

Rossland Weekly Miner.

Published Every Thursday by the ROSSLAND MINER PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO. LIMITED LIABILITY.

OHN B. KERR, Managing Editor

LONDON OFFICE.

O. J. WALKER, 24 Coleman Street, London, TORONTO OFFICE: CENTRAL PRESS AGENCY, LTD., 25 Yonge St.

SPOKANE OFFICE:

ALEXANDER & CO., Advertising Agents, Room 3 First National Bank Building, EASTERN AGENT: EMANUEL KATZ, 239 Temple Court, New York.

THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF THE WEEKLY ROSSLAND MINER for all points in the United States and Canada is Two Dollars a year or One Dollar and Twenty-five Cents for six months; for all other countries Three Dollars a year—invariably in advance. The subscription price of the DAILY MINER is \$1 per month, \$4 for six months or \$10 for one year, foreign \$12.50 a year in advance.

ROSSLAND IS PROSPEROUS.

Rossland camp has never been in a more flourishing condition than it is today, and it is to be hoped that the good sense of those who are very largely interested in its prosperity will dictate to them the absolute necessity of preserving the good understanding which now prevails among all classes of the community. Development work in the mines is progressing with commendable activity, and the increase in the output of the various properties is certainly most gratifying.

ANOTHER JOB ON HAND.

A number of the Canadian Pacific Railway officials from Montreal and Kootenay are on a mission to St. Paul to confer with President Hill and his advisers of the Great Northern in regard to readjusting the rates on the output of the mines of this district.

W. Peters, a prominent mining capitalist of Nelson, B. C.; W. H. Aldridge, controlling several properties near Trail, B. C.

In the body of its article the Globe says that these gentlemen were reticent regarding the business on which they had come and much preferred to discuss the British reverses in the Transvaal to giving information concerning their visit to St. Paul.

We have not the slightest doubt that the Globe has very properly summarized the situation. It has always been the policy of the officials of the C. P. R. company to work in the dark, perhaps for the reason that their ways are evil.

With these figures before us we can readily realize that the copper and the copper-gold properties of the Boundary country have a future before them that will, perhaps, be surprising, and that it is easily within the range of probabilities that some of the companies, owning the larger and better properties, should in time be worth several times their par value.

to forfeit entirely the clear steal of five dollars a ton which they are now getting on the ore which they allow across the boundary and which the American smelters agreed at the last conference to allow them under the pleasing term of a bonus. Whatever may be the result of the conference in St. Paul, we may be pretty certain that if even the C. P. R. loses the mine owners of the Slovan will not benefit. At least, not benefit immediately.

MAY BE WORTH MORE THAN PAR.

The first shipments of ore are being made from the Boundary Creek country and with the extensions of the spurs from the main line of the railway these will increase with each month for many years to come. The section, which has been revived and made accessible by transportation, is one of the most important in British Columbia, and cannot help becoming the source of a large production of gold and copper.

That there will be disappointments and not a few of them in the Boundary Creek country the same as there were here is certain, for the reason that all good-looking prospects do not make mines. It is certain, however, that some of the properties there will make some surprising large mines, and a new crop of millionaires will spring out of the rich ground in the Boundary country, like golden dustmen.

We look for a repetition of the history of the copper mining companies in the United States in those of a similar character in the Boundary country. At first the shares of these American companies were sold for merely nominal sums and now some of them are worth a great many times their par value. The Anacosta, for instance, is worth about \$50 a share and its par value is \$25. Its capital stock consists of 1,200,000 shares. The Butte & Boston, a copper proposition, is worth \$78 and the par value is \$10. This is a little over seven and a half times par, and the company has 200,000 shares. The Calumet and Hecla shares are worth \$795 each and the par value is \$25. This is practically 32 times par value.

With these figures before us we can readily realize that the copper and the copper-gold properties of the Boundary country have a future before them that will, perhaps, be surprising, and that it is easily within the range of probabilities that some of the companies, owning the larger and better properties, should in time be worth several times their par value.

A SMELTER AT MOYIE.

