

LE ROI COM-MITTEE CONFIDENT

The directors and shareholders of the Le Roi company have not lost confidence in the Le Roi mine, as is evidenced from the report of the special committee appointed for the purpose of examining into the company's affairs and reporting to the shareholders. This report has been presented and adopted. The signatories were Sir Henry Tyler, chairman, A. Morton and Col. Alexander Burin-Brown, R. A., F. G. S. Anthony J. McMillan, another member of the committee, was already on his way to Rossland, and one member, C. Williamson Milne, proposes to present a minority report. The committee's presentment contains much that will be of interest to Miner readers generally, although the principal feature of the meeting—the decision not to make an assessment on the shares and the election of new directors—has already been covered in The Miner's cable messages. The report says:

"Your committee has held various meetings, has heard the views and explanations of the directors of the Le Roi company, has had the principal correspondence between the directors and the manager appointed by Mr. Frecheville, and has ascertained the circumstances under which the company has fallen into its present position. The members have also had an interview with Mr. Dickinson, the director recently returned from British Columbia, who is also a director of the Le Roi No. 2, Limited. The committee is satisfied that the present chairman and the board have acted throughout as they believed to be for the best in dealing with the affairs of the company, and that they were as much surprised as the shareholders at the receipt of the information which caused them recently to place the position before them. The committee has received every possible assistance from the directors in their investigation. The committee has investigated the charges, made at the meeting, of delay in publishing cables, in reference especially to the cable of the 15th April, and they find that no blame attaches to anyone for such delay, and that the cable in question was merely a detailed statement in regard to a cable of the 5th April previously published. The committee finds, however, that the majority of the present directors are anxious to retire, and that the mine manager has sent in his resignation, which the board has accepted. It is, therefore, necessary that the shareholders should nominate fresh directors, and that the directors should appoint another manager. The committee finds also that since it was appointed some improvement has taken place (as the result of previous negotiations by the board and the manager) in the position and prospects of the mine. Cheaper

work has been arranged for, the rates of transport have been reduced, and better ore has been obtained. But the serious question remains of the large amount of indebtedness to the Bank of Montreal, for which the bank has stated it considered the security insufficient, and which it then naturally wished to have reduced to more reasonable proportions. The committee is glad to report that owing to the improved circumstances the bank has since altered its views and is apparently satisfied with the present position.

"The committee has therefore considered whether it will be possible to continue working, and, in doing so, to place the property more or less gradually in a sound financial position; or whether it would be better at once to reconstruct the company and to place it in funds, providing sufficient working capital by an assessment on the shares. The solution of this all-important question depends (1) on the opinion that may be formed as to the future prospects of the mine, and (2) upon the views of the Bank of Montreal. Very strong opinions have been expressed by Mr. McMillan, a member of the committee, who is well acquainted with Rossland and its mines, as well as by others, that the Le Roi mine is still a valuable property, and that it will under capable management yield good results in the future, and the agents of the Bank of Montreal, as the committee are led to believe, are prepared to continue their assistance and to await the progressive reduction of their debt. Under these circumstances, the committee, with one exception, consider that it is neither necessary nor desirable to reconstruct the company, but that in the interests of the shareholders it will be better, avoiding the numerous contentious questions in which it would be easy to become involved, that the shareholders should now combine to do all that is possible to place the affairs of the mine in a sound and satisfactory condition. As a sound and satisfactory condition, the committee has asked Mr. McMillan, who has gone out to Rossland, to make certain inquiries on the spot, and to report, especially as to the manager whom it may be desirable to appoint, and generally as to the financial position in Rossland of the company. The committee recommends the shareholders to nominate Mr. McMillan as one of the new directors, and, as he passes about half his time in Rossland, the members think he might be of important service to the company. They consider that the other directors should also be nominated by the shareholders at the coming general meeting, and should be gentlemen who, possessing their entire confidence, would unite in the single object of working for the future interests of the property."

WAS \$50,000 THROWN AWAY?

