

# ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

Per Year \$2.50.

ROSSLAND, B. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1903

Eighth Year, Number 31

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S. S. GILMOUR.

## THE WEEK AT THE MINES

### Shipments Smaller Than Usual Because of the Holiday.

### Mine Buildings Progressing—Review of Week's Record.

The holiday during the past week interrupted shipments from Rossland mines to an extent that substantially reduced the aggregate output for the period. The Le Roi only shipped on four days of the week, and the War Eagle and Centre Star had some trouble in having their ore cars moved. The Kootenay mine was the only property to increase its former output, this being accomplished as the result of the improved condition of the wagon roads. The Velvet also increased shipments as the result of better teaming.

In other respects the camp has progressed consistently. Building operations are steadily under way at the Le Roi Two concentrator site and the Spitsee headworks. The usual operations have been conducted at the mines, and matters are in excellent shape for increased shipments when the juncture may be opportune. The coke situation remains unsatisfactory. Trail has only two copper furnaces in operation, and the report from that quarter is that the coke supply problem is most disquieting. This question is dealt with in extenso elsewhere in this issue of The Miner. Where the two smelters handling Rossland ores receiving adequate coke supplies from the Crow's Nest Coal company, the local situation is steadily improving as the outcome. Various mines would ship more ore freely than is the case now, with consequent increases in crew.

### THE OUTPUT.

Shipments from the Rossland camp for the week ending May 30th and for the year to date are as follows:	Week.	Year.
Le Roi .....	1920	78,532
Centre Star .....	1920	24,813
War Eagle .....	1020	23,445
Le Roi No. 2 .....	360	11,117
White Bear .....	287	287
Velvet .....	100	2,826
O. K. .....	25	25
Giant .....	305	305
Kootenay .....	857	1,390
Homestake .....	1	1
Totals .....	5070	149,152

### AMONG THE MINES.

**LE ROI.**—The usual operations have been conducted at the mine, with the exception of the fact that shipments were only made for a portion of the week, change day and the holiday having interfered with operations in this particular. The underground development and exploration are proceeding steadily. On the Peyton vein a winze is being sunk to the hundred level below the station on which stoping is now being conducted. This will give a total depth of 130 feet on the Peyton vein.

**LE ROI TWO.**—Stoping on the second, fifth, third and fourth levels, development on the 700, and diamond drilling on the 900 constitute the record of the mine for the week. Building operations are being carried ahead as usual on the concentrator plant.

**WAR EAGLE.**—Nothing of special interest is reported from the War Eagle for the week. It is understood that at a recent date a gratifying discovery was made on the 300 level, where previous diamond drill exploration had not given especially desirable results. When the drift was put in it was discovered that the bore hole had passed along the footwall, and that between walls was 25 feet of asbestos ore that the bore hole had not revealed.

**CENTRE STAR.**—The usual mining and development work has been conducted at the mine during the past week. The ore body on the east 600 level, about which so much has been said of late, is understood to be holding its strength and values in the most gratifying manner.

**WHITE BEAR.**—Drifting on the 850 foot level for the purpose of undercutting the high grade ore bodies is still under way. Good progress is being made.

**KOOTENAY.**—The week's mining operations at the Kootenay have been along the lines followed for several weeks. On the third and fourth and intermediate levels stoping is under way, and a portion of the ore is being taken in by the Trail smelter, these operations being favored by improved roads last week.

**VELVET.**—Development and mining on the second and third levels is steadily under way, with excellent results reported. More teams have been secured lately and with improved wagon roads the output of ore has been increased.

**NICKEL PLATE.**—The pumping in the main shaft has been commenced, and will be continued as rapidly as possible until the workings are clear of water. The company has not definitely stated its intentions thereafter, but it is probable that some miners will be employed after the pumping is concluded.

**GREEN MOUNTAIN.**—No steps have been taken as yet to enlarge the plant at the mine, but this should even-

tuate shortly, according to the statements of the management.

**HUNGRY MAN.**—Beyond the statement that mining operations are under way at the property, and that a shaft is being sunk, the management divulges no information for publication respecting the mine.

**O. K.**—Superintendent Worsom is steadily breaking ore for the purpose of making another shipment at an early date.

**I. X. L.**—The lessees are proceeding steadily with stoping and are opening up new ground that promises well.

**S. JOSEPH'S.**—Steady drifting in the tunnel at the creek level is the report from the St. Joseph's company on Murphy creek for the past week.

**GIANT.**—The management has not yet succeeded in securing a market for the ore in the bins and blocked out, but is hopeful of concluding arrangements to this end shortly, when operations in the mine will be resumed.

**JUMBO.**—Several men are engaged in the upper level of the mine breaking ore for test purposes. Work on the proposed tramway has not been commenced. It will probably be the end of June before shipments are inaugurated.

**SPITSEE.**—The principal interest about the mine during the past week has been in connection with the construction of the new headworks. The main structure is now almost complete.

The contractor will start on the gallowes frame, and then build the ore sheds to the south of the main building. Underground operations ought to be started in earnest in a fortnight.

### BOUNDARY SHIPMENTS.

The Granby smelter last week treated 4935 tons, making a total of 130,529 tons for the year.

Week.	Total.	
Granby .....	4,779	140,056
Mother Lode .....	4,557	35,582
Snowshoe .....	1,680	15,390
B. C. .....	810	9,855
Emma .....	360	3,856
Sunset .....	396	3,821
Providence .....	451	451
Totals .....	13,022	213,931

### ROSSLAND HELPED OUTPUT HELPED TO SWELL PROVINCE'S COPPER PRODUCTION.

The conditions in respect to the coke supply for the smelters of the Kootenay and Boundary districts are in an unfortunate shape, and it is apparent that the recent settlement of the labor troubles at the collieries of the Crow's Nest Coal company has not straightened out matters, as was generally supposed to be the case at this juncture.

Scarcely two months have elapsed since the settlement was concluded, yet there are rumors of gathering clouds in the coal districts of East Kootenay. The men at the mines openly charge Manager Tonkin with breaches of the agreement entered into through the efforts of the conciliation committee, and point to the wholesale introduction of Chinese labor as an evidence that the company does not mean to do the right thing by its white employees.

It is a fact also that the Crow's Nest company is not producing as much coke now as it did before the labor trouble, yet with peace in its camps and ample time to get all its facilities into good working order there is no logical reason why the coke output should not be as large as it was prior to the strike, or, indeed, very substantially greater. The whole situation is unsatisfactory from every view point, and the trend of affairs points to motives on the part of the coal company that have not yet received publicity through the press.

A well known Boundary smelter manager has evolved an interesting theory in connection with the attitude of the Crow's Nest Coal company. The Miner has not this gentleman's authority to use his name, but no embargo has been placed upon the publication of the deductions he has arrived at. In a nutshell, the Boundary smelter manager in question believes that the fine Italian hand of James J. Hill is shown in the position assumed by the big East Kootenay coal monopoly.

"I am satisfied," he says, "that the coal company has no desire or intention of supplying the smelters of the Kootenays and Boundary. It is generally known that James J. Hill is in control of the corporation, and that he wants the coal business for his own railroad. Most of the Canadian smelters have their fuel supplies hauled over the Canadian Pacific, for the reason that the Great Northern branches do not come to their works, and this, in itself, is quite sufficient to provoke the hostility of the Hill interests in view of that fact that a ready market could be procured for East Kootenay fuel products at Great Northern points, thereby throwing the haulage to the Hill system. If the thing could be done, the Crow's Nest Coal company would promptly enhance its output and sell every pound at points where the Great Northern could control the business, but the clause in the coal company's charter protecting Canadian industries prevents this being done at this juncture.

"The Hill interests can accomplish their purpose in connection with the product of the Crow's Nest company by adopting such an attitude as would compel the opening of other coal properties in the district, which would eventually supply the Canadian demand and permit the Great Northern railway to haul the Crow's Nest company's output of the country without fear of the export clause in the company's charter being enforced. This they propose to do, if I read the situation aright, by deliberately failing to supply the Canadian demand and thereby forcing the smelter interests' hands into independent action in the coal fields. Incidentally, by tying up the industries in the Canadian Pacific's special territory, the Great Northern deals a severe blow to its powerful rival, which is always regarded as shrewd business regardless of the public interests that may suffer.

"I have ceased to look for a complete restoration of satisfactory conditions in respect to the fuel supply of this country from the Crow's Nest Coal company under its present auspices."

## IN DIREST NEED OF COAL AND COKE

### Kootenay Mines and Smelters Are at the Mercy of the Crow's Nest Coal Monopoly.

## COMPETITION OUR ONLY SALVATION

### J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern, Will Continue to Cripple the Kootenays Until Other Coal Mines Are Opened in East Kootenay and He is Free to Export.

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The Athelstan is owned by the Athelstan Gold and Copper Mining Company, Limited, and has a capital of \$50,000, the officers being James Anderson, president; John Mack, vice-president, and W. J. Morrison, secretary-treasurer. In the year 1900 this mine shipped about 1200 tons of ore, largely to the Granby smelter, and in the fore part of 1901 about 550 tons were shipped to the Boundary Falls smelter, afterwards acquired by the Sunset mine owners. It is understood that an arrangement has now been made with the Sunset smelter to treat the ore at low figure, it being specially desirable for mixing with other ore as a flux.

Last winter the announcement was made that the Athelstan company had disposed of its property to the owners of the Morrison mine, which is located in Deadwood camp, and which is preparing to ship to the Sunset smelter on a considerable scale. This deal, however, was not finally carried through, it appears, and the property will now be worked by the company itself, and the ore sent to the smelter on Boundary creek.

The total development work done on the Athelstan consists of about 450 lineal feet, which includes two shafts, 60 and 70 feet deep respectively. The ore is an amethystine iron, the chief value being gold, with a little silver. The mine is directly on the Phoenix-Grand Forks wagon road, and is distant from the end of the Winnipeg mine spur about a mile, whence the ore is sent out to the smelters. The Athelstan will be the first of the three prominent shipping mines in Wellington camp to resume operations.

The work of enlarging the Granby smelter is progressing rapidly. The foundations of the two additional furnaces to be installed have been completed. Portions of the new plant, including electrical equipment, have arrived from Chicago. The extension to the blower room has also been completed.

Workers will start next week to build the extension to the fine dust chamber. Six furnaces, with a daily capacity of 2100 tons, will be in operation by the middle of July.

The Great Northern has temporarily abandoned the idea of building the line from Curlew to Midway. The engineers at work in that section will be transferred to Grand Forks next week. This is regarded as a likely indication that work on the Granby spur will be started forthwith. The right of way has practically all been secured.

Col. Ridpath, who recently purchased a controlling interest in the Lucille Dreyfus mine, near Danville, Wash., is here. He states a fact that is his intention to run a 1400 foot tunnel to tap the ledge at the depth of 600 feet. The property is being developed at a rapid rate, one ore body being 30 feet wide. As soon as a railway siding is put in ore shipments will be made to the Granby smelter.

**V. V. & E. ROAD.**  
Right of Way for Main Line and Phoenix Branch.

**PHOENIX, June 2.**—On account of the slowness of the Great Northern branch, the V. V. & E. in starting construction, it has been thought in some quarters that the work on the Phoenix branch might not be proceeded with this year, as well as the line from Curlew to Midway. Notwithstanding this, however, it is a fact that the right of way agents, Charles A. Des Brisay, is steadily proceeding with the work of exchanging some of Mr. James J. Hill's good money for parcels of the right of way, wherever needed. Late last week he was in Phoenix, and bought some way agents on the right of way in and around here being now nearly or all secured.

James Moran, an old-timer in this section, but who now owns a ranch on Kettle river below Midway, came into town today, and stated that the right of way agent of the necessary land for the line between Curlew and Midway, a distance of 16 miles, with two exceptions, taking deeds from the ranchers through whose land the new road will pass. This money was all paid over last week, and gives the impression that the beginning of construction cannot be far off.

**ATHELSTAN TO RESUME.**  
Another Boundary Mine Likely Soon to be a Shipper.  
**PHOENIX, June 2.**—Operations are being resumed on the Athelstan mine, one of the well known properties of Wellington camp, about three miles from this city, that has in the past shipped considerable ore to the smelters. David Oxley, who was foreman when the property ceased operations a couple of years ago, has been ordered by the management to secure a force

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## NEWS OF THE MINES

### WHITE BEAR TO GO DEEPER WITH NEW MACHINERY—THE NICKEL PLATE.

### TENDERS IN TODAY FOR LE ROI TWO MILL—AT NORTHPORT SMELTER.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)  
As the result of Monday's meeting of White Bear shareholders at Toronto it is expected that action will be taken in the course of the next fortnight in respect to purchasing the new plant planned for the White Bear mine. This includes a twenty-drill compressor and a 125 horse-power hoist, with apparatus for the framing shed. Steps will also be taken to commence work on the new headworks, while definite action ament the milling plant will be developed.  
It is understood that at an early date stinking will be resumed at the White Bear. At the present time the main drift on the 850 level is being extended steadily, but when the ore bed is intersected, it is the intention of the management to cease work on that level and sink a hundred feet, where another level will be turned off.

### TENDERS TODAY.

Tenders for the construction of the Le Roi Two concentrating works will be handed in today, and the contract will be let for the work at an early date. The specifications call for the complete erection of the building with considerable clarity, as the management is anxious to have the works in operation as speedily as is compatible with good results.

Meantime the operations on the mill site are proceeding rapidly. H. Hayman, technical representative of the Elmore oil process, is superintending the work of introducing a new method of recording progress for his firm by taking photographs of the ground at regular intervals. These demonstrate in the most tangible shape exactly what progress is made from week to week. Several floors are now being laid, and this will be continued until the ground is ready for the concentrator to commence operations.

### SETTING FOUNDATIONS.

At the Le Roi Two works of the Spitsee mine work was started yesterday in the direction of laying the cement foundations for the machinery. A few days only will be required for this, after which the company will be in shape to commence erecting the plant. Before the end of the present month the company expects to have underground operations steadily under way, at which time the crew will probably be increased to about fifteen men as a starter.

### REDUCING THE RESERVE.

At the Northport smelter four furnaces are running, and the big reserve of ore in the smelter yards is being reduced steadily, although not as rapidly as the management could wish. Coke is being secured from Fairfax, Wash., West Superior, Wis., and Fernie. The supply of East Kootenay coke is not as large as was expected, the Northport works suffering in this respect in common with all other plants handling Canadian ores.

### PUMPS NOT GOING.

Everything is in readiness at the Nickel Plate mine to commence unwatering the mine. The compressor plant has been tested, the belting tanks repaired and placed in position and the troughs set up. The unwatering will undoubtedly be started in the course of the next few days and pushed ahead rapidly until the workings are emptied, after which the work outlined by the management will be started.

### TO REPUBLIC CAMP.

A Spokane dispatch states that Neill Cochran, of Rossland, is expected by Republic camp almost daily to assume the management of the well known Mountain Lion property. Mr. Cochran was seen by a representative of The Miner last night in respect to the report. He stated that he had been in communication with the Mountain Lion directors for some time ament the management of the mine, but that the matter had not been definitely closed as yet.

### GETS ENTHUSIASTIC.

The London Financial Times just to hand has the following paragraphs relating to E. C. mines: "The manager cables:—'Level No. 2—The ore is continuous for a length of 70 feet. Drift is entirely in ore. Ore in the drift assays \$29 per ton. Hard to obtain sufficient teams to transport all the ore we are now able to ship. Bins full. Prospects are grand.' Yule—Returns from the mine for the month of April.—'Battery—Number of tons crushed 4750—60 heads of stamps running 30 days, yielded 1080 oss. bullion, gross estimated value, \$12,250. Have shipped 240 tons of concentrates; gross estimated value, \$6000. Cyanide—8500 tons tailings treated; gross estimated value, \$1750. Total working expenses, \$30,105. Sundry receipts, \$1050; net profit, \$945. Expenditure on capital account, including development not deducted from receipts, \$4500.' The manager cables: 'Repairs road flume very heavy last month.'

**PAY MORE.**  
The corporation will pay more for the next lot of unmined debentures than for the first installment purchased. The owners demand an advance of 5.12 per cent over the price paid, but even at this advance Mayor Deane and the city clerk have figured that the city will be ahead of the game, consequently the city council authorized the extra payment.