

HAS BANKS GALORE

London Gets Two In One Week and Kaslo One.

BANK OF B. C. WAS FIRST

It Now Has Branches in Three Towns in Kootenay, While the Banks of Montreal and British North America Have Two Each.

SANDON, B.C., Nov. 30.—(Special).—The Bank of British North America opened a branch here this morning. The people are naturally jubilant as the opening of a branch last week by the Bank of British Columbia was itself unexpected. With two banks Sandon becomes the acknowledged centre of the great Slovan silver-lead district.

The Bank of British Columbia was the first chartered bank to establish a branch in the Slovan country. It has already proved a great convenience to the people of the town and district and has inspired more confidence than ever. Mr. Myton, formerly of the Victoria branch, has been appointed manager, and the bank's interests will no doubt be well looked after.

SANDON, B. C., Nov. 28.—(Special).—There are at present between 600 and 700 men employed in the mines around here, and as many of the mines are enlarging their bunk houses in order to increase their staff, it is said to say that by the beginning of spring the above number will have been considerably augmented. Now this fact will probably surprise many of your readers who imagine that only 200 or 300 are employed. The population of Sandon is considerably over 1,000. This can be verified by taking the dwellings, including the hotels, which number 400, and averaging them. This of course does not include those working in the mines.

There have been numerous complaints of late regarding the lack of accommodation, both of houses and hotels, but this state of things will soon be remedied as Black's, Gunnings and the Goodenough, three fine buildings with all modern conveniences, will be ready for business in about three weeks. The Dayton Group Mining company, of which F. G. Steel is president, has commenced work on its claim and expects to go 50 feet before crosscutting when good results are expected. The people here are having a skating and curling rink built. The grading of the lot has been completed and the building commenced and is expected to be finished in two or three weeks. It is believed a strong curling club can be formed here as there are many devotees of the "roarin game." A grand carnival will open the skating season.

Shelton & Co. of Vancouver have opened a furniture store in Sandon hall for the time being until better premises can be secured.

The electric light system is expected to be completed in about a month, which will make it the first town in west Kootenay that will have both its streets and houses lighted by electricity.

D. S. Wallbridge of the firm of Rand & Wallbridge, mining brokers, left yesterday for Spokane. J. M. Harris, president of the Reco, has gone to Spokane and will look after some shipments of ore. We had a visit from the C. P. R. officials last week when the site for the new depot was decided upon but the work on the same will not be commenced until next spring.

KASLO HAS A BANK TOO.

The Bank of British Columbia Opened There Friday.

KASLO, B.C., Nov. 30.—(Special).—Spurred to prompt action by the report that some other institutions might occupy the field, the officials of the Bank of British Columbia hung out their banners on Friday morning and announced that its Kaslo branch was ready to do business. Mr. Gillespie, the provincial manager, and C. V. Holt, of the Nelson branch, had been looking over the field for some days, but the early opening was somewhat unexpected even to the best informed. The necessity for banking facilities in Kaslo was undisputed and the early bird will, doubtless, capture the financial worm. Permanent quarters have been secured in the Hartin block and Mr. Allison of New Westminster will be manager with Mr. Wilson of Victoria as accountant.

THE ELISE IN NEW HANDS.

Majority Interest Sold on the Basis of \$75,000 For the Property.

The control of the famous Elise mine on Wild Horse creek, Nelson mining division passed into new hands yesterday. James B. Owens, secretary of the B. C. Exploration company, limited, has been negotiating for a majority interest in the Elise company. The money was paid yesterday through the Bank of Montreal and the deal closed. The price was on a basis of \$75,000 for the entire property.

The principal owners of the stock as originally issued, were Joe Young, Hugh McGlynn and Mike Morris. A majority of the 1,000,000 shares in the company are now under the control of the B. C. Exploration company and held under a pooling agreement. The Elise mine was the first to attract attention to the rich ore deposits on Wild Horse creek. The latest assay shows 113 ounces of silver and 15 ounces of gold, or a total value of about \$400 per ton. The pay ore is about two feet wide. A shipment of four tons to the Trail smelter about two months ago went over \$50 to the ton. Eight men are now working on the property, and the showing is very fine.

Two other properties in the vicinity of the Elise have recently been bonded for good figures, the Tamarack group for \$60,000 and the Ymir group, for \$40,000.

DARDANELLES INCORPORATED.

The Treasury Stock Already Placed and the Other Stock Pooled. The incorporation was completed here yesterday of the Dardanelles Mining and Milling Company, Limited, with 1,000,000 shares of the par value of one dollar each. The company was organized to take over the Dardanelles group of mines in the Dardanelles basin at the head of McGuigan creek in the Slovan

country. The group consists of the Dardanelles, Dardanelles No. 2, Diamond Cross and Okanogan. The incorporators are J. B. McArthur, of Rossland; A. F. and A. L. McLaine, of Kaslo; A. B. Irwin, of Rossland; W. H. Adams and D. W. Moore, of Kaslo, and Col. Ray, of Port Arthur. The entire amount of treasury stock, consisting of 250,000 shares, has been placed. All the individual stock has been pooled for six months.

