

THE STOCK MARKET

War Continued to Restrict the Volume of the Sales.

OTHER MARKETS ARE IMPROVING

Sales for the Past Week Were \$3,750 Shares and for the Month of January They Footed up \$87,000—The Features of the Trading.

The stock market continues to be only fairly lively although there are signs which indicate that business is going to pick up. When the news came of the capture of Spion Kop by General Buller it seemed to enliven business to a considerable degree and there were more inquiries than there had been for some time past. Then came the story of the abandonment of the forces of General Buller and Warren across the Tugela river. This made the market quiet again. The war is having a depressing influence on stocks it must be admitted but that there will be a fair market in time notwithstanding the struggle seems certain. The copper market is recovering from the first effects of the war scare and stock trading is rather lively there. Toronto has shown considerable improvement and the indications are that the market both there and in Montreal is on the mend. Should a few successes of magnitude come to the British armers there would, it seems certain, be a hurry of large magnitude.

The sales for the week ending yesterday by days were as follows: Thursday 14,000 Friday 21,500 Saturday 9,000 Monday 21,000 Tuesday 17,700 Wednesday, no sales reported.

Total 83,750 The sales for the month were as follows: First three days of January 41,500 Week ending January 10 128,000 Week ending January 17 214,250 Week ending January 24 114,500 Week ending January 31 114,500 Week ending January 31 83,750

Total for January 577,000 This is not a bad showing when it is considered that the market is in the midst of a slump and that there is always, even in the best of times, a period of quietude following the Christmas and New Year's holidays. It is thought by conservative brokers that the month of February will show marked increase over January in the number of the transactions and that March will be still better. Giant has been one of the best movers on the list although the price has remained stationary. The ore body is being approached on the 50 and the 100-foot levels and this tends to stimulate investments. It is worth from 7 1/4 to 8 cents.

Deer Trail is fairly firm and is quoted at 13 1/2. The Consolidated Deer Trail-Bonanza shares are worth 11 1/2 cents. This is on account of the larger capitalization of the latter corporation. Athabasca has held its own fairly well and on the board yesterday 30 cents was asked and 28 bid. The last clean-up of the Athabasca is expected to have been a good one.

Evening Star is fairly firm and on the board 8 1/2 is asked and 7 1/2 bid. Another carter is being sent west to support this stock. The work of opening up the property of this mine is making good progress.

Canadian is selling at 12 1/2 cents and there have been some sales in Toronto at this figure.

Centre Star has sold during the week for \$1.53. The dividend of this company will be paid about the middle of February, and this accounts perhaps, for the movement in these shares.

Deer Park is quiet and only a sale or two has been recently made. On the board yesterday 1 1/2 was asked for it.

The call for Gertrude, which was quite lively last week, has fallen off. It is worth from 8 to 8 1/2.

The strike in the Heather Belle recently reported, has not stirred that stock much. The reason for this is that the corporation controlling this property is a close one, and all holding the shares have a high opinion of the property. One sale is reported at 7 cents.

I. X. L. is selling from 22 1/2 to 23 1/2. The recent finding of a very rich pocket of high grade ore in this mine has stiffened holders, and they are not inclined to accept the current quotations.

There has been some demand for King, and on the board yesterday 2 1/2 was asked for it. There was no bids.

There has been some inquiry for Mollie Gibson, which is caused by the fact that shipments have been recommenced by the company. These shares are quoted at 36 cents.

Monte Christo is selling some, and is worth from 6 to 7 cents.

Some orders have been given to brokers to purchase Morrow at 1/4 bid, but they could not be filled, as holders are not inclined to take less than 3/8 cents. The reorganization of this company has not yet been completed.

There is some call for Novelty, and there has been a few sales, principally in the east, at 2 1/4.

Rambler-Cariboo is worth from 82 to 83 cents. The holders of this stock will receive their dividends soon. They are to be called today.

