

the present time the company has 3,000 tons of rich carbonates and galena at their landing on the Kootenay River, and 3,000 tons more on the dump—6,000 tons that will average \$60 per ton, or a gross valuation of \$360,000. The North Star mine, working a sufficient force, can take out and ship 100 tons daily, and there is no doubt that with reduction of works in close proximity the mine would become the largest producer in the Province.

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Nanaimo.

The question of the erection and operation of a smelter in the immediate vicinity of Nanaimo is being keenly discussed by the citizens.

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Lillooet.

The Golden Cache trail will be finished in the course of a couple of weeks. Development work will then be proceeded with. When the stamp mill is set in operation big results may be looked for.

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Silverton.

This week a strike was made on a prospect on Bannock point, which has been worked for two years, assays on which run \$80 to the ton.

The Galena Farm has struck the ledge in the No. 2 shaft, showing a splendid body of concentrating ore, which confirms the report that a concentrator will be built here in the future.

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South Fork.

E. W. Talbott came down from the Gibson mine a few days ago, bringing with him about 300 pounds of ore from the property. This ore resembles closely that from the mines about Bandon. There seems to be two grades of ore, one a fine grained galena, the other a coarser cube product. These samples show conclusively that the hitherto despised South Fork bids fair to be as big a producer as any section of the Slokan.

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Wharneck.

The Village of Wharneck is claiming attention as being the midst of a gold bearing district. Assays running \$152 have been received and promising claims located. One group of three claims sold lately for \$2,600. Others may be purchased for about the same figure. Shipping facilities are first-class, the claims being situated close to navigable water on both the Stave and Fraser Rivers. The quartz in Wharneck district is of a white or grey white color and much resembles the Trail Creek ores.

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Tailings.

The Rambler-Cariboo paid a dividend of \$20,000 on April 15th. Another dividend may be declared this month.

Work has been recommenced on the mining building at the McGill University, Montreal and it is expected that the structure will be completed in time for the opening of the Autumn session in September next.

There seems now to be every probability of a smelter being established at Esquimalt by Mr. William Selevor and his associates. It will be located at least four miles beyond the incorporation limits of Victoria; but the Legislature is to be asked to so amend the charter of the city as to enable a subsidy of \$150,000 being voted.

Prospecting with plows is the last innovation in mining and was introduced a few days ago in what is known as the "Stringer" district, near Randsburg, Cal. They use a large plow with eight horses, and plow furrows across the claim. The soil is a decomposed granite, and

by crossing two three times in each place several stringers are uncovered.

A discovery of asbestos has been made at Fish Creek, 25 miles from Calgary. The vein is 4½ inches wide and the mineral appears to be of a particularly fine quality. Asbestos, of the quality discovered, is worth from \$75 to \$100 a ton. The report does not state whether the mineral is in any quantity or not.

Serious trouble is expected on Klondyke River, Alaska, over immensely rich placer mines now being opened. Klondyke is on Canadian soil, and because of their value Inspector Constantine of the Mounted Police has limited the size of a claim to six acres. Circle City is on American soil, having no federal officers, save a postmaster, and it has become infested with several hundred toughs, many of them being fugitives from justice in the United States. A large number of these toughs have gone to Klondyke, and finding the best gold claims, demanded that the claims be divided with them. The Canadian miners, backed by the Mounted Police, have refused. Both sides are armed, and when the last mail left Klondyke, in March, a conflict was daily expected.

ON THE COAST.

A CORRESPONDENT to the Victoria (B.C.) *Colonist* gives the following description of a rich mineral belt within easy reach of Victoria, situate on the Cowichan district. He says:—A zone of eruptive rock, seemingly dioritic, and traversed by numerous dykes of rhyolite or an allied rock, extends from Salt Spring island across the Sansum narrows and via Maple Bay through Comiaken, Somenos and Chemainus districts. This zone is highly mineralized; chalcopryite is the most prevalent mineral, accompanied in some veins by galena, and carrying both gold and silver. The gangue matter of these veins is quartz and schist is varying proportions, together with calcite, gypsum, etc. The general trend of the veins is about 10 degrees north of magnetic west, but a few veins, and these some of the best, run north-east and south-west.

