THE BUCKINGHAM

Weeks and Kelly Are Having a Time With It at Barrow.

THE INVESTORS ARE WILD

J. A. Kirk Sent Them a Circular Which Expressed His Opinion as to the Worth of the Property and There Is Talk of Legal Proceedings.

W. Sennett-Weeks, remembered in Rossland as W. S. Weeks, mining promoter, is having an interesting time at Barrow, in the old country. Mr. Weeks, in company with Captain Kelly, went abroad some time ago to sell the stock of the Buckingham Gold Mining company, limited. They have been selling the shares at a most edifying rate, and now they are called upon by the stockholders to give an account of their stewardship.

The company's property is a prospect known as the Buckingham, on the Kootenay river near Bonnington Falls. The claim was experted by Captain Kelly, who said that it had the making of a dividend-payer. Then the two went abroad to sell shares. The stock was offered at 10 cents, out of which Mr. Weeks was to get a liberal commission. The people of Barrow seemed to have an unlimited yearning for Buckingham scrip. They bought, and they bought prodigally. Some time ago Mr. Weeks remitted some money to Rossland people with which to have work done on the claim. The Rosslanders found that the showing consisted principally of a high rock bluff on one side of the Kootenay river. A tunnel has been driven about 25 feet in the side of the bluff, below the high water line of the stream. At the time the Rosslanders visited the property they found that the tunnel was flooded by the river. It would have taken a man in a diving suit to inspect the workings. The visitors, however, fished around the dump and got out some ore. It proved to be a quartz and a white iron. The prospects were not brilliant. The visitors decided that they would not be justified in expending any further money on the strength of the showing. They issued a circular to the British shareholders, setting forth the position of affairs as they viewed them. The circular seems to have stirred up things among the old country investors. Here is what the Barrow News has to say about a special meeting called to discuss the matter:

"Mr. Weeks said he had called the meeting because of a circular issued by Mr. Kirk, one of the directors of the company. The statement in the circular was incorrect on the face of it. He thought the business on the other side had been conducted in a very loose manner. Mr. Weeks said that the directors had sent out a misleading statement and also a misleading report. He strongly condemned the action of Mr. Kirk in presuming to report on the mine, as he was not a mining engineer at all, but only a surveyor, and therefore not competent to report on it. Some discussion here ensused as to Mr. Kirk's authority to issue such a circular. One shareholder complained that in any event the shareholders would have to pay the cost of printing. Mr. Weeks said that the circular was by no means official; it was the opinion of an individual.

"Here the proceedings became somewhat animated, but subsequently toned down, and it was decided to have Captain Kelly, mining engineer to the company, to make a statement. He said his connection with the Buckingham mine had been a very brief one. A year ago last August he met the vendor of the mine, Mr. Chase. He spent a good deal of time with him and Chase showed him many pieces of ore. He had come from California to British Columbia. He liked the ore which Mr. Chase showed him on different occasions. He also showed him the location he had made and on which he had been working. He showed him the rock and the captain liked it. Some time after, he met Mr. Chase again at Mr. Weeks' office, where he saw 14 or 15 pieces of the ore. He examined it and found it was nice rock. He had examined mines for 36 years. One day he spent five hours with Mr. Chase examining it and he was satisfied that there was a property there. He was satisfied that there was a mine.

"He pointed out that in every district in California, British Columbia or elsewhere, there was no ore to be met near the surface. They might have to go down 50 or 100 feet. He was convinced that it was a good mine and that in time it would become a dividend payer. All that it wanted was development. The facilities were wonderfully good. There was water power and electric power within 100 yards of it. There was a two and a half foot vein. If they had had capable men on the ground they would have had different results. He thought they would be foolish to throw up the Buckingham mines. They must have different directors over there and competent men to go down in the mine and see whether the work was done.

"On the motion of Mr. Mattinson, the meeting expressed itself as satisfied with the financial statement of Mr. Weeks and the report of Captain Kelly. It was also resolved that the chairman call a meeting at some future time to go into the details of working the mine.

"At an adjourned meeting of this company, some startling disclosures were made. Mr. McDonald said that he did not wish to do anything but what was honest, but he knew that that was no such place as the Buckingham gold mine. He even knew that one man denied his name on the report. It was hard that they should throw away their substance on such a thing. He had warrants out for the apprehension of those d——d scoundrels. There was Captain Kelly. His name was John George Smith, and he had been the boots at the Cranforth hotel. This was one of the biggest swindles that had ever been perpetrated on the public of Barrow, and they should get the whole history of it in the police court.

