

THE MINING REVIEW

A New Record for Ore Shipments Made Last Week.

7814 TONS SENT TO SMELTER

Good Showings of Ore in the Green Mountain and Evening Star—Cost of Extracting Ore at the Le Roi to be Reduced—Other Notes of Interest.

The practical completion of the new ore shipping process by means of machinery from the Le Roi mine is, when understood in all its bearings, a wonderful piece of news for this camp. The expense of mining was last year \$5.30 per ton extracted, including all expenses and development. This will now be reduced to \$3.25 per ton, or a net saving on the old cost of \$2.05. As the mine was paying on the old cost upwards of 15 per cent. it will be gathered that from the newer figures a far better interest will be able to be paid. Also it will now be possible to get a reasonable profit out of even \$3 rock.

It is apparent that the saving on mining expenses has now gone as far as it can go with the class of rock prevailing in this camp. The next step is to reduce the smelter charge. Under the present circumstances the product of the smelter, the matte, contains 50 per cent. of impurities. On the impurities, as on the metal itself, a heavy freight rate is charged on its journey to the east. If this freight charge could be cut out by the establishment of a smelter in the Kootenays, say at Bonington Falls, which is claimed by experts in the question as a feasible proposition, a great reduction could be made in this direction. This would mean that properties such as the Mascot, which possess immense quantities of low-grade ore, would immediately jump to the front as shipping mines of some magnitude.

In conjunction with the statement made by the management of the Le Roi that the expense of mining will be so materially reduced it is interesting to learn that the abnormal rates which prevailed on the Centre Star during the past year will also be reduced to a figure which will be below that of the Le Roi rate of \$5.30. These abnormal rates were caused by the extra amount of development which had to be accomplished to make up for development work previously left undone. The sellers of the Centre Star were not concerned to develop the property, they were concerned to prove the existence of an ore shoot. This was done. To work that shoot an expensive shaft had to be sunk and levels driven in every direction to explore the limits of the body of ore available for shipping purposes. This expense was further increased by development through a barren zone in the pay shoot, such a zone as exists in every mine of any size. The limits of this barren zone has been located and the payshoot for a depth of a couple of hundred feet beyond has been found and is being opened up. Therefore there is at the present time a large reserve of ore which conservatively stated, without reckoning anything above the 450-foot level, cannot fall short of 100,000 tons. If one level is capable of putting out 300 tons of ore daily for a year it will be sufficient during that year to keep up the shipment to that mark in the year to come to drive another level below the first. The cost of driving that level (development) will be added to the cost of stopping in the upper level to get the total mining expense. Should, however, the level newly developed prove to be in a barren part of the ledge another level will have to be driven at a point yet lower to get below the barren point. Thus the cost of development would be doubled and if a report had to be made by the management at the time of discovery of the barren zone he would be obliged to state that there was no ore reserve, although confident that the ledge would again fill with pay ore at a point lower down. He would first have to go down to that point before he could say that he had discovered it. This is, in general, the condition of the Centre Star.

Turning to the War Eagle. A barren zone, such as described at the Centre Star, was also located here between the fourth and the sixth levels. There were two good and parallel veins discovered and exploited on the first to third levels. These pinched out to a great extent and a man went up to that bottom had fallen out of the mine. As a matter of fact on the seventh level both ore bodies were found and in addition a third ore body has cropped up between the two. The eighth level found yet another ore body between the new one found on the seventh level and the north vein. Outside of the south vein was found yet another pay shoot. Thus at depth the ore bodies found on the surface have been more than doubled in size. The mine has been shipping from the ore obtained on the eighth level and it is found to be of a fair average value, equal to anything in the mine. Outcroppings to the War Eagle is the Poorman with a payshoot of ore which is supplying half of the amount shipped from the Le Roi No. 2 and which runs in value up to \$30 a ton as per the shipping averages of December last. This payshoot is only partly situated within the Poorman and a great portion of it is situated upon the War Eagle but up to the present has been untouched. Thus it is probable with depth, and the experience of the neighboring mines of the Iron Mask and Nickel Plate only bear this out, that as depth is gained a more and more solid ore shoot will be found.

