

Rossland Weekly Miner.

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THE UNITED STATES AND CANADIAN COMMERCE.

A Washington dispatch of recent date tells us that the United States enjoys more of Canadian commerce than the rest of the world put together. Attention is directed to this fact in that portion of the "Commercial Relations of 1901" (now in press) which deals with United States trade with Canada. It is pointed out that so closely allied are trade conditions in the United States and Canada that prosperity or depression in the United States immediately finds echo in the trade of their northern neighbor.

Consul-General Bittinger, at Montreal, in a report on the subject says: "The United States does more business with Canada than with the whole of South America, Mexico and the West Indies together, and nearly as much as with Africa, Asia and Oceania."

"Our present tariff policy toward Canada," says the consul-general, "causes the building up of great manufacturing interests to compete with our own. If we seek trade in other countries, we must not deny them the opportunity to sell some of their products to us. Canada wants to send to the United States her lumber, wood pulp, hay, barley and minerals. The United States consumes more lumber and paper than any other nation in the world, and she should be glad to admit lumber and wood pulp free. If the United States would take off the duty on Canadian coal (which could be profitably sold only to a very limited extent along our eastern coast), our coal would be admitted into Canada free, and our sales of coal in the Dominion would be double what they are at present."

Canada's total importation for consumption in the last fiscal year amounted to \$181,238,000. Imports from the United States reached the splendid figure of \$110,465,000, an increase of some \$600,000 over the preceding year.

Figures are given to show that the preferential tariff has failed to affect seriously trade movements. Dutiable goods from the United States showed a decrease of about \$300,000 last year, but this is attributed to the growth of Canadian industries.

As a curious instance of how industries may be throttled by legislation, Consul-General Bittinger relates that the British preferential tariff enabled British exporters last year to send to the Dominion woolen goods to the value of ten millions. As they were considered of better quality than, and as cheap, as the home product, many Canadian mills have been obliged to close down.

Consul Shepard, at Hamilton, in his report, calls attention to the interesting fact that the big dry goods houses of Canada send their milliners and modistes to New York several times a year to observe and copy styles, and have practically turned their backs on the European modes formerly so popular.

CANADIAN MEAT.

The dispatches yesterday morning tell us that the butchers' association of London held a meeting at which a petition was framed and sent to parliament asking that the present restrictions on the importation of cattle from Canada and Argentine be removed. The meeting asserted that in view of the reduction in the American meat supply the action they asked was imperative in order to prevent a meat famine during coronation week. Another meeting of a similar nature was held at Manchester, at which representatives from 120 cities of the United Kingdom attended. It was further stated that in the House of Commons R. V. Hanbury, president of the board of agriculture, said the government had no reason to apprehend a serious meat shortage, and that it could not entertain a proposal to remove the restrictions on cattle imported from Canada.

We call attention to this matter because it seems strange that Canada should be made the target for restrictions, particularly of the prohibitive

nature that seems to exist. There is nothing against the beef cattle of Canada that will not apply to the United States; in fact, the conditions, if anything, are more favorable to this side than to the other. No people in the world enjoy the privilege of eating better meat than do Canadians. The broad acres of the central west afford the best pasturage to be found anywhere. The raising of beef cattle is an infant industry that we all expect some day will grow into stalwart proportions. And just at the threshold of the industry we find that a great barrier has been erected, over which we are not permitted to pass. We take it for granted that the authorities in Great Britain are acting in the utmost good faith from their point of view. But we believe, like the moral illustrated by the shield planted at the two forks of the road, one side of which was gilded in gold and the other burnished with silver, so that the traveler coming either way would only see the gold on the silver side of the shield as the case might be, the president of the board of agriculture only sees one side of the question, and if his department would investigate a little deeper he would find that Canadian beef cattle are as free from disease as any in the world.

