

## APEEP AT SOUTH EAST KOOTENAY

Interesting Description of the Past and Present of This Promising District.

Its Rapid Development and Mineral Wealth—A Splendid Outlook.

(From the East Kootenay Miner.)

The East Kootenay Mining District comprising a large tract of country beginning at the international line and running north some 250 miles, is cut nearly in the centre by the Kootenay river, on the east side of which is the main range of the Rocky mountains and the west spurs of the same, the northern ending of which is the Selkirk. Although much has been known of this district for the past thirty years, that knowledge was long confined to a few people, a class of old time prospectors, who went into the country in the early '60s from Virginia City, Nev., Bodie, Cal., and the various camps in Utah. But as Montana, Idaho and Washington in later years began to develop, a few of the more inquisitive and adventurous of the ever-roaming army of prospectors made periodical trips and thus more and more was known regarding the district. Little attention, however, was paid to this district until after the wonderful strikes and subsequent developments in the West Kootenay district. The overflow from the rush then began drifting towards East Kootenay and among the first rich discoveries made was in the summit of the mountains at the head of St. Mary's river, the first parties going in by way of Pilot Bay. But the means of transportation were difficult and prospectors having to cut their trails as they went, only a few made the trip, but the samples brought out proved to be of good value in copper and gold and encouraged those few who had made locations in that section to keep up assessment work.

Last year a Mr. Petty became interested and encouraged by the building of the Crow's Nest Pass railway, as it is generally spoken of (British Columbia Southern is the charter name) in that district and the assurance that a branch would be built from some point near Fort Steele to a point on the St. Mary's river near the North Star and Sullivan group of mines, which are almost due east some 25 or 30 miles from the summit section, he grubstaked or induced some 30 or 40 prospectors to thoroughly prospect the country with the result of locating about 50 claims, which he almost invariably purchased from them. This year he is doing a large amount of development work and this section bids fair to become one of the important camps of the district. It is too early to say what value can be placed on the ores or the extent and size of the ledges, but it is understood that this section is backed by English capital and that the intention is to make a thorough and business-like campaign, which will not necessarily be of one, two or even three years' duration. It is also too early to determine the preponderant character of the product, although at this time it seems to be copper and gold.

One man and most of your readers know or have heard of the celebrated North Star near Mark creek, some 25 miles north of St. Mary's, and 25 miles northeast of Fort Steele. To give an extended account of this mine would take an article by itself. This has been working and producing for three years, and while no statements have been given out its owners express themselves well pleased with results. The great depth has been obtained, the ledge being very wide, sometimes as much as 40 feet. The ore is principally lead and silver, though it carries some gold.

Near this is the Sullivan group, owned by the principal stockholders of the Le Roi mine. Not much work has been done, but recently a rich strike has been made, and a 12-foot vein of almost solid lead and silver ore.

There are numerous other good prospects in this camp, which is known as the North Star section. Much assessment work is being done and the year is quite likely to develop other mines, as is distinguishable between mines and prospects.

South from these sections between the line drawn east and west, which would cross the lower end of Moyle lakes, some 800 locations were made last year, and the assays and analysis of some of these various sections have shown such value as to induce much development work to be done, principally on Petty, Hell Hoaring, and others. This is the first time that this work will be, as it has only commenced, but it may give some surprises for mine men.

One and a quarter miles up the mountain on Lower Moyle lake is the St. Eugene, owned by John Finch and Jas. Crook and others. This is a lead and silver proposition, the ore running 60 per cent lead and 50 ounces silver of an average. They have a depth of about 350 feet, and have a depth of about 350 feet. They have beyond a doubt proved a strong and lasting vein of mineral. They are preparing to build a new bank house with rooms for 200 men and other buildings required for a large mine. They have about 5,000 tons of ore in the dump, one-half of which does not need concentration. This ledge extends down to Moyle lake. There are two other mines on this ledge, the Moyle and Lake Shore. Besides numerous prospects straight across the lake. The ledge has been uncovered and locations made on it for some miles west, but no work speak of done.