Reliable reports from Marysville in East Kootenay give curious details as to the affairs of the Sullivan smelter at that point. The statement is made that the expert who recently examined the plant has reported that of the \$35,000 already expended on construction account \$50,000 has been spent in such a manner as to be useless and that all the work represented by this portion of the total outlay will have to be done over. The Sullivan smelter, as is generally known, is primarily intended to treat the silver-lead ores of the Sullivan mine in the Kimberley camp, but it was proposed to reduce other ores that might be offered to the plant. Construction was commenced some months since and has been continued almost continuously ever since. From time to time reports emanated from Marysville that matters were not running as smoothly as could be desired. Rossland men who were employed on certain parts of the work are authority for the statement that on one stage of the game so few as four men claimed to be in charge of the operations and that their instructions to the workmen frequently clashed and led to endless trouble. Then the work was closed down for a time, and the explanation given for this was that some of the work had been done inferiorly. This is followed by the report that \$50,000 worth of construction is useless and will have to be replaced before the buildings and plant can be used.

When work was started on the Sullivan smelter it was predicted by the officials that the plant would be treating ore by the 1st of June in this year. Apparently it would be safe to wager that active operations will not be started this year at all, as up to the present time the energy is not being manifested to justify any different conclusion.

The troubles have beset the Sullivan people in their smelter enterprise are most unfortunate from every standpoint. The conditions at Marysville are such that a smelting plant could be operated economically and with every prospect of success. The plant would have one great advantage over competing plants in respect to ore supplies, as the Sullivan mine could be relied upon not only to furnish at least 50 tons of ore daily to the plant, but to supplement this quantity should there be a dearth of ore from other sources. The company has good connections with the Canadian Pacific and presumably arranged for transportation of matte on an equitable basis. Located as Marysville is, comparatively close to the coal fields of East Kootenay and with inexhaustible supplies of iron ore for fluxing at Kitchener in the same section of the country, the surface conditions are all favorable toward the successful establishment of a smelting industry. When matters are finally straightened out and the Sullivan smelter commences treating ore the company should have a profitable enterprise.

STRUCK IT RICH IN THE YUKON

Former Rossland boys writing from Dawson state that among the men who have recently left that country with substantial stakes is Eddie Willis, formerly of Rossland. Willis' record in Klondike is rather interesting, and his outcome has been learned with pleasure in this city.

Willis left Rossland two or three years ago for Seattle, but only remained there a short time before going north. He was a barber and worked at O. K. and other shops in Rossland. Among his friends was a young fellow, who supported his mother and sister in a comfortable little home in Rossland. Doubtless these excellent traits account in no small measure for this Yukon success.

On reaching Dawson Willis secured work at his trade, and it was while thus engaged that he heard of the discoveries on Dominion creek and re-

ceived valuable information from one of the first men to come out from the creek. Without delaying his departure a moment longer than was necessary, Willis set out for Dominion creek and staked a couple of claims. Then when a little settlement sprang up as the result of the discoveries he opened a barber shop, and later branched into stationery. This gave him a comfortable living, and finally he sold one or both of the properties he had staked. Development on adjoining properties demonstrated that his holdings were very valuable and the purchase price he received ran well into the thousands—sufficient for him to leave Dawson with a handsome bank account, enough, it is stated, to keep him in comparative ease for the balance of his life.

Willis was well liked in Dawson and his friends will be delighted to learn of the success which has attended him in the north.

GATEWAY CITY GATES ARE DOWN

The statement is made that the negotiations at issue between the V. V. & E. and Kettle Valley Lines respecting the former's right of way into the city of Grand Forks have been settled and that the Great Northern will now proceed to finish the mile or so of road necessary to bring their terminals practically into the heart of the Gateway City. This marks the end of the last of the obstruction tactics adopted by the Kettle Valley people, much to the annoyance of the V. V. & E., which is the Washington and Great Northern on the other side of the boundary line. The Great Northern people have fought their way through all the difficulties, or bought out the obstructionists when this was necessary, and now they are in a position to handle the business, while the Kettle Valley road, by reason of its troubles along the line, is not yet competing for through business from Republic.

A. H. MacNeill, K. C., of this city, has been at Victoria for some days in connection with the settlement of this long vexed question and is expected to return within a day or two.