"Mr. Mattinson did not think that Captain Kelly was a boots, for he seemed to be well versed in mining engineering. Mr. McDonald said that he had been offered £50 to save Kelly and Weeks. It was decided to get a Rossland mining man to report on the property."

J. A. Kirk, against whom the wrath of Mr. Sennett-Weeks is chiefly directed, was seen last night by a MINER reporter regarding the company's affairs. Mr. Kirk, together with some other Rossland people, was induced to become one of the directors of the corporation at the period of its formation.

"When the remittances came from Mr. Weeks with instructions to apply them on the development of the property, I visited the claim to see what the showing was," said Mr. Kirk. "The surface of the property was covered with wash, but the lead was exposed in a high bluff standing beside the river. A tunnel had been driven in the bluff below high water mark and when we visited the claim the workings were filled by the rising river. We fished some ore from the submerged dump and examined it. It showed merely white iron carried in white quartz. It was impossible to say what the surface of the ledge might reveal as it was covered with wash, and no test pits had been made in it. To continue the tunnel would have been folly. By driving it for the full length of the claim an ore chute might be struck, but the company, which was relying on sales of ten-cent stock, was not in position to undertake any such extensive work. I am not a mining engineer and do not profess to be, but in my judgment it would have been inexcusable to expend any more money on the Buckingham. In order to lay the case fully and fairly before the old country shareholders, I had a circular printed and sent to them, containing a statement of the situation of the case as I saw it. It was this circular which has caused Mr. Weeks' ire to rise.

"Besides the poor surface showing the title to the Buckingham is under a cloud. This fact was one of the reasons for my issuing the circular."

Captain Kelly, who is satisfied with the Buckingham, came to Rossland last winter. He was here some time with Mr. Weeks, and the two of them sailed for the old country together to sell the Buckingham scrip.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

The Prohibition Plebiscite.

ROSSLAND, Sept. 22.

EDITOR MINER—Sir: In your today's editorial on the prohibition plebiscite I am glad to see that you call the attention of your readers to the fact that the prohibition to be voted on next Thursday is a sort never yet tried; but is more comprehensive than the Scott act, the American State enactments. Heretofore communities adopting prohibition have had to contend against licenses issued by the national government, and against more or less importation of intoxicants. Furthermore, in the past most prohibition localities have been surroundered on the north, south, east and west by anti-prohibition communities. With national Canadian, prohibition these three adverse influences will be removed.

First. No national government licenses will be issued for the sale of intoxicants.

Second. No importation of intoxicants will be allowed.

Third. And also no province will be surrounded on all sides by anti-prohibition forces actively at work trying to break into the forbidden regions.

On the international border alone will this last named condition prevail. Thus, it is easy to see, it will then be much easier to enforce a prohibitory law, than under any condition previously tried. Those persons who urge that the Scott act has failed, and therefore national prohibition cannot succeed evidently have failed to note the difference between the two plans, these differences being all in favor of the plebiscite plan of national prohibition. They cannot say that national prohibition is sure to fail until we have tried it. Many of us believe it will succeed. Indeed, even in the case of the Scott Act, imperfect as the law is, good has been acccomplished. The law was not asked for by the temperance people and has never been satisfactory to them. To quote Dr. C. S. Eby, "there was a ridiculous lack of adequate provision for its enforcement." Yet in spite of its defects the prison statistics of Halton, Brockville, Port Hope and other places showed that the act, though unsatisfactory, could not be called a failure. Again, take the statistics of New Brunswick. George Johnston, Dominion statistician, states that in the nine Scott Act counties of New Brunswick, during a certain period, there were 8,738 convictions for crime in a population of 196,422 persons. During the same period in the license counties of that province, these counties having a population of 124,841 persons, or 71,581 less than the Scott Act counties, there were 14,102 convictions for crime, or nearly twice what the Scott Act counties with their larger population had. We claim that the prohibition of intoxicants reduces crime. Judged from that standpoint the Scott Act was evidently not a failure in New Brunswick. Furthermore, the people of the Scott Act counties evidently do not consider prohibition a failure, for the figures from the latest ballotings in those places in New Brunswick where the act is in force show a vote of two to one in favor, or 10,799 for and only 5,721 against prohibition.

