

ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

Per Year \$2.50.

ROSSLAND, B. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1903

Eighth Year, Number 24

ASTER—
L. Burch, the new pastor of
new's church, will arrive in the
in Winnipeg in time to take the
on Easter Sunday.

INDIA—
has been advanced to pro-
the Man From India" here by
performers. The suggestion
well received, but it is prob-
action will be postponed for
weeks.

RECORD—
return—Shipped
during month 15,830 tons of
containing 4900 ozs. of gold, 23,214
silver, 526,000 pounds of copper
to estimate profit, ore to be
yet."

ARROW LAKES—
ing Blonde has been bought at
by McMillan & Co., the lum-
for use on the Arrow Lakes. She
loaded on two flat cars at Van-
and will be thus conveyed to her
point of action.

TRANSFERRED—
American mails for Nelson and
north are being transferred here
to the blockade on the Nelson &
Leppard road. The work of the
postal officials was materially in-
terfered.

STORAGE PLANT—
Bros. are preparing for the
season by the commencement
construction of a cold storage
their big store between the dry
and grocery departments. The
will be fitted with the most
arrangements for ventilation
equal anything of the kind in
Kootenays.

DISPATCH CONFIRMS THE
made recently in The Miner
the Jumbo company's intention
work on its property and to
the Spokane message says
mine will start shipments at
date, a considerable body of
gold ore having been block-
prior to the closing of the
year.

IS HERE—
spring thaw is here with a
pace, as pedestrians discover
passing the corner of Columbia
and Washington street, where
is running an inch deep over a
of the sidewalk and increasing
time. The robins have been
about the city for a couple of
weeks, although the outlook for
thawing weather is assured.

AND HALF—
fire department is halting
winter and spring in respect to
apparatus. The chemical wagon is
being stalled, while the hose wagon
is placed on wheels for the
year. In the central portion of the
heels alone are practicable, but
now is still deep in various sec-
tions and a wheeled vehicle
promptly sink to the hubs—
the necessity of keeping one of
fits in shape to reach the out-
skirts.

FOR FLOWERS—
Smith, well known here as a
er, states that the season for
g flowers is almost at hand. For
planting he recommends asters,
nasturtiums, verbenas, petunias
liliches, the latter a climber. All
do excellently in Rossland and
depend upon to produce bloom-
erly planted and cared for. Sweet
may be set out immediately, as
does not affect them. The present
a good time to set out roses.

ON AMATEURS—
Nelson amateur performers who
ed "Sweet Land" at the
City on the 17th inst. have under-
ment the presentation of
one of the Frohman produc-
that scored a big success when
t out. Mrs. William Davis will
charge of the production which
be a guarantee of its success.
Being presented at Nelson, the
will come to Rossland and
strate to Rosslanders that the
City does not possess a corner
atrial talent.

SPRING AILMENTS.
lood Needs Attention at This
ion—Purgatives Should be
Avoided.

ng is the season when your blood
toning up. In the spring you
have new blood, just as the trees
have new sap. With new blood
ill feel sprightly, happy and
y. Many people take purgatives
spring, but this is a serious mis-
s the tendency of all purgatives
urther weaken the system. The
only sure way to get new blood
w strength is to take Dr. Wil-
Pink Pills. They actually make
rich, red blood—they are the
at spring tonic in the world. Dr.
Pink Pills speedily banish
all ailments. Miss Belle Cohen,
Rock Mills, N. S., says: "I have
Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a splen-
dic medicine. I was very much
wn; the least exertion exhausted
I had a constant feeling of lan-
guishness. My appetite
and my sleep at night was
bed and restless. After I began
of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills there
speedy change for the better, and
aking a few boxes I felt stronger
had gone for years."

can get Dr. Williams' Pink Pills
my dealer in medicine, or by mail
at 50 cents a box, or six
for \$2.50, by writing direct to the
Williams Medicine Co., Brockville,
Do not let any dealer persuade
to take a substitute. Substitutes
cured anyone—the genuine pills
cured hundreds of thousands in
ts of the world.

aw G. Ray and Fred Holt, well
miners, left yesterday for Butte

PROSPECTS IMPROVE

Renewal of the Coke Supply Means More Mine Activity.

Other Circumstances That Promise Well For the Camp.

The feature of the week remains the ore discovery in the lower workings of the Le Roi. It is much too soon to expect a pronouncement from the management as to the magnitude of the strike, but an intimation has been given that the outlook is excellent. When the ore was originally encountered it was believed to be the downward extension of the Kootenay stop, but the work since accomplished seems to point to its being the dip of the main stop, an important feature in the direction of enhancing its value.

The probable course of the White Bear in commencing to ship at an early date is of interest locally. It is announced also that the Giant mine will commence sending ore to Trail as soon as the wagon road is in shape for teaming.

The management of the Spitzee company is securing figures on mechanical plant, and the machinery for the Le Roi No. 3 concentrator has been shipped from England, all of which is of interest locally.

Shipments last week were somewhat below the normal average, but an advance may be expected in point of tonnage as soon as the coke shortage is relieved by the shipments from East Kootenay commencing tomorrow.

THE OUTPUT.

Shipments from the Rossland camp for the week ending April 4th and for the year to date are as follows:

Week.	Year.
Le Roi	2605 52,011
Centre Star	1885 20,796
War Eagle	1050 14,466
Giant	100 435
Kootenay	100 2,150
Le Roi No. 2	700 6,150
Homestake	90 950
Totals	6140 96,186

LE ROI.—For reasons referred to in the foregoing, the Le Roi has naturally been the centre of attraction among the mines of the Rossland district this week. The information available with respect to the discovery of ore in the lower levels is naturally restricted, and some weeks may be expected to elapse before the management commits itself in any important degree as to the magnitude of the ore discovery. Meantime the details to hand are of a very satisfactory nature and well calculated to encourage those who have always maintained confidence in the future of the big mine of the camp. The operations at the mine during the week have been along the usual lines, and no material alteration is expected at once. It is on the cards, of course, that in the comparatively near future the output of the mine will be substantially increased, but this is dependent upon coke supplies on a scale sufficient to reduce the ore reserves at the smelter. Incidentally it may be stated that the 600,000 ton ore reserve referred to in an exchange as existing at the Northport smelter is ridiculous and probably a misprint for 60,000. The actual tonnage at the smelter is in the neighborhood of 80,000 tons.

WHITE BEAR.—The White Bear is again to the fore in view of probable shipments at a comparatively early date, governed in no small measure by weather conditions and the ability of the company to sell its product to either of the smelters, which are not now in the market because of the coke shortage. This shortage is to be wiped out as the result of the labor trouble being settled in East Kootenay, and with the restoration should come enhanced output. Meantime the development on the 900 foot level is being pushed ahead steadily.

KOOTENAY.—The week has seen steady advancement at the Kootenay and some increases in the crew, which now numbers slightly over forty. Ore is being broken from the stopes and placed in the bins and on the dumps for future use. The opening of the stopes is being continued and exhaustive sampling done.

LE ROI NO. 2.—At the Josie and No. 1 mines the usual program has been followed. In the lower levels development is proceeding steadily with good results. It is expected that the surveys for the concentrator site will be followed shortly by the commencement of the excavations for the mill. It is understood that the machinery has been shipped from the English manufacturers, and that it will arrive here before the end of the present month.

WAR EAGLE.—The usual work has been carried ahead in the mine without interruptions of moment. It may be expected that the shipments will be increased at an early date as the result of the Trail smelter's improved position and its ability to accept second class ore in quantities as soon as the balance of copper furnaces are blown in.

CENTRE STAR.—No development of importance is reported from the mine during the week. The same conditions in respect to second class ore shipments to Trail apply as in the case of the War Eagle. The milling plant at Butte is operating actively, and the

report is that eminently satisfactory results are being obtained.

GREEN MOUNTAIN.—The operations at the mine are principally confined to surface work. The company has in hand its program for exploiting the lower levels of the property, but will probably await the passing of the snow before undertaking the work on a large scale, inasmuch as the flow of water into the mine is heavy.

SPITZEE.—The management is securing figures for the new headworks and compressor plant, and will probably break ground for the new buildings prior to the end of the month. The English capitalists interested in the proposition are understood to be anxious to push development, in which the local management shares.

NEW ST. ELMO.—It is understood that the management of the company has placed itself in communication with local representatives with a view to determining the advisability of resuming operations at the mine. The solution of the problem of concentration is of importance to the company in view of the considerable bodies of medium grade ore blocked out in the work to date.

O. K.—No special development is reported from the property during the week. Stopping is still under way on the second level and the quality of the ore broken down is said to be excellent.

CONTACT.—The usual work has been carried ahead steadily at this Burnt Basin property. The program for the spring is in abeyance pending the settlement of the wagon road question, which will likely be adjusted in a manner satisfactory to the contact company.

VELVET.—Shipments to the Le Roi smelter have been temporarily suspended pending an improvement in the condition of the wagon road to the Red Mountain railroad. Meantime stopping is being continued and the ore extracted is stored until it can be delivered to the reduction works. Development will be pushed ahead during the period when shipments are impossible.

CABLED REPORTS.

Good Results Reported From Ymir and Velvet.

The London Financial Times has the following:

Velvet, Rossland.—The manager cables: "Have received the following returns from smelters, namely, 236 tons first class ore yielded 206 ounces gold, 18,100 ounces copper. Net returns from smelters \$4570, or an average of 24 per cent."

Ymir—Cablegram from the company's representative at Ymir: "Level No. 5 west has been extended 25 feet. The ore in the drift has improved. Assays now average 110 (10-14) per ton of 2000 pounds; width eight feet."

JUST LIKE A KING

HOW A FORMER NELSON BOY RULES AN IMPORTANT DISTRICT.

CAPTAIN BEER AND HIS KINGDOM IN THE LAND OF SOUTH AFRICA.

A returned South African volunteer gives an interesting outline of the sublime heights attained by a former Nelson boy now holding a commission in the South African Constabulary. The officer in question is Captain George S. Beer, formerly in command of the Nelson company of the R. M. R. and captain in the S. A. C. since 1900, who was gazetted to a squadron in recognition of his excellent services as recruiting officer for various contingents in the Kootenays.

"Captain Beer is stationed at Dreyburg," said the volunteer, "and to say he is 'in' scarcely conveys the proper impression of his position in the town and district; he is district commandant as well. Everything in Dreyburg and vicinity revolves around Captain Beer. He lives in the best house, has the largest retinue of Kaffir servants, all the troops he wants to use as grooms, etc., and is the government to all intents and purposes. Martial law exists, and everything is done by permits—the only man in the district qualified to issue a permit is Captain Beer, consequently everything comes to him. All the civilians touch their hats to him and the military salute with profound respect, which is acknowledged with the briefest inclination of finger to cap. Captain Beer wears the khaki uniform of his rank, but he is a splendid looking soldier and looks the part to perfection. Moreover, he is the social king-pin of the town and district. No entertainment or function is within the social pale unless announced under the distinguished patronage of Captain George S. Beer. The proposition would strike the average Canadian as smacking of comic opera, but it is genuine and the result of conditions and the nature of the people. The government of South Africa, or rather of the conquered provinces, is paternal to a degree, and Captain Beer is the 'Father of his people' in a realistic sense.

"At the end of his three-year term of service Captain Beer will undoubtedly receive his majority and enhanced authority, as he is generally regarded as an exceedingly useful and successful officer."

A JAP STEAMSHIP.

VICTORIA, April 7.—The steamer Aki Maru, 6900 tons, which is the largest vessel flying the mercantile flag of Japan, arrived tonight on her maiden voyage from the Orient. The new liner, which was launched at Nagasaki in January for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, had an uneventful voyage.

WHITE BEAR TO SHIP

Interesting Report as to Shipping at Early Date.

Mill Site for the Mine Said to Have Been Surveyed.

Shipments of ore from the White Bear will be one of the developments of the next few days, according to an intimation of the company's intentions. In addition it is stated that the question of milling is now a live issue with the company, and that the preliminary steps have already been taken in the direction of having a survey made of a mill site adjacent to the headworks.

When shipments are started within the next ten days or two weeks, a considerable amount of ore will be available on the dumps. The product has been extracted in the regular course of development, especially on the 900 level, and it is understood that on the start at least the mine would confine operations to ore taken out in this way. The statement is made that a large tonnage of ore is available for shipment at once, and that the company would realize a good profit therefrom. Much of the ore now ready for shipment will not average over 30, and the whole amount probably runs in the neighborhood of this figure. The mining costs of the tonnage now extracted have, however, been charged to development, so that the only costs to be incurred in marketing the product would be those of hauling to the railroad, freight to Northport or Trail and treatment charges, which would not exceed \$6.50 under ordinary circumstances. On 110 ore, against which no mining costs have been charged, this would leave a good margin of profit and provide the property with an important revenue where none has been had heretofore. The ore might as well be realized upon as left on the dumps, and the statement is made that the company has decided upon this course, and only awaits an improvement in the condition of the wagon road to the railroad to put the decision into effect.

The question of milling White Bear ore is also to the fore, although no inkling of the plans under advisement has been divulged. The survey of the mill site was completed this week, however, this information being secured for the information and guidance of the directors.

The inauguration of shipping from the property would be a substantial advance in the right direction.

THEY DON'T LIKE IT

SCHOOL BOARD FINDS ITS ESTIMATES CUT WITHOUT PERMISSION.

OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST IN RESPECT TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The city council has cut the estimates for public schools to the tune of \$1200. The civic estimates for the current year provide for expenditures of \$63,000 in round figures, with receipts to balance. The school trustees are informed that their appropriation appears in the civic estimates, which have not been made public, at \$1200 less than their estimate and are in somewhat of a quandary as to the result.

The School Act provides that the duties of the school board in respect to finances are to determine upon the sum required to operate the schools under their jurisdiction and then to call upon the city council for the amount; under the usual interpretation of the act it is obligatory for the council to supply the funds asked of them for school purposes.

The school board put in its estimates and was requested to reduce the figures by the council. The trustees replied that they had carefully considered every item and could find no spot to apply the pruning knife without reducing the efficiency of the schools, which is repugnant to trustees and citizens alike. Now the board has been informed that the city fathers have cut their appropriation about 10 per cent, and when the fact is brought up in tangible form at the trustees' meeting, a decidedly warm discussion is expected.

The schools close tomorrow night for the Easter holidays. All the male teachers propose taking in the Revelstoke convention, and it is probable that one or two of the ladies will also attend. The trustees passed a resolution pointing out the advantage to teachers and pupils that accrues through the attendance of members of the staff at teachers' conventions, but the statement is made that most of the ladies on the staff purpose ignoring the broad hint conveyed in the trustees' resolution, copies of which were sent to all the teachers.

In the case of teachers attending the convention, their classes will not resume until the 20th inst. All teachers not attending the Revelstoke gathering are required by the board to report for duty on Tuesday morning, and their classes will proceed as usual.

INTERESTING LIBERAL MOVE

Proposed to Consolidate Liberal Associations of Interior.

Rossland Association Now Taking Initiative in Movement.

A Liberal association to embrace the individual associations within the Kootenays and Boundary is the project mooted by the Rossland Liberal association, and steps are to be taken forthwith to institute the new organization. In the opinion of Liberals this is one of the most important movements in the history of Liberalism in British Columbia, and the successful institution of the proposed Kootenay-Boundary association is expected to wield a powerful influence in provincial party politics.

At a recent meeting of the local association a resolution was carried favoring a meeting of representatives of the various Liberal associations for the purpose of considering the formation of a general association embracing Greenwood, Grand Forks, Slovan, Ymir, Nelson, Rossland, Kaslo, Columbia, Cranbrook and Fernie districts. The executive of the local association has completed the preliminary arrangements with a view to interesting the associations in the ridings specified, and it may be expected that action of some description will be forthcoming at a comparatively early date.

ASK FOR LOWER BILLS

Council Finds Out How Lighting Costs Are Figured.

Other Matters of Interest Before City Fathers.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

Light matters came up at the city council last night. The grave and reverend city fathers did not waste time in frivolous discussions, as might be inferred from this—street and city lighting was mooted on the strength of two communications on the subject. In one of the "star chamber" sessions, when the aldermen were seeking for expenditure to prune down, someone thought of the city lighting, and the company supplying the light was requested to reduce its bill.

Last night Lorne A. Campbell, managing director of the Rossland Water & Light company, replied to the queries from the council. In respect to incandescent lamps, Mr. Campbell informed the council that the city was now using 58 sixteen c. p. lamps at a charge of 30 cents per month. Observations had been taken by the company during the week ending April 8th, and it was found that over two-thirds of these lamps burned all night. Mr. Campbell considered the charge exceedingly low for all night lighting, but expressed his willingness to discuss the question further with a possibility of a reduction if the council could arrange to switch off lamps when not in actual use.

Respecting the arc light service, Mr. Campbell expressed regret that his company could not grant a reduction. His reason for this decision was set forth as follows: "In looking over our operating expenses in connection with the arc lamps we find that it actually costs \$104.55 per month for the maintenance of the 27 arc lamps. This is made up of labor trimming the lamps, labor for patrolling lamps, breakages and carbons. The power consumed by these arc lamps is 27 h. p. and we are merely receiving for power for the operating of arc lamps at the rate of 4 cents per h. p. per annum. In other words you are receiving power for the operating of arc lamps at the same rate as we supply it to our large customers who use from 800 to 1000 h. p."

Both communications were turned over to the fire, water and light committee, which will meet Mr. Campbell at an early date.

CENTRE STAR DEEPS

ACTUAL FACTS ABOUT REPORTED IMPORTANT ORE STRIKE.

NOTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT OCCURRENCE—HAPPENS QUITE FREQUENTLY.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

A report was in circulation yesterday to the effect that an important strike of ore had been encountered in the deep workings of the Centre Star mine. Following so closely on the similar discovery at the Le Roi, much interest is attached to the statement. The matter was taken up with Edmund B. Kirby, general manager of the Centre Star, who deprecated the report in so far as it tended to sensationalism.

Mr. Kirby said: "You may state that the breast of the crosscut on the sixth level east is moving in pay ore. We do not regard this as extraordinary in view of the fact that the workings on the ore bodies will frequently run into paystreaks and then alternate to millstone ore. This occurs often, and it is seldom that the fact leaks out and assumes the magnitude of a 'strike.' Our policy is not to divulge information of this nature, but we do not wish the report in circulation to attain proportions that may have a serious after effect. Weeks of work will be required before present conditions could be ascertained as extraordinary, and in the meantime we regard the situation as an ordinary incident in the operation of the Centre Star such as is encountered from time to time. I desire to point this out so that the facts may not be exaggerated."

It will be noted that in the foregoing Mr. Kirby takes a stand in respect to the strike reported from the Centre Star similar to that adopted by the general manager of the Le Roi. That both gentlemen should be so conservative with respect to ore discoveries is a significant sign of the times. It indicates that the time has passed when minor matters enter into the interior economy of the big mining companies of Rossland; in fact, that the mining companies most vitally interested have set their faces resolutely against the "boom" idea. Of course, it is generally understood that the Golden City has reached the stage where its standing in the mining world depends upon its active accomplishment of deeds, and the big mines are responsible for this adoption of the definite business basis of things.

Incidentally, it is gratifying to citizens that high grade ore has been located within a fortnight on the deep levels of the two most important mines in the camp.

E. A. Roif left last night for Edmonton, where he will probably remain for a considerable period in connection with the lumber business.

ROSSLAND MEN INTERESTED IN ASSAYERS' ASSOCIATION.

The last issue of the British Columbia Gazette contains the appointment of Dr. Walter Livingstone Coulthard of Rossland to be a coroner for the province. The appointment took effect February 7, when Dr. Coulthard executed the oath of office.

The assayers of the province are moving the Benevolent Societies Act. The corporate name of the society is to be the "British Columbia Institute of Assayers" and its objects the study and promotion of metallurgical chemistry and assaying.

The number of trustees who will manage the society will be seven, and the names and addresses of the first trustees are: Herbert Carmichael of Victoria, J. Cuthbert Welch of Greenwood, Arthur A. Cole of Rossland, Thomas Kiddle of Ladysmith, W. F. Robertson of Victoria, S. G. Blaylock of Trail and A. L. McKillop of Nelson, and they shall hold office until the first general meeting of the society shall be held. The society will consist of honorary members, not exceeding twelve in number, and ordinary members.

The affairs of the society will be managed by a council consisting of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and four ordinary members. Notice is given of a court of revision at Slovan City on May 18th.

The minister of mines announces that the portion of Yale district known as the Kettle River mining division shall be designated after May 1st as the Greenwood mining division.

Applications for certificates of improvements have been made for the following properties: Mountain Chief on Canyon creek, Arrow Lake division; A. x and A. x claim, Engaboo creek, Victoria mining division; Little Bantam on Mount Sicker, Victoria division; Starve-out in Skylark Camp, Kettle river district.

Timber licenses are applied for as follows: W. Allan in New Westminster district; J. G. Brown on Keystone mountain, J. J. Callahan on Nakwag & Slocan railroad; L. A. Campbell on Little Slocan Lake; C. C. Walker, Little Slocan river; J. S. Deschamps, Little Slocan river; R. Lamont, Little Slocan river; E. Duthie, Little Slocan river; Yale-Columbia Lumber company, McDonald lake, Upper Arrow lake.

Cool prospectors licenses have been applied for in the following names: Angus and James Cameron and W. Forrest, Flathead river country; J. M. Murray, J. F. Murray and D. J. J. Starwell, river near Lindley creek.

NEW FIREMAN

The vacancy on the fire department was filled by the appointment of Thomas Sargent, manager of the Electric Messenger Service, who thinks that \$70 per month with free lodging, clothes, etc., is to be preferred to a messenger service that is not making money by the barrel. Nothing was said at council with respect to Sargent's qualifications for the position, but his knowledge of electric machinery weighed with the committee. Sargent has had no previous experience as a fireman, but is physically powerful and an expert electrician. The messenger service will be managed by another party after Sargent assumes his duties at the fire hall on Saturday morning.

A CEMENT WALK.

R. W. Grigor, supervising architect of the federal building, notified the council that the government was prepared to construct a cement walk around the new postoffice, but that it would be necessary for the corporation to fill in the section of the street under the present sidewalk. This was left to the board of works to deal with.

OTHER BUSINESS.

S. F. Parrish, general manager of the Le Roi company, notified the council of the receipt of his communication re water for concentrating, and stated that the subject was now under advisement by his company.

Some communications from the city solicitor were withheld. It is understood that one of these related to the arbitration in connection with Blue & Deschamps' claim against the corporation, and that the city will appoint an arbitrator in the matter prior to the 14th inst. in accordance with the law thereon.

The school trustees asked that teachers' salaries be paid on or before the 15th inst., as several of the teachers would be attending the Revelstoke convention and the salaries would be required. The request will be complied with.

Notice was given of a by-law to authorize the construction of the "Father Fat" memorial fountain. The by-law will be brought in at next council meeting.

The city engineer filed a plan of the proposed flume to drain the Third avenue swamp. The fire, water and light committee will deal with the matter. The date for the completion of the assessment roll was extended to April 30th and for the return of the roll to the 28th inst.

ROSSLAND ASSOCIATION NOW TAKING INITIATIVE IN MOVEMENT.

A Liberal association to embrace the individual associations within the Kootenays and Boundary is the project mooted by the Rossland Liberal association, and steps are to be taken forthwith to institute the new organization. In the opinion of Liberals this is one of the most important movements in the history of Liberalism in British Columbia, and the successful institution of the proposed Kootenay-Boundary association is expected to wield a powerful influence in provincial party politics.

At a recent meeting of the local association a resolution was carried favoring a meeting of representatives of the various Liberal associations for the purpose of considering the formation of a general association embracing Greenwood, Grand Forks, Slovan, Ymir, Nelson, Rossland, Kaslo, Columbia, Cranbrook and Fernie districts. The executive of the local association has completed the preliminary arrangements with a view to interesting the associations in the ridings specified, and it may be expected that action of some description will be forthcoming at a comparatively early date.

The movement emanates from the fact that Liberals throughout the interior have in the past failed to wield the influence in the councils of the party in British Columbia to which they are entitled because of the lack of facilities for bringing about concerted action in sections where interests are practically confined to mining and allied industries, as is the case throughout the Kootenays and the Boundary.

Liberals feel that dissension in the provincial party might easily be eliminated if a really strong organization was effected in the interior for the purpose of holding the balance of power in the provincial Liberal party, thereby putting an end to the petty dissension that has distracted the party and prevented the accomplishment of ends that are deemed to be in the interests of Liberalism and the province.

It is distinctly pointed out that the proposed interior organization is not intended to encroach in any way on the prerogatives of the provincial association, nor is it intended in any unfriendly spirit toward the coast organizations. The contention is raised that the coast associations will naturally encourage and assist in the promotion of an institution that will have the effect of consolidating the interests of Liberals in the interior and being to the assistance of the party as a whole in British Columbia, the undivided support of all the interior organizations that have, in the past, acted without cohesion.

The proposed meeting is announced for May 6th at Nelson, but it is not impossible that this arrangement may be altered, inasmuch as the Rossland Liberals advance the whole proposal in the way of a suggestion and nothing will be accomplished without the undivided support of the majority of the associations proposed to be incorporated in the new organization. As a development in party politics in British Columbia the proposal is, however, of special interest and importance.

WELL ATTENDED.

Public Reading Room Fulfilling Useful Function.

The free reading room recently established by the Board of St. George is fulfilling a useful mission. It is patronized daily by a considerable number of men seeking a few hours' relaxation, the papers and magazines on file are well thumbed, indicating constant use. At 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon twelve were in attendance, four deeply interested in checkers, and in the meantime we regard the situation as an ordinary incident in the operation of the Centre Star such as is encountered from time to time. I desire to point this out so that the facts may not be exaggerated."

STRATTON WILL CONTEST.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Col., April 7.—A compromise has been agreed to by both sides of the litigation to break the will of the late W. S. Stratton. By its terms I Harry Stratton, who is contesting the will, receives \$350,000. The sum includes the \$50,000 bequest given him in the will by his father. Stratton must also pay his attorneys and all costs connected with the litigation out of the \$350,000.

Judge Orr took the matter under advisement, stating that he would render his opinion at 3:30 o'clock tomorrow morning. Should the petition be granted, the order will be issued at once and the case now on trial in the district court before Judge Seeds will be terminated by the court instructing the jury to return a verdict in favor of the proponents of the will.

The court costs will reach \$2000 and the amount of cash Stratton will receive after paying his lawyers will be \$122,000, as it is understood that the fees of his attorneys aggregate half the amount received. Young Stratton expresses himself as very well pleased at the outcome.

William Valentine, Ph. D., left yesterday for Troy, N. Y., over the Canadian Pacific. Dr. Valentine is in charge of the refining department of the Canadian Smelting Works at Trail, where extensive additions are planned.