

The Mining Record

VOL. XI.

MAY, 1904.

No. 5

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING RECORD

Devoted to the Mining Interests of the Pacific Northwest.

PUBLISHED BY

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA RECORD, LIMITED

H. MORTIMER LAMB, Managing Editor.

Victoria, B. C., Office, Province Building.
Vancouver, P. W. Charleson, Hastings St.
London Office: 24 Coleman Street, E. C.
Denver, Col.: National Advertising Co.
San Francisco: Duke's Agency.

SUBSCRIPTION TERMS:

Canada and the United States, one year - - - \$2.00
Great Britain and Foreign, one year - - - \$2.50

Advertising Rates on Application.

Address all communications to

THE MANAGING EDITOR, B. C. RECORD, LTD.,

P. O. Drawer 645, Victoria, B. C.

THE MONTH.

Some more rich strikes of gold quartz are reported to have been made during the past month in Poplar, or if this sort of thing continues, Pop(ular) Creek, as somebody suggests the district should be re-named.

By the decision of the Full Court, to whom the Provincial Government referred the matter, the recently enacted Coal Mines Regulation Act, prohibiting the employment of Chinese underground in coal mines, is inoperative, it being shown to be *ultra vires* of the Provincial Legislature to pass legislation of this character. Mr. Justice Martin, however, we note, dissented from this view. Meanwhile the Act has been disallowed by the Federal Government.

Elsewhere we print a brief account of the annual meeting for 1904 of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. This was crowded out from our March number and inadvertently omitted last month. We learn that the papers and discussions on iron and steel subjects were particularly interesting and valuable. It is noteworthy that the entire omission of social features from the proceedings is said to have met with general approval, the sessions having consequently been given up to business without anything to distract attention therefrom.

Encouraged by the granting of the application to the Dominion Government to remove the duty from oil used in the concentration of ores, an effort is being made by the Rossland Board of Trade to secure a like concession in regard to hydro-fluo-silicic acid, a compound used in refining lead at the Trail smelter. If it be shown that this acid can not be advantageously manufactured in Canada the Government will, no doubt, promptly accede to the request, its policy being to grant relief to deserving industries whenever it can do so without prejudicially affecting any other industry already established in the Dominion.

Professor T. L. Walker, of the Toronto University, in a paper read before the Canadian Mining Institute at its recent annual meeting, advocated more co-operation with high schools and colleges in the practical training of geologists. After the discussion a committee was appointed for the purpose of conferring with the Minister of the Interior and the heads of the Provincial Mining Bureaus regarding the necessity of giving preference to geological students when making up geological survey parties; also to urge that the Dominion and Provincial Governments should take steps to maintain the efficiency and increase the size of the permanent Geological staffs.

The Executive Council of the Associated Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia acted wisely in refusing to yield to the urging of the representative of the Rossland Board of Trade that it support an application to the Dominion Government to encourage the production of zinc in British Columbia "by the payment of a bounty or otherwise." Only two Kootenay Boards had endorsed this resolution, viz., Rossland and Fort Steele. The Boards of the localities more directly interested had not done so; in fact, the position their representatives took was that such a request was premature. There was reason and wisdom in the advice tendered by one speaker, who urged that the Council press on the extension of the lead bounty matter and for a report on the zinc resources by a specialist, and this was recognized by the majority, who consequently voted down the proposals of the well-meaning but ill-advised minority.

It may interest mining men, whether members or not of the Provincial Mining Association of British Columbia, the objects of which are "to protect, develop and foster the mining industry of British Columbia in all its branches," to learn that in Idaho, U. S. A., the Idaho State Mining Association was recently organized, and that "The purposes of this Associ-