The Dardanelles group is one of the famous properties of the Slovan country. The value of the shipments already made from the Dardanelles mine is \$68,000. The ore runs about 300 ounces in silver and 40 per cent. lead. It ranks with the highest grade ore in the Slovan country and is only exceeded in value by the product of the Reco and Goodenough mines. The property adjoins the Rambler-Cariboo group.

REVELSTOKE DISTRICT.

Laforme forced to Kill His Pack Animals.—Lillooet Company Quits.

Revelstoke Mail: For the second time in four years the Big Bend trail has been enacted upon it a wholesale and terrible slaughter of animals. On Wednesday George Laforme, finding no way out for his pack train of 27 horses and mules, adopted the only, if terrible means of relief by shooting them all where they stood shivering and weary, hemmed in by snow on all sides.

The Last Chance people took in \$45 in two hours when they first got into bed rock last Friday. Things look very favorable for good pay in the future.

The North Star has got everything in good shape for the winter. Cabins are up and work will be pushed when Gus Lund returns.

The crew on the Orphan Boy are still sinking a shaft and driving a tunnel, and a good ore showing is made. All will be ready for a mill next season.

The Smith Creek Co., with Prof. Nason superintending, have 15 men at work sinking test shafts on the channel of Smith creek to bed rock. They will prove the ground thoroughly this winter.

The Consolation placer is still in pay that is getting better all the time. More men are going up this week and next and work will be pushed all winter.

Messrs. Erbehol & Ferguson, who secured the Old Ball and C. O. D. groups this fall intend putting on a large crew of men next spring. They intended putting up cabins this winter so as to have every thing in readiness with the coming of the snow, but it is now probably too late to do so. However, they will make up for lost time when they start.

A large consignment of the machinery for the French Creek company's saw-mill has arrived. It is too late to get it up and put in place this winter, but it will be in running order next spring and busy times will be seen on the company's property; in fact all over the Big Bend.

TROUT LAKE.

The Horne-Payne company has shut down its work in this district, much to everyone's surprise and disgust. On the Galena Bay road but four miles remained to cut and one mile on the road between Ferguson and the wagon road. The work on the Broadview and Sunshine is also stopped. It is not known upon whose advice this has been done, but it would appear to those who have been in this country for any time and competent to judge that the company would have done better to work its properties and open roads now, it being so much easier to ship out in winter than at any other time.

The Silver Cup people will not now do the shipping they expected this winter. The rawhide trail has been stopped and seven men will do development work during winter.

COLD SNAP IN ROSSLAND.

Comparative Figures of the Frigid Extremes of This Year and Last.

Snow came a month earlier in Rossland this year than last. In 1895 the initial snow storm of the season was December 1. This year the first snow fell to stay November 3. Winter opened at an unexpected date with snow throughout the Kootenay country. Only once during the winter of 1895 was the mercury forced below zero. At 8 o'clock March 2, the thermometer registered zero, and at midnight it fell to 6 degrees below. The coldest day so far this winter in Rossland, as recorded by C. C. Woodhouse's instrument, was the early morning of Friday November 27. Saturday November 28, the lowest point was 10 degrees and Sunday the lowest was 8 degrees above.

For Rossland there will be fair weather when the barometer is 28.55; very stormy weather when the barometer is 28.70. These are the two extremes for Rossland. When the weather is unsettled the barometer is 28.30; thus the condition of the weather ranges in degrees of fair or stormy, between 26.55 and 28.70.

PROVINCIAL VOTERS' LIST.

Blanks Have Arrived—Interrogations Which Claimants Must Answer.

The blanks for the registration of provincial voters have arrived and Recorder Kirkup, who is official collector of votes, began the preparation of the voters' list Wednesday. The interrogations which must be answered by claimants for enrollment as provincial voters are as follows:

1. What is your Christian name, surname, place of residence and occupation?
2. Are you of the full age of twenty-one years?
3. Are you a natural-born or naturalized subject, and which?
4. Have you ever taken the oath of allegiance to any foreign state or been naturalized as a subject of a foreign state, and if so have you since been naturalized as a British subject, and when and where?
5. Have you resided in the Province of British Columbia for twelve months prior to the date of your application to be registered as a Provincial voter?
6. Have you resided or had your chief place of abode in this electoral district for a continuous period of two months prior to this date? If not in this district, in what (if any) electoral district?
7. Are you registered as a provincial voter in any electoral district in British Columbia? (If the answer be yes.) In what district?
8. Do you wish to be registered as a provincial voter? On what premises do you reside?

