

## KASLO AND SLOCAN

Rich Strikes Reported In a Number of Mines.

## WELLINGTON'S FINE ORE

Brittle Silver That Runs Over 4000 Ounces to the Ton—Whitewater and Lone Star Big Shippers—Silver Cup's Good Carbonates.

Hector McRae returned Friday evening from the Kaslo-Slocan country, where he spent several days. Most of the time he was at the Wellington and Whitewater camps. The principal object of his visit was to arrange for the beginning of work on the Ottawa and Ivanhoe, two claims which adjoin the Wellington. Mr. McRae is secretary and treasurer of the company which owns the Wellington and the other two claims mentioned.

He reports a very rich strike on the 140-foot level of the Wellington. A crosscut was being run in this level to strike the north vein. The vein was cut on Saturday of last week. The solid ore was found to be from 12 to 14 inches wide. A drift was run south on the vein 13 feet, from which was taken a little over a carload of ore. Several assays were made, some of them running as high as 4013 ounces in silver. The ore is what is known as brittle silver. A single block taken from the vein sacked up 3000 pounds.

On the 240-foot level a small vein has been cut, the ore from which assays from 2500 to 3000 ounces in silver. On the east vein the ore has been cut at three levels, the depths being 95 feet, 140 feet and 185 feet respectively. The average thickness of the vein is from 12 to 18 inches, and the average assays in silver from 95 to 300 ounces and about 50 per cent lead. Five carloads of ore have been shipped from the mine in the past six weeks and two carloads more are sacked ready for shipment.

Mr. McRae gives some interesting facts about other mines in the neighborhood. The Whitewater is turning out from four to five cars every week, the average value of which is considerably higher than ever before realized on ore from this mine. This is due to the high value of the ore in the new vein recently opened on one of the upper levels.

Last winter only two companies were operating on Wellington mountain, these being the Wellington and Whitewater. Now there are nine, including besides them the Sunset, adjoining the Wellington on the south and recently acquired by a St. Paul syndicate; the Corine, owned by Robert Shields; the Charleston, owned by a Victoria syndicate; the Helen group, owned by a Toronto company; the Eldon, owned by Spokane people; the Winnie and the Nancy Hanks, on the north bluff of the mountain, and the London group and the Santa Maria, which are being developed by stock companies. The last two mines carry dry silver ore.

The Lone Star, 15 miles from Kaslo, has been working along quietly and has now 1000 tons of ore which is being run down to Whitewater station. This ore will run about 60 ounces in silver and over 70 per cent in lead.

One of the most recent of the big strikes made in the Kaslo-Slocan country was made by Marten Brothers and Nelson. The property is the Silver Cup group, and is located on the south fork of Kaslo creek. The ore is a high grade carbonate. Three men have taken out 18 tons during the past two weeks which will run from \$200 to \$300 per ton in silver and lead. A cash offer of \$60,000 was refused last week.

Mr. McRae says the Slocan Star is now producing 135 tons a day of concentrating ore and that the Noble Five never before looked so well as it does now.

## ORE RECEIPTS AT KASLO.

Over 310 Tons Received Last Week—International and Kokanee Rake.

KASLO, B. C., Dec. 12.—(Special).—The following ore shipments from the Slocan have been received at the Kaslo station of the Kaslo & Slocan railway during the week ending Dec. 10, 1896:

	Pounds.
Payne mine	192,000
Wonderful mine	90,000
Slocan Boy mine	32,000
Ruth mine	120,000
Whitewater mine	90,000
Surprise mine	34,000
Rambler mine	32,000
Jackson mine	30,000

Making in all the snug quantity of 310 tons. Of this output the ore from the Payne, Wonderful and Slocan Boy goes to Pueblo, Col. That from the Ruth, Whitewater, Surprise and Rambler is sent to the Puget sound reduction works at Everett, Wash. The Jackson mines ore and one carload from the Whitewater went to the sampler works of the Kootenay Ore company at Kaslo, which will begin work on Monday next.

In a short race yesterday morning between Five Mile point and Nelson the International outsteamed the Kokanee by two lengths. The latter has hitherto carried the broom.

H. Hirschel Cohen, lately of South Africa, has bought from James A. McDonnell the group of claims in the Best basin of the Slocan mining division, consisting of the Jennie Fraction, Alice Fraction, Last Chance No. 4 and Spokane. The consideration has not been made public. Mr. Hampfield already has a crew of miners engaged in development work upon the claims. It will be continued vigorously during the winter.

The owners of the well known Blue Bird property are congratulating themselves because of the result of recent development work. The new vein is producing a quantity of very high grade ore. The Blue Bird has been already a shipper to the extent of 300 tons, but the present showing is the best the mine has ever had. Recent assays have shown 300 ounces to the ton.

There is trouble at Sandon and lots of work for the lawyers. The ground covered by the townsite has been restaked and notice posted by Frank M. O'Brien, of Kaslo, that he will apply to the chief commissioner of lands and works for permission to purchase it as unreserved lands of the crown. In behalf of the defense, in certain actions brought by the townsite owners to eject a number of alleged squatters it was contended that the crown grants under which the lands in question are held

were obtained by fraud and misrepresentation. They were located as mineral claims, and it is said that no ledge was ever discovered upon them such as to entitle the holders, John M. Harris and Gilbert M. Sproat, to obtain the crown grant.

The people of Sandon are of course considerably excited over the matter, and some of them are considering the validity of their deeds and are making haste to get themselves solidly placed. The lawyers will doubtless reap a rich harvest before the matter is finally settled. Mr. O'Brien's notice of application is dated the 11th inst., and his stake was placed on Friday.

George W. Hughes was down from the hills on Wednesday. He says the Payne group is shipping only its higher grade ores. It is the intention to erect a concentrator in the early spring for which the lower grades will be reserved.

One of the finest specimens of ore that have ever been shown in Kaslo was brought down by Manager J. C. Eaton of the Whitewater mine on Wednesday. It was picked up in the ordinary working of the mine, and comes from the winze which is being sunk from the upper tunnel. It weighs some thirty or forty pounds and is made up of grey copper and galena, and is estimated to be worth more than a dollar a pound even at the present price of silver.

Importations received at Kaslo still continue large. The Kokanee has brought in full cargoes every trip this week, and in addition the large barge of the Kaslo & Slocan railway has been brought into use. A couple of carloads of machinery were thus brought. Upwards of \$3,000 were collected last week by the sub-collector for customs duties. John L. Retallack, banker, of this city has been making a business trip to Spokane. He will visit England during the winter.

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