It is understood that by the opening of spring, arrangements will have been completed for the construction of a large silver-lead smelter at Moyie lake, which will be able to handle the ores of the Moyie mines in the Slovan. The probabilities are that the plant will be extensive enough to do much more than treat the ores from the St. Eugene, the Lake Shore and the other mines contiguous to them, but it is felt that even if ore were obtained from no other properties than these that the smelter would be not only an immense convenience, but would be a good paying investment. The comparative nearness of Moyie to the coal fields at Fernie makes it possible to obtain the fuel for such a smelter at a very much lower rate than can be obtained at Trail, and the owners and operators of a smelter at this point would find

themselves independent entirely of the railways and smelting companies in the United States. It would, therefore, be enabled to treat the ores at a fair profit to itself for less than half the cost of treatment at Trail. The smelters of Colorado and Nebraska can treat silver-lead ores at a profit for \$7 a ton; the charges at present to the Slovan mine owner who sends his ore to Colorado or Nebraska is \$22 a ton; the difference between the \$7 for treatment and the \$22 is made up in freight rates, customs duties and other incidental charges. The Trail smelter ought to be able to treat silver-lead ores at \$9 a ton; it charges the same rate that the smelters of Colorado and Nebraska charge. This is by an arrangement with smelting companies of the United States, under which if gets a larger profit by obtaining the long haul to the United States smelters than it would by treating the ores here. A smelter erected at Moyie ought to be able to treat silver-lead ores at from \$8 to \$9 a ton, and operate the smelter at a profit. Such an institution, too, operated in this way would soon bring the C. P. R. smelter at Trail to time, and while robbing it of its immense profits, stolen from the pockets of the Slovan miners, it would act directly and immediately to the interests of the mining industry of the province.

CIVIC ELECTIONS.

The time is rapidly approaching when the citizens will have to give their attention to the representatives who are to manage their business affairs for the forthcoming year. It is important, especially that the choice of Mayor should be a good one; that whoever may be selected should thoroughly understand municipal politics and should be a man of energy and capacity with large interests in the community and, therefore, a strong desire in seeing the necessary public work carried out and good legislation passed by the Council. It has been currently rumored for some time that Mr. J. C. Clute was in the field for the Mayoralty, and were he to stand he would probably be elected. We understand, however, that Mr. Clute has come to the conclusion that his private business interests have already suffered too severely by reason of the time which he has taken from them to devote to the affairs of the city. While he is anxious to give the community the benefit of his services he feels that the position, if properly filled by him, would practically monopolize his time, and this he cannot afford. It is to be hoped if Mr. Clute drops out of the race that some equally good man will enter the field. The time is so short between now and the election that it would be well if possible candidates would give some indication of their intention of standing for office.

THE FRENCH POLICY.

The proposal in the French Chamber of Deputies by the leader of the Clerical party, which received the approval of the members, that the present occasion, when Britain is seriously hampered by her war in South Africa, should be seized by France to prosecute a more vigorous policy in China, shows the necessity for a speedy termination of the trouble in the Transvaal. It is scarcely likely that the French government would attempt to carry matters to an extremity, but with such a large portion of her army actively engaged in Africa, Great Britain might feel herself at such a disadvantage in the far east that she might deem it a matter of prudence to make concessions which under other circumstances would be resolutely refused. With the natural hostility borne by the French people to England, there is no doubt that they would welcome and endorse a policy having for its object the fleeing of the race of shopkeepers. It is a question, however, if the carrying out of such a program might arouse a sentiment of disapproval in the United States, and lead to a more active participation on the part of that republic in the settlement of the Chinese question. There is little doubt that any influence which the United States might bring to bear would be favorable to Britain, and by reason of it, the feeling of friendship between the two countries would be still further increased.

With the termination, and Britain cannot afford to have any but a successful termination of the Transvaal war, however, the Empire would be in a position of exceptional advantage to cope with French designs, or with the designs of any other European nation. With a large and well-equipped army fresh from victory, ready to be placed in the field, and with an assurance of thousands of reinforcements from every part of her dominions, there would be little fear of insolent demands for settlements from any quarter of the world.

TWO OF A KIND.

