

ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

Two Dollars a Year

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A PROMISING MINE

THE SUNSET PROPERTY IN THE BOUNDARY PROGRESSES FAVORABLY.

TALK OF THE COMPANY ACQUIRING THE PYRITIC SMELTER.

GREENWOOD, Nov. 18.—(Special.)—The time is fast approaching when the Sunset-Crown Silver properties in Deadwood camp will be numbered in the permanent shipping list of Boundary producers. These two claims along with the C. O. D. and Florence fraction are owned by the Montreal & Boston Copper Company, of Montreal, Que. The group adjoins the Mother Lode mine on the east. Today the correspondent of the Miner was up at the Sunset, where he found some 40 miners employed underground and 20 carpenters, mechanics and other help on the surface. Since Harry Johns was appointed superintendent a little over two years ago a vast amount of work has been done in exploiting the Sunset and Crown Silver claims. At the present time, while no stope has been opened four sections of ore have been blocked out in the Sunset mine, sufficient Mr. Johns says to enable him at a week's notice to break down and ship 300 tons per day. A three-compartment, 2,000 ton ore bin is nearing completion and will be ready for use when wanted. Some time this month there will be shipped from the manufacturing at Sherbrook a Jencke's double cylinder double drum link motion hoist, fitted with a Lane friction clutch. This will take the place of the hoist now in use. When it is installed the present ladderway in the shaft will be fitted with a cage and will be used to the 200-foot level. The hoisting shaft in use now will be utilized down to the 400 or greater depth as the shaft is deepened from time to time.

J. N. Greenhalgh, a director and A. A. Monroe, secretary-treasurer of the company, both of Montreal, are expected to visit the mine before the end of the month. Now that the Sunset is nearing its shipping stage the question of treating the ore has to be taken up. This is the principal mission that the two officers have confronting them on their arrival. It has been several months since the Montreal & Boston Copper Company are after the Standard Pyritic smelter on Boundary creek. Neither Harry Johns, superintendent of the mine, or E. J. Wilson, manager of the smelter plant, will discuss for publication this feature. It would not, however, surprise many if such a deal was made. The company is backed by men perfectly capable financially to purchase outright or build their own reduction works if that is found to be necessary for the most economical treatment of the output of the mines.

The Sunset mine is opened to a depth of 400 feet by a double-compartment shaft. Each compartment is 4 1/2 feet in the clear. The total number of feet of workings is 3,905 feet to date. Development is being carried forward on all levels. At the 100-foot level development has proven a shipping ore body—principally magnetite—200 feet in length by 115 in width. Sufficient work has not yet been done on the south drift on the 200-foot level to prove the size of this ore body, but this is being carried along as rapidly as possible. Along the northwest drift on the 200 an ore body was opened up 37 feet. The ore at this point is more heavily charged with pyrrhotite and carries more gold and less copper than found elsewhere. Two or three carloads, as a test shipment, were sent to the Trail smelter, giving returns in gold of from \$15 to \$20 per ton. In order to prove this body of high grade sulphide at greater depth the drift on the 300-foot level is being extended towards it. Some 140 feet have yet to be driven to encounter it, and Superintendent Johns estimates that in about four weeks' time this should be accomplished.

At the Crown Silver claim work underground for the time being has been abandoned. There is a 260-foot shaft with levels opened at 150 and 250 feet respectively. The total number of feet here is 850 and proved the existence of a 30 to 35-foot ore body of fair value. About 350 feet south from the shaft work is being prosecuted in an endeavor to uncover the ledge by surface crosscuts. If this is successful a quarry will be opened.

In connection with the idea of opening a quarry—similar to that in operation on the other side of the hill by the Mother Lode—the management of the Montreal end is using pressure to get the Canadian Pacific railway to build the two mines additional railway facilities. Facilities have already been put in to handle the ore from the Sunset. Now the company desire an additional spur to be built, starting from the opposite side of the gulch and to circle around, under the quarry workings on the Crown Silver and continuing so as to end immediately behind the boiler house. This spur is needed not only for carrying away the Crown Silver ore, but for bringing in coal, mine timbers and supplies for the Sunset. Surveys have been made with this end in view.