An attempt made lately to mix up the share transactions of the Le Roi subsidiary properties with the intrinsic value of the mines is distinctly asinine. There is no treasury stock to sell and a certain sum set aside for development on incorporation the value of the shares will not affect the property, though the reverse is certainly the case. The properties, as shown last week are in first-class condition and only need smelter facilities to promptly yield good return.

The Output.

The output for the week ending yesterday was upwards of 7,814 tons, which is the record for the camp, beating the previous record, that of the week Sept. 22, 1900, by 330 tons. The increased shipments from the Le Roi are chiefly responsible for this. Not a ton was shipped from the Le Roi No. 2 nor any from the Roseland Great Western. The Iron Mask shipping yesterday its usual rate and the War Eagle is far below the market, which it is capable

of maintaining shipments. It is, therefore, highly probable that now the record breaking has recommenced, it will be kept up for several months to come until the five figure mark has been reached.

Table with columns: Ore Name, Week, Year. Rows include Le Roi, Centre Star, War Eagle, Iron Mask, Le Roi No. 2, Giant, Portland, Spitzee, I. X. L., and Total.

Le Roi No. 2.—The shaft of the Josie will be proceeded with on Wednesday next. This is the last of the five mines to sink shafts as announced a month since. The Le Roi, in the meantime, has altered its intention of sinking only 200 feet, like the others, the Josie, No. 1, Nickel Plate and Columbia-Kootenay, and will sink 600 feet. This will make a total sinking of 1,400 feet. On the No. 1, shafts is being sunk and it now some 50 or 60 feet down. No ore is being shipped for the present, although the time is now nearing when all the mines will be able to send out their regular quota of ore from Red Mountain. The upraise on the Annie vein is still in progress as is the crosscut getting under the Poorman ore shoot at a depth of 1,000 feet from the surface.

War Eagle.—The mine is shipping at the rate of 100 tons a day, which is about all that can be expected while the tramway down the hill remains uncompleted. This work is being pushed and it is expected that it will be in readiness in time for the general meeting which is to take place some ten days hence. The rumor as to the purchase of the Trail smelter is as yet unconfirmed. The shaft is being sunk on towards the tenth level which will bring the depth of the mine down to about 1,100 feet. The ninth level is barely opened as yet, although the development on the eighth level is progressing favorably.

Douglas.—Work on the lower tunnel continues, and that ore which is now being met is of a good grade and carries considerable copper. The management is now considering the advisability of shipping to Northport, but considers that the cost of \$4 per ton for haulage from the mine, which is on Sophie mountain, to the Red Mountain railway, a distance of nine miles, is rather high. A couple of windmills, however, may be bought at Northport in order to determine what the ore will run, and how much profit it will yield under existing conditions.

Kootenay Mines.—The discovery of ore on the 1,150-foot level of the Kootenay Mines on Saturday week has been established by the sinking of the shaft which is now all the way. The vein dips in from the east at an angle of about 55 degrees. Exploring will be done until the lift is finished, which means that the shaft will be down to the point of the strike being made for another 50 feet. When this finished levels will be driven and crosscuts made which should establish the direction and nature of the mass of the streak.

Roseland Great Western.—The floor of the compressor room is now being put in while the foundations are being put in readiness for the reception of the machinery. The shaft is making good progress and will be completed within the next couple of weeks down to the 300-foot level when the timbering will be begun. It is probable that the mine will make its first shipments next week or in the week which follows. There is a quantity of ore in the bins which will probably have to be sorted before a regular output can be begun.

Velvet.—Thirty-five tons a day is being sent to the smelter from the Velvet. The rock is in fine condition, and five and a half to six tons can be hauled over the main shaft, which has now been straightened and is in condition for use. The work of installing the 18-drill compressor is making excellent progress, and in a month's time should be in operation. In the meanwhile the ore snobs on the different levels are being opened up for stopping.