Reverend Principal Grant of Queen's College, Kingston, who during the period of negotiations previous to the outbreak of the war between President Kruger and the British government, was a strong champion of the cause of the Boers, has lately returned from England thoroughly converted to the British view of the question. If it were possible now to make a convert of Mr. W. T. Stead there would be no further hope for the Boer cause. With Mr. Stead in England and Principal Grant in Canada in line with Imperial-

istic views and out of sympathy with the government of the Transvaal the English cause may be expected to go along swimmingly and a speedy termination could safely be looked for to the present hostilities. These two men, Mr. Stead and Principal Grant, are very similar in their views and in their aims. Both are more or less advertising politicians who have been able to hoodwink the public into a belief that they were possessed of rare ability and of great honesty in the consideration of public affairs. The fact of the matter is that neither one nor the other has much more than a certain literary cunning, which is quite different from ability, and a great desire for notoriety, which impels them to keep themselves constantly before the public. As usual the masses accept them for what they give themselves out to be and they have accordingly come to be regarded as men of insight into public affairs whose advice is sought by statesmen and acted on by cabinets. Principal Grant has the saving quality of character, which is not possessed by Mr. Stead, who has for too great a length of time been a member in the gutter for social and political separations, which, while they have obtained for him popular applause, have lost him the respect of all men of discernment. It is more than likely that even without Principal Grant's approval England might have been able to conduct the campaign with some measure of success, but having that approval she ought to have a complete triumph in spite of the hostility to the war on the part of Mr. Stead.

ANXIOUS FOR CREDIT.

The last issue of the Grand Forks Miner contains a short editorial note complaining that the papers throughout the Province and the Spokesman-Review are in the habit of appropriating matter from its columns without giving it credit, and it regards this as a flagrant abuse of the courtesies of journalism. One would imagine from the tone of the article that every paper in the Province, almost, was looking eagerly forward to the day on which they would obtain the issue of this weekly paper, and that the following day their subscribers would recognize the superior quality of the news columns filled up with uncredited extracts from the Grand Forks Miner. The editor of that paper, however, is in error in placing so much store by what his columns contain. It is doubtful if there is so much as a paragraph abstracted weekly from its columns, and certainly not without giving him credit for what is taken. The article which he refers to specially in the Rossland Miner under date of the 22nd, was sent to us from Grand Forks by our regular correspondent and it was not known to us that it had appeared in the Grand Forks paper. It is quite possible that our correspondent may have furnished that paper with the news which he usually sends exclusively to ourselves, and although we consider it as somewhat reprehensible on his part to give to another paper what we regard ourselves as solely entitled to, still we hope that the correspondent was well paid for the article, as we have no doubt it brightened up the columns of the Grand Forks Miner in a manner which somewhat surprised its ordinary readers. When we abstract anything from the Grand Forks Miner the editor of that paper may be sure that we will give him every credit, and in the meantime we will not quarrel very seriously with our special correspondent if he does not furnish more than a reasonable amount of readable news to help out its weekly issue.

FIRE LIMITS SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED.

The outgoing City Council might very properly take into its consideration the advisability of sending forward to the next Council a suggestion that fire limits should be established within the city. This is a precaution which the Council will very soon have to adopt, which, in fact, it should have adopted long ago, and there should be no delay in coming to a conclusion in regard to it. With its present population of 8,000 people and what the immense amount of merchandise which the warehouses and shops of the city contain, a conflagration in the centre of the city would mean almost irreparable loss. At the present time we see only a few buildings calculated to resist even the most insignificant fire, if allowed to go unchecked, and the character of most of the buildings which are being put up on the business streets is not at all what it should be for a town like Rossland. The fire limits need not necessarily take in more at present than the actual business centre, but here, at least, no further building of frame structures should be permitted. Such an enactment by the City Council would conduce to the lowering of the insurance rates and before a great while in this and in other respects the increased cost of putting up brick or stone buildings would be repaid to the owners. The advice of the Chief of the Fire Brigade in regard to this matter should be taken at once.

THE MINER IN THE BOUNDARY.