For some weeks past a considerable amount of surface work in the shape of building has been accomplished. As mentioned, a 2,000-ton ore bin is nearing completion. This bin has three compartments for different grades of ore. It is alongside and above the railway spur, having a frontage of 59

feet six inches. From the foundation to the top of the bin is 46 feet. The structure is built of 12x12 main timbers and is substantial throughout. Connecting the sorting floor of the bin with the shaft platform is an 83-foot tramway. Both bins and tramway will be roofed in.

The new boarding house recently completed has been opened for use, with Mrs. MacKenzie as stewardess. This building is frame. The main portion is two-story 50x30 feet in size, with a commodious kitchen annex. The large dining room takes up most of the ground floor space. Upstairs are seven rooms for the officers and kitchen help. Outside are meat, storage and root houses.

Under construction is a new two-story bunk house 26x48 feet in size. It will contain 17 bedrooms, sufficient to house 34 men. Architect John C. Robertson of this city, who prepared the plans for the ore bin and other buildings, and who is personally supervising their erection, expects to have the bunkhouse completed within the next two weeks.

The old bunk and boarding house buildings have been completely remodeled, providing sleeping accommodation for 24 men. The assay and superintendent's office building is also being overhauled. When all this outside work is completed the employees of the Sunset and Crown Silver mines will have as comfortable quarters as any mine in the Boundary. All the structures are fitted with electric lights and the bunk and boarding houses have hot and cold baths.

RAILWAY IN THE ANDES.

A Trial Train Run Over the New Road in Ecuador.

GUAYKIL, Ecuador, Nov. 19.—Yesterday a trial train was run over the new railroad line from Bucay to Quito, a distance of 22 miles. This is the most difficult portion of the line to Quito from an engineering point of view. When the work was begun the difficulties seemed insurmountable. All, however, have been successfully overcome and the main problem of passing the Andes is now solved.

FOR TEN THOUSAND

PHOENIX MINERS' UNION NAMED AS DEFENDANT IN A BIG SUIT.

A HOTEL PROPRIETOR WHO CLAIMS DAMAGES FOR A BOYCOTT.

The Phoenix Miners' Union has been named as the defendant in an action for \$10,000 damages brought by August Jackson, the well known hotel man. Mr. Jackson has suffered heavy pecuniary loss through being blacklisted by the union and will seek to make them remunerate him for these losses. The writ was issued in Rossland, J. L. G. Abbott acting for the plaintiff.

The story of Mr. Jackson's troubles here in Rossland, and which are familiar also to many Rossland people. Prior to September last the Central Hotel, owned by Mr. Jackson, was a profitable business proposition. It had a regular list of 30 to 35 boarders, and his bar was well patronized. Mr. Jackson is also proprietor of the Central Hotel in Rossland, and when the mines resumed work here some of the men employed on the hill came to the Central hotel to board. No questions were asked of them, the only proviso being that all applicants for board should be decent citizens and good pay. The Rossland agitators construed Jackson's policy of conducting his Rossland hotel on business principles as an evidence that he was opposed to their cause, and determined to have revenge. This they set about doing by having the Phoenix union boycott the Central hotel at that camp.

Phoenix is agitator ridden to a degree that Rossland business men have never experienced. One day early in October a union official entered Mr. Jackson's hotel at Phoenix and notified him that the house had been blacklisted. Within a couple of days he had not a single boarder left, and the bar trade fell off to practically nothing. Since then the Central at Phoenix has not had a boarder within its doors nor an average of a dollar a day in bar business. It is to secure damages for this boycott that the action is now taken through the courts.

THE W. C. T. U. Officers Elected by the U. S. National Convention.

FORT WORTH, Texas, Nov. 19.—The salient feature of today's session of the W. C. T. U. National convention was the debate over the adoption of resolutions concerning statehood for Oklahoma and Indian Territory and the endorsement of the Prohibition party. The debate was long and spirited.

