into Burnt Basin, and that the cost will be no less than \$1000 per mile."

Talking on the suggested road to Murphy creek, Mr. Killeen stated that he had been taken over the ground last fall, and knew the conditions to be encountered. The construction of a road to Murphy creek depended upon its necessity being established, and the persons interested should take steps to bring the required information to the attention of the department.

THE B. C. GAZETTE.

In the last issue of the B. C. Gazette the few new proclamations are made: J. D. Sibbald, police magistrate at Revelstoke, and Cory Menhnick, J. P., have resigned their commissions to the Daily Reduction company and the Oak Bay Hotel company, are incorporated.

Certificates of improvement have been issued to the Black Diamond, Comstock, Denver, Moonlight and Trapper mineral claims.

About twenty timber licenses were issued for various parts of the province. Over 100 licenses to prospect for coal and petroleum in the Bluehead valley, East Kootenay, are advertised. This does not necessarily mean that they will be granted.

A revision of the voters' lists is authorized for the East Yale, Comox and Alberni electoral districts.

A FALSE ALARM

The Greenwood Board of Trade Acts Too Hastily.

Too Soon to Ask the Dominion to Open Up Its Coal Lands.

GREENWOOD, March 18.—The following resolution has been passed by the Greenwood board of trade. It will also come up for discussion at the forthcoming meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia at Fernie:

"Whereas the natural wealth of the portion of the province represented by the Associated Boards of Trade is chiefly in low grade ores;

"And whereas, progress and development is dependent upon the treatment of these ores at the lowest possible cost;

"And whereas, it has been demonstrated during the past few years that low grade ores can be mined and smelted in South-eastern British Columbia cheaper than in any other district in the world;

"And whereas, in order to secure the best results, mines and smelters must be operated on a large scale;

"And whereas, the only available source of fuel supply for these smelters is the mines of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company;

"And whereas, on account of accidents and strikes, these mines were unable to supply the smelters with all the coke and coal required, and consequently the smelters and mines were forced to close, almost complete stagnation of business in the districts affected following, entailing serious loss to all concerned;

"And whereas, there is no assurance that even without a recurrence of accidents or strikes, the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company will be in a position to supply the requirements of the smelters of Southern British Columbia, when it is considered that arrangements for doubling the capacity of these smelters during the present year have already been made;

"Therefore be it resolved, that a committee consisting of . . . and the mover be and is hereby appointed to prepare a memorial urging upon the Dominion government that it is in the interests of the mining and smelting industries of this province that the public coal lands in the Crow's Nest Pass should not be sold to private parties, but should be developed and operated by the government in such manner as to insure for the mines and smelters a full and regular supply of fuel at a reasonable price.

(The Greenwood board of trade is apparently acting with undue haste in this matter. It is all important that the mines and smelters be supplied with a cheap and constant supply of coke. But would it not be better to hold the Dominion coal lands in reserve against the time when the arbitrary action of the coal mines of East Kootenay really necessitates the interference of the Dominion government? There is nothing to fear in this respect at the present time if the British Columbia government does its duty and issues licenses for coal lands in the East Kootenay "reserve." There is every reason to believe that these licenses will soon be issued. There is also every reason to believe that as soon as these licenses are issued, sharp competition will quickly follow between the operators of the new mines and the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, thus insuring the long-looked for condition so far as cheap and adequate fuel supply is concerned. It lies within the power of the Dominion government to check the greed of the coal companies, but we seriously question the advisability of the federal authorities entering into an industrial competition before it is really necessary, for the reason that it might hamper individual enterprise to a very large extent.—Ed.)

RAILWAYS AND MEN.

No Strike on the Alton-Hartford Affair.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., March 15.—The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, today denied that the trainmen of the Chicago & Alton have decided to strike. He says no proposition of the kind has been submitted to the men.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., March 15.—President Hall, of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad company, has sent a communication to the joint committee of the employees of the road, announcing that he will meet the joint committee tomorrow at 2 o'clock. The committee has accepted the invitation, and therefore will not announce the result of the poll of votes taken on the question of a strike during the past few days. It is understood it is the idea of President Hall that this meeting is to be informal and for a discussion of the reasons why the company has been unable to formally meet the joint committee.

RECEIVED BY THE POPE.

The Bishop of Valleyfield on His Jubilee Mission.

ROME, March 15.—The Bishop of Valleyfield, Quebec, was most cordially received by the pope, who said to him that he saw with satisfaction the unanimity with which Canada had celebrated his jubilee. Bishop Emard gave an offering and presented Father L. Truscott, Father R. Marcoux and Father Taylor to Pope Leo.