The Rossland Miner is now able to reach the Boundary country on the same day as it is published, thus ensuring to its patrons there the latest Associated Press dispatches, including a full service of the war news, together with special and ordinary telegrams from Eastern Canada and the United States. The columns of the Miner are also recognized as containing full and readable mining news of the Yale and Kootenay districts and of all important Provincial occurrences. The agent for the Miner at Grand Forks is Mr. R. F. Petrie, and at Greenwood Messrs. Smith and McRae. All orders will be supplied by them.

THE CITY SHOULD PAY.

At last night's council meeting the bill for legal expenses, sent in by Mr. J. A. Macdonald, who was retained as counsel for Chief Ingram and the police department in the recent investigation, was referred to the city solicitor to see if it should be paid by the city. The only member of the council who opposed its liquidation by the city was Alderman Hooson. He expressed the opinion that the chief was on his trial for alleged irregularities, and that he should defend himself against any such charges which might be made and defray any costs which might be entailed in such a defense. The other members of the board were unanimous in their opinion that, as the investigation had been ordered by the council, the council should be responsible for the cost of the inquiry as far as the investigation concerned its own servants. While we can appreciate the position taken by Alderman Hooson, and are thoroughly convinced not only of the excellence of his motives, but are assured that he would be the last man on the board to do an injustice to an employe

of the city, or for that matter to any other, we think that he is hardly fair in this instance to the chief. It is now placed beyond all question that there was no ground for the accusations made; that there was, therefore, no reason for the investigation. It was demanded by a few irresponsible persons, who entertained a feeling of hostility to Chief Ingram, the mayor and the city government generally, and who succeeded in inducing the Trades and Labor council to believe that there had been very serious irregularities on the part of the police department. It was owing entirely to the fact that the trades council were deceived by these interested individuals that the investigation was held. Still, it is a fact that bodies like that with the very best intentions may be induced to demand inquiries in such cases—inquiries which entail a great deal of expense, and the question is, under such circumstances, who should be responsible for this? Surely it is not fair that the servant of the city should be obliged, out of his meagre salary, to defend himself against charges which might be made at any time and which the council might deem itself compelled to investigate. If he refuses to engage counsel to defend himself he runs the risk of leaving a cloud upon his reputation which may not be deserved, because the prosecution, which is interested in his conviction, will certainly employ legal talent against him. If, then, he does employ counsel to conduct his case and that of his department, does it seem reasonable, when he is completely exonerated, that he should be compelled to defray these legal costs out of his own pocket? It is the duty of the council to see that it employs responsible men, to see that those men do their duties properly and honestly, and if charges are laid against them by responsible individuals, to order an inquiry, not only that the guilty may be punished in case conviction is established, but that the good government of the city may be conserved. In the event of the establishment of guilt against one of its servants, there would be no trouble in compelling an officer like Chief Ingram to defray his proper portion of the cost of such a proceeding, but in addition, such punishment could be meted out to him as would far more seriously affect him personally than could any fine. The investigation was ordered by the city, it was entirely a civic proceeding, and the cost, as far as the department is concerned, should be defrayed by the council. There is another phase to it which ought to be considered. The investigation was adjourned from time to time at the request of the prosecution to enable them to obtain witnesses, who were never forthcoming, and to secure evidence which did not exist. All these delays increased the expense, and it would be utterly unfair that in an inquiry which proved to be so utterly uncalculated for, the chief should be required to furnish the means for carrying them on.

