

asked whether the published report of the discovery at the 1,600 ft. level of the Centre Star of a new ore shoot 40 ft. in width and assaying \$48 per ton could be relied on. He was assured it was true and, further, that the mine underground is looking very well indeed, with plenty of ore in sight. This assurance, added to those previously received from officials of the Le Roi and Le Roi No. 2 that their respective mines were in excellent condition as regards available ore of good grade, was indeed gratifying and appeared to amply warrant confidence that Rossland camp is now in a more satisfactory position from an ore-producing point of view than at any previous time in its history.

Deep drift mining in the Cariboo gives promise of soon proving a success at the mine of the Cariboo Consolidated, if not at other district mines. This company has followed the prudent policy of leaving the direction of its operations in the hands of a mine manager with a full knowledge and long experience of local conditions, and as a result appears to have at last come within measurable distance of overcoming the very considerable difficulties that have heretofore seriously impeded its operations. In contrast to this there is the present experience of another company which is trying the experiment of management at long range under conditions that appear to make continued failure a foregone conclusion. Some day it may be forced home upon English directors that something more than the engagement at comparatively large expense of an engineer with a big general reputation and little local experience is not always conducive to success—that is, the success of the company immediately concerned.

One of the largest shareholders in the Kootenay Air Supply Co. came to British Columbia from Montreal, Quebec, this month, for the purpose of looking over the Taylor Hydraulic Air Compressor plant installed near Ainsworth six or seven years ago and to endeavour to make arrangements with some "live" man to advocate the more general use, at local mines, of the compressed air power the company is in a position to supply. The B. C. MINING RECORD published in May, 1898, an account of what was then described as "A new system of compression of air by falling water," and in the July, 1900, number of this journal there appeared an illustrated description of the installation. The latter is reproduced this month, for the double reason that the system at the present time is receiving attention in mining camps in the United States, and that there is a gradually increasing revival of interest in mining in Ainsworth camp, so that the time seems opportune for again directing public attention to this economical and effective method for compressing air.

The first of the three 600-ton blast furnaces the British Columbia Copper Co. is installing at its smelting works at Greenwood, Boundary district, is ready for operation and is to be blown in during the first week in October. The hearth area of each of these furnaces is given as 48 by 240 in., and charging is from side-dumping cars hauled by trolley locomotives. The 25-ton slag cars for dumping the molten slag are also ready for use. The manager, Mr. J. E. McAllister, is to be congratulated on the successful installation of the big and modern copper smelting plant his company has on his expert advice substituted for the smaller plant formerly in use at these works. As the B. C. Copper Co. obtains its supply of coke from the Belgian ovens of the West Canadian Collieries Co. at Lille, Southwest Alberta, it is probable the present labour troubles at the more westerly collieries of the Crow's Nest Pass will not in any way interfere with its smelting operations, about to be resumed after the suspension unavoidable during the period of reconstruction.

"There has been more trouble at the Ymir," remarks the *London Critic*. "This time the melting snow and scarcity of labour have combined to make the July and August crushings disappointing, but an official circular explains that the mine is now well drained, and a cablegram from the manager states that 'September output promises exceedingly well.' It also appears that American capitalists are desirous of becoming interested in the Ymir gold mine, which is a good sign, as the American capitalist is a cute person. The directors have intimated that they are prepared to discuss terms for introducing this capital, and arrangements are being made for a meeting of the interested parties in New York early next month. If the provision of funds can be arranged, Mr. Gilman Brown advises that diamond drills should be employed to locate the other large vein which he is still confident exists, and from which the rich float has been shed over a long line of country on the company's property." We earnestly hope Mr. Gilman Brown's confident expectations will soon be realized. Meanwhile it might be well for the local manager to check his seeming too ready disposition to talk to local newspaper representatives in so over-sanguine a strain. Our personal experience of the present manager on three separate occasions has been that while free enough in promise to supply us with information as to the actual condition of affairs at the mine, he has not once kept his promise. Fortunately there are very few men in charge of important mines in the Province with whom we have had a similar experience. Mine managers usually either say frankly that they are not at liberty to disclose information, or they give a reliable outline of the position, recognizing that a journal of the good reputation and standing of the B. C. MINING RECORD should not be trifled with.