

ing and investing public look to reputable journals for—there are neither “huge plants” nor “vast ore-dumps” to be found in Summit camp. Even supposing that the B. C. mine has lately received “two 80-horse power boilers, a 50-horse power hoist and half of a 20-drill Rand compressor” as stated, seeing that this is the only comparatively big plant in Summit camp and that the two or three others in the neighbourhood do not aggregate one-half its power this is no justification for asserting that “huge plants” are at work. Nor can the accumulation on the dumps of a total of less than 20,000 tons of ore, much of which will have to be sorted out as unsuitable for shipment, be truthfully described as “vast ore-dumps.” In other respects the contribution under notice is much inflated, but what we have written will suffice to show its general character. It is not a pleasant duty to challenge gross exaggerations in published statements respecting our mines, but so far as this journal is concerned, we shall to the best of our ability endeavour to check the growing abuse of opportunity indulged in by irresponsible scribblers who, either ignorantly or from unworthy motives, attempt to deceive the investing public. In case these remarks be construed as questioning the value of the better developed of the Summit camp properties, it may be advisable to add that the information at our disposal leads us to conclude that at the B. C. mine the indications are for profitable and permanent production and that the Oro Denora is also full of promise.

British Columbia is to be congratulated on the recent appointment by the Dominion Government of Mr. Angus K. Stuart of Greenwood as representative of this Province at the Paris Exposition. Mr. Stuart is not only an excellent linguist, but thanks to a journalistic training which has made him a close observer and a residence of many years standing in British Columbia and the mining camps of South Yale, he has gained a very comprehensive knowledge of the country and its potentialities and is thus fully equipped to do us justice in championing “B. C.” at the great Fair during his stay in the French capital.

Elsewhere, our London correspondent refers to the reconstruction of the Hall Mines, Limited, and in this connection we have received an interesting letter from one of the leading mining engineers in Canada in which he says: “I would like to assure you of my high personal opinion of that mine and my belief that capable, economical management can make of it a very remunerative property. The weak point of the property has always been the administration of the mine; for this the responsibility is about equally divided between the London Board and former mine management. Last November a new mine superintendent, Capt. J. R. Gifford, was appointed and who, in the short time he had control, satisfied himself of the ultimate value of the property and the necessity for vigorous exploitation. This exploitation discovered in the south vein of the seventh level large bodies of valuable ore; in one place five feet of ore gave 64 ozs. of silver and 2.6 per cent. of copper. These discoveries were made 200 feet below the level of former stopes running above No. 5 adit, and, to my mind, are of the highest significance as indicating a future for the property.” It is a matter for congratulation, mean-

while, that the Hall Mines is to have another chance, and we trust, under better auspices.

At extraordinary general meetings of the Goldfields of British Columbia (Limited), the Waverley Mine (Limited) and the Tangier Mine (Limited), held recently in London, resolutions were unanimously adopted for the voluntary liquidation of these companies. A new company, entitled the Empire Goldfields (Limited) is to be formed with a capital of £200,000 divided into shares of £1 each, for the purpose of acquiring the assets and liabilities of the existing companies. The scheme of amalgamation provides that every holder of five shares in the Goldfields of British Columbia will receive one share in the new company; holders of four shares in the Waverley, one share; and holders of one share in the Tangier one share. The shares in the new company are to be issued with a liability of 1s. per share. By this arrangement there is just a bare possibility that shareholders of these unfortunate concerns may improve their position; but unless very different methods are adopted than those employed in the past, this chance is of the slimmest.

At a recent political meeting held in Kaslo, the Premier, Mr. Martin, was asked:

“Is the Mr. Smith Curtis, now Minister of Mines, the same gentleman who about six months ago published in the *Roseland Miner* a letter over his own signature that the Provincial Government had the power, which they should exercise, to take possession of any mine where operations were suspended by the owner and to work such mine? Is the Premier prepared to say that this will be a feature of the policy of his government and to what extent will it be applied in the Slocan?”

Mr. Martin replied: “I believe Mr. Smith Curtis did write such a letter and I believe that, in extreme cases, there is such power on the part of the government of the province and in an extreme case, for the public good, it should be exercised. Except for purely business reasons no company should be allowed to close a mine down. I do not think any mine owner has the right to deliberately shut down his mine for the purpose of affecting disputes between him and the persons who are working for him.”

We challenge Mr. Martin to show any authority justifying his belief that a government of British Columbia has a right to interfere with private property in the way he intimates. But very few people take Mr. Martin seriously and it is a matter for thankfulness that there is no fear of confidence being shaken by the return of this gentleman to power.

The extension of the Yukon & White Pass Railway to White Horse is expected to be complete by August. This should mean much for a district of which there are high hopes as a copper producer and of which some of the claims are now sufficiently developed to justify a prediction that a first shipment of smelting ore may be made this summer. The White Horse copper claims are stated to run extraordinarily well in copper with some silver and a very little gold. If future development should prove the permanency of the ore bodies, the best of the White Horse copper properties should be easily able to pay the White Pass & Yukon Railway Company's pre-paid freight rate to the smelter, which will be about