The last issue of the Grand Forks Miner contains a short editorial note complaining that the papers throughout the Province and the Spokesman-Review are in the habit of appropriating matter from its columns without giving it credit, and it regards this as a flagrant abuse of the courtesies of journalism. One would imagine from the tone of the article that every paper in the Province, almost, was looking eagerly forward to the day on which they would obtain the issue of this weekly paper, and that the following day their subscribers would recognize the superior quality of the news columns filled up with uncredited extracts from the Grand Forks Miner. The editor of that paper, however, is in error in placing so much store by what his columns contain. It is doubtful if there is so much as a paragraph abstracted weekly from its columns, and certainly not without giving him credit for what is taken. The article which he refers to specially in the Rossland Miner under date of the 22nd, was sent to us from Grand Forks by our regular correspondent and it was not known to us that it had appeared in the Grand Forks paper. It is quite possible that our correspondent may have furnished that paper with the news which he usually sends exclusively to ourselves, and although we consider it as somewhat reprehensible on his part to give to another paper what we regard ourselves as solely entitled to, still we hope that the correspondent was well paid for the article, as we have no doubt it brightened up the columns of the Grand Forks Miner in a manner which somewhat surprised its ordinary readers. When we abstract anything from the Grand Forks Miner the editor of that paper may be sure that we will give him every credit, and in the meantime we will not quarrel very seriously with our special correspondent if he does not furnish more than a reasonable amount of readable news to help out its weekly issue.

Work on the Mammoth's Properties.

Superintendent Wilmshurst writes from Camp McKinney to the Spokane office of the Mammoth Gold Mining company, telling of satisfactory progress of the work on its claims. The Mammoth has one of the few tunnels left in that camp on a vein running north and south into the hill north of the Little Cariboo, and the present tunnel on the vein gains one foot in two. Prior to this fall no work had been done. These surface croppings gave assays, it is said, up to \$29 per ton. Superintendent Wilmshurst in his last letter, dated November 16th, says: "The Mammoth is looking very good, and seems to be improving as we go in. I have drifted and timbered 18 feet since I started, with two men. The lead is three feet wide, and is making mineral every shot we put in. I think from the present appearance in a few days I will be able to send you some good looking rock."

The superintendent also speaks highly of Little Cariboo and Shannon-Dolphin, especially the latter, which he considers a fine surface showing. A Card From Mr. Campbell. Editor Miner: In the correspondence from Grand Forks my name is connected with a proposed tunnel scheme to the Greenwood mines. I may say that I have no connection with such a project in any way. I understand such work is seriously contemplated by one or two well-known engineers, who are well able to carry such work to successful completion if found feasible. The matter was discussed some few days ago at Grand Forks while I was present and that is the only reason that I can see for using my name in connection with it. Yours truly, W. A. Campbell.

The Major Making the Hewett a Mine. On the Hewett group, which is being developed under the management of Major A. S. Reed, one of the first pioneers of the Slovan a strike of high grade galena and zinc ore lately been made, says the Silverton. This new strike was made in the face of the lower tunnel, which is now in 130 feet, and consists of over a foot of clean ore. The Hewett is employing 10 miners, and is rapidly coming to the front as a developed property, and will no doubt figure in the shipping list this winter.

New Method of Detecting Gold.

A new method of detecting the presence of a small quantity of gold has been recently discovered by Dr. Ohler. By this method the presence of quantities as low as 77 centigrammes per ton may be established. The operation is as follows: A quantity of finely powdered ore, say 120 grammes, is introduced into a flask. To this an equal volume of tincture of iodine is added, and the mixture well agitated. It is then left for an hour, agitating from time to time, and is finally allowed to stand. When the solution has separated, a band of filter paper is saturated with this, and the paper allowed to dry. This operation is repeated five or six times in succession, in order to completely saturate the paper. It is afterward calcined, and it will be observed that the ash, when gold is present, offers a purple color. This color should disappear quickly if the ash is moistened with bromine water. The test may be modified in the following manner: A quantity of the powder, 120

grammes, is covered with bromine water, and after agitating during the course of an hour, the solution is filtered. Upon adding protochloride of tin to the solution, it takes a purple color, in the presence of gold, giving the reaction known as "Purple of Cassius." In the case of sulphides the ore should be previously roasted, and when the mineral contains a considerable portion of carbonate of lime, it should be calcined in the presence of ammonium carbonate.—Scientific American.

Compressed Air in Mines.