Mrs. Lillian M. Stevens was unanimously elected president for the coming year; Mrs. Susannah Fry, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Clara Hoffmann, recording secretary; and Mrs. Helen Morton Barker, treasurer.

CONSUL TO VERA CRUZ.

SOLOMON, Nov. 19.—Frederick Hays, newly appointed British consul to Vera Cruz, Mexico, arrived here today on his way to his post.

MINE AND SMELTER

SILVER-LEAD MEN GATHER TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE TRUST IN REGARD TO E. C. LEAD ORES.

A. B. Campbell of the Standard and the Hecla companies is now in New York. So is Charles Sweeney of the big Empire State-Idaho company, which controls the Last Chance and the Tiger-Poorman groups, says the Spokesman-Review. Either Peter Larson or Thomas Greenough of the Morning mine will also be in attendance. Eugene Braden, the northwestern manager for the smelter trust, will leave tonight to attend the conference.

The conference will be a most important one. The question of handling the ores of all the Ocoeur D'Alene outside of the Bunker Hill & Sullivan will probably come to a final decision. Their present contracts for the treatment of ores expire on January 1, and the smelting trust will not andy any of the various companies' ores after that date unless satisfactory new contracts are entered into. These contracts, according to the present demands of the company, must be for a period of five years at rates practically the same as those now in vogue. The main factor in abeyance relates to the terms under which the price of lead will be fixed.

A contract was offered to the miners by the smelting trust last spring under the terms of which the mine owners and the smelting corporation should each name representatives who would meet every six months and would then fix the price of lead for the coming half year period. Some of the mine owners objected to that. The smelting trust thereupon arbitrarily withdrew its proposal and announced that it alone would fix the price of lead. It would leave the miners no option in the matter. The company offered no guarantee of permanency in the price. In fact, under the terms of its new proposition it would absolutely dominate the lead miners and would fix any price that it wished for its product.

The miners would have no redress in the matter. The miners refused to consider such a proposition, and they came back west in an exceedingly dissatisfied condition. Since then things have been dormant. It appears now that the smelting trust will reconsider its arbitrary demands and will make a proposal which will permit the miners to have a voice in fixing the price of lead along some plan as would be involved in the conference idea.

The idea of well informed mining men is that the price of lead will probably be reduced somewhat from the present arbitrary figures of four cents a pound. The rate, as is generally conceded, is in a measure a fictitious one. It has been maintained by the smelting company by cutting down the lead output of the country. It is conceded that the price of lead would fall if the normal output of the country should be reduced. It is considered likely that the mine owners and the smelting company in the proposed conferences will agree upon what rate of reduction shall be made by the various companies in their output, so as to reduce the output to meet consumption.

A most important feature of the new lead situation is likely to relate to the attitude of the American Smelting and Refining company toward British Columbia lead ores. At present the smelting company refuses to buy ore from British Columbia lead mines. The smelting company is now considering a plan by which it will re-enter the British Columbia field, and will take the least a part of the ores from the Slocan and East Kootenay.

A FAMILY MURDERED

HORRIBLE OCCURRENCE REPORTED FROM LOS ANGELES DISTRICT.

FATHER, MOTHER AND CHILD BUTCHERED BY UNKNOWN PARTIES.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Nov. 19.—The dead bodies of A. P. Wilcox, his wife and young son were found today at their home, 12 miles from this city. The bodies were horribly mutilated, and the bloody condition of the premises indicated that the assailants had met with a fierce resistance. Wilcox and his family had been shot and then literally cut to pieces with a knife.

A neighbor forced the door and found the bodies of the family on the floor. The woman had been shot while carrying a plate from the stove to the table.

The baby boy lay in the middle of the room, while the disembowelled body of the father was stretched near the door. It is supposed the crime was committed two or three days ago. No clue to the murderers has been found.

Arthur Hickling was ticketed to London yesterday over the Canadian Pacific. Mr. Hickling will sail from New York per the White Star liner Celtic on the 29th inst.