The Great Northern people propose going after the business in and out of Grand Forks with energy. The road

has not yet been taken over from the construction department by the operating department, but in the interim, pending this transfer, the company will take steps to secure all the business offering. A representative of the road will shortly be located in temporary quarters at Grand Forks, and later on a commodious depot will be constructed and used for all station and office purposes. In this respect a decided advantage will be had over the Canadian Pacific, which has its office a mile and a half away from the business centre of the railroad and is compelled to do the most of its business by telephone, much to the dissatisfaction of the business community. It is safe to predict that the Canadian Pacific will lose no time in taking such steps as will render it more convenient for business men to do business with them than is the case under existing circumstances.

Report has it that the Great Northern will appoint an agent at Grand Forks with a certain amount of jurisdiction over his company's interests throughout the boundary, and the name of Hollis P. Brown, Rossland agent, has been mentioned here in connection with this important trust.

A RUNAWAY POWDER WAGON

Men who handle dynamite carry their lives in their hands and most of them have tales to relate as to their experiences with the imprisoned giant. Some have experienced but never detail their impressions for obvious reasons. A Rossland man has gone through an incident unsuited which few men have seen, and none would care to repeat.

Yesterday a driver employed by one of the local firms was engaged in bringing 300 tons of dynamite from the powder house to the Giant mine, when the horses ran away. The driver plunged and kicked, upsetting the cases of powder, breaking several of the boxes and spilling the sticks of powder over the road. Finally one of the horses fell and had to be cut away from the harness. That the powder came through the incident without exploding is a miracle. Had an explosion occurred there was sufficient to wipe man, horse and wagon off the face of the earth without leaving a vestige, and to have dug a hole in the road big enough to bury a score of teams. The miracle occurred, however, and another demonstration has been given of the peculiarity of giant powder.

Those who handle powder habitually are prone to regard the explosive as harmless. Scores of incidents are related in the Kootenays to indicate that nothing save a fuse and a detonator will make dynamite explode, but on the other hand there are instances that prove the exceptions to the rule. Under the latter case might be mentioned the destruction of a section of the defunct Ontario Powder Works at Five-mile Point, near Nelson, a couple of years ago. When Harry Gervan and Richard Ward were hurried to death. There never was any solution to the problem of this explosion and never will be, for the only two men who knew what happened were picked up in pieces after the explosion. A little later the powder house at the Silver King mines soared heavenward for some mysterious reason.

An old miner says that powder won't explode when it is expected to, saving always when detonated in the ordinary manner followed in mining, but that it is liable to go off at any stage of the game and should be avoided, therefore, by all who are not compelled to use it in their business.

C. P. R. STATION BURGLARIZED

The Canadian Pacific depot was burglarized yesterday morning. When Agent Harbour returned to the office at the usual hour of reopening he discovered that one of the lights in the bow window had been broken and a bundle of "On Company Service" mail stolen from the desk where the bundle had been placed on Thursday night.

The contents of one letter realized \$50 for the burglar. It enclosed a pay check for \$68.25 in favor of M. Donaldson, a line man attached to the Canadian Pacific telegraphs. Donaldson has been employed at Nelson up to a few days ago when he was transferred to the Rossland office. His pay check was sent to Nelson and forwarded from there to Charles M. Oliver, manager of the C. P. R. telegraphs here. It was enclosed in a letter bearing the company's "value" stamp. The burglar took the check and forged Donaldson's endorsement. Thus endorsed the check was presented at the Strand saloon at an early hour yesterday morning and cashed by the night bartender, who saw nothing about the transaction to arouse his suspicions. As is well known all the Rossland hotels cash checks so frequently as to make such matters everyday occurrences. The burglar's description is thus obtained and the information may be of value to the police in securing his arrest.

The packet of letters lay on the telegraph operator's desk at the depot just within the window. It was an easy matter for the burglar to break out a section of the glass, insert his hand and withdraw the parcel. Four of the letters carried the "value" stamp attached by the company whenever mail matter of importance is forwarded. The contents of the other three letters is not known, but they can be readily traced, as each "value" letter bears a number of which a record is kept from the time of posting up to delivery. It is not believed that the burglar secured any other checks or negotiable papers, as all checks for Canadian Pacific employees were received here on Wednesday night. Presumably the balance of the mail will be discovered in some out of the way place later on.