It is a mistaken idea among mining people that compressed air is one of the most wasteful forms of mechanical energy. Yet it is upon the use of this force that engineers will be compelled to depend when they are asked to mine at depths much below those which are now considered as within the range of practical management, says the South African Mining Journal. If the use of compressed air is to be continued under conditions of less waste, in order to make this advance probable, it is obvious that the mining intelligence must be brought to bear upon the subject with more persistence and determination to achieve better results than has hitherto been the case. It is necessary, before discussing the matter, to lay down the self-evident axioms, yet so much neglected, that (1) compression must be done on clean, dry, cool, prepared air, and (2) expansion must be conducted without any undue loss. It appears from the practice of several mines that it apparently does not matter what kind of air is supplied to the compressor; "anything will do," nor does it seem necessary to the buyers of the ore bodies to make the mine through imperfect air valves; air pipes reduced in area, thus choking the flow of air; fractures of mains by falling rock, or through imperfect joints that tend to form "whirls" and "eddies" through the existence of projections or recesses in each joint. It would certainly appear to be false economy to use light air pipes if dents, rents, and loss accompany the use of such pipe lines. All pipes, joints, fittings and valves should be internally smooth, "leaky" bends where change of current direction is made. No one disputes the value of a reheat for heating below ground the air admitted to the drills, etc., yet the reheat is not generally adopted. It should not be impossible, if the air mains were properly designed and installed and all other points seen to, to obtain at a depth of 6,000 or 7,000 feet below the surface an efficiency very little below the surface efficiency. With the general adoption of the double stage winding from great depths, the first lift on the incline of the ore bodies will be performed by the compressed air hoist. In this connection it will not be inadvisable to call attention to the points which many earnest men have been urging in various parts of the world with some measure of success. These are as follows: (1) The supply of clean, dry, cool, prepared air to the compressor; (2) the use only of the most economical engine to supply H. P. at the lowest total cost per I. H. P.; (3) the use of the best form of air valves and fittings to provide against frictional losses; (4) the use of smooth, regular, tight air mains of correct size; (5) the use of the reheat. These are matters which must not only be considered when installing the plant, but about which a constant supervision must be exercised if a high efficiency is to be maintained.

Discussion Over the Legal Fees.

Regular Business Transacted, and Accounts Ordered to be paid from the C. P. R.—A Library.

The regular meeting of the council was held last evening, members present as follows: Mayor in the chair, Ald. Lalonde, Hooson, Clute and Edgerton. Customary preliminary business transactions were received and noted.

Communications were received from W. Peters of Nelson, assessor, freight agent of the C. P. R. Mayor and council to join the Columbia & Western railway, and from Sister Teresa, the fear of the property of the hospital that the lake in the city be closed, should not be done there was no intention of doing so. Geo. A. Stimson & Co., of Kelowna, when the debentures for cemetery would be ready, also the \$75,000 debentures, Smith, city engineer, forwarding final plan, the registration of the city of Rossland, from E. M. Cull, inspector of the Vernon telephone company, stating the scriber's directory was in preparation; from Samuel Fortes, his position as sanitary inspector.

The following letter was from Chief of Police Ingram to the police investigation: copy of Mr. Macdonald's services in connection with the investigation, and that you would be glad to have the matter before the council. The city ought to pay this bill, as it is a city obligation. As a city obliged to defend my deputy being attacked, and grave charges were made. I thought it was necessary that I should counsel to conduct the investigation. The evidence adduced by the department was in no way the police commissioner's exonerates me from any of the investigation was conducted in the instance of the city, and understood that the city was cost of the defence of my I need not point out that I manifestly unfair to me that subjected, and without cause obviously a persecution and that I should suffer an inconvenience and annoyance.

At the Top of the Heap.

The Noonday at Silverton has shipped 58 tons of ore, as much as has been shipped this year by any mine at Silverton. The other shippers, up to date, are: Wakefield 580 ton, Comstock 120, Emily 100, Fidelity 3, and Vancouver 320.

Internal Revenue Collections.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Items include Mr. H. P. McCroney, collector of internal revenue for this city, reports the following collections for November: Spirits 2,004.66, Malt 646.03, Cigars 96.00, Raw leaf tobacco 26.30. Total \$3,773.04.

Advertisement for 'Bo' (likely Borden's) featuring a large 'Bo' logo and a list of names including DUNCAN, President Winnipeg, and others. The ad is partially cut off on the right side.