

# THE EXCHANGE NEWS.

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## MINING NEWS.

### COMMISSIONER CLUTE COMPLETES HIS INVESTIGATION.

Rossland, B.C., Dec. 23.—Dominion Com-  
 missioner R. C. Clute, Q.C., completed his  
 investigation into the labor question here  
 Saturday evening. Mine owners and min-  
 ers from Ymir, the boundary country, and  
 of this camp, have appeared before Mr.  
 Clute voluntarily and a great deal of im-  
 portant testimony has been given. The  
 utmost good feeling has been shown on all  
 sides, and it is generally believed that the  
 result of Mr. Clute's visit here will be  
 beneficial and help a good deal to quiet  
 uneasy feeling in mining circles.

At Silverton, Mr. E. B. Fraser, of the  
 Vancouver and British Columbia General  
 Exploration Company, was a witness. He  
 had thirty-two years' experience in mining  
 in New Zealand, Australia, the Western  
 States, and a short time in New Zealand.  
 In the latter the shift has always been  
 eight hours, the wages running from  
 seven shillings and six pence to twelve  
 shillings a shift, according to the nature  
 of the work, such as wet shafts, etc. There  
 were no boarding houses in connection  
 with New Zealand mines. The eight hour  
 law should not impede the mining inter-  
 ests of the province. The witness was in  
 favor of eight hour law in New Zealand,  
 as living was very much cheaper than in  
 the Slocan. At Slocan City, Managers  
 Dickinson and Duhois were working many  
 men under the eight hour law; they found  
 the system was working well in their  
 mines. There was no trouble between the  
 managements of the Slocan City mines and  
 the miners.

### ROSSLAND ORE SHIPMENTS.

The shipments continue to maintain good  
 average. The total for the week, excluding  
 Saturday, was 40,262 tons the Giant  
 joined the list this week, sending a first  
 shipment of 75 tons to Northport. Christ-  
 mas weather in Rossland is very mild and  
 all the snow is disappearing. Appended is  
 a detailed statement of the ore shipments  
 from Rossland camp for the week ending

December 23, and year to date:	Week.	Year
Le Roi .....	2,272	93,249
War Eagle .....	1,449	68,968
Iron Mask .....	120	5,406
Evening Star .....	—	1,088
Deer Park .....	—	18
Centre Star .....	900	26,045
Columbia Kootenay .....	111	—
Virginia .....	—	100
Mountain Trail .....	—	20
I. X. L. ....	25	100
Coxey .....	—	20
Monte Cristo .....	100	360
Giant .....	75	75
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>4,982</b>	<b>180,650</b>

### CLAIMS BONDED.

Fort Steele, B.C., Dec. 23.—The Cando  
 group of claims has been bonded by R. C.  
 Burgess, representing United States and  
 Canadian capital. The consideration was  
 \$15,000. The group consists of the Cando,  
 Fra Diavolo, Faust, Saint Paul and Lake  
 Side Fraction. This property joins the St.  
 Eugene and Peter on the east.

Nelson, B.C., Dec. 23.—The road that  
 was built under the Nelson and Bedlington  
 railway charter is reported complete, and  
 turned over to the operating department.  
 The road extends south from Kasnook to  
 Bonners ferry, and no doubt will be oper-  
 ated by the G.N., as more than half the  
 mileage is in the state of Idaho.

### STRIKES COPPER VEIN.

Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 24.—A special  
 from Custer, S.D., says: "The Vigilante  
 Mining Company has struck a vein of cop-  
 per ore in its mine that exceeds in value  
 anything that has ever been found in the  
 Black Hills. The mine is about five miles  
 from Custer. The rich ore is found in the  
 300 foot level, and the width of the vein  
 at this time is ten feet."