MANAGERS' REPORTS

OFFICIAL STATEMENT ANENT ROSSLAND MINES OPERATED FROM ENGLAND.

WORK ON THE JOSIE-RICH ORE AT THE VELVET MINE.

The London Financial Times just to hand contains the appended reports on Rossland mines:

Mine manager's report of the Le Roi No. 2, Ltd., for the month ended 31st January:

"Output—There have been 16 car-loads shipped to the smelter during January. In the Josie mine the following stopes have been worked: No. 8 or footwall stope on 500 level; No. 19 new stope. In the No. 1 mine stopes Nos. 2, 4 and 10 have been worked. Ore has been hoisted from the above stopes in the following quantities:

Mine	Stope	Tons hoisted	Totals
Josie	No. 8	532	
Josie	No. 19	538	
Number One	2	126	1120
Number One	4	415	
Number One	10	177	718
Total number of tons			1838

"As a result of drifting we have hoisted as follows:

Mine	Level	Tons ore	2nd class
Josie	300 ft drift	29	8
Josie	500 ft west	32	28
Josie	900 ft east	10	10
Totals		381	46

As the result of picking, 375 tons were added to second-class dump at Josie mine.

"General Remarks on above Stopes—Josie—The No. 8 stope is producing very good ore, the average for month being 0.84 oz gold and 6.89 per cent copper, but the life of this stope is very limited, probably not more than two months. No. 19 has averaged for the month 1.06 oz of gold and 1.75 per cent copper. This is good, but very erratic, and is hard stuff to pick, the high values being in very unpromising looking rock, whereas what appears to be mineralized is often of no value whatever. No. 1 mine—Stope 2 has turned out fairly well, the average samples for month being 0.23 oz gold and 3.81 per cent copper. Stope 4 has been very consistent through the month, the values being 1.28 oz gold and 4.42 per cent copper. Stope 10 has not been so good, and does not extend upwards any distance. The men here were transferred to stope 2 on 19th January. Work was commenced in No. 1 mine on 7th January.

"Exploration and Development Work—Josie mine—1. On 300 level, 56 feet driven. 2. On 500 level, 16 feet driven. 3. On 900 level, 31 feet driven. 1. This followed ore along till we broke back into crosscut. The ore never rose above second grade. Work here stopped that January. 2. This was driven to follow the ore found in diamond drill hole No. 26, and since striking ore at 10 feet in crosscut, practically all of it has been in high grade. Crosscut started on 18th January. 3. This work was all in low grade ore.

"Diamond Drill Work—Work has been done on the 300 and 500 foot levels. On the 300 level No. 7 was lengthened from 85 feet to 197-3 feet, but nothing was met with, although it was within 20 feet of extreme end of stop 19. On the 500 level drill holes Nos. 20, 21, 22 and 23 have been put in. In No. 20 we struck ore at 10 feet, which we have since drifted into. The cores assayed: No. 1, 2.66 oz gold; 10.87 per cent copper. No. 2, 1.56 oz gold, 15.69 per cent copper. None of the other diamond drill holes have yet struck ore.

"Forecast for February—Diamond drill work (particularly on 300 and 500 in Josie mine) will continue, the idea being to pick up, upwards and downwards, continuation of the new ore body on 500 level (west of the Annie dyke). If met with these diamond drill holes will be immediately followed up by crosscuts and drifts to facilitate attack. In the meantime, drifting along 500 ore will continue some distance before any stoping will be commenced. The work in No. 1 mine will continue as at present, unless there is any sudden drop in the assay values."

NEWS OF GREENWOOD.

Miners' Union Officers—Electric Light Matters.

GREENWOOD, March 18.—On Saturday night, 14th inst., Greenwood Miners' Union, No. 22, elected the following officers and trustees: H. D. McMillan, president; H. D. McMullen, vice-president; George F. Dougherty, secretary-treasurer (re-elected); A. T. Gahan, recording secretary; J. Foulds, conductor; M. Kemp, warden, and R. D. McKenzie, S. McClelland, H. R. Parsons, E. D. McMullen and A. Hanson, trustees.

At a special meeting of the Greenwood city council, to discuss the application of the Greenwood Electric company, limited, for an exclusive light and power franchise for a period of 55 years, the following resolution was passed: "That the Greenwood Electric company be informed that the municipal council of the city of Greenwood will be prepared to consider the extension of the electric light franchise when the company or its associates shall have submitted a definite proposition with regard to the undertakings advantageous to the city of Greenwood the company or its associates are prepared to carry out in the event of such franchise being granted." The applicants for the franchise want an exclusive one, but as yet they have not intimated what advantage they will be prepared to offer the city, excepting that they will continue to supply light at existing rates. When they shall have submitted a reasonable business proposition the council will ask the ratemakers to pass upon the same, and there does not appear to be much hope that the franchise asked for will be granted if anything like an adequate consideration be forthcoming therefor.

