ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

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A TRIP TO THE WEST

J. L. Parker Tells of What He Saw During a Recent Visit.

MANY PROMISING MINES

A Million Tons of Ore in Sight in the Old Ironsides, Which, if It Yields $22 Per Ton, Will Give a Grand Total of $22,000,000.

J. L. Parker, M. E., has returned from an extended visit through the Kettle river valley and the country to the west thereof. Mr. Parker went as far west as Keremeos in the Similkameen valley. This valley, he says, is a very pleasant one, possessing as it does a temperate climate and where the winter lasts only for three months. It has pastoral, agricultural and mining resources, but the mining properties have not been sufficiently developed to determine their full value. The ores are copper-gold, the copper being in the form of sulphides. There is some native copper. There was no snow in the valley when Mr. Parker was there, while at Camp McKinney there was four feet of snow. At Fairview there was no snow and the climate was mild. Mr. Parker stopped at Fairview and inspected the Stemwinder. The shaft is down 175 feet and there are two veins on the property. These veins are seven feet wide and have been opened for a considerable distance. The management does not claim that the ore wil run over $6 or $7 to the ton. With veins of large size, a 100-stamp mill, and a little more development it seems certain, said Mr. Parker, that this property will undoubtedly yield a large profit. The Oro Fino, to the north of the Stemwinder, has some promising veins of gold ore. The veins are of about the same width as are those of the Stemwinder. A 10-stamp mill is being placed on the property. He says that the Tin Horn, the Stemwinder, the townsite of Fairview, the large hotel at Fairview and 400 acres of coal lands have all been placed in one company and incorporated with a capital stock of $1,000,000, divided into 25 cent shares.

Mr. Parker says he found that Camp McKinney was a very lively place. A number of Spokane and Toronto capitalists have gone into the camp and are paying $10,000 to $20,000 and also from 200,000 to 300,000 shares for claims. Most of these companies are actively at work and the result is that there is a great deal of life and bustle there. While at Camp McKinney Mr. Parker says he heard good reports of the Waterloo. It is considered another Cariboo and is supposed to have the extensions of the veins of the latter. Strikes of free gold are said to be a common occurrence in the Waterloo. Work is progressing on the Minnehaha and other properties with considerable energy and the camp promises in time to be one of considerable importance.

At Rock creek a 10-stamp mill is being erected on a promising property that is owned by a Wyoming syndicate headed by Mr. Paterson.

At Midway the people anticipate the erection of a smelter and are building there hopes on that proposed event. Mr. Parker says he cannot see why a smelter should be erected at that point when there are so many excellent sites for a smelter between Greenwood and Midway.

There is intense activity in railway construction between Greenwood and Midway, and it is anticipated that the grading will be finished in three months.

At Greenwood Mr. Parker visited several of the mines in that vicinity and was astonished at the splendid reserves of ore to be found there. At the Stemwinder and Brooklyn fine shaft houses have been erected and shafts are being sunk under the superintendence of F. Robbins, M.E., The ore in these properties, which are owned by Messrs. McKenzie and Mann, is a chalcopyrite. Some portions of the ore are, of course, better than others, but the average seems to be of a high grade, and the veins of a sufficient size to ultimately make great mines out of both these properties. Mr. Parker says he walked through the tunnel in the Old Ironsides for a distance of between 300 and 400 feet, all in ore, and went through other workings. There is a million tons of ore in sight. The management alleges that this ore body averages $22 to the ton. This would make this ore body worth $22,000,000. If the ore averages anywhere near what the management claims it will make the mine yields many dividends for the stockholders.

"I did not visit the Knob Hill workings, as I intended to, but passed over the surface and saw some dumps with plenty of ore in that vicinity. I had intended to do so, and also visit the Summit camp and properties around Grand Forks, but I learned of the burning of the shaft house of the Dundee and hurried home. I will make an inspection of these properties at some future date. I intend to go to Ymir immediately to ascertain the extent of the damage to the property. Then I will return and report what is best to be done to the directors of the Dundee, so that action may be immediately taken. The idea is to get the Dundee in operation at the earliest possible moment," concluded Mr. Parker.

PLENTY OF PLANTS.

They Were Ordered Recently From the Jenckes Machine Company.

The Jenckes Machine company through its agent, F. R. Mendenhall, has been doing a big business recently. Among other plants it has sold the Montreal Gold Fields syndicate a 35-horse power electric hoist. It so happened that the company had machinery of this description in stock here. The hoist will, therefore, be started on Thursday next, as it does not take long to place in position a plant of this character.

A Jenckes' machine hoist of 20-horse power was sold to the Big Three Mining company. It is to be used on the Mascot, which is one of the properties in this camp that is being operated by the Big Three Gold Mining company.

Two steam drills were sold to be used on the Velvet mine on Sophie mountain.

A four-drill compressor was sold to the Brandon & Golden Crown company to be used upon its properties in the Boundary Creek country. This plant happened to be in transit when it was ordered. It will be in Bossburg this week and will be forwarded to the properties of the Brandon & Golden Crown at the earliest possible moment. It is anticipated that it will be in operation within 50 days.

A complete 50-ton sampling plant was sold to the Slocan Ore Purchasing company. This plant is to be erected at Nelson. The orders are to rush the construction on this plant with all possible speed. The machinery for this plant will cost about $6,000.

MADE A GOOD SHOWING

Annual Meeting of the Brandon & Golden Crown Company.

A Magnificent Body of Ore Has Been Uncovered—A Compressor Plant Ordered.

The Brandon & Golden Crown Mining company held its annual general meeting at Greenwood City on the 16th inst.

The reports of the secretary-treasurer and auditors were received and adopted. The balance sheet shows a good substantial sum in the treasury, sufficient for all needs for some months to come.

The report of the managing director was most satisfactory in every particular. Work is progressing in the sinking of the main shaft, which is a double-compartment one, 4x8 feet in the clear, timbered throughout, and is now sunk to a depth of 154 feet. This shaft will be sunk to a depth of 300 feet and levels will be established at 250 and 300 feet, where crosscuts will be run to tap the main lead. At the 150-foot level a 65-foot crosscut was run and at 32 feet a drift 56 feet was run in the vein. At a distance of 42 feet along this drift a diagonal upraise was made, 60 feet in length, to the 100-foot level. This upraise disclosed a magnificent body of ore between the two levels. The average values obtained from careful sampling are $104.76 gold, 4.72 per cent copper, $32.80 gold, 3.40 per cent copper, $16 gold, $3.70 per cent copper, $18 gold, 0.80 per cent copper, $15.20 gold, 0.20 per cent copper, $13.20 gold, 3.9 per cent copper, $25.20 gold, $14.60 gold, 1.06 per cent copper, $21.75 gold, 2.90 per cent copper, $14.25 gold, 2.13 per cent copper, $22.34 gold, 57 per cent copper, $18.88 gold, 1 per cent copper, $70 gold, 6.50 per cent copper, $17.60 gold, .88 per cent copper, $20 gold, 1 per cent copper, $24.80 gold and $28.43 gold.

The working force employed at the property averages 12 to 17 men, including foreman, miners, blacksmith and engineer. The plant consists of a 50-horse power boiler, a 30-horse power standard Lidgerwood hoisting engine and a 140-gallon Knowles vertical sinking pump, together with a full complement of accessories, including a 400-foot 3-4 inch wire rope, buckets, piping, steam drill, etc.

The directors have ordered a five-drill compressor plant complete, which will be installed within the next month. In the meantime the work of sinking will be carried on by the steam drill.

The officers elected were: Hon. T. Mayne Daly, Q. C., president; W. J. Porter, vice-president; George H. Collins, managing director; W. L. Orde, secretary-treasurer, with Andrew Kelly and Hon. J. N. Michhoffer of Brandon, Man. W. A. Macdonald, Q. C., Nelson, B. C., James Russell of Greenwood City, B. C., W. A. Miller of Spokane, Wash., and James Currie of Nuneau, Currie & Co., Montreal, along with the officers of the company form the board of directors.

The general character of the ore is a pyrrhotite and copper pyrites in a siliceous gangue. There is a large quantity of ore on the dump at present. By the time the railway reaches Greenwood City this mine will be on a shipping basis and the directors have every confidence in being able to make the mine self-sustaining within the year. It looks as if the Golden Crown will be the first dividend payer in the several camps surrounding Greenwood City. Every credit is due to Major George H. Collins, the managing director, for his successful and economical management.

Kenneth Mining & Development Co.

One of the cleanest and most satisfactory transactions associated with mining operations in Kootenay has just been brought to a successful issue by the firm of A. Marsh & Co. of this city. Some few months ago this firm took an option from the Kenneth Mining & Development company on 300,000 shares of the treasury stock of the company, agreeing at the same time to furnish sufficient funds to carry on the development of the mine until the shares should be sold. This has been faithfully done, and the work of development has been carried on uninterruptedly with most satisfactory results, under the capable and conservative management of R. W. Macfarlane. The faith in the property displayed by A. Marsh & Co. has been amply proved, and they have been able to place with a syndicate of friends a block of 200,000 shares of the company's treasury stock at a price to net the company 19 1-2 cents per share. The sale of this stock, realizing over $40,000, the larger portion of which has been received, will put the company in excellent condition financially, and it can be stated authoritatively that never has the mine looked so well as at present. Both A. Marsh & Co. and all the holders of the stock are to be congratulated on the company's future outlook.

Black Cock to be Incorporated.

There is on exhibition in the window of The Miner, a 156-pound lump that came from the Black Cock mine at Ymir. The specimen contains considerable free gold. This property is owned by Julien Audret, and $10,000 has been spent upon its development. So far 225 tons have been sent to the smelter, which was taken out principally in the course of the development. There is a shaft down to a depth of 110 feet, and drifts to the extent of 60 feet, besides other workings. The ore chute is 500 feet in length on the surface. The ore assays from $11 to $128 to the ton. The ore is principally zinc, carrying gold, and there is some white white quartz that carries considerable free gold. The intention is to incorporate the property and to place the shares on the market.

Roasting Begun at Trail.

Work was commenced on Saturday at the Trail smelter in roasting ore preparatory to blowing in, but it may be a few weeks before work will actively commence, owing to the fact that some of the mines that are relied upon as active shippers are now shipping nothing. A smelter always wants, if possible, to have a month's supply ahead and at present that supply is not at hand. However, some of the mines will again be shippers soon, and as soon as they do the smelter will resume operations and continue steadily at work.

Law to Be Enforced.

James McGregor, the inspector of metalliferous mines, has received imperative instructions from the department of mines to strictly enforce the new regulations, forbidding any workmen to be employed underground more than eight hours in any twenty-four.

The Rainy Day.

News was received from Ymir that the option on the Rainy Day, which was given to some heavy capitalists, has been taken up, and active development work will begin at once.

WE LEAD THEM ALL

Important Strikes That Have Recently Been Made.

THE LATEST IN THE LE ROI

A New Chute Has Been Found in This Great Mine—An Important Showing in the 800-Foot Level—Fine Strike in the Columbia-Kootenay.

Important strikes have recently been made in B. A. C. properties, the value of which to the camp cannot be overestimated. It means, in fact, that the Rossland mines must now keep for the future, as they have occupied in the past, the lead of all others in the province as gold producers. The engineer-in-chief and general manager of these properties, W. A. Carlyle, who is intensely conservative in his estimates, and who is one of the first in the province as an authority, made the following statement, to a representative of The Miner yesterday.

"In the Le Roi mine, on the 600-foot level, an entire new ore chute has now been opened up for a length of 80 feet, showing for that distance a vein of solid ore 6 to 7 feet wide, averaging $40 to $60 to the ton, and at present the face is one mass of solid high grade ore. The discovery of the new chute, 800 feet west of the shaft, adds greatly to the value of the mine. On the 700-foot level also there has recently been foun a solid streak, 4 to 5 feet wide, of high grade ore, and this level is opening up magnificently as it is pushed towards the west.

"On the 800-foot level the showing is most favorable, and altogether the mine probably never looked as well as at the present time. The present output of 300 tons a day will be maintained until the new hoist is put in the timber shaft from the Black Bear tunnel, after which the output will be much increased."

Speaking of the Columbia-Kootenay mine, Mr. Carlyle said:

"Since the new year, in driving the No. 4 tunnel, a good chute of ore, one to five feet wide, carrying values of from $15 to $30 per ton, has been opened up for a distance of 200 feet, and at the western end of this ore chute, an upraise has been made to tunnel No. 3, 120 feet above, and this upraise has shown almost a continuous ore body, two to six feet wide, that has given daily average assays of from $20 to $50 in gold. It now looks as if a fine ore chute of first class ore had been blocked out above this tunnel. Other faces are in ore, some of which are giving favorable assays, and this mine now promises to be a heavy producer."

The Big Strike on the Velvet.

Superintendent Morrish of the Velvet, was in from Sophie mountain yesterday. He reports that two steam drills are being installed. One will begin operations on Monday and the other on the 1st of April. In the south crosscut the ore body has not yet been crosscut for its full width. It has been crosscut for a distance of 23 feet, and is still in ore. The steam drill will be put to work on this crosscut on Monday. The ore body is 273 feet in length, 160 feet in depth and from 10 to 20 feet in width. The shatt which is now down to a depth of 240 feet, is to be deepened, and one of the steam drills will be employed at this work. The intention is to crosscut to the ore body when the 300-foot level is reached. All the drilling has been done by hand, but now that machine drills have been provided it is certain that more rapid development work will be done. The new 60-horse power boiler is in position and will be started up on Monday, and everything is in good shape for doing rapid work. The only matter that is now bothering the management is the question of transportation, and that is, how to transport the ore from the mine to the smelter. A spur must in time be constructed from the Red Mountain railway to the Velvet

Control of the Giant.

Advices were received yesterday from Spokane to the effect that the control of the Giant Mining company had been purchased by a syndicate composed of Montreal capitalists. The terms have not yet been made public. The control was purchased from A. D. Coplen, the president of the company. The Giant Mining company was incorporated on January 7, 1897, by Spokane people. Its property consists of a full claim, 1,500x1,500 feet, just outside of the city limits. There are two large veins on the property. It has been partly developed by a shaft of 115 feet, a tunnel of 120 feet and a small shaft of 35 feet. The old owners did not have the money with which to carry on the development work as it should have been, and so decided to sell their interests. It is said that the new owners have ample capital and are prepared to spend a large sum on the property. The shares, which have been selling for from 4 to 4 1-2 cents advanced yesterday to 6 cents.

Norway Mountain Properties.

The Norway Mountain Gold-Copper Mining company have secured the services of a first-class superintendent for its properties, and development work will commence as soon as the snow disappears.

The Minnehaha.

A seven-drill compressor has been purchased for the Minnehaha mine in the Boundary district, and is now on the way. A 10-stamp mill is also being installed and in a short time it is expected she will become a dividend payer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Bearing the Market.

Editor Miner—Sir: Your article this a. m. re the privilege of stockholders, under certain restrictions, having liberty to visit mines in which they are personally and financially interested, was very opportune, and no doubt, as you say, legislation in this direction is much needed. At the same time, means should be adopted to prevent brokers who, from mistaken judgment, placing themselves (in a hole) by selling short stocks of which they have none, and of whose real value they know nothing. For instance, we find in today's Miner, under certain broker's reports, Rathmullen quoted at lower price than for which it sold yesterday, and openly stating that it is at present at its maximum limit. It is a fact that a broker sold 10,000 shares at 6 3-4 cents, 30 days' option, and has been, and is now, scouring the city to borrow the amount of shares, not being able to buy them at the price for which he sold; consequently, he is trying to bear the market. How would it look for him to openly try to bear down the price of the stock of one of our chartered banks. M. E.

Rossland, March 21.

SILVER-LEAD PROBLEM

The Mint Question Only a Side Issue.

The Advantages Which the American Smelters Have Over Those of Canada Shown.

Editor Miner—Sir: Having read with some interest the letter on the silver-lead proposition which appeared in The Miner of March 19, I desire to make, through your columns, some comment. I think in the letter referred to the main issue is lost sight of.

Through it the establishment of a Canadian coinage mint is advanced as the remedy by which the difficulties at present confronting lead-silver smelting in the country are to be solved.

While it is not questioned that a mint would be of general utility to Canada, it would not be particularly so to the lead-silver smelter. It is not my intention to throw an straws in the way of such an enterprise, as it has much to support it.

Finding a market for its silver is not what handicaps smelting in Canada, but finding a market for the lead.

The Canadian miner and smelter receives as much for his silver as does his competitor in the United States. The silver market is governed by quotations from London, (New York quotations being based on those of London.) The London market itself depends largely upon the ability of Oriental countries to absorb the surplus of America and Europe. Of the silver once shipped to the Orient very little ever finds its way back. The United States has apparently given up the idea of raising the price of silver by coinage on a large scale, and it is highly improbable that Canada would attempt to do so. Unless Canada did raise the price of silver by extensive coinage, it is impossible to perceive how the establishment of a mint would particularly advance the lead-silver smelting industry. The transportation of silver to its present market is a matter of small expense, and would not be materially decreased by any probable location of a Canadian mint.

London and New York quotations would continue to rule the market. The lead-silver problem having already a sufficient load to carry along lines of direct interest, it would appear unwise to further burden it with agitation for something that could not be of material benefit to it.

The lead-silver problem rests then, not on any difficulty in marketing the silver, but on differences in the price of lead in this and other countries. It is, as a matter of fact, simply a lead question.

A comparison of conditions under which the lead smelter at Trail and the one at Northport must be operated is a fair illustration of the issues involved. At these two points costs of labor, fuel and transportation are practically the same, and consequently may be left out of the discussion and only the main issue considered.

The smelter at Trail in shipping its lead bullion to the States must pay 2 1-8 cents per pound duty on the lead contents, and receiver 4 2-10 cents per pound for it. It has of course the alternative of shipping to England, but this involves long distance transportation charges on avery heavy product. The smelter at Northport working on American ores, escapes this 2 1-8 cents duty. On 50 per cent lead ore (about the average of Slocan ores) this duty amounts to $2.25 per ton of ore. This manifestly represents the advantage the Northport smelter has over Trail in handling American ores and is, it is hardly nesessary to add, a complete bar to the Canadian smelter entering the American ore market for this grade of ores.

If the Trail smelter buys Canadian mined ores it still has to pay the lead duty of 2 1-8 cents in seeking a market for its product, that is, if it is sent into the United States. When the Northport smelter enters the Canadian ore market it nominally pays 1 1-2 cents a pound duty on the lead contents of the ore, amounting on 50 per cent ore to $15 per ton, which means that it has $6.25 per ton advantage over Trail on Canadian ore. But it may even clear itself of this by shipping the manufactured lead product to another country; that is, by keeping it in bond. It will thus be seen that in shipping to the American smelter, the Canadian miner of a 50 per cent lead ore is handicapped to the extent of $15 per ton, as compared with the American miner of the same grade of ore. The American smelter always deducts the 1 1-2 cents duty from the price made for the ore, whether it ships the lead product to another country or not.

The Coeur d'Alene district in Idaho is the largest lead producing section of the United States. The value of its products is about equal to the total gold and silver production of British Columbia. The ores of that section as shipped to the smelter average 50 per cent lead, yet it is probable that were these mines located in British Columbia not over 20 per cent of the ores could be profitably handled. In the actual operation of a lead smelter at Trail it is probable that the lead charge in the furnace would be about 10 per cent. That means that if it had available a wet ore carrying 50 per cent lead, four tons of dry ores would be mixed with it. The competition for lead ores is always keen among smelters. The charges for treatment of these dry ores, such as are produced in Rossland and other sections would necessarily have to be so regulated as to assist in the payment of the duty on the lead contents in the wet ores. The lead ores are absolutely essential to the working of the furnace. In other words the dry ores must help pay the duty on lead.

It will be readily seen from this that not only is the miner of lead ores seriously effected by present conditions, but the miners of dry ores also.

When introduced into a lead furnace the Rossland ores must be classed as dry ores. It is probable that much of these ores will be worked in a lead furnace when conditions are favorable. This being the case the Rossland miner is equaly interested with his Slocan brother in the lead-silver question, and can well afford to give his influence and best efforts to its solution. M.

Wheels on the Streets.

"All aboard for Trail," the cry with which every Rosslander is familiar, is for the present only heard once a day. The opening of spring has so demoralized the roads that while sleighing is fairly good in Rossland the snow has absolutely taken to itself wings in Trail, and there cannot be any more pleasant cutter rides down to the smelter town. It is now only a question of a few days before the beautiful will have disappeared and wheels will be in vogue everywhere, and runners will be relegated to the back yards.

THE STOCK MARKET

Last Night Closed What Was Rather an Active Week.

CONTROL OF GIANT SOLD

This Caused a Rapid Advance in the Price of Its Shares—Virginias Are a Puzzle to the Wisest Investors. Victory-Triumphs Are Moving.

The week ending last evening was an active one in stock circles, the first three days being almost record breakers, so far as volume of transactions is concerned. Flurries for these days were caused by the sale of Republic, the speculation in Novelty over the purchase of the control of the shares of that company, the sale of the St. Elmo control and the last flurry of yesterday over the sale of the Giant to a Montreal syndicate. These all helped to swell the volume of business.

There were large transactions in Rathmullen during the week, and they went up and down like a seesaw. The prices ranged from 6 1-2 to 8 cents. There was a sagging of the price of these shares yesterday and they fell to about 7 cents.

The news came yesterday that a control of the shares of the Giant had been purchased by a Montreal syndicate, and the result was that the shares which had been held at 4@4 1-2 cents advanced rapidly and late in the afternoon as high as 6 cents was asked for them.

There were many orders for Jim Blaines during the week from Toronto and Montreal, and the shares sold at from 45 to 47 cents. They were firm last evening at 46 cents.

There has been considerable of a stir during the week in Lone Pines and they have been selling at from 35 to 38 cents.

Virginias have been rather quiet. The condition of this property is a puzzle to the wisest speculators, and they do not know whether to purchase or let it alone. This tends to check dealing in its shares and to keep the price down. Virginias are worth about 50 cents.

There is some movement in Evening Stars, and they have sold during the week at from 9 to 11 cents. The property of the Evening Star is in excellent condition and the promise of the management that it would soon commence shipping has stiffened the shares. Yesterday they were firm at from 10 1-2 to 11 cents.

Victory-Triumphs, on account of the excellent strike in the Triumph and in the Velvet, the adjoining property, has been considerably dealt in during the week, and the price has ranged from 9 to 10 cents. It was firm at the latter figure yesterday.

Toronto has been a large purchaser of Iron Horses during the past week at prices ranging from 17 to 18 cents. The property is looking well. Stringers of ore are being encountered in the north drift.

There were some sales of Rambler-Cariboos during the week at about 38 1-2 cents. From 37 to 38 cents was bid for these shares and 44 was asked on the Toronto board during the week.

Brandon & Golden Crowns are selling at 31@32 cents.

Winnipegs are in fair demand at 29 cents.

Tamaracs (pooled) were in excellent demand at from 16 1-2 to 17 cents.

A large block of Monarchs were sold during the week at 7 cents.

Fairmonts are selling rather freely at 10 cents. The intention is to raise the price of these shares.

Dundees are selling at 32 cents.

Fifty thousand shares of Spitzees were sold during the week at 10 cents. The promoters' shares have been placed in an ironclad pool.

American Eagles pooled shares are selling for 2 1-2 cents, and there has been a good demand for them during the week. The treasury shares are being sold for 10 cents.

Okanogan Free Golds are selling well. Several large blocks were sent to Toronto during the week. The price is 15 cents.

There is a demand from London for Sarah Lees and they are selling for 7 1-2 cents.

NEW MINE REGULATIONS

The Eight-Hour Law Has Gone Into Effect.

Changes in the Statutes Providing for Better Protection of the Workmen in Metalliferous Mines.

The act to amend the inspection of metalliferous mines act is already in affect. The changes that have been made in the act make it the duty of the mining inspector if he regards the mine to be defective, to forthwith post up at the mouth of the mine, or at some other conspicuous place, a copy of the notice that he considers it is defective, and shall order the same to be remedied.

Owners of mines must give notice to the minister of mines and the inspector, of any serious accident.

Section 13 of the act is repealed, and in its place is a new section, reading: "No person shall be employed under ground in any metalliferous mine for more than eight hours in every 24 hours."

Subdivision 1 of section 25 is amended by adding that "Not less than 75 cubic feet of air per minute shall be made to pass through such mine for every man and beast employed therein."

Sub-section 2 is amended to provide that explosives must not only be stored, but thawed in a magazine provided for that purpose.

Other amendments provide that "All permanent buildings for housing boilers, engines and machinery shall be erected at a distance of not less than 50 feet from the mouth of any mine"; that "Slides or conductors for shafts which are at least 100 hundred feet deep, shall either be iron shod or all iron"; that "All vertical shafts of a depth of at least 50 feet shall be provided with a crosshead and guide, and such crosshead shall descend as such shaft is sunk, so that at no time shall it be a greater distance from the bottom of the shaft than 30 feet"; that "No stope or drift shall be carried on in any shaft which shall have attained a depth of 200 feet, unless suitable provision shall have been made for the protection of workmen engaged therein, by the construction of a bulkhead of sufficient strength, or by leaving at least 15 feet of solid ground between said stope or drift and the workmen engaged in the bottom of such shaft," and that "A chain ladder, 20 feet in length, shall extend from the bottom of the wooden ladder to the bottom of the shaft."

SHIPPINGS OF YMIR CAMP

Three Stamp Mills at Present Operating in the Vicinity.

A Short Sketch of the Various Properties Being Developed—Actual Tonnage Shipped to Present Date.

Ymir, B. C., March 21.—[Special.]—Ymir camp has now become a steady shipping center. Three of the most important mines in its neighborhood completed their arrangements for shipping almost simultaneously at the commencement of the present year. As regards actual tonnage sent out from the camp, the figures will not appear large, as Ymir ores are mainly free milling and are treated by stamp mills. At present there are three stamp mills operating in the vicinity. The Ymir mine has a 40-stamp mill which is the largest in British Columbia. The Porto Rico and Fern mines have both 10-stamp mills in operation, making a total of 60 stamps falling in Ymir. The Dundee mine has a concentrator with a capacity of 50 tons per day, now, however, temporarily shut down in consequence of the fire last week, which damaged the hoisting machinery. The Ymir mill has also been delayed in its operations by lack of water. These temporary hinderances will, however, be shortly removed. The total ore treated per day in Ymir will then stand as follows:

Ymir, 100 tons; Porto Rico, 30 tons; Fern, 30 tons; Dundee, 50 tons; total, 210 tons.

These figures represent ore milled in the camp. Other mines are shipping ore to the Northport smelter. Up to the present date the Black Cock mine, owned by Messrs. Julien and Audit, has shipped 238 tons, and is now steadily shipping 50 tons per week. The Tamarac mine has a quantity of high grade ore sacked for shipment, and has already made a trial shipment of six tons and a half. The recent uncovering of a five-foot vein of $16 free milling ore in this mine will justify the erection of a stamp mill on the property, and as a large block of treasury shares have recently been sold in England, it is probable that the construction will not long be delayed. Preparations are also being made for rawhiding ore down from the new Victor mine, on which a bond has recently been taken by Frank Davey.

The actual tonnage of ore shipped from the mines of Ymir to the present date, amounts to 450 tons, of which 120 tons were concentrates from the Porto Rico, Fern and Dundee. To this total, the Black Cock, as mentioned above, has contributed 238 tons, while the rest is mainly represented by concentrates and trial shipments. These figures only represent a small part of the actual output of the mines, however, as both the Fern and the Porto Rico have shipped gold in bars, the former having so far paid two dividends. On the Porto Rico the results have been as follows:

From starting of mill to January 13, 542 tons crushed, producing 590 ounces of gold; from January 19 to February 23, 530 tons crushed, producing 344 ounces of gold; or a total of 1,072, tons crushed, producing 934 ounces of gold.

Included in the latter clean-up were 130 tons of low grade ore. To date the total ore crushed has been in the neighborhood of 1,400 tons, and the gold produced about $30,000. The Dundee mine has concentrated about 200 tons of ore, which together with the Porto Rico, brings the total output of Ymir camp to date to over 2,000 tons, besides the crushings of the Fern and Ymir mills, which I am at present unable to quote. It is but fair to state that the Fern mine is distant about nine miles from Ymir and only two miles from Hall Siding.

I have mentioned above all the actual producing mines of the Ymir district. There are others, however, which will be in a position to produce ore during the coming summer. The Bullion mine, owned by the Alf C., will start up again about the first of next month, and it is the intention of the company to erect a plant to treat the large bodies of ore which lie practically on the surface on this property. On the Bullion claim itself there are five possible ledges within a distance of 300 feet, some of them showing free gold. Tests have been made by Mr. Pellew-Harvey, M. E., as to the best method of treating the ore, and he will advise as to the style of plant to be erected.

The Evening Star property, owned by the Fairmont Gold Mining company, will also be a shipper during the approaching summer. A shaft has been sunk 100 feet on this property, and at the bottom a fine chute of ore, four and a half feet in width, and averaging $28 per ton, has been encountered. This vein is an extension of the Dundee ledge, and the chute of ore uncovered is exactly similar in appearance to the first class ore in the richer chute of the Dundee. It is the intention of the Fairmont company to drift 100 feet each way from the foot of the shaft.

The Big Horne group, owned by the Simcoe company, will also probably be a shipper during the present year. This group is traversed by an immense ledge, in which a six-foot vein has been uncovered, assaying about $40 per ton. During last week a block of 25,000 treasury shares of the Simcoe company were sold in the eastern states.

GRAND FORKS PROGRESSING.

A Brewery With a Capacity of 50 Barrels Daily to Be Started.

Grand Forks, B. C., March 20.—N. A. Burritt of the Columbia Bottling works, Rossland, is in town. He has completed financial arrangements for the establishment in Grand Forks of a brewery, with a capacity of 50 barels daily. The new enterprise represents an investment of $20,000. Building operations will be commenced as soon as the frost leaves the ground.

J. L. Parker of J. L. Parker & Co., Rossland, has decided to operate in the Boundary Creek country. His firm recently secured the Noonday property at Princeton on the Similkameen river. It is located on Copper mountain, and adjoins the Sunset, owned by the B. A. C. It is a copper proposition. Assays gave a return of 46 per cent of that ore. Development work is being rushed. A shaft has been sunk a distance of 50 feet.

H. C. D. Porter of Spokane, Wash., this week inspected the Lillie K, and the Irvins, located on the north fork of the Kettle river. He recently bonded both properties from the owners, A. Lloyd, A. Manly and Hugh McGuire of Grand Forks. He says he feels confident both will make mines. The ore has given assay values of over $50 per ton in gold and copper. The shafts are down 27 and 50 feet, respectively. From here Mr. Porter goes to Republic, where he owns extensive interests. He represents the Kansas City Smelting company, in Washington and British Columbia.

Arthur F. Tero of Toronto, is at the Windson.