

ONTARIO IN LUCK.

From time to time rumors are disseminated that Mr. Barnato is acquiring field properties in Canada, both in British Columbia and Ontario. Our London correspondent often expressed doubts as to the correctness of these reports, and considering the state of South African Gold mining it would be surprising if Mr. Barnato could find time to devote to launching out into new expenditure and the purchase of interests in a new gold field. It is, however, a fact that a good many circles of promoters in London have recently abandoned South Africa as a field of research and development and turned their attention to Canada. A recent example of this is the South African Development Syndicate, which was formed to explore properties belonging to the Oceana Co. After continuing this work for a short time the directors found it was useless to pursue the line and decided instead to investigate the Lake of the Woods district. Last summer they inspected a good property called "Mikado," about 33 miles south west of Rat Portage and after satisfying themselves as to the value of it, formed a subsidiary company called the Mikado Gold Mining Co.—Engineering and Mining Journal.

A GOOD OFFER.

An offer of \$75,000 for a bond, with \$10,000 cash down, has been made for the Providence claim on Harrison Lake, B.C., according to the Chilliwack Progress, but Mr. Trethewey has refused to accept it. The average assays are said to be \$25.88 in gold and silver, while a sample from a depth of only 6 feet is said to have assayed \$414.

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CROW'S NEST RAILWAY.

Suggestion For the Construction of the Proposed Line.

The construction of a railway to tap the Kootenay from the east, via the Crow's Nest Pass, becomes more and more the burning question of the day, and various proposals for its building without too much strengthening the hands of the C.P.R. are made. One of the latest suggestions embodies the following ideas:—The construction of the road by the C.P.R.; the taking over of the Crow's Nest Pass fuel deposits by the Dominion Government, so that the people may procure coal and coke at cost prices; the retention by the Government of the control of all transportation charges, the C.P.R. turning over the regulations of its rates throughout the whole of the west.

If the railway will agree to such terms it is said the Government will accede to the building of the line.

The Crow's Nest Pass, through which the proposed railway will enter the Kootenay valley, has an elevation of 5,500 feet above the sea level. This is about 200 feet higher than the Kicking Horse Pass, through which the Canadian Pacific Railway now crosses the Rocky Mountains. It is reported, says the Fort Steele Prospector, that the grade of the proposed road through the Crow's Nest Pass will only be one per cent. The proposed road will open up the largest mineral country yet discovered—a section of vast undeveloped mineral wealth yet in its infancy. East Kootenay has coal, copper, gold and silver mines, which are being developed. This road when completed will be the means of opening the whole southern portion of East Kootenay. It will run for a distance of 150 miles through a section of country rich in mineral. Tributary to, and dependent upon this road "for future shipment of ore and supplies" are the North Star and Sullivan group of mines numbering 100 claims of prospects. On Perry Creek are 90 more, Weaver Creek 20, Moyea Lake and River 22, Bull River and Elk River 15, the St. Mary's River and tributaries over 100, Wild Horse Creek 90, Wasa and the vicinity of Tracy Creek 30, and the largest coal field upon the American continent. Thus it will be seen that there are over 500 mineral claims on the line of and tributary to this proposed road.—Rossland Record.

BETTER IN CANADA.

The last number of the Alaska Mining Record contains considerable news from Centre City, from which the first party this winter had just arrived. The shortage of supplies is mentioned, and one of the visitors says: "There is plenty of nothing but sugar. Flour has sold as high as \$50 per hundred weight; there are no canned meats or canned fruits, and the entire supply of bacon is bad—unfit even for dog feed."

Such a description makes a comparison that is tremendously in favor of our Canadian mining districts, not only for comfort, but for the actual cost of mining. There may be, and are, rich mineral prospects in this far-off mineral region, but any capital invested there will have to face very heavy expenses in securing the precious metal. Our Canadian provinces, where gold is found, appear infinitely more attractive than does Circle City, Alaska.

LAKE OF THE WOODS GOLD FIELDS

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Of Rat Portage.

NON-PERSONAL LIABILITY.

Capital \$1,000,000 In Fully Paid, and Non-assessable Shares of the par value of One Dollar.

Sixty thousand ONLY of the Treasury Shares in the above are offered at 40 cents per share.

The Company holds in Fee Simple 160 acres upon which eight veins, varying in width from 18 inches to 35 feet, have been already laid bare.

Work is being rapidly pushed forward upon No. 1 vein, and the principal shaft is now 60 feet deep, disclosing a body of free milling ore which daily improves in quality.

THE

BLACK - STURGEON

Mining Co. of Ontario. Lim.

Fifty thousand ONLY of Treasury Shares in the above are now offered for sale at 25 cents per share.

This is a development company owning seven properties of proved value in Lake of the Woods District, besides two promising options upon which development work is being prosecuted under the personal superintendence of a well-known mineralogist of a large experience.

Two or three of these properties will shortly be in a position to be offered for sale, and it may be mentioned that inquiries have been made for them.

The Company will continue to acquire new locations from time to time and to develop them to a marketable point.

— ALSO —

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