The L. W. D. Mining Co. have located three contiguous claims, fronting on the Sansum Narrows, on one of which a drift has been run in about feet 60 on a very promising silver and copper lead. Another claim located by Messrs. Dwyer and Willmer, shows, from the small amount done, a very promising appearance. Messrs. Musgrave, Fall, Livingstone & Co. have located numerous claims on what may prove to be some of the best leads on the island. The Allard Bros., Messrs. Bevins, Brownell, Miller and others, have also got claims in various parts of south Salt Spring. Crossing the Narrows is what is known by the name of the Sansum copper mine, owned by Messrs. Bythe and Wood.

Maple Bay Mountain is the next place on which claims have been staked out, both by Cowichan and, towards Osborne Bay, by Nanaimo parties, these latter have, I understand, been already rewarded for their enterprise by striking at a depth of 40 feet a rich gold-bearing vein on their property on the Sansum Narrows. What are called on the maps the Quamichan mountains, but known locally as Richards mountains, and the country contiguous to the north of them, will, however, I think, prove eventually to be the most abundant producers of valuable minerals. There are four or five series of parallel veins traceable for nearly the whole length of these mountains, and each of these veins have been staked for continuous lines for about three miles.

Texada Island.

The owners of the Raven have decided that it is absolutely necessary in order to open up the mines of the island to employ cheaper labor. The white miner is paid \$3 per day and the Chinaman does the work for \$1.25. The owners of the Raven believe that \$1.75 per day per man is much too much to pay for sentiment.

The Copper Queen is turning out her 30 to 50 sacks per day of rich copper ore, which for the present is being shipped for smelting to Everett, yet the 50 sacks do not anywhere approach the output of the mine.

The Kirk Lake gold mine is putting the 100-foot crosscut through to the south vein and have already cut through several fine stringers of quartz.

The Silver Tip has been acquired by the Pugsley syndicate, and capitalized at \$250,000. The shaft is now been sunk down, three shifts are at work, and the ore has already proved itself rich. \$40 gold, \$8 lead and 14 per cent. nickel per ton.

The Surprise shaft is down about 90 feet or there about.

The Potosi and Francis are giving remarkably fine results as work progresses. A test from the tunnel sent to Victoria gave \$45 per ton, and one assay of choice rock gave \$13,930.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Isaacs' and Upper Seal Harbors.

The output of gold from the Richardson mine which, during 25 days last past has been 364 ounces, 30 pounds weight, and worth about \$7,000, is drawing attention is the auriferous veins that are enfolded in the Upper Teal Harbor anticlinals. It is quite evident, says the Halifax (N. S.) *Chronicle*, that the gold-bearing reef for miles along the line contain an immense quantity of gold. It is surprising that there is only one mine yet opened on the reef and that has been parted from the ore and gathered by immature appliances. The quartz containing more or less base metals was mined from one of the interbedded quartz veins lying between the whin and slate layers that are for miles overlapping one another along the anticlinal range. The auriferous veins of the anticlinal are numerous and of great magnitude and curve around the saddle from a north dip to an easterly dip and abruptly to a steep south dip, and this, from the best authority, to inaccessible depths. At the Richardson some 2,000 tons of ore are coming to the surface every month and as soon as the prospecting season opens development work will be started on a number of prospects where large veins are showing, and for which splendid results are anticipated.

BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING LAWS.

NEW REGULATIONS BEING CONSIDERED BY THE LEGISLATURE.

Two important mining bills have been introduced in the legislature at Victoria. One was by Col. Baker to appoint an inspector of metalliferous mines. The other was Smith's Mineral Act Amendment. Baker's bill is self-explanatory in the title, which is: "An Act for securing the safety and good health of workmen engaged in or about metalliferous mines." It provides that the government may appoint as inspector a man, who has had at least seven years' practical experience in mining; who must give his whole time to the duties of the