THE MINES PROGRESS

SHIPMENTS FOR THE PAST WEEK CLIMB TO A SUBSTANTIAL FIGURE.

WOULD HAVE BEEN LARGER BUT FOR THE SHORTAGE OF CARS.

Ever since work was resumed at Rossland's big mines the mining companies have been hampered more or less by a shortage of cars. This arose in the following manner. The steel ore dumps employed by the Red Mountain railroad did not belong to the road. They were the property of the Great Northern, and were brought in here from Minnesota to handle the ore production. While the work in the mines was suspended the Great Northern required the cars elsewhere, and the whole string was accordingly sent east. As the tonnage has increased since work was resumed the demand for car space has become great, and the railroad company has had considerable difficulty in furnishing the rolling stock with the celerity that was required to handle the ore promptly.

This is to be remedied at once. The Red Mountain people have arranged to procure 50 pressed steel ore dumps of 40 tons capacity each. These cars are to be delivered in Rossland this month, and are probably on the way at the present moment. Had the mines been able to procure the necessary cars the output would have been considerably greater last week than it actually was. For the present, however, the output is practically governed by the car space available.

The improvements to the Red Mountain road are progressing apace. The steel work is almost completed, and within a few days the last of the eighty-pound rails will be spiked to the roadbed. The company will then have a splendid section of road, well calculated to handle the heavy traffic resulting from the large shipments of ore constantly moving over the line between Rossland and Northport.

At the Black Bear grounds the grade is ready, or almost so, for the new main line. It is expected that the ties will be laid and the steel put down within the next few days. The construction of the west leg of the new line interfered to some small extent with the recreation grounds, but the section cut out is outside of the playing field, so that the damage is not serious.

THE OUTPUT.

The output for the week ending November 16th and for the year to date is as follows:

Week.	Year.
Le Roi No. 1	3580 157,888
Le Roi No. 2	1200 30,896
Centre Star	6468 54,648
War Eagle	20,100
Rossland G. W.	360 8,906
Iron Mask	3,733
Homestake	20
I. X. L.	230
Spitzee	200
Velvet	563
Monte Cristo	20
Evening Star	74
Giant	52
Portland	24
Totals	5060 257,418

The figures giving the output of the camp since work was resumed at the mines are of considerable interest to those who are making a study of local conditions. Appended are the totals for the week ending on the dates specified:

September 7th	1520
September 14th	1650
September 21st	1740
September 28th	2480
October 5th	3070
October 12th	4130
October 19th	4830
October 26th	5550
November 2nd	5380
November 9th	4620
November 16th	5060
Total	40,110

The output for the week ending last night is satisfactory, probably more so than the record for any week since work was resumed at the mines. The aggregate tonnage is 5060, within a few tons of the best week's record since resumption. The notable feature, however, is that every pound of this ore was mined, no shipments being made from the dump. Alterations are being made to the sampler at the Trail smelter, and until this is completed no ore will be sent out over the Canadian Pacific.

It is of interest in connection with the week's production to note that the output would have been larger had the cars been available to handle the business. Within the next few weeks the railroad people will remedy this matter and will be in a position to handle all the ore that the mines wish to send out.

Le Roi.—The work at the Le Roi for the past week has been along the lines of the usual mining operations. Nothing of special interest has occurred, and matters are moving along smoothly.

Le Roi No. 2.—In the Josie and No. 1 mines the usual mining work has progressed quietly. Stopping is under way on the various levels, and development is proceeding in the shape of drifts on the 700 foot level west of the main shaft.

Nickle Plate.—The force at the mine increased to 40 during the week, and ordinary mining operations are being carried on.

Spitzee.—The drift on the 100 foot

level west of the shaft is in a distance of 70 feet, running through a good body of ore for the entire distance. It is proposed this week to break down some of the ore, and shipments will be made during the week. The drift will also be continued.

White Bear.—The mine has been completely unworked, and arrangements for the active prosecution of underground work are under way. The shaft having reached the depth allowed by law with the present facilities, a new gallow's frame is being erected. On its completion only a few finishing touches will be required before sinking is resumed on a considerable scale.