South from Moyle to the international line are many prospects, but up to this time no mines.

I have said nothing of the district north of the North Star section and west of the Kootenay. This is a field for prospectors—no one can tell until it is tried.

Beginning at the international line east of the Kootenay river about the first location of interest are on Elk river, while good showings have been made on the lower end of Moyle lakes. No mine has yet been developed.

Then comes Bull river. This section is attracting attention from Colorado, Montana and Idaho. The best of the high grade of copper which recent developments have shown. This section of country is close to the time of the Crow's Nest Pass railway and without doubt will become one of the most important camps in the district.

Next comes the famous old Wild Horse where you will find Honest Old Bob Dore and Colonel Doherty, two old-time miners in California, later in Virginia City and afterwards in all the old placer camps, who can tell you more

interesting tales of mining than I could set down in a month. They are the old style, genial, open-hearted, mainly mining gentlemen.

On Wild Horse much placer work is being done by one English company and one Chinese company by use of hydraulic. Other individuals are working who bid fair to have as good ground as any with a few months' more work.

Near Wild Horse is the Dibble group, an old location and practically no mine. It is now owned by an English company and being worked in a thoroughly mining way and will begin shipping when the railroad reaches Wardner, sending in ore by wagon to Steele and thence by boat to Wardner.

Last year near Wild Horse the Colorado was struck, undoubtedly a large and valuable ledge. Some work was done last fall but litigation has tied it up so far this season. It has, in the judgment of mining men, the making of a mine.

Between Wild Horse and Tracey creek still going north are Six-Mile and Grundy creeks with many locations and good prospects, and much assessment work has been done this year.

On Tracey creek is one mine, the Estella group. It is being worked regularly and will be a shipping mine when the railroad reaches the mine. This section shows up well in prospects, the ore possessing good value and strong, well defined ledges. Probably as much work is being done here as in any camp in the district.

Farther north is Lewis creek, where some rich showings are recently reported. It is a promising section as is also Waga creek, a few miles still farther north. The district extends about 100 miles by means of the principal mountain ranges country around Windermere and Golden. No large mines so far have been developed in that section, although there are resources. Little attention, however, was paid to this district until after the wonderful strikes and subsequent developments in the West Kootenay district.

The overflow from the rush then began drifting towards East Kootenay and among the first rich discoveries made was in the summit of the mountains at the head of St. Mary's river, the first parties going in by way of Pilot Bay. But the means of transportation were difficult and prospectors having to cut their trails as they went, only a few made the trip, but the samples brought out proved to be of good value in copper and gold and encouraged those few who had made locations in that section to keep up assessment work.

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## TO INCREASE TRADE

British Columbia Merchants Have an Opportunity of Exchanging Commodities With New Zealand.

Produce and Woolens From the Antipodes Where Lumber and Fish Are in Demand.

The question of an active intercolonial trade between Canada and the Australian colonies promises in the near future to be brought prominently before the people of this city. This week there has been opened in the Board of Trade building an office for the express purpose of promoting the growing trade between Canada and those colonies, but particularly between the province of British Columbia and the colony of New Zealand. The offices lately occupied by F. C. Davidge & Co. have been taken, and the office of the new firm is in the building now occupied by the firm of F. C. Davidge & Co. in this city will have an opportunity of studying the situation. This is the second attempt to bring the trade in question, Philip Brown & Co. of Sydney, having opened an office in Vancouver some years ago. The protective tariff of New Zealand is not so high as that of Australia, and is so high that it was found impracticable to extend trade, and after two years that firm withdrew their representative.

The firm of Frapp & Girvin, who have decided upon repeating the attempt, are especially qualified for the task. Frapp was from 1880 to 1887 a resident of New Zealand, having prior to that time resided in New South Wales. In 1887 he came to this province and opened an architect's office in Vancouver, having learned that profession in England and being a fellow member of the Royal Institute of British Architects. For the last two years he has been in New Zealand, returning to this city as representative of John Leckie of Vancouver, and has for some time been traveling and collecting information preparatory to embarking in the enterprise indicated above.

