

territory not now accessible. Some time before the case should have come before the Mining Commissioner action was taken in the courts to prevent any further progress.

At Cobalt Lake, which it is also proposed to drain, it is known that considerable bodies of high-grade ore could be mined if the water could be pumped out. This would affect not only the Cobalt Lake property, but in a minor degree the McKinley-Darragh and the Right of Way.

Peace at the Beaver.—The strike of seventy miners at the Beaver mine has been satisfactorily settled. The cause of the dispute was the dismissal of one of the men to which the miners objected. They stated they would walk out unless he was reinstated and, upon the management refusing to do this, they left work. The mine was closed down for nine days and the mill eight. During that time the management made no attempt to fill the places of the old employees, but at the end of a week issued a manifesto to the effect that unless the men returned to work by April 3rd they would be compelled to conclude that they did not want to come back and they would fill their places. A meeting of the union was held, and it was decided to return to work, and the mine and mill are now running again.

Lawson Prospect.—The Lawson of the La Rose Consolidated is now getting some very high-grade ore on the 88-foot level of the No. 8 vein. When struck it appeared to be but a branch of the main vein, but it has now developed into a very rich ore body, which will raise the production from the Lawson to considerably above its normal level for the first quarter of the year.

Eight-Hour Bill.—The eight-hour bill for underground miners has naturally aroused considerable discussion in the camp. A deputation from the Cobalt Board of Trade waited upon the Hon. W. H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, and explained some clauses in the bill which appeared to them to be ambiguous and to be likely to cause considerable trouble in the future. The Hon. W. H. Hearst promised that their recommendations should be taken into consideration when the bill was read a second time.

Montreal River and Lorrain.—There is promise of further activity, both in the Montreal river district and South Lorrain this year. In South Lorrain the Pittsburgh-Lorrain Silver Mining Company, which is working the Currie, have their shaft down to the 300-foot level, and are running their own plant. It is understood that there is also a prospect of a company taking over the Trout Lake Mining Company, the Beaver Lake and some other good prospects, and developing them, this summer. At Gowganda the Mann has just shipped its second carload of high-grade. At Elk Lake the completion of the railroad has enabled a number of shareholders who have seen the mines they were interested in to take a look at their properties, and there have been some private cars on the sidings during the past two weeks.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Information concerning reported finds of placer-gold on creeks south of Teslin lake, in Atlin mining division, Northern British Columbia, has been attracting some attention, though as yet particulars are meagre. Most published accounts lack definite details as to whether or not gold has been obtained in any quantity above a few dollars' worth, but one press despatch from Skagway, Alaska, dated March 22, stated that one man

had arrived in Atlin "with several thousand dollars' worth of washed gold, the first brought out from the scene of the new strike." A communication from Mr. W. Scott Simpson, Indian agent in the Stikine River district, which lies south of Atlin mining division, dated March 2 and addressed to Mr. A. M. Tyson, inspector of Indian agencies for Northern British Columbia, has been published. It is to the effect that at present there are but few of the older Indians on the reserve at Tahitan village, the majority of the men being now in the vicinity of Silver creek, a tributary of Teslin river, which joins that river about 35 miles south of Teslin lake, into which latter the river flows. Mr. Simpson reports that on February 5 a deputation of Indians waited on him and produced a letter which had been sent to them by Atlin Indians, stating that they had found new placer diggings on Silver creek. The Indians requested him to accompany them on a claim-staking expedition and to see that their record papers and lay-over permits were properly made out. Thinking it might lead to the ultimate prosperity of the Indians, he accompanied the party, which on February 7, left Telegraph creek, a settlement on Stikine river, and on March 2 returned to that place, after turned from a visit to Atlin, after having made many enquiries, has concluded that the best way will be for the Government to open a trail from O'Donnell river, in Atlin camp (on which river new placer-gold finds were made late last autumn), to the new diggings, which, he is informed, can be reached in 90 miles from Atlin. He sent in a party of men by the longer old trail, and instructed them to return by the proposed shorter route to Atlin via O'Donnell river. On receipt of their report he will, if it be favorable, recommend the Government to at once proceed to open the proposed new trail. Meanwhile, it will be well for those who shall think of going to the reported new placer diggings to await publication of authentic information from known reliable sources, for there is likely to be the customary exaggeration on the part of those interested chiefly in inducing men to spend money in travelling and outfitting, regardless of whether or not there shall be a fair prospect of the reported new diggings proving sufficiently productive to warrant the outlay necessary to reach the locality.

Britannia Mining and Smelting Co.—The Britannia Mining and Smelting Co., operating a copper mine on having staked claims on three creeks. The Atlin Indians produced an ounce and a half of gold they had obtained there last fall. The Atlin Indians had obtained free miners' certificates and staked claims last November on the best-looking parts of the creeks. Various Indian tribes have staked claims to an estimated number of about 300, and white men have about as many. Under existing conditions of snow and frozen ground, it is difficult to say whether or not the new diggings will prove payable to any considerable number of miners; it is probable many of the claims will prove hard to work. Three routes to the new field have been mentioned in newspaper notices. One is via Whitehorse (in Southern Yukon Territory) up the Hootalinqua river to Teslin lake, and then down the lake to its southern end, which is about 35 miles from the locality of the new find. Another is via Skagway to Carcross (Caribou Crossing) by railway, thence to Atlin and from that camp by trail east to the creeks under notice. The third is by Wrangel, in Southeastern Alaska, and Stikine river to Telegraph Creek, and thence by trail. Hon. Dr. H. E. Young, provincial secretary in the Government of British Columbia, who, late in March, re-Britannia mountain, Howe sound, within 30 miles by