

standard of all wages and that the Northport matter is merely the first move in the campaign to be inaugurated over the Kootenays. It is asserted that Mr. Bernard Macdonald would never have thought of starting on a campaign of this sort himself unless so instructed from London. On the other hand it is also stated that Mr. Macdonald is the prime mover in the matter, and his well-known anti-union views bear this out. Whatever be the motive it is clear that trouble, and deep trouble at that, is in store for the mining industry in this section of the Province unless something steps into prevent.

The Miners' union here is now making preparations to join in the fight if it is decided to do so, in which event the contest is sure to be a long and bitter one.

As the Le Roi management have never replied to the manifesto issued by the Smelters' union, or contradicted the assertions made in that document, public opinion is somewhat in favour of the men and against the company. Everyone is furious at the tangle coming at the present time just when the whole community was looking forward to a most prosperous summer.

If the smelter question is the only one involved, a settlement may still be arrived at, but if the matter spreads and gets to work among the mines it will be hard to say just where it will end, short of shutting down practically all working properties.

The ore output for May, as shown by the corrected figures was the heaviest month on record. The details showing the following:

Le Roi	23,028
Centre Star	8,091
Le Roi No. 2	4,365
War Eagle	3,480
Great Western	2,857
Iron Mask	340
I. X. L.	38

Total tons..... 42,199

The figures given are as nearly accurate as it is possible to get them and can be relied upon as the gross net weight within a few tons. The dry tonnage given in the official report will be a little less than the figures quoted.

Mr. W. H. Aldredge, manager of the Trail smelter, returned about the middle of June from a prolonged visit in the east, presumably on business connected with the Gooderham deal for the plant and the new government refinery scheme. With Mr. Aldredge came Mr. Ladoux, of New York copper fame, one of the men who was employed by Mr. Gooderham to report on the smelter purchase. Neither gentleman would make any statement for publication so the public is left to guess at what has or is happening.

Although Mr. Gooderham recently stated that the deal for the Trail smelter by himself and his associates was not abandoned but was still pending, it is generally believed here that the matter will at least be allowed to stand until the War Eagle-Centre Star situation is in some better state than it appears to be at present. Mr. Kirby, of the Gooderham mines, also returned from a lengthy trip in the east, but he also declines to give out any information concerning his visit, or in connection with the outlook for the War Eagle and Centre Star mines.

So far as these two properties go, the Centre Star has been keeping up a daily shipment of over 300 tons, and the War Eagle about half that amount. It is stated that the present plans of the War Eagle will be finished by mid-summer, by which time the management will be able to state definitely whether the lower workings of the mine are in a satisfactory condition or not, and possibly in response to public opinion in Eastern Canada some official announcement may be published.

For the moment the alleged want of management in both the War Eagle and Centre Star is over-shadowed and forgotten in view of the larger labour question now looming up. Several changes have taken place on the War Eagle staff and Mr. Kirby's retirement in July is rumored but no definite statement is obtainable. Mr. A. C. Garde, mechanical engineer in charge at the War Eagle-Centre Star headquarters, resigned early in the month to assume the responsible position of general manager of the Payne mine at Sandon. Mr. Garde takes charge at an exceedingly interesting stage of the Payne's history, and it remains to be seen what the new manager will do with his opportunity. The Payne is now the biggest dividend payer in British Columbia, having paid to date over \$1,305,000 to its owners.

Work has been prosecuted vigorously during the past month on the Le Roi, Le Roi No. 2, Rossland Great Western, and the Kootenay mines, all owned by British capitalists, and at one time controlled by Whitaker Wright and the defunct British American corporation. We cannot say here how these properties will be affected by the London situation as it daily develops, or by the Northport

labour troubles, but up to the present the first three properties have shipped steadily to the smelter all month.

No effort is apparently being made to ship from the Kootenay mines and no arrangements are in progress to provide shipping facilities from this mine. All the new machinery for the Le Roi and allied mines is in place and has worked smoothly and satisfactorily. The Iron Mask continues to ship a few car loads a week to Trail, but beyond increasing the development no active measure to get this property on a dividend-

paying basis, has been taken, which apparently justifies the rumor that a deal is on for the mine, which is more than probable.