### EXPLOSION IN SNOWSHOE MINE.

Greenwood, B.C., Dec. 23.—A fatal explo-  
 sion occurred in the Snowshoe Mine at  
 Phoenix Camp, at 12 o'clock to-day, caus-  
 ed by drilling into old blast that had miss-  
 ed fire. Victims are John Nelson, killed;  
 Stanley McLeod, seriously, perhaps fatally  
 injured; both single. No blame attached  
 to the management. The engineer claims  
 to have warned the victims before going  
 to work that two shots had missed fire.  
 Nelson was blown to pieces.

### ANOTHER MINE IS SOLD.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 24.—The Folger-  
 Hammond gold mine syndicate has dis-  
 posed of a mine at Island Falls, in the  
 Seine river district. The consideration is  
 not made known. The purchaser is the  
 Age-sha Milling Company, composed of To-  
 ronto New York and other capitalists.  
 The mine is down 190 feet, and ore is be-  
 ing taken from a vein which is very rich,  
 almost free milling.

### GOLD BUG.

Rossland, Dec. 17.  
 Mr. J. E. Leckie arrived in the city last  
 evening from Greenwood, where he is the  
 consulting engineer for the properties of  
 the Boundary Creek Mining & Milling Co.  
 Mr. Leckie reports that another car load  
 of the ore from the Gold Bug, one of the  
 properties of the company, will leave  
 Greenwood this (Sunday) evening. This  
 carload is perhaps of greater value than  
 the one shipped about two weeks since,  
 which netted \$111.55 to the ton, or about  
 \$1,700 for between 12 and 15 tons. Ore  
 is being sacked continuously and other  
 shipments are to be made. The work on  
 the Gold Bug consists of driving a tunnel  
 and stripping the vein by means of an  
 open cut. The tunnel is in for 40 feet,  
 and it is expected that the lead will be  
 tapped at a depth of 125 feet. The ledge  
 runs from 2 to 3 feet in width and the  
 paystreak is from four to twelve inches  
 wide. The property is looking very well,  
 and on Friday night the ore was coming  
 into the tunnel. There are 15 claims and  
 some fractions in the property of the com-  
 pany, and there is ore on every one of  
 them.

Mr. Leckie is accompanied by Mr. Ro-  
 nald Harris, M.E., of Greenwood, and the  
 two are en route for Eastern Canada to  
 spend the forthcoming holidays. They will  
 visit Toronto, Montreal and New York,  
 and will be absent about six weeks.

### WAR EAGLE AND CENTRE STAR.

Rossland, Dec. 17.  
 The management of the War Eagle com-  
 menced to operate a diamond drill on  
 Friday last. It has taken time and some  
 experiments before the new machine work-  
 ed satisfactorily. Owing to the hardness  
 of the rock, only the best diamonds can  
 be used. The drill will be used chiefly for  
 crosscutting purposes, and it is stated  
 that it will be of great service in pros-  
 pecting ahead of the ordinary development  
 work. Mr. Kirby said yesterday that pro-  
 vided the machine was properly used, he  
 knew of no reason why the formation here  
 could not be advantageously prospected in  
 this way, and in any case the company  
 proposed to thoroughly test the appliance  
 from this time on. The pry roll of the  
 two mines for the past month was the  
 highest on record, the total being \$49,  
 366.20, the War Eagle paying out \$30,923.  
 45, and the Centre Star \$18,483.20. The  
 total is some \$2,800 in excess of the  
 large payment made the previous month.  
 In the War Eagle the main shaft had  
 reached a depth of 873 feet last night.  
 When the 875-foot level is reached a sta-  
 tion will be cut out and further sinking  
 resumed. In the Centre Star Mr. Carl  
 Davis, the underground superintendent, has  
 been getting his new system of timbering  
 in place. The main shaft is now down 435  
 ft. Fifteen ft. further on, at the 450 level,  
 a station will be cut out. It has been  
 stated officially that following their de-  
 termination in the case of the Centre Star  
 the management of the War Eagle will in-  
 stall a steam hoist and compressor at  
 once, in place of the electric plant now in  
 use.

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