Green Mountain.—Manager Laury has been out of the city for a few days on a business trip. On his return, probably this evening, the arrangements for proceeding with the sinking of the main shaft will be continued.

O. K.—Prospect work is still under way in the lower levels of the mine. Manager John Y. Cole states that the crosscut tunnel, with which it is expected the lead will be relocated, is getting along at a fair rate of speed, but that no developments of special importance have occurred.

New St. Elmo.—Crosscutting the ore in the west end tunnel continues. This crosscut has been driven 38 feet, and has been ore of medium grade for its entire length. It is expected that the shoot of high grade ore opened up on the surface by open cuts will shortly be encountered at the deeper level.

Abe Lincoln.—The electric hoist has been installed and is now running satisfactorily. Raising is under way. While the change was being made from the horse whim formerly used to the present electric hoist considerable water accumulated in the shaft, and this is being removed with a forty-gallon bucket, filling and discharging automatically. When the unwatering is completed the work of straightening and retimbering the lower section of the shaft will be completed. The electric drill shipped from Denver a couple of weeks ago for the Abe Lincoln should reach Rossland during the present week.

THE GOLDEN FLEECE

NORTHEASTERN SIBERIA AS A FIELD FOR ARGONAUTS' RESEARCH.

JOSEPH VAN ABBE'S ADVENTURES IN THE DOMINIONS OF THE BEAR.

Joseph Van Abbe, the successful Nome miner, was in Rossland for a couple of hours again yesterday on his way to the coast after spending a week with relatives in the Boundary country. While here Mr. Van Abbe met Robert D. Moss, recently arrived in Rossland from the Cariboo country, where he has resided for several years. The two men were acquaintances some years ago, and are both thoroughly experienced placer miners. Some of their experiences were along the same lines, and the two spent the two hours that Mr. Van Abbe passed in the city in confabulation.

In the middle eighties Van Abbe penetrated to the Yukon on a trapping excursion. Incidentally he did some prospecting, but did not find anything of special value and planted no stakes. In the early nineties he went in for sealing, and it was in 1893 that he met Moss. Both sailed aboard the Salpan under Captain Hansen, and made considerable money in the "longshore rookeries" that were not patrolled by the Russian gunboats at that period.

Next year Van Abbe made another sealing trip and fell into a serious situation that ultimately led to good fortune in a manner rarely seen to-day. The same schooner, the Salpan, which headed for Robbin island, and was well known rookeries. The schooner landed her crew and then stood out to sea beyond the 30-mile line for a few days to permit the men ashore to slaughter and flay the game. When the Salpan put in to pick up her crew there was not a soul in sight. A Russian gunboat had stolen in unobserved and bagged the entire outfit, bag and baggage. The captured crew was taken to Petropaulovski and afterwards sent to the Siberian salt mines to serve sentences that practically meant death.

Van Abbe cultivated the natives in the salt mine district, and seven months after his incarceration escaped through the good offices of an Indian chief. With the Indians Van Abbe went north to that section of the Siberian coast above the Kamtschatkan peninsula. The natives with whom he consorted were a cross between the Aleutians and the Russians of Siberia. Eventually he married the daughter of one of the chiefs, who is still living in this relation to him. The Indians took Van Abbe into the alluvial district, and he prospected extensively. The result of his investigations was to satisfy him that much of the country in the section he was in was rich in placer gold. The gravel was only four to six feet in depth, but most of it carried values, and in some instances extremely high values, sometimes running an ounce to the pan. Van Abbe worked the country for some time, and brought out a small fortune in dust and nuggets. He will go in again next spring with a better equipment than he has yet carried, and hopes to make a big stake if the Russian officials do not hear too much of the country and close the gold fields to foreigners.

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CONFLICT OF OPINION

GREENWOOD FIREMEN OBJECT TO THE COMBINATION OF OFFICES.

THE CITY LOSES THE APPEAL IN THE WATERLAND DAMAGE CASE.