There have been no disturbed conditions in Canada such as have existed in South Africa to throw the cattle business out of its legitimate channels. Cattle men have been going along in the even tenor of their way, paying exclusive attention to a very useful and necessary business. There may be isolated cases of disease among animals of all kinds. It is fresh in the minds of most readers that several times in the last few years the authorities in the Kootenays have quarantined against American horses, teamsters being compelled in the Kettle River Valley, below Grand Forks, to change horses before being allowed to proceed. From our knowledge we believe the Canadian authorities are more particular to keep free from disease domestic animals of all kinds than are the authorities on the other side of the line. We say this out of no disrespect, but from a close observation of the condition of things. As a consequence Canadian raised cattle, horses, sheep and hogs can better stand the test of examination than almost any country that could be named. And still restrictions are placed on the importation of Canadian cattle that do not seem to exist in regard to American cattle. Without discussing the privileges of preferential trade and loyalty to the British flag so manifest on Canadian soil, we sincerely believe that the barrier could be lifted on the importation into the United Kingdom of Canadian meats.

THE ORE PRODUCTION.

Notwithstanding many adverse circumstances the output of ore from the Rossland mines promises to be greater this year than ever before. It will be seen from the official figures given below that there has never been a decrease since 1894, in which year the first shipments were made. There has been a growing increase each year—not a marvelous one—but enough to ensure a steady growth and substantial prosperity to the entire community. It can be stated with the utmost confidence that if the citizens of Rossland as a whole have not prospered it cannot be laid at the door of the mines.

That Rossland has won its right to be termed the Premier Mining Camp of the broad Dominion goes without saying. The fact is doubly impressive when the appended statement of tonnage and values of ores in the camp since it first appeared on the horizon is considered:

Table with columns: Year, Tons, Value. Rows: 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901. Total: 921,015 tons, 16,910,210 value.

The statement of the camp's output for 1901, as secured from the mines, is given herewith:

Table with columns: Mines, Tons, Value. Rows: Le Roi, Centre Star, War Eagle, Rossland G. W., Iron Mask, Bonanza, Homestake, I. X. L., Spitzee, Velvet, Monte Cristo, Evening Star, Giant, Portland. Total: 279,133 tons, 5,090,894 value.

In Sunday morning's Miner appeared the figures for last week's shipments, as well as those from the first of the year to that date, being four months less about 10 days. We reproduce the figures below:

Table with columns: Week, Year. Rows: Le Roi, Le Roi No. 2, Cascade, Bonanza, Velvet, Centre Star, Rossland G. W., War Eagle, Spitzee. Total: 8080 tons, 106,594 value.

the end of this month, it is safe to predict, will be 15,000 tons, which, added to the 106,849 tons above given, will make 121,849 tons of ore shipped for the first four months of this year. The ore production will increase rather than decrease for the remaining months of the year 1902, but assuming for the sake of argument that the production of ore will continue at the same ratio for the remaining eight months of the year as during the past four (nearly) months and we will have a total for the year of 365,547 tons of ore mined and shipped from the camp. This is an increase over last year of 86,414 tons. And we think it safe to point out that this forecast will be increased rather than otherwise. The Le Roi dump, if found profitable, will all be worked which will add just so much to the total output of the mines. Furthermore, the Centre Star and the War Eagle will probably increase their output in the near future, to swell the figures above given. The Le Roi's output for last year was only 150,876 tons, and at the end of this month it will doubtless amount to 31,500. Multiplying these last figures by three and we have 274,500 tons from this one mine alone, an increase of 123,624 tons over last year. The reader can easily discover that our forecast is most conservative. Those living here and acquainted with the great mines of Rossland will appreciate this fully, as they are fairly well acquainted with the condition of the mines, the ore blocked out as well as of (that in slight) to say nothing of one or two properties that are likely to join the shippers.

The Miner invites the attention of its readers to these facts and figures, and particularly those skeptical papers on the coast which have depicted in the past to "throw it" into Rossland. Our people have the greatest reason to look on the bright side of the future. Rossland still maintains her place as the banner mining camp of the province.

ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE.

Table with columns: Service, Amount. Rows: Public debt, Civil government (Salaries), Administration of Justice (Salaries), Legislation, Public Institutions (Maintenance), Hospitals and Charities, Administration of Justice (other than Salaries), Education, Transport, Revenue Services, Public Works (Works and Buildings, House, Streets, Bridges and Wharves, Surveys, Contingencies), Miscellaneous. Total: \$2,486,127.31

CRITICISM INDULGED IN.