It is stated that Gustave Sundberg, who left Greenwood for Spokane with the intention of proceeding to Mexico, after having been with the B. C. Copper company for more than two years, has accepted an appointment with an organization that is arranging to erect a smelter in the Pend d'Oreille country. Greenwood board of trade delegates will leave for Fernie tomorrow afternoon to attend the annual convention of the Associated Boards of Trade opening in that town next Wednesday afternoon. President Naden will not be able to go, so Duncan Ross, editor of the Boundary Creek Times, has been appointed in his stead. The other delegates are C. Scott Galloway and J. R. Brown of McLeod & Brown, bartenders.

THE GAMEY SCANDAL.

Another Warm Debate in the Ontario Legislative Assembly.

TORONTO, March 16.—The debate on the Gamey charges was continued in the legislature today.

At the opening of the house Mr. Whitney referred to the request of the premier on Friday that he give the bills and papers in connection with the Gamey charges to the speaker, which he had refused to do. He now stated that as it was proposed to remove the matter from the house this would not be necessary, and he therefore returned them to Gamey. Gamey at once left the chamber.

Premier Ross then made a motion to impugn the papers, but as there was already a motion before the house to refer the matter to a judicial commission, the premier's motion could not be passed without unanimous consent. That Whitney would not give the matter to the government consented to reference to the committee on privileges and elections.

The debate was continued by St. John, who declared the honor of the government was at stake, to which Premier Ross assented. St. John then contended that Stratton should have tendered his resignation to the speaker. Stratton said he had, and St. John asked if the speaker had received it. The premier answered that he had not, thus giving an official intimation that the government intends to stand or fall with Stratton. Pense of Kingston moved the adjournment of the debate.

The government is now engaged in preparing the reference of the case to the commission, and is expected to announce it and the names of the commissioners in a few days.

OF HEART DISEASE.

BOSTON, March 16.—Former Congressman John W. Candler of Brooklyn died from heart disease this afternoon in Providence, R. I.

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THE VICTORY OF

Nels Zetenberg

His Cabin and Wood

The Unfortunate Struggled

Life

NELSON, March 18.—Nels Zetenberg was city last evening from mountain west of five miles from the city who was a prospector claim about five hundred the south end of the cabin near by. So Monday evening a morning two snows the mountain side timber which clothes a short distance above it out of existence. The train leaving Nelson today saw as he passed cabin on the lake and back to the city about party after digging feet of hard packed unfortunate prospector bunk, where he had been death. He had evidence when the slide struck time to crawl under the struggle hard for life unable to make the sion on the icy walk prison.

Ernest Klyenck, a man to be Jesus Christ, with the police magistrate nation as to his sanity possession of a number the water front, which recently vacated by the leased and sold them. He was arrested for and was most indignant. In court he stated the him the firewood and had promised to make for him to keep him. He found who he was, lived in Rossland an mine there, but declining one. On the cabins wice, "For sale or to Klyenck, son of God."

NEW DENVER

SEVERAL BUILDINGS SLOCAN LAKE DESTROYED.

ALL THE BUSINESS SERIOUS DAMAGE A TIME.

NEW DENVER, B. C. A disastrous fire broke out at the time there, blowing south. The McLaughlan & McG which was destroyed; properties destroyed, Smith & Co., general hotel owned by Hen \$300; Jeffrey's, \$100; The Bank of Montreal for a short time. H. and the St. James hotel the heroic work and p of several scores of ci The whole business town was in danger fo is no known insurance of Smith & Co., \$5500.

BOUNDARY PRO

January and February Big Totals

PHOENIX, March 18.—The Boundary for the mo are now at hand, and withstanding the draw closed smelters, due February, the shortest year, makes a good sh most identical with the of the latter was 52,478 February 52,578 tons out from the six leadin of the Boundary. The figures of each mine fo separately, making a the first two months of 537 tons:

Mine	Totals
Granby mines	
Snowshoe	
Mother Lode	
Fusnet	
B. C. mine	
Emma	
Sunset	
Providence	
Totals	537

BOUNDARY PRO

The Granby smelter 5000 tons, making tons for the year.

Granby	
Mother Lode	
Snowshoe	
B. C.	
Emma	
Sunset	
Providence	
Totals	

E. Rinker, formerly now accountant at the son, was in the city turning to Nelson last