GREENWOOD, Nov. 16.—(Special.) The matter of the city dads desiring to combine the offices of chief of the police department and chief of the fire department at the end of the present month came up for discussion last night at a meeting of the Greenwood fire department. Some twenty-two members of the department attended. While to a great extent the proceedings were kept secret it is understood that the boys will protest to the mayor and board of aldermen against having at their head an officer holding two positions. They want a chief for the fire department who will be able to devote himself exclusively to the duties of that office. The meeting it is also understood nominated A. D. Hallett for the position of chief of the department over the present chief, F. H. MacKenzie.

A. A. Crowston, merchant, has removed to new quarters on Copper avenue, formerly occupied by the Canfield Hardware Company. Ed Massam has returned home from an extended trip to Eastern Canada cities. J. E. Boss, connected with the Dominion Copper Company, has been in town for a few days renewing old acquaintances. He declines to discuss matters relating to the re-opening of the mines in Phoenix camp owned by his company.

W. H. Thomas, of New York, accompanied by R. Liden, assistant superintendent of the Greenwood smelter, is up at Phoenix sampling the Brooklyn-Stemwinder-Idaho mines of the Dominion Copper Company. M. L. Quinn, advance agent for the Auditorium Stock Company of Spokane, is here billing the town. His company opens at the Auditorium for three nights, beginning the 28 inst.

The Greenwood Citizens' band will give a concert and dance in the Auditorium on December 19th. The second annual banquet of the St. Andrew's Society will be held at the Imperial hotel on St. Andrew's night—the 30th inst.

Colonel Dwyer, a wholesale liquor merchant of Spokane was here today en route home from Molson. He confirms recent reports that George B. Meecham, who promoted the townsite of Molson, had made a substantial cleanup in oil operations in New York.

GREENWOOD, Nov. 18.—A telephone message tonight from Bolster states that the long crosscut tunnel on the Buchhorn has finally encountered the ore. The Buchhorn is a promising gold-copper claim situated on Copper mountain, owned by the Monterey Gold Mining company, of Cleveland, Ohio. For many months past the work has been confined to running the tunnel to tap the ore at a depth of 300 feet. At nearly 700 feet the ore body, which on the surface measures 50 feet, was cut, showing a vertical wall.

In the damage suit of Waterland vs. the city of Greenwood for \$3000 the court unanimously confirmed the plaintiff's verdict in the lower court, dismissing the appeal of the city with costs. The action arose through the city having filled in a drain which was intended to carry off the overflow water from Boundary creek. During high water in the spring the creek backed up, flooding and damaging the plaintiff's hotel.

Born, yesterday, to the wife of Police Magistrate I. H. Hallett, a son.

AT GRAND FORKS. Building Operations Brisk—The Pathfinder Mine.

GRAND FORKS, Nov. 18.—Owing to the condition of the roads, rendering haulage by wagons very expensive, the El Caliph is the only Republic mine shipping ore at present to the Granby smelter.

J. S. Carter, district passenger agent of the C.P.R., is here on one of his regular trips through the Boundary. In an interview Mr. Carter stated that there was more building operations in progress in Grand Forks than all the towns of the Kootenays combined, excepting the coal towns on the line of the Crown's Nest railway.

A. B. W. Hodges, superintendent of the Granby smelter, visited Phoenix this week. John Rogers, president of the Pathfinder Mining Co., states that the first assessment at the rate of \$1 per thousand shares is being promptly responded to, and that the amount of delinquent stock promises to be small. Development work will be resumed as soon as the obligations of the company are discharged.

Judge Leamy will probably make his home here as he has written a friend asking about house rent, etc.

The new skating rink will be located midway between Grand Forks and Columbia. Its dimensions will be 140x50 and the cost \$1,300. A hockey team is being organized.

C. M. Turner, P. T. McCallum, J. B. Henderson and K. M. Stephen have been inducted as elders of Knox Presbyterian church. An aerie of the order of Fraternal Eagles will be instituted here shortly.