Evening Star.—A shoot of ore carrying white iron and gold has been found on No. 3 level. It will average \$30 to the ton. For the present the work of drifting along this ledge for the purpose of showing its extent will be pushed. It is a lead and strike, when they are determined, will give the management information by which the ledge may be located on the lower or 400-foot level. The Evening Star is looking remarkably well.

Green Mountain.—Operations with the diamond drill continue. On the 350-foot level a ledge of ore 20 feet in width has been located by means of the diamond drill. The intention is to drift along the ledge on the 250-foot level immediately, and later on to exploit the "find on 350-foot level."

Centre Star.—There is little of importance to report for the week. Diamond drilling is still being carried on, and the results may be made public after systematic opening up has proved its forecasts. The opening of the lower levels has shown that the pay grade of ore obtained on the upper levels is again filling the ledge.

I. X. L.—The work of extending the lower crosscut tunnel is still in progress and it is now in 225 feet. Stoping is in progress from No. 2 tunnel. A carload of ore has been taken out and is ready for shipment, but the management is waiting till the facilities of the smelter at Northport are increased before shipments will be resumed.

Iron Mask.—There is no change in the system of development of the Iron Mask, which is progressing on the old lines. During the week there was not much ore shipped, as the employees of the mine were engaged in doing general work in the mine in clearing up, etcetera.

Northern Belle.—The crosscut tunnel is in for 275 feet. The tunnel has passed through the ledge and is being driven to tap a second ledge. The formation now being passed through is softer than it was in the ledge.

FISHER MAIDEN TROUBLE.

Property Sold by the Sheriff and Bought in by the Bank of Montreal. There is at last some show for the Fisher Maiden. Here is a property that has stiffened as much if not more than any in the camp through the evil effects of litigation. Its history is well known in the Sloan, and it is recognized as a property of great promise—one that will make a record for itself, when systematically worked. The trouble has never been with the property, but with the owners. For many months it has received no attention and little has been known about what was transpiring, but last Thursday there was enacted an action what will perhaps prove to be the closing chapter of litigation, and the presence to one of the brightest mining ventures in the camp.

Some days ago there was filed in the Record Office here by Sheriff Tuck a notice that on Thursday, the 24th, he would offer at public auction the mineral claims Troy and St. Helena, re-locations of the Fisher Maiden and Silverton, re-staked in July, 1900, to satisfy claims aggregating \$15,997.50. The sale came off, when, according to Nelson Miner, the ground was sold to John Elliott, barrister, who is understood to have represented the Bank of Montreal. It was bid in at \$15,000. Bids of \$10,000 and \$12,000 were offered respectively by A. J. Marks of Nelson and Henry Roy, manager of the London Consolidated Mining company. The effect of the sale of the property by the sheriff will bear up the title to the property and enable working to be undertaken with a clean sheet. It is understood that operations will be resumed early this summer.

The history of the Fisher Maiden is interesting. The claims were staked in 1894 by John Popham and A. A. Webb, and with a little work they proved their property to be one of great promise. The company was organized by Popham and Ed. Mann, and operations were started on an extensive scale. Buildings were erected for the accommodation of the men and everything made ready for the continuous working of the property. A shipment of 37 tons was made, netting \$6,500. Over the disposition of this sum the dispute arose which made the property known throughout the country. The parties could not agree as to whether the money should be applied on the bond or go to Hughes and Mann. The courts decided that the proceeds from the ore should be divided equally among the litigants. While the first legal fight was in progress Frank Watson stepped in and managed to get hold of the property on the bond and to take it to a stock proposition. The result was favorable for a time and everything went along swimmingly, financial complications arose, the final closing down of the property coming some months ago.—New Denver Ledger.

PRODUCING BOUNDARY MINES.

The following figures relate to the three Boundary district mining properties that have now entered upon the stage of regular production of ore. These are the Miner-Graves Syndicate's group, (including the Old Ironsides, Victoria, Knob Hill and Grey Eagle, all adjoining mines), the B. C. Chartered company's mine and the British Columbia Copper Company's Mother Lode mine.