The employee of the Strand who cashed the check stated that he has seen the man who presented the paper in the saloon with railroad men from time to time, and it is extremely probable that the burglar's identity will be established. It is equally likely that the burglar took the Northport road after securing the money at the Strand and is over the border in Uncle Sam's domain ere this.

FOUND COAL AND OIL GALORE

J. Fred Ritchie, P. L. S., and Ross Thompson have returned to the city from an exceedingly interesting trip through a section of East Kootenay. As has been stated in The Miner, their quest was coal and oil. In this they were exceedingly successful, both minerals being discovered and located. Ten years ago Mr. Ritchie learned of the existence of coal in the district from which he has just returned, which may be said to be in the same zone on which the Crow's Nest Coal company's measures are situated. At that period there was no transportation for hundreds of miles in any direction, and Mr. Ritchie did not turn to account the information in his possession. For some time, however, he has contemplated going into the country, and finally put this into effect a month or six weeks since. Leaving the Crow's Nest road at Elk, Messrs. Ritchie and Thompson took a pack train into the particular section for which they were headed, and set out in quest of the reported discoveries.

The trip was long and arduous. The country had every earmark of virginity, not a blaze of an axe or other indica-

tion being found to evidence that the foot of man had even trod the district before. The country was rough and the party had many trying experiences, one of these occurring when Ritchie and Thompson became separated from the balance of the pack train and were 24 hours without food, part of the time in a pouring rain.

Ultimately their quest was crowned with success. The coal lands were found and the mineral found to exist. The coal is pronounced by Mr. Ritchie to be as good quality as any in British Columbia—in fact, to be exactly similar to the Fernie product of the best grade. The lands adjoin the reserves of the Canadian Pacific railroad.

Oil was also found in such quantities and under such conditions as gave promise of large deposits when the ground was properly opened up by deep borings. The oil is light in color and weight, resembling rather a fine quality of lubricating oil in consistency and odor. It burns freely, differing in this particular from the oil found a few hundred miles further east in Alberta. Samples of the fluid brought out by Messrs. Ritchie and Thompson have been examined with keen interest.

MORE TROUBLE FOR FRED YEUNG LING

Fred Yeungling, formerly of Rossland, is in trouble again. A dispatch to The Miner from New York has the following to say of his latest appearance in a court of justice:

Frederick D. Yeungling, son of David G. Yeungling, the wealthy brewer, has been arraigned in the West Side police court, charged by his wife with abandonment and non-support. There was a brief examination before Magistrate Flammer, who finally granted an order for Yeungling to pay his wife \$7 a week for the next year. Mrs. Yeungling has attained notoriety in a number of ways. The husband of "Baroness Blanc" named him as co-respondent in a suit and Yeungling became her manager when she went on the stage. He last came into prominence on Oct. 13, 1900, when he was arrested here charged with embezzlement from the Lion Brewing Company at Rossland, British Columbia, of which he was manager.

"Why did he leave you?" questioned the magistrate.

"About some letters," was all Mrs. Yeungling would say.

Yeungling declared that he was willing to support his wife, but had no money. He hadn't earned his car fare in three months, he said. He said his wife left him because she found a couple of letters in his pocket. Furthermore, he said he wouldn't live with her now.

Yeungling said he met his wife, who was Myrtle McEla, while he was managing a brewery in British Columbia.

Mrs. Yeungling said her husband had offered to pay her \$100 a month when the separated, but she never got it. Magistrate Flammer suggested that he pay her \$10 a week. He couldn't, he said, but might pay \$5. Then the magistrate suggested \$7 and that was agreed to.

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TRAIL MAY GET MILITIA COMPANY

It is quietly intimated among those interested in matters military in the Rossland district that a company of the Rocky Mountain Rangers will be formed in Trail this summer. That the proposal could be carried through successfully is not doubted, and it is expected that Lieutenant-Colonel Holmes, district officer commanding, will have something to say on the subject when he reaches Rossland a few days hence.