The business of the new firm will be to represent the largest wholesale establishments in New Zealand, to introduce those Antipodean goods which are likely to find a market in this country, and on the other hand to introduce to New Zealand some of those British Columbia articles which should find a ready sale in that colony. The firm will also represent the various land firms which will be represented by the Antipodean produce and woolens, and the articles which will be considered from here will include numbers of fish. As trade develops other lines will be introduced.

Frapp is an out and out free trader, and thinks that the Dominion is killing its trade by maintaining a protective tariff so high as to be practically prohibitive. He and his partner, representative of John Leckie of Vancouver, and has for some time been traveling and collecting information preparatory to embarking in the enterprise indicated above.

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## DAN SANDEBSON'S FIND.

A Klondiker Who Thinks He Has Discovered the Mother Lode.

Newly returned Klondikers were as much surprised to-day at the news that the "mother lode" had been found on French creek at Dawson as were the public generally, says the Seattle Times. The announcement was made by Dan Sanderson, who is the discoverer of the great quartz ledge from which all the Klondike gold originally came is not taken in great seriousness by more than a very few.

W. H. Armstrong should be one of the best posted men on the subject, as his El Dorado bench claim lies next to that of Sanderson's, and the two men have been more or less closely in touch since they both went to Dawson over a year ago from Juneau.

"I know that Dan has found some rich quartz," said Mr. Armstrong this morning, "but whether it is the mother lode, or a vein at all, is another question which I could not answer. There has been a heap of gold found with quartz in it, but up to date no quartz has been found with gold in it, so far as I know. Dan has found it, but whether he has or not, he has got rich stuff; all he needs, with his fraction at the mouth of French Gulch and his benches higher up."

"Arizona Charley" Meadows believes that Sanderson has found a very rich vein of gold quartz. Whether it is the so-called mother lode or not he does not pretend to say.

"I have seen the quartz," said he this morning. "It is the largest piece I have seen of its kind. It is about three inches square and about four or five inches square. The experts say that the size and shape of the piece that has been taken out show the vein or whatever it is to be very narrow, probably ranging in thickness from a half inch to three inches."

"Why do you think it is the mother lode?" Mr. Meadows was asked.

"I say I don't even guess whether it is or not, but I can show you how it might be. The story of the strange death of a Chinaman is brought by the Cutch. The Chinaman was working at one of the northern canneries. He got the idea he was possessed by an evil spirit, a swash. He could not rid himself of the evil spirit, and one day deliberately walked into the sea and so ended his miserable life."

The latest news from Rivers Inlet and Skeena river districts states that no official notice of the date of the Cassiar election has been received at either place.

## BROUGHT BACK FORTUNES.

Four Miners Return With Over Five Hundred Pounds of Gold.

The San Francisco Call this morning published the following letters from its correspondent at Juneau, dated July 26, and received last night by the steamer City of Topeka:

The mail here just came out over the Dalton trail from Dawson. Four of our men came down here yesterday on a small steamer from Pyramid Harbor. They are George Tyler, of Juneau, G. Gaisford, Aly Gaisford, and M. Murphy. Tyler's extraordinary good luck has been the cause of much talk here, where he is well known. About a year ago he was a barber in a popular shop, and went into the Klondike region last spring. Tyler brought out about two hundred pounds of gold dust, or nearly \$40,000, and about equally divided among the other three or four hundred and fifty pounds. Murphy's money being in San Francisco drafts. The other six had very little gold. This gold came from Bonanza and El Dorado.

It was in May last that Sanderson took his pick one day, as many of the Klondikers do occasionally, to go out one of the creeks and dig for quartz. He turned over an old moss-covered boulder and there lay the quartz, almost half gold. The one piece contained over \$1,000 worth of gold. He and his partner, Mr. Martin Wolstead, also bought three bench claims on French Gulch last winter for \$1,000. They have taken out over \$100,000 from these benches and have received \$50,000 for the property. They will not take any more.

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## THE CUTCH RETURNS

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