Table with columns: Mine Name, Tons, Total. Rows include Old Ironsides, Victoria, Knob Hill, Grey Eagle, and Total.

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BIG-BEND.

The Properties North of Revelstoke and What Is Doing There. We have every faith in the prospects of the Big Bend, says the Kootenay Mail. The facts pertaining to its past history as a gold producer, the favorable opinions formed by reliable experts who have seen the country, the success which has so far attended the development prosecuted here under great difficulties, all point to the certainty of the Big Bend forming a great mining camp. The great difficulty is transportation, and we are one with the mayor of the city in declaring the necessity of such transportation being provided. That point is one on which there should be no difference among the people of Revelstoke. There are, it is true, differences as to the best means of giving effect to such transportation, but surely these differences can be surmounted by the government obtaining a reliable report on the country here, and the best means of giving access to it, and that point settled, everybody interested in the welfare of the city should then be prepared to make common cause for the opening up of that country. At the present time there are two properties under development there.

The Carnes Creek Consolidated Mines. This was the original of the two companies now operating in that section. Year in and year out, since starting operations, the gentlemen connected with this enterprise have stood by it in the most plucky manner, bearing the hardships incidental to pioneering such as they have undertaken, with the drawbacks of transportation, the difficulty of getting in supplies and the heavy cost attaching thereto, and if ever men deserved success they do.

The directors of the Carnes Creek company are Messrs. F. McCarthy, C. H. Temple, I. T. Brewster, T. Kilpatrick and W. Cowan. This company was organized some years ago with a capital stock of \$1,000,000 in \$1 shares, of which 600,000 were reserved for treasury purposes. The company has been managed in a most businesslike way, carrying on its development work as the subscriptions to its capital permitted, the directors personally providing the funds to keep things going from time to time.

The property of the company consists of 12 claims including the Rosebery group. The claims are crown granted and the company also holds 155 acres of land in addition for townsite purposes to which the title is crown granted, so that the title to the whole of the company's property is unimpeachable.

The property is located on Lookout mountain, between the north and south forks of Carnes Creek, and is well situated for economic development and operation, as development and mining operations can be carried on to considerable depths by means of adits and tunnels.

There is abundance of timber on the ground and water power may be conveniently had. Good cabins have been erected, and the camp is in good shape for working summer and winter. About \$30,000 has been spent in development work, the most of which has been done on the Rosebery claim.

The property is developed to a depth of 300 feet, and the work has proved the existence on the property of a mineralized zone 50 feet in width carrying a variety of ore, as free gold, auriferous pyrites, yellow and grey copper. The copper ore is said to carry from \$1 to \$80 in gold, 40 ounces silver and 5 per cent to 20 per cent copper. Surface values of the pyritic ore give \$14 per ton, and assays made from sulphurates below the plane of surface oxidation give from \$5 to \$200 per ton. F. F. Harvey estimates the cost of treatment, as the result of experiments, at \$3.50 per ton.

On these statements, which are furnished to us by Mr. Brewster, secretary of the company, the property appears to be a valuable one, and if the values are borne out by subsequent development the company's property cannot fail to afford an admirable field for the remunerative employment of capital.

The Standard Basin. What is known as the Standard Basin is held by the Prince Mining and Development company of Revelstoke. The board of directors consists of the following gentlemen: President, H. A. Brown; vice president, T. Taylor; secretary-treasurer, J. M. Scott; superintendent C. J. Rumens and H. P. Smith. The company is capitalized at \$1,000,000 in \$1 shares, of which \$75,000 were placed in the treasury.

The property consists of nine claims, located in the Standard Basin of the Big Bend. The ore carries values in gold, silver, and copper. The gold values run from \$1 to \$4.35 per ton; the silver values from 24 cents to 86; the copper values from 5 per cent to 23 per cent. The ores are also stated to show black oxides of copper running up to 56 per cent copper, but these will only be found in the region which has been subject to atmospheric influence. Some native copper is also found on the property, due no doubt to the decomposition of the sulphides.

