

company means when the fact is set forth that the ores of the greatest of all of the copper mines in America averages not over 4 to 5 per cent. in copper.

"The history of these great corporations and the millions of dividends these companies have paid, is well known to the business world.

"Contrast these facts with the enormous ore bodies in the Standard Group of copper mines owned by this company.

"With permanent veins and rich lodes, as large as shown on the map, at a depth of a hundred feet, a general sample of the ore body shows an average of copper of 23½ per cent. to the ton. In estimating the profits of the company as shown previously, we have figured only on a basis of 12 per cent. copper.

"Our Mr. George W. Beach, the well known mining expert, of British Columbia, in his report to the directors of this company, makes the following important statement :

"The Standard Group of copper mines has every evidence of being a magnificent copper proposition. The geological formation of the Standard Basin, where these mines are located, is an ideal one, and is a formation in which mineral lodes carrying high percentages of value are usually found. All veins are contact, that is, the ore bodies are found in contact between formations of different geological ages. The ore shutes are permanent, and where sampled in the deeper levels shows a higher percentage of copper and gold values than on the surface.

"From actual measurement, I have computed that there is 750,000 tons of copper ore in sight.

"There is another special advantage that I desire to call your attention to, and it is this : that I never saw a mining property better located for obtaining deep levels, and cutting the ore bodies at great depth by short tunnels. With a smelter and reduction works operating in conjunction with the mines, as you contemplate, there is no question but what your stockholders will receive enormous dividends from their investment in the shares of the company."

"In the properties of this company, we have every advantage that the earth can give us. Enormous veins, rich in copper ore at such a height that the present generation could never hope to win the millions of tons of copper ore above water levels, any quantity of water power for mining and all other purposes, estimated to be 5,000 miner's inches at the Standard mine, and unlimited quantities of timber for all purposes.

"Copper has a ready cash market. The demand for copper is greatly in excess of the supply. Increased cost of production in some localities, and the probable decrease of ores in others, makes it possible for this demand to continue indefinitely. Prices have advanced some 5 to 6 cents per pound in the last few months, and the consumption of copper is increasing at an amazing rate all over the world.

"A contract has been entered into by the corporation for the erection of a smelter and reduction works, with a capacity of not more than 500 tons per day, large enough for our own output and that of the mines in the vicinity of Revelstoke. This absolutely assures large dividends on our entire capital, leaving our own ingot copper surplus profits.

"We unhesitatingly state that we can produce ingot copper as cheap if not cheaper than any other copper mining company in America.

"Further information of the company's properties and operations may be obtained at its offices at Bos-

ton, where maps of the mines and specimens of the ore may be seen, and every opportunity offered for the fullest investigation, which is cordially invited.

"The shares in this company are the safest and best paying investment offered to the public to-day.

"For the present a limited number of shares of the capital stock of the corporation, par value, \$10 per share, fully paid and non-assessable, are offered to the public for sale at \$2.50 per share, in order to raise a fund for additional machinery, smelting and reduction works.

"All checks should be made payable to George W. French, treasurer of the company, 82, 83, 84 International Trust Company Building, Milk and Devonshire streets, Boston, Mass."

So far as our British Columbia readers are concerned, to comment on or criticise the many truly astounding statements contained in the foregoing quite remarkable document would be merely a waste of time and space, but at the present time investors in Eastern America, and notably in New York and Boston, are so favourably disposed towards anything in the shape of copper mines, that it is not at all unlikely that many will be found ready to bite at just such skillfully disguised baits as that with which this so-called Boston & British Columbia Copper Mining & Smelting Company are angling.

It is gratifying, meanwhile, to learn that New York has been officially cautioned by our Provincial Department of Mines that investigation in this case is necessary, and that Mr. J. M. Kellie, M.P.P., as member for the district, has, in a letter to a local newspaper—the *Kootenay Mail*—in a commendable manner, taken steps to expose the nefarious scheme of the men, Crosbie and Beach. In passing, it may not be out of place to suggest that if other members of Parliament in British Columbia will profit by the example set them by Mr. Kellie, in publicly exposing swindles and frauds such as the Boston & British Columbia Copper Mining & Smelting Company, the like of which must only too frequently come under their notice, they will assuredly earn the gratitude of those among their constituents interested in promoting the welfare of legitimate mining in the Province, and at the same time do the country a valuable service.

But to return to the prospectus before us. In the opening paragraphs it is stated that the Boston & British Columbia Copper Mining & Smelting Company "is registered in the Province of British Columbia," and that the Company owns "the valuable copper properties known as the Standard group of copper mines," or approximately three hundred and seventy-five acres of mineral land. Both of these statements are untrue. The Company has not been registered in British Columbia, nor does it yet own the mineral claims mentioned, a bond upon which the first payment of three thousand dollars has been made, alone constituting its right to the property. Space in the prospectus is next devoted to a "description" of these valuable copper mines, and as an example of imaginative skill the result is certainly very brilliant. We are told that there are in all five distinct parallel ledges, the narrowest of which does not average less than fourteen feet, and the widest ledge is from forty-five to seventy-five feet across; that these ledges aggregate three-and-a-half miles of "lode matter," that a large amount of money has been already expended in development work, and that it has been thus shown that the veins and ledges "grow richer in copper as depth is attained." Here follows the table as above published, giving the