Criticism is indulged in by the way the "Hot Air" celebration was conducted. The invited guests from abroad were rushed through without being given a chance to see any of the great mines of the Boundary country or the great smelting works located therein. It seems that the guests had even to walk or ride in wagons into Republic, the track not being laid within five miles of the town. The railway magnates were in a hurry in everything they did—not even waiting for the line to be finished. The guests should have been given time to see the surrounding towns, visit the mines and smelters, and get a good view of the country generally. They went home but little wiser concerning the great resources of the region in which we live than when they started. There should have been something in store for them besides plenty to eat and too much to drink and looking at the driving of the "last spike" which lacked five miles of being the last spike.

OUTLOOK ENCOURAGING.

Those of our readers who followed the facts and figures presented in yesterday's Miner on the ore production of the Rossland camp since 1894, and the forecast made for the balance of the year 1902, based on the production of ore mined and shipped since the 1st of January to this date, could not but be favorably impressed with the outlook for the future. That the output of the mines will reach 365,547 tons, the greatest in the history of the camp, there cannot be the least doubt, unless the unforeseen happens and the mines shut down entirely.

The statement is made that the Iron Mask people will put up additional machinery before long, which will greatly increase the tonnage from that mine. Last year the Iron Mask shipped 3733 tons, but so far this year no shipments have been made. There then is the Homestake. This property has cut but little figure as an ore shipper in the past, but active work is to be resumed, and we can see no reason why some of the large bodies

of ore known to exist in the mine should not find its way to the smelter. This will also increase our estimate. If the Sophie Mountain railway is ever built it will mean the bringing out of large bodies of ore from the Velvet and other properties in that district. Sophie Mountain is only distant seven miles from Rossland, and, of course, is considered tributary territory. The Velvet last year shipped 163 tons; this year so far 250 tons. If the ratio is kept up till the end of the year the mine will have increased its output over the preceding 12 months by about 200 tons. This is a reasonable forecast. As we all know it is expensive to get ore out of that region at present, but with the building of the proposed railway the conditions will be changed. It means a large increase in the production and shipment of ore.

The trial shipment to the smelter from the Le Roi dump, of which mention was made on Sunday, will doubtless prove satisfactory, and regular shipments will be made in the future to either the Northport or the Trail smelter. The result of this will only add to our estimate, which will amount to a big lump sum before the close of the year if present plans are carried out. That the output from the mines of the Rossland district will exceed that of last year, and, of course, of all preceding years, goes without saying. A revival of the mining industry throughout the Kootenay country can be seen in the horizon. We hear good reports from all sections. It is not confined to Rossland alone, but the news is encouraging all along the line. It cannot but have a good influence on trade and business of all kinds, which suffers when the mines are idle. Rossland business men had a taste of that last year, from which they have not entirely recovered. Let us look to the future and pull together.

AN UNFAIR ASSUMPTION.

Some of our contemporaries, notably the "B. C. Review," estimate that the future prosperity of Rossland depends on the margin between the costs of realization, as at present existing, and the average gross values in the ore bodies blocked out in our developed mines. This is unfair, as a review of the reduction in the costs of realization during the past five years will demonstrate. Five years ago it cost \$25 per ton to realize the gross values contained in the Le Roi ores. Today it costs not to exceed \$8.00 per ton, notwithstanding the fact that the railway facilities are practically the same as they were five years ago. The saving effected has been wholly brought about by improved mining and smelting facilities. The inference to be drawn from the comment of our contemporaries is that they consider the limit of improvement in the direction of a reduction in costs has been reached. No one familiar with the further possibilities in this direction will agree with the position assumed by the "Review."

A Christina Lake rancher was in Grand Forks the other day to get young fruit trees to set out on his place. The section around this beautiful sheet of water will have other attractions than mines and scenery to show people before long. Three Japs were fined \$30 each at Pendleton, Oregon, last Wednesday for shooting robins, meadow larks and other small birds for food. Served the Japs right. We have none too many song birds on the Pacific coast and the innocents should be protected.

"Colonel" William J. Bryan has gone to Misouri to investigate the British camp said to be located there. Bryan has been eight years looking for an "issue," and he evidently thinks he smells one a long way off. He and his fellow Democrats will find that the Boer question has been settled a long time before it will do them any good in the next presidential election. Mr. Bryan should retire to his farm and mend his fences. The Boer question will be settled without his aid. It beats all the great interest some people take in other people's affairs on the eve of a presidential election. The people are not all boers.

John Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader, indulged in a vehement tirade yesterday against the enforcement of the crimes act in Ireland. He said an "infamous conspiracy was on foot in England to foment crime in Ireland." "A hundred men," Mr. Redmond continued, "stood ready to replace every man sent to prison in this struggle. Nothing can equal the froth and fury of the average 'professional patriot.' But we reach the milk in the account when we read further down in the dispatch that 'John Redmond and John Dillon have dispatched a joint cablegram to ex-Congressman John F. Pinney of Chicago appealing for American sympathy and support in the struggle against coercion.' The ducats is what the two Johns are after.

An exchange facetiously remarks that the prize ring lost a shining light when Joe Martin changed his mind and took to politics. Why not end the session at Victoria with a friendly bout between Martin and our much esteemed representative, Mr. Curtis. Just for points, you know, not for money. Curtis is so used to being knocked out (metaphorically speaking) that he rather enjoys it. And as for Martin, why, he is always on hand!

Should the legislators cease their personal quarrels for a short period and settle down to the transaction of the people, for which purpose the members were elected, although many of them apparently do not realize that this is so, some attention might with profit be given to the mining laws. The enactments as to the mines have the effect of keeping capital out of the country and are thus delaying the development of one of the best mining fields yet discovered. The coast representatives have been in the ascendancy in the legislature and in the cabinet ever since the province came into existence. They know little or nothing about the mining conditions in the interior, imagine that the Coast is all that there is of British Columbia, seem to desire to exact every possible cent from the mine owners and to burden their operations with useless regulations. One of the most onerous of the mining laws is the two per cent tax levied on the gross proceeds of the mines, less the freight and treatment charges. This is admitted by all to be onerous, burdensome and inequitable. In some cases, where the ore is of low grade, it is claimed that the government is at present making as much as some of the mines which have put in large sums to purchase the properties they operate, to develop them and equip them with proper machinery. As this is palpably a wrong how can it be expected that capital will invest in a place where such an unfair law prevails? The mining laws, and especially those which relate to corporations, abound in fines and penalties to do certain things which are of no real importance, the penalties, when enforced, practically amount to confiscation of the assets of the offending corporations. A number of suits are now pending in the courts for alleged breaches of these laws and if the amounts sued for can be collected, some of the companies mulcted will be bankrupted. The violations are merely of a technical nature and have inflicted no public or private injury of moment on anyone. The law should at least be changed so that the penalties would be reasonable and not unusual and drastic as they are. These matters are worthy of the immediate attention of the lawmakers. If, however, they do not do something at once the mine owners will, of course, be compelled to go on under the present adverse conditions until, under the redistribution bill, Kootenay and Yale will be properly represented in the legislature and by men who are in sympathy with the mining industry and fully understand its wants and needs. Then the desired reform can be secured and the conditions will then be made so advantageous that investors will no longer shun the province, then the mining industry will be placed on a new and better footing and will have a growth that the natural conditions entitle it to—Nelson Miner.

WHERE LABOR IS SUPREME.

"Labor has command of the situation in Australia," remarked J. W. Campion this morning, "and I cannot say that a paradise is the result." Mr. Campion is the representative of the National Cash Register Co. of Dayton, Ohio, and has just returned from a two years' trip through the Sandwich, Samoan and Fiji Islands, and Australia and New Zealand. "It seems rather odd to talk of doing business of this nature among the cannibal islands," he went on to say, "but today there is a large population of whites there, considerable business is done, and one need not be afraid of coming to a finish in a native cook pot. Sugar is the great product of these islands, and the Sandwich and Fiji groups and proper principle is detrimental to the interests of the country. It is Australia though that one can see the effects of the labor element. There everything is union, and eight hours, with only 42 hours work a week. The law is enforced very strictly and all infringements are punished. It is not an unusual thing to find an inspector enter a kitchen in Victoria or Melbourne and examine the cutlery or such like, and if the union sanction is not there it must be replaced or prosecution follows. If the cook arrives a few moments too early and starts work he is fined. In short, the whole conditions are very arbitrary. During the first three months I was in that country there were 36 holidays. The workmen have so complete command of the situation that a holiday is taken when it is desired. In Queensland, the sugar raising province, they are beginning to awake to the benefits of litigation. It is necessary there, for the coast mountains prevent moisture from reaching the interior, and as a result great droughts prevail. Everything is burned up. Pumph stations may be installed, but it has at last been understood that the natural flow of water cannot be secured. Here the law has been passed that white labor only must be employed, and all Kanakas, natives and other colored workers, have to get out." Vancouver World.

LIKE OTHER EVILS cramps and diarrhoea come suddenly. Promptly give a dose of Perry Davis' Painkiller and the pains will go immediately. A bottle at hand will save hours of suffering—be prepared.

CURRENT COMMENT

THE ORE TAX.

Should the legislators cease their personal quarrels for a short period and settle down to the transaction of the people, for which purpose the members were elected, although many of them apparently do not realize that this is so, some attention might with profit be given to the mining laws. The enactments as to the mines have the effect of keeping capital out of the country and are thus delaying the development of one of the best mining fields yet discovered. The coast representatives have been in the ascendancy in the legislature and in the cabinet ever since the province came into existence. They know little or nothing about the mining conditions in the interior, imagine that the Coast is all that there is of British Columbia, seem to desire to exact every possible cent from the mine owners and to burden their operations with useless regulations. One of the most onerous of the mining laws is the two per cent tax levied on the gross proceeds of the mines, less the freight and treatment charges. This is admitted by all to be onerous, burdensome and inequitable. In some cases, where the ore is of low grade, it is claimed that the government is at present making as much as some of the mines which have put in large sums to purchase the properties they operate, to develop them and equip them with proper machinery. As this is palpably a wrong how can it be expected that capital will invest in a place where such an unfair law prevails? The mining laws, and especially those which relate to corporations, abound in fines and penalties to do certain things which are of no real importance, the penalties, when enforced, practically amount to confiscation of the assets of the offending corporations. A number of suits are now pending in the courts for alleged breaches of these laws and if the amounts sued for can be collected, some of the companies mulcted will be bankrupted. The violations are merely of a technical nature and have inflicted no public or private injury of moment on anyone. The law should at least be changed so that the penalties would be reasonable and not unusual and drastic as they are. These matters are worthy of the immediate attention of the lawmakers. If, however, they do not do something at once the mine owners will, of course, be compelled to go on under the present adverse conditions until, under the redistribution bill, Kootenay and Yale will be properly represented in the legislature and by men who are in sympathy with the mining industry and fully understand its wants and needs. Then the desired reform can be secured and the conditions will then be made so advantageous that investors will no longer shun the province, then the mining industry will be placed on a new and better footing and will have a growth that the natural conditions entitle it to—Nelson Miner.

Heated Debate on Duties Provided for in the Budget. LONDON, April 22.—In the course of a debate on the grain tax in the House of Commons this evening the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, announced that "total" or coarse meat for stock feeding would pay only three pence per hundred-weight instead of five pence. He added that in the case of four and five meals the farmers had been greatly disturbed by the fear that a heavy tax on "total" would offset any protective advantage which they would gain by the grain duty.

The Chancellor also expressed his belief that the advance in the price of bread, which had been a half penny to one penny a loaf higher throughout the year, would be met by a corresponding announcement, would recede so soon as the trade had adjusted itself to the new conditions.

The whole evening was occupied in a heated debate of the duties as provided for in the budget. At midnight Mr. Baillour, the Government leader, applied the closure, and the corn duties resolution was adopted by 283 votes to 197.

REEVES IS PARDONED.

Was Recently Sentenced to Ten Years' Imprisonment—Fined \$35,515. HAVANA, April 22.—Governor-General Wood issued an order today pardoning W. H. Reeves, who was recently sentenced to ten years' imprisonment and the payment of a fine of \$35,515 for complicity in the Cuban postal frauds. Reeves was liberated at once.

General Wood says he pardoned Reeves because he was a witness for the state.

The order pardoning him did not come as a surprise, for it has been generally understood ever since E. G. Rathbone was first accused of being in connection with the postal frauds, that Reeves had been promised immunity by the military government. This had been denied, as well as the fact that the government had been using Reeves as a witness for the state.

The matter was referred to by counsel for Rathbone in summing up their client's case. Rathbone's lawyers declared that this promise of immunity had influenced Reeves to make statements against Rathbone.

THE DANISH WEST INDIES.

The Landsting Will Vote on the Treaty. COPENHAGEN, April 22.—The landsting today considered in open session the treaty providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States. The former minister, Dr. Deutzer, made a strong no-sale speech, covering the various arguments of the opposition against the sale of the islands. He caused a sensation by reading statements from the United States official publications showing that Estrup, the leader of the opposition, offered to sell the islands to the United States in 1892 when Estrup was prime minister and minister of finance.

Dr. Deutzer also ridiculed the fear of the opposition that the United States congress might refuse to appropriate \$5,000,000 to purchase the islands, and added a recent decision of the supreme court of the United States insured the islands immediate free trade with the United States.

German Companies Enter a Close Business Confederacy. NEW YORK, April 22.—The trans-Atlantic steamship combine, formed by J. P. Morgan, will have a capital of \$170,000,000, of which \$60,000,000 will be six per cent cumulative preferred stock, \$60,000,000 common stock and \$50,000,000 5-1/2 per cent debentures. The underwriting syndicate has subscribed \$50,000,000, 40 per cent of which was placed abroad and the remainder here. As yet the company has barely gone beyond the organization stage. The corporate title is still undetermined. As announced last week the combine will have an American charter, but those in authority decline to make known at this time the state in which the combine will be incorporated. It is authoritatively stated that "a working arrangement" has been made with the German lines, the North German Lloyd and Hamburg-American, as a result of which the relations between the new combination and the German companies promise to be altogether harmonious. Clement Griscorn, president of the International Navigation company, was again in conference with Mr. Morgan's partners today. He had nothing to say for publication other than that the preliminary details of the steamship consolidation were being perfected with little delay.

THE GERMAN COMPANIES. BERLIN, April 22.—The German steamship companies have not been bought outright by the Morgan interests. They enter a close business confederacy with the American and British lines. Their ownership is not merged; their independence is safeguarded, subject only to a certain comprehensive and advantageous contract. The foregoing is the substance of crisp replies made in Hamburg and Bremen by Herr Ballin, director general of the Hamburg-American line, and Herr Platt, president, and Herr Wiegand, director general of the North German Lloyd line.

THE PROSPECT. All Parts of the Signs. R. L. T. Gal for the Kootenay yesterday on his inspection. He at the Kootenay I. The Kootenay I. and are progressing more and more each year. The health of them are very any cases of serious disease. They took great care in East Kootenay is dull excepting centres and Crow's Nest So of the latest to tend to the in where the Koot the state of Id known as Link post, and is in farming and s A considerable has come into ing the last year for the ensuing customs house. North of Portl, new railway is fine crossed the is said to be at the bridge is proceeded with. at Crow's Nest enay, a few miles a point of view grading on the to Elko is nearly is being pushed on by the army of contractors. At good progress is doing a good trade considerable building the towns is n Fernie is also lively town, a being taken out. At Marysville is steadily on the ments of both K mentioned town latter about 50 development work mine and the repa tion was settle intention of the a large force to smelter is comp with ore. Fort S mines, especially showing up we creek there with mining done thi of the last seas been the best ob in that district great deal of wo ing the winter, does not seem to consist captain number of plac ing in a hydrat to work not only but also the ben Brook is progr Wardner is sav which will pro considerably. Co the steamer Nor ed through bef Fort Steele, on Plains, and it is the North Star and Fort Steele good deal of pr through the ent and altogether, that as soon as the Kootenay is that would be British Columbia first to reach is as enthusiastic wonderful resou thoroughly has as he does.—Nels

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