Rathmullen is worth from 5 1/2 to 6 cents.

There were a couple of sales of Richelieu at from 13 to 15 cents.

The shares of Sullivan, an East Kootenay property, are being dealt in some from 11 to 12 cents. They seem to be favorites with the Spokane investors.

Tamarc is worth from 7 3/4 to 8 1/2 cents.

War Eagle is firm at \$2.68 asked and \$2.63 bid on the local board, while on the Toronto board yesterday \$2.75 was asked and \$2.69 bid. This stock has recently advanced several points. Brokers regard this as a good sign to have the higher priced shares advancing, as they think it will in time cause an advance in the cheaper grades.

There is little dealing in White Bear.

Lately there have been orders sent in for Wonderful at 2 1/2, but they could not be filled, as holders ask 4 cents. Winnipeg is in increased demand since the company began to ship. It is quoted at from 26 to 28 cents.

Okanogan has sold some during the week and the price has ranged from 6 to 7. On the Toronto exchange yesterday 7 was asked and 6 bid for it.

Appended are the official quotations of yesterday of the Rossland Mining and Stock exchange.

Table with columns: Name, Bid, Ask, Name, Bid, Ask. Includes entries like Cariboo (Camp McKinney), Old Friends, Waterloo, Smuggler, etc.

Thursday's Sales. Giant, 4000 at 8c, 2000 at 7 3/4c, 3000 at 8 1/2c, King, 2000 at 21c, 500 at 20c; Rathmullen, 2000 at 5 3/4c, 500 at 5 1/2c.

Friday's Sales. Tamarc, 1,000 at 7 3/4c, 1,000 at 8c, 1,000 at 8 1/4c, 1,000 at 8 1/2c; Giant, 1,000, 1,000 at 8 1/4c, 1,000 at 8 1/2c, 3,000 at 7 3/4c; Okanogan, 2,000 at 6c, 1,000 at 6 1/2c, 1,000 at 6 1/4c; Deer Park, 3,000 at 1 1/2c; Gertrude, 1,000 at 8c; Winnipeg, 2,000 at 28c; Rathmullen, 1,500 at 6c.

Saturday's Sales. Giant, 5,000 at 8c; Winnipeg, 2,000 at 25 1/2c; Okanogan, 1,500 at 6 1/2c.

Monday's Sales. Giant, 3,000 at 8c, 1,500 at 7 3/4c, 1,500 at 8 1/4c; Okanogan, 1,000 at 6 1/2c, 2,500 at 6c; Rathmullen, 1,500 at 5 1/2c, 5,000 at 5 3/4c; Peoria, 5,000 at 1 3/4c.

Tuesday's Sales. Rambler-Cariboo, 1,000 at 52 1/2c; Peoria, 3,000 at 1 3/4c; Tamarc, 1,000 at 8c; Giant, 5,000 at 7 3/4c, 2,000 at 8c, 1,000 at 8 1/4c; Okanogan, 1,000 at 6c, 6 1/2c; King, 2,000 at 21c; Winnipeg, 750 at 27c.

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A ROSSLAND TROOP. NEWS FROM GREENWOOD.

Meeting of Brandon & Golden Crown Directors—County Court Cases.

Greenwood, Jan. 24.—Andrew Kelley, Brandon; Hon. T. Mayne Daly, Q. C.; Rossman; W. A. McDonald, Q. C.; Nelson; A. Fuller, Spokane, and W. L. Orde, Kossian, directors of the Brandon and Golden Crown, arrived in the city this week, and with the local directors held a meeting in the Hotel Armstrong. It is understood that the matters principally discussed were in connection with the shipping of ore. There are at least 2,000 tons on the dump immediately available, and it is stated that there are 20,000 tons of ore blocked out in the mines. At present they are working in a crosscut on the 300-foot level. It is proposed to commence shipping as soon as the railroad spur is completed to the Wynne, mine.

The Hