

Invicta Gold Mines Ltd.—Registered under the foreign companies act, B. C. to operate in British Columbia. Authorised capital £ 100,000, in shares of £ 1.

Queen Charlotte Oil Company Ltd.—Authorized capital, \$14,000 in shares of \$20. Directors: Jas. A. Aikens, Sibree Clarke and Marshall P. Gordon. Head office: Victoria, B. C. Being organised to carry on the work of an oilery and the business of storekeeping and trading at Clue, Queen Charlotte Islands, and other portions of the Province of British Columbia.

Peleee Gas and Oil Company of Ontario, Limited.—Being organized to acquire and sink wells for natural gas, oil and other minerals, &c. Authorized Capital, \$30,000, in shares of \$100. Directors: George Jasperson, Leger L. McKay, Herman Dey, W. A. Smith, Henry Mosher, W. H. Nelson, Bon Jasperson, and Alfred Wigle, oil of the City of Windsor, Ont.

Old Ironsides Mining Co., Ltd.—Application filed by S. A. Rigg, C. W. Ritchie, Jay P. Greaves, H. P. Palmerston, of Spokane, and Robert E. Strathern, of Boston. Objects, general mining. Capitalization, 1,000,000 \$1 shares. Place of operation, Boundary Creek. Office, Spokane, Wash.

Great Western Mining Co., Ltd.—Filed under Part IV. Companies' Act, Dec. 20, by John M. Burke, Chas. E. Barr, D. M. Drumheller, Chas. S. Warren, H. M. Stephens, James B. Jones and Louis L. Bertonneau, of Spokane. Office: Spokane, Wash. Place of operation, Rossland. Agent, Jno. M. Burke. Capitalization, 1,000,000 \$1 shares. Objects, general mining.

Sunshine Mining Co., Ltd.—Incorporation sought under B.C. laws. Authorized Capital, \$50,000, in shares of \$10.00. Directors: N. D. Moore, Three Forks, B.C.; W. H. Yawkey, Rossland, B.C.; W. C. Yawkey, Detroit. Head office: Three Forks, where business is to be carried on.

Cumberland Mining Co., Ltd.—Being incorporated under B. C. laws. Authorized Capital, \$500,000 in shares of \$10.00. Directors: N. D. Moore, Three Forks, B.C.; W. H. Yawkey, Rossland; and W. C. Yawkey, Detroit. Head office: Three Forks, B.C., where business is to be carried on.

Peter's Creek Gold Mining Co. of Cariboo, Ltd.—Authorized Capital, \$25,000. Directors: Charles Stanford Douglas, W. H. Boorne, Charles J. Loewen, and R. G. Tatlow, all of Vancouver. Head office: Vancouver. Being formed to acquire and work mines on Peter's Creek in the Cariboo district, and elsewhere in the Province of British Columbia.

Gabriola Coal Co., Ltd.—This B. C. coal company, whose organization was noted in our columns last month, has bonded about 2,000 acres of coal lands on the north end of Gabriola Island, and arrangements have been made to put down a series of bore-holes with a view to determining the value of the coal seams.

North Saanich Coal Co., Ltd., has been organized to prospect for coal on the northern extremity of the Saanich peninsula. About 2,000 acres are held under bond by the company. Beaumont Boggs, 28 Broad Street, Victoria, is secretary to the company.

GOLD MINING AT RAT PORTAGE.

The Esther mine, hitherto known as location H. B. 476, in the Manitou district, is turning out well under development. Two test shafts are being sunk to a depth of 50 ft., one of which is now down about 25 ft. and the other 15 ft. The deeper shaft shows a vein increasing in size from a surface width of 2 ft. to a width of 8 ft. so far as operations have been carried. The assays from this property are most encouraging.

Mr. Motley, of the Regina mine, has been in town during the week arranging for extra labor to carry on more extensive development work on this property. The value of the Regina mine is now pretty well established. The ore in the stopes easily averages \$15 per ton; and instructions have been received from England, where the property is owned, to push its development on a much more extensive scale than has up to the present been done. In the spring the capacity of the mill and other machinery will be greatly increased, and mining operations will be carried on in a manner well calculated to advertise the value of our Lake of the Woods ores. Up to the present the Regina mill has only been running half time, and when in town Mr. Motley informed me that in a run of five days and fourteen hours, nine pounds of gold were obtained.

The usual gold brick comes in weekly from the Sultana mine, and Mr. Caldwell must at length be reaping the reward of his enterprise and determination.

Mr. Burley Smith, of Ottawa, who is operating with a diamond drill on the Queen Bee property, is here.

Mr. Ahn of the Dominion Gold Mining and Reduction Company has received a letter from the Mines Contract Company of London, England, in reference to work they contemplate doing on the Howard-Thompson property in the spring.

Mr. Hay, of the Dominion Gold Mining Co., left for the east on Thursday last.

The Rat Portage Board of Trade is about sending delegates down to Toronto in order to seek Government aid in the development of the Lake of the Woods mineral resources.

A property lately opened up by Mr. Oliver Donnais, is said to be turning out rich.

The owners of the "Yakima" group and Cumberland mine, in the Slocan district, B.C., have organized two companies to work these properties. The one to work the "Yakima" group is called the Sunshine Mining Company, and the one to work the "Cumberland" is called the Cumberland Mining Company. Each company's capital is \$500,000, and both have the same officers, namely: W. H. Yawkey, President; N. D. Moore, Vice-President and Manager; and W. C. Yawkey, Secretary and Treasurer. The head office of both companies is at Three Forks.

The Nelson Tribune says: "It must be admitted that the Hall mines smelter at Nelson is an industrial enterprise that will be of great benefit to British Columbia. To be of the greatest benefit its owners, must of necessity keep the expense of treating ore at the lowest possible figure. One of the items of expense in operating smelters is the cost of fuel. Fuel, such as coke, must from necessity be brought from distant points. Every time it is handled adds to its cost. Coke for the Hall mines smelter is purchased in the United States, and shipped in by way of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway a road that can not deliver the coke at the smelter because of its not having track connection with the road that has a side track or spur right alongside the smelter. The road that has the side track or spur is the Canadian Pacific, and its managers absolutely refuse to allow the Nelson & Fort Sheppard the privilege of making a connection unless the latter allows it running privileges over five miles of road. More, its managers threaten to enjoin the Nelson & Fort Sheppard if even an attempt is made to extend its track into the town of Nelson. Because of this action the managers of the Hall mines smelter are forced to build a waggon road from the smelter to a railway siding a mile and a half distant, over which all coke used at the smelter will be hauled by teams."

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