Prohibition will probably carry in next Thursday's plebiscite. Rossland, help the good work along.

DAVE S. DUNLOP,
President Dominion Alliance, Rossland branch.

Skating and Curling Rink.

The subscription list for the allotment of shares in the new Rossland Skating & Curling Rink, limited, has been opened. The capitalization of the company is $13,000 in shares of the par value of $25 each. The stock is offered at its face valuation. The directors include J. S. C. Fraser, manager of the Bank of Montreal, John M. Smith, the manager of the Bank of Halifax, Alderman A. S. Goodeve, T. Mayne Daly and George Pfunder. A. Lorne Becher is promoting the enterprise and A. W. Strickland is acting as treasurer. The plans for the new building have been completed. They provide for a skating rink 180 feet long and 80 feet wide, without a single obstruction throughout the entire surface. Down each side of the main skating rink will be curling rinks with ice sheets 20 feet wide. The roof, a truss affair, will be nearly 50 feet in the clear. There will be a promenade around the ice rink for spectators, and there will be galleries from which visitors can look down at the skaters. It will be one of the largest and finest rinks in the Dominion. Nothing in the province can compare with it.

Send a copy of THE MINER to your friends in the east.

THE MONARCH GROUP

There Are Five Full Claims in the Lot.

The Ore Carries 15½ Per Cent Copper and $1.50 in Gold—A Very Valuable Property.

J. L. Parker, M. I. M. E., recently made a report on the Monarch group, which reveals that it is very valuable. The group has been taken over by the Monarch Mining company and the prospects of the company are held in such high esteem that the stock is being largely subscribed for by those who are most conversant with the merits of the group. Following is the very able report of J. L. Parker on the group:

Report on the Monarch Group.

The Monarch group is situated four miles south of the Hall Mines at Nelson, in West Kootenay district, British Columbia, and is about four miles west of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway. The claims were located during the year 1896, and title to them is held by yearly assessment work of $100 on each claim until five assessments have been performed, or $2,500 worth of work could be put on one claim, provided application is made to perform all the work of the group on the one claim.

Their names are the Monarch, Beatrice, Echo, Moyee and Barnes. Each claim is staked 1,500 feet square, so that the total area will be about 260 acres.

Physical Features.—The situation of the claims includes the divide between the two creeks—Keno and Barrett. The former is a branch from Hall creek. The claims also lie on each side of the divide, practically covering all the ground necessary for mining purposes. The altitude is quite high, and I would judge it to be fully 5,000 feet above the sea level. Advantage can be taken of this feature to let down the ore by gravity to the railway by overhead cable transmission.

Vein.—There is a large vein of copper pyrites contained in a gangue of diorite. I also noticed some native copper. On the surface copper stains are visible for a distance of fifty feet in width. A shaft 44 feet in depth has been sunk and a careful examination made by me disclosed the fact that the copper pyrites was so intimately associated with the rock that there was no question in my mind about there being a large body of ore not very far distant from that point, which would not surprise me if it were very rich in copper values. The gangue material, too, is very favorable in some respects, since it is diorite which is an eruptive rock, which has been evidently forced up through a fissure carrying the copper pyrites with it. The experience of the diorite in the Le Roi shows that the ore gets richer in contact and in union with the diorite, and as the Le Roi is now down a depth of 700 feet with no signs of any diminution of values or in size of the ore deposit, I have confidence that the similar results will follow actual development here.

The croppings extend for 50 feet in width and can be traced for the full length of the Monarch and Beatrice mineral claims, and into the claims adjoining, but in the latter the vein is not so wide, showing plainly the chief eruption has been on the Monarch where the shaft is sunk.

Assays.—I took an average cross section of the rock and in the shaft obtained assays from parts of it, which run 15½ per cent copper and a trace on $1.50 in gold. This in actual value equals $31 per ton. Another cross section, taken by Mr. Dundee, who examined it before purchasing an interest, before I went to see the property, went seven per cent copper and $9.80 in gold. A sample taken from the crosscut on the Beatrice went 22 per cent copper. This crosscut shows up the same character of ore as is in the shaft of the Monarch. The croppings wherever broken into show the same mineral for the width given, viz: 50 feet.

From the above facts, I consider the rock in the shaft will show an average of seven per cent copper and anywhere from a trace in gold up to $10, and I consider that the surface values are superior to the majority of the Trail Creek mines, and think that when depth is attained the Monarch group will be one of the most permanent mines in the country, and believe that further developments will prove that the gold alone will pay all the cost of mining the ore.

Smelter rates.—The ore being chiefly copper I believe that very favorable terms will be granted for smelting it by the smelter companies, and I think the rates will not be more than $6 per ton, whereas the rates for the Trail Creek ores generally are $7 per ton. In addition to the above I am reliably informed that on the Moyie mineral claim is a vein of magnetic iron which shows up in the creek, but no work has been done on this. It is about six feet wide. On the Echo is a quartz vein running east and west, which is 15 feet wide and shows copper stains. There is also another on the Monarch 15 to 20 feet wide, showing copper stains in the quartz. These veins have no work done on them, and are undeveloped. I did not see these but believe these reports to be facts, but without them, consider the two claims, viz.: the Monarch and Beatrice are very valuable in themselves. I am informed that an assay of $10 in gold was obtained from one of the quartz veins.

To sum up the favorable features of the property the following are the chief characteristics:

1. There are good surface values.
2. These values continue as far as the shaft has been sunk.
3. The rock formation is right for permanence and good ore bodies.
4. There is abundant water which can be piped down from the lake above.
5. There is sufficient timber between the railway and the mine.
6. The mines are fairly close to railway transportation and are one mile and a half from the Porto Rico wagon road.
7. A most favorable smelting rate from the smelting companies will be a great advantage over most of the mining companies in the Trail Creek country.
8. The large size of the copper vein makes the mining cheap.

The following is a general estimate of the cost of mining for an output of 500 tons per day:

Mining the rock, including labor and materials	$2.50 per ton
Cost of smelting and freight to smelter	7.50 "
Sundries	1.00 "
Total cost	$11.00 "

The cost is much more reasonable than could have been possible two years ago, and I have no hesitation in saying that it is a most conservative one. It would be very difficult for me to estimate exactly the value of the ore from the few samples I took, but I am satisfied, even from the rapid inspection given, that the Monarch group will be one of the largest copper producers in British Columbia, provided ample funds are forthcoming with which to properly equip and work the properties. The claims are in a good mining district, and are about three miles north from the Porto Rico mine, belonging to the Canadian Exploration company, of England, and four miles south from the Hall Mines, also an English company; and about two miles from the Fern mine, which has a 10-stamp mill working. But far more important than these facts, is the proximity of the Empress of India group of mineral claims, which lie to the south of the Beatrice; and on the Empress about 1,500 feet south, copper ore carrying values of $60 in copper and slight gold values, has been uncovered. The vein is the same as that opened up on the Beatrice and Monarch.

A NEW TOWNSITE.

It Is Located at the Foot of Christina Lake.

CASCADE, B. C., Sept. 23.—F. Wollaston, P. L. S., has completed the surveying and platting of the new townsite at the foot of Christina lake. H. L. Moody, the owner, has not decided on a name yet. The land has been known for years as the Moody Place, and one would expect that Moodyville would be a very appropriate name, but a Vancouver paper has strongly protested against applying that name to this property, as there is a Moodyville just across from Vancouver and confusion in names would be the result. Mr. Moody is not very anxious to get in a squabble with the newspapers, and so has given it out that it will not be called Moodyville anyway. The site of the town is certainly a pretty one, commanding a view of the lake and just situated at the outlet, and there should not be much difficulty in getting a name. It has been suggested that Mr. Moody offer a lot to the first one sending him the adopted name, and in that way he would get a name to select from. Although the place is without a name many people are arriving daily and investing in lots. Mr. Pearson, the mining man from Rossland, was at the townsite last week and bought several lots. Two hotel and a store are now under construction. A bridge 190 feet long is being built across the creek to connect the town with the tote road.

A steamboat, the Myrtle B., under the control of Messrs. Beattie and Matheson is now plying the waters of Christina lake. It is rumored that W. M. Casey, of Bossburg will have another boat on shortly.

School Inspector Burns was here last week examining the public school and reported educational matters as satisfactory.

William Morrison, who left in company with Bob Craemer six weeks ago on a prospecting tour through the Similkameen, has returned and gives that section a good name, but thinks it is no better than this.

Thos. Keeler, M. E., left for Rossland last week. For the past three weeks he was having a gang of men at work on the Roderick Dhu, one mile from Cascade. This claim is owned by T. Mayne Daly of Rossland, and very good rock has been struck. It is expected that when Mr. Keeler returns he will resume work on this property.

S. R. Reid and Bert Ray have just returned from the Burnt Basin, where they have been doing assessment work.

W. B. Davey of Grand Forks has bought an interest in three claims on Castle mountain from Frank Bailey and is having two men at development work.

L. A. Hamilton, the C. P. R. land commissioner, and Mr. Wilgress were in town last week.

C. N. P. RAILWAY.

Only 10 Miles to Build,—The Situation at Kuskonook.

Word comes from Kuskonook that there is only 10 miles of track laying to be done on the Crow's Nest Pass railway to complete it between Lethbridge, N. W. T., and Kootenay lake. The rails are being put down at the rate of four miles per day. Regular trains will be running over the road by October 1.

The temporary terminus of the line is near Kuskonook, where it crosses the mud flats with a trestle two and three-quarter miles long. This is the longest bridge in Canada.

Many of the Crow's Nest railway contractors are storing their outfits at Kuskonook, with the expectation of soon being employed on the Nelson & Bedlington branch of the Great Northern system.

The C. P. R. is preparing to send a survey party through the southern part of the Nelson mining division, to locate the route of the western extension of the Crow's Nest railway, via Salmo and Trail. By following this route instead of the one via Nelson, the company will save many miles of construction.

Fall Fairs.

The following is a list of fall fairs in British Columbia:

Salmon Arm	Sept. 23 and 20
Chilliwack	Sept. 28
Salt Spring Island	Sept. 24
Kamloops	Sept. 28, 29, 30
Comox	Sept. 29
Delta	Sept. 26
Vernon	Sept. 29 and 30
Ladner	Sept. 30
Cowichan (Duncan's)	Sept. 30 and Oct. 1
Mission	Oct. 3
Ashcroft	Oct. 4 and 5
New Westminister	Oct. 5 to 13
Saanich	Oct. 14 and 15
Richmond	Oct. 18 and 19

Wired the Third $1,000.

The New Westminster relief committee has wired its third contribution of $1,000 to the people of the ill-fated Royal City. The total receipts thus far collected by the Rossland committee amount to $3,024. There is still considerable more money to be turned in by some of the mines.

Shell the Enemy of Health and Happiness.—Is the Stomach sour? Is there Distress after Eating? Is your Appetite Waning? Do you get Dizzy? Have you Nausea? Frequent Sick Headache?—forerunners of a general breakup. Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets dispel all these distressing symptoms. They aid the digestive organs, cure the incipient or the chronic cases. 35 cents. Sold by Goodeve Bros.

THE MINER'S Map of Rossland is now ready; price $1.00. It gives every mine or claim near the city.

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IN THE SUPREME COURT, IN THE MATTER OF

O. K. GOLD MINING COMPANY

Limited Liability, (Foreign). In Liquidation.

The Undersigned Official Liquidator Will Sell by Private Treaty
Subject to Ratification by the Court

IN ONE LOT

The property known as the O. K. Mine and the buildings belonging to the said company. Also the entire mining and milling plant of said company, the whole situated on the south slope of O. K. mountain, in the Trail Creek Mining Division of West Kootenay, Province of British Columbia. The claim is surveyed and crown granted and known as the O. K. mineral claim, official number 678. The property is about two and one-half miles west of the City of Rossland and close to the main wagon road and Red Mountain railroad, both leading from the City of Rossland to Northport, in the State of Washington.

BUILDINGS.—The principal buildings include the following: The new mill building containing 10-stamp mill, but designed and built to accommodate 25 stamps; engine and boiler house, office building, mess room, cook house. store room and manager's residence.

The development consists of three main tunnels, with one winze and numerous drifts, together aggregating over 1,500 feet of work.

The property is open to inspection, but an order for that purpose must be obtained at the office of the liquidator, 3 Imperial block, Rossland, B. C., where price, terms and further information can be obtained.

Under an order of the court heretofore issued the undersigned is authorized to give a short option or working bond on the mine.

Telgraphic and cable address, Plewman, Rossland. RICHARD PLEWMAN, Official Liquidator

Bedford McNeill's Code.

Burlington Route

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