An average of 15 assays gives a return of 10.61 per cent copper. While we have not seen the property, the writer had a conversation in September of last year with Mr. Leo Von Rosenberg of New York, who is one of the best of American experts. He was sent here by responsible Boston people, and he had a favorable opinion of this property, and indeed of the whole Big Bend country, from what he saw of it. Four tunnels have been driven on the property, and we are informed that they are attended-to-should be satisfactory results.

No. 1 tunnel has been driven 40 feet, cutting four feet of arsenical iron, which carries about four per cent copper and \$3 in gold per ton. No. 2 tunnel cut the vein at 75 feet, exposing 30 feet of vein matter with six feet of ore. A vein was sunk on this ore to a depth of 75 feet, and rather a splendid chute of ore appears to have been developed at this point, as the assays are stated to have averaged 13 per cent copper and \$4.60 in gold.

Tunnel No. 3 has been run at a depth of 100 feet from the surface and struck the ore body in about 200 feet. Here the tunnel is stated to have run through 40 feet of vein matter carrying 2 to 2.12 per cent copper. The tunnel was still in a mineralized zone by latest accounts.

Tunnel No. 4 is located at a point 300 feet below the outcrop, but after running 130 feet work was discontinued here for the present.

With the work done on the surface, the outcrop showings, and the results of the work so far carried out, the Prince company now reckon they have an ore chute 1,000 feet in length by 300 feet in perpendicular depth. If a result anything like this is assured, the Prince company are

MILLFORD CREEK.

A District That Promises to Show Up Well. Of great benefit to Kaslo is the development of properties in Millford creek, six miles up the lake from the city. Both sides of the valley are completely staked, but as yet little more than assessment work has been done on the claims, the owners always having sufficient confidence in their holdings to keep them from lapsing. At present those who have properties on the creek are watching the work being done by the Adams brothers of Kaslo, who are, what might be termed the pioneer developers of the district—the Millford Star group, on which they have spent over \$4,000, and which they are sticking to with a persistence that should be rewarded with rich strikes and early returns. On the ground, and within a distance of 300 feet are four well-defined leads. All were prospect and work commenced on the best looking. On the surface it was three feet wide and now at a distance of 100 feet, it has widened out to five feet. It is expected that before the tunnel progresses much further the pay chute will be encountered. It is making ore rapidly and the prospects are very bright.

It is a lime and slate contact carrying galena with some gold. The walls are remarkably well defined, in places being as smooth as polished marble. The ledge matter is soft and easy to work, which allows of rapid progress being made. The Messrs. Adams are confident that they will shortly make a rich strike, and when they do, there will likely be quite a boom on the creek that will confer an everlasting benefit on Kaslo. They will keep on working until they strike the ore and will then commence to ship as it is encountered in the development work. Dan Rice, who owns an adjoining claim, is working on the Star, by arrangement, to prove his own property.

The Adams brothers, who with Midgy Hayes, own some claims in the Lardo country, also intend to work there this summer to develop their properties which at present look very promising. They are near the famous Silver Cup and along the proposed line of the C. P. R.—Kootenai-Ensenau.

VALPARAISO. A Kaslo Property That Is Constantly Improving. The directors of the Valparaiso Mining company have reason to be satisfied with the appearance of the property. Ten men are now at work, and as development progresses the force will be increased. At present work is confined to drifting on the vein and running an upraise for air. Seventy-five feet of the latter had been done by the beginning of the present week. The tunnel is being run in gold bearing silicious ore now being in the face. It averages about \$25 to the ton and is improving as depth is gained.

A winze will shortly be commenced in the tunnel and will ultimately be sunk to the ore on the dump, but when the present one to tap the vein at a depth of 300 feet. Work on this long tunnel will be commenced in the near future and will expose a very large ore body.