In the Homestake the workings have been unwatered and connected up and ore shipments have been announced to commence during the latter end of June, consequently the stock of this property is rising and in demand. The White Bear is undergoing a reconstruction and arrangements have been made to raise more funds for continuing the diamond-drill workings which have so far proved successful, meantime the mine remains closed down. Rossland is always full of "fairy stories" but at the present time there are so many contradictory rumors afloat that it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain the real state of affairs regarding any given mine or mining property. Usually very well-informed mining men now confess their inability to solve many of the statements being made from day to day, and the news from England only makes "confusion worse confounded" notwithstanding all that is said, however, if only the labour difficulties are properly and definitely settled, Rossland will have a good and prosperous season this summer otherwise the outlook for mining is gloomy enough in all conscience.

F. C. M.

#### VMIR.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The experimental cyanide plant of ten tons capacity, which has been in operation at the Ymir mine since February, has been found entirely satisfactory, and it is now announced that a larger plant sufficient to handle the whole output of tailings will be installed as soon as possible. The capacity of the new plant will probably be of 150 tons per day, as the daily crushing averages about 175 tons of which about 20 tons are saved in the concentrator. The effect of the cyaniding will be shown in a further saving of about \$1 per ton, which will result in an addition to the monthly profit of about \$500 per month.

The Tamarac mine is making a further shipment of ore to the works at Silica. The results obtained from the first 100 tons are very satisfactory, showing a gross value for the ore of \$17 per ton. As there is a large quantity of this ore exposed in the mine, it is probable that a mill to treat the ore locally will shortly be erected.

Work has been resumed on the Wilcox mine owned by the Broken Hill Mining Development Co. This property is, next to the Ymir mine, the best developed mine in the district. It has two distinct veins, on the first of which a tunnel has been run 350 feet exposing an average width of ore throughout that distance of about two and a half feet. The average of a large number of cross samples taken from various points in this tunnel is \$17. At a distance of 154 feet from the mouth of the tunnel an upraise of 100 feet connects with the surface, and with a winze which has been sunk 65 feet below the floor of the tunnel. The ore in this tunnel consists of oxides and carbonates from which gold can be easily panned out. On the second vein two tunnels of 350 and 180 feet, respectively, have been run and the last named connects with a shaft sunk 135 feet. This shaft is all in ore averaging three feet, with an average value of \$22 in all values. A car load of this ore taken from the dump of the shaft and shipped to Northport returned \$57 per ton in all values. This ore is different from that in the first vein and consists of decomposed quartz carrying galena and iron pyrites.

The British Lion Gold Mining Co., of Ontario, has applied for and obtained a supplementary charter increasing its capitalization from \$80,000 to \$180,000. This company is operating the Big Four group about five miles from Ymir. The group consists of four claims, on all of which a good showing of ore has been obtained. This company will expend a considerable sum in the development of the property this summer.

The Golden Monarch Mining & Milling Co., are energetically pushing work on their Foghorn property on Wild Horse creek. The crosscut tunnel is now in 300 feet and has about 300 feet farther to go. A second tunnel has been started to run in on the vein. The Foghorn is situated in what is known as the Wild Horse free-milling belt; and is one of the richest properties in that belt. The shaft which is sunk about forty feet in the ore, is said to have one of the first showings of free-gold quartz to be seen in this Province.

A contract has been let for driving a crosscut tunnel on the Shiloh mine, owned by the Silver Crown Consolidated Mining Co., of Spokane. This property lies quite close to the town and has the promise of a big mine.

There is considerable activity now in the Eric district, ten miles south. Finch & Campbell have started on the construction of a stamp mill on their Second Relief mine and have also a force at work on their Keystone property, whilst the concentrator at the Arlington mine is nearly completed.

#### AINSWORTH, SLOCAN AND NELSON.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The long tunnel which has been driven on the Highlander mine at Ainsworth, has encountered the lead at a depth of 900 feet. The vein