Trail already has an enthusiastic military rifle league equipped with a stand of Lee-Enfield rifles furnished by the military department at Ottawa. The members of the association are good shots and take keen interest in the pastime. Their recent victory over the Rossland Rangers has substantially increased interest in shooting in the Columbia smelter city. Members of the rifle association are duly sworn,

and the formation of a military company is only a natural step in advance. Trail's population is to a large extent permanent, in which respect a military corps located there would have an advantage over such points as Kaslo, where many militiamen go into the hills every summer and the personnel of the company is likely to undergo frequent changes.

If Trail secures a militia company it would contribute materially to the interest in matters military throughout the district. The Rossland and Trail companies could unite for church parades and camping outings, which would be mutually beneficial and promote the esprit de corps in both companies. Altogether the idea is excellent, and it is to be hoped that the suggestion will be put into effect at an early date.

CITY NEWS

LEAVING ROSSLAND—W. Wyllie Johnston leaves Rossland at the end of this month for Vancouver, where he will reside in future, having formed an advantageous business connection. Mr. Johnston has resided in the Golden City for several years and has formed many friendships here.

LOUGHHEAD ARRIVES—Bert Loughhead, the long-looked-for baseball player, arrived last night from Wilbur, Washington, where he has been playing a couple of games with a made up nine. Loughhead is looking fine and is, in fact, in splendid playing condition. He will probably be behind the bat in the game Sunday with Nelson.

GRACEFUL ACT—The sudden departure from Rossland of John M. Smith, late manager of the Rossland branch of the Royal Bank of Canada, occasioned his friends keen regret, inasmuch as it prevented them extending to Mr. Smith a send-off commensurate with his popularity in the city and district. Steps are being taken, however, to forward to Mr. Smith a tangible evidence of the esteem in which he is held by Rossland friends.

IN A TRAP—For three days a valuable collie owned by P. Burns & Co., and esteemed for his qualities as a shepherd, was missing and an extensive search failed to give any clue as to his whereabouts. Finally the canine was found fast in a coyote trap, weak from hunger and strenuous efforts to escape, but otherwise not seriously hurt.

SOLD OUT—Harry McIntosh, proprietor of the Hoffman House in this city, has disposed of his half interest in the Hoffman House at Elk, East Kootenay. The purchaser is Thomas Stevenson, who has been identified with Mr. McIntosh in the Elk business for some time, and who will conduct the business there in future.

MISSING SOMETHING—Referring to the fact that the Carnegie library and the Choral Club building at Joplin, Mo., where he has been in charge of a lead mine for the past two years, are under construction, A. F. Corbin, formerly a well known vocalist of Rossland, inquires what has become of the Rossland Choral Society which flourished under the direction of Messrs. Lowe, Whiteside and Hart McHarg. Mr. Corbin proposes spending a few days renewing old friendships in the Golden City.

SLIGHTLY INJURED—The wife of James Fassen, a driver employed by a local transfer company, was slightly injured yesterday by falling from a buggy near Blue's old mill. Fassen and his wife had been out driving in a light buggy. When near the old mill he got out to cut a couple of switches. He had no sooner left the buggy than the animal started to back, and his wife, getting frightened, pulled hard on the lines, causing the horse to turn in a semi-circle. Fassen tried to get to the animal, but in reach-

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS

Notice.

"Golden West" and "Maple Leaf" fractional mineral claims, situated in the Trail Creek Mining Division of West Kootenay district.

Where located: On the northeast slope of Monte Christo mountain, about one and one-fourth miles north of Rossland, and adjoining the "Eric" and "Viking" mineral claims.

Take notice that I, Thomas S. Gilmore, free miner's certificate No. B57143, acting as agent for Andrew D. Provand, London, England, free miner's certificate No. B57144, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the mining recorder for certificates of improvements for the purpose of obtaining crown grants of the above claims.

And further take notice, that action under Section 27 must be commenced before the issuance of such certificates of improvements.

Dated the 2nd day of June, 1902.

THOS. S. GILMORE,
Rossland, B. C.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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