The Valparaiso could be a shipper to-day if the transportation facilities would allow of it. There is a very large amount of ore on the dump, but when the present \$10 a ton to take it to the lake it is cheaper to leave it where it is and wait. Early in the spring work will be commenced on a wagon road to the property, and when it is completed Kaslo will have another large shipping mine. As the road will tap other promising properties government aid will be asked for, and no doubt received. The Valparaiso is principally owned in Kaslo and the remainder in Nelson. Mayor Carlson, the managing director, confidentially informed the Kootenai man that they had the greatest property on earth.—Kootenai.

BOUGHT NUMEROUS CLAIMS.

Consummation of a Big Mining Deal in East Kootenay. N. A. Wallinger, resident manager at Fort Steele, of the Fort Steele Development Syndicate, has consummated a deal for the purchase of the following claims, situated near the Sullivan mine: Galore, Emma Fraction, Santa Rosa, Hidden Hand, Last Edition, Myrtle Fraction, Jew Fraction, Mac and Violet.

The Hidden Hand group consists of three claims, Hidden Hand, Last Edition and Myrtle Fraction. The Hidden Hand is an extension of the Hope claim, one of the Sullivan group, to the south; the Myrtle Fraction lies between the Hidden Hand and Hamlet mine; the Last Edition is an extension of the Hidden Hand. The amount involved in the deal is \$10,000, with a cash payment of \$500. The former owners and locators were N. C. McKinstry and others.

The Galore group consists of three claims, Galore, Santa Rosa and Emma Fraction. The Galore is an extension of the Hope on the East, the Emma Fraction lying between the Hope and Galore and the Santa Rosa north of the Galore. These claims were located by the Langley brothers, E. C. Smith, Wm. Burdett of Spokane and R. L. T. Galbraith. The bond on this property was \$15,000, with a cash payment of \$500.

The Jew Fraction group consists of three claims, Jew Fraction, Mac and Violet, and an extension of the Sullivan group on the west. The locators and owners were Messrs. Birdsal, McBride and Whines. The bond on these claims is \$20,000, with a cash payment of \$500.

It is reported that this property all goes to a big English company, the deal being consummated by the representatives of the Fort Steele Development company. It is also reported that the company has options on the following claims: Nero, Biscuit Fraction, Owen Sound Bay Fraction, Farrell Fraction and X-Ray.

It is rumored that the company is trying to secure the Estella mine, situated on Tracy creek, and several other properties on the east side of the Kootenay. This deal has a particular interest for the people of East Kootenay, as the property is regarded as a high grade silver-lead proposition, and has always been considered of more than ordinary merit. The claims are advantageously situated for working, also for the shipment of ore.

The sale of these properties will give additional prosperity to the camp, and will give employment to a large number of men in the near future.—Prospector.

BONDED THE BLACK PRINCE.

Canadian Goldfields Takes an Option for \$75,000. The preliminaries to an important mining deal were closed Tuesday at Slooan City, where an option was signed by the parties interested in the Black Prince group on the divide between Springer and Lemon creeks. The option is to W. H. Jeffrey, consulting engineer for the Canadian Goldfields, who is now in Montreal and will probably complete the deal during his stay there. The consideration stipulated in the option is \$75,000, 10 per cent of which is cash and the balance in payments extending over 18 months. In addition to the Black Prince claim, the property included in the option consists of five other claims, as follows: The Dundee No. 2, The Darius, the Black Prince Fraction, the Summerside and the Four Friends, the owners being Messrs. J. and Leo Denby, J. C. Shook, J. Arnot, John Elliot, Fran. J. Sherr, P. Schomburg, C. Murphy and W. E. Boie. The Black Prince claim is put in at \$50,000. It is a well known property, having been developed to a considerable extent and been a producer for some time. At present the claim is being worked by Frank Sherry on a lease, and a recent consignments of ore to the Nelson smelter gave excellent returns. A total of 500 feet of tunnelling has been driven and a large amount of ore is in sight. In event of the deal being closed, as seems extremely probable, the property will be worked on a large scale and will undoubtedly take a position among the richest producers of the section.

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