Allen G. White, who has recently returned from the Big Sheep Creek country, says that that district is rapidly coming to the front and the prospects on Sophie mountain are promising. He says the width of the ledges is surprising, and the high assays and class of ore stamp it as the Cripple Creek of British Columbia.

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BOUNDARY DISTRICT

A Big Strike Made in the Old Iron-sides Shaft.

MAY SOON BE A SHIPPER

Sunset and Crown Silver Probably Sold—Leslie Hill Buys Half of the Jewel—Anaconda's Entering the Club—Narrow Escape of the Hospital

ANACONDA, B.C., Nov. 30.—(Special).—The Steamwinder claim owned by Midgton and Farrell, has closed work temporarily. The ore in the bottom of the shaft at the time of closing was steadily increasing in value and pay ore seems to have been encountered in a large quantity.

The contractors on the Old Ironsides have received their whim and putting in place and are now sinking. The shaft is already down 50 feet, is to be coaxed to a depth of 100 feet. The bottom of the 50 foot shaft just struck a bonanza of fine looking ore and the mine in probability will be a shipper by the time the contract is completed.

T. Brady, mining expert for Messrs. Campbell & Co., of Vancouver, has recently been making a thorough examination of the Sunset and Crown Silver claims in Deadwood and money has been deposited as a guarantee of good faith on part of intending purchasers. Mr. Brady is also making a report on the Brooklyn claim for the same parties.

A one-half interest has recently been sold in the Jewel claim of Long Lake camp to Mr. Leslie Hill, representing Victoria capitalists, for \$15,000.

There has just been organized in Anaconda a society consisting of the business men of Anaconda and others who are interested in the welfare of this young town. The organization goes by the name of the Anaconda Commercial Club and has already some twenty-five or thirty members. Thomas Hardy, of the Palace Hotel is president and F. J. Miller, of the Anaconda Mercantile Co., is sec-treasurer. The club has leased Wilson's hall and is now fitting the upper floor for use as a club room. The first business done by this club was the building of a new road to the No. 7 mine and White's camp. This road was badly needed, as the old route lay through Boundary Falls and over one of the steepest and hardest trails in the country. Besides being a much easier grade the new trail reduces the round trip by over five miles. The club has also arranged to build a bridge over Boundary Creek at a point connecting with the road to Deadwood and Copper camps, thereby shortening the round trip to these camps some two or more miles. It is the intention of the club to write a comprehensive and accurate report of the Boundary Creek mining district and have the same printed in book form for distribution where it will do the most good.

The memory of the oldest inhabitant fails to bring to mind anything like the cold weather we have had this past week on Boundary Creek. The temperature has ranged from 30° below zero at Greenwood to 35° below at Midway and each morning for the past few days, and at present the weather shows no signs of change.

In the fire which occurred at the new hospital in Greenwood City last week Dr. Jakes came very near losing all he had invested in this fine building. Aroused by the smell of smoke in the middle of the night, the doctor found the fire to be between the floors near the open fire-place. Only the most strenuous efforts of the whole town saved the building from being consumed.

The young daughter of the doctor de-serves great credit for running bare foot through the snow and intense cold to arouse the town whilst the doctor carried the patients to a place of safety outside the building. It was only by the prompt action on her part that the building was saved at all.

Kind Words from the Fred Victor Mission Bible Class. On behalf of the Fred Victor Mission Bible class I wish to express our gratitude to you for the box of Chase's Bible which you supplied in aid of our charitable work to the infant child Mrs. Brownrigg, of River street. Ten days ago the child was awfully afflicted with scald head, the face being literally of scab from forehead to chin, and in the brief time a complete cure has been effected. Surely your gift was worth more than its weight in gold.

EMERUS YRIGHI, 11 264 Sherbourne St., Toronto.

The Queen's Hotel, Toronto.

Attention is directed to the advertisement of the Queen's hotel, Toronto, Canada. All the prominent mine owners from Rossland and other mining districts make their Toronto headquarters at the Queen's, and at any time of day or evening mine owners and operators from all parts of the Dominion may be found in the corridors of the hotel. The Queen's is one of the leading hotels of the Dominion, all its appointments being first-class in every respect.

MINING NOTES.

The machinery plant of the W. Bear will probably be completed by the end of this week. Work will then be resumed in the shaft.

A strike has been made on the Otta. The ore body is four feet wide and carries about 5 per cent. of copper. It has not received a report of the value.

The International company on a day sent out three additional men a large amount of supplies to the S drop. The crosscut tunnel is now over 20 feet.

The Zilco company was organized Monday last with J. B. McArthur, president and H. Stevenson as manager. Mr. Stevenson will commence work immediately on the Zilco property.

The Red Eagle company has five at work on its claim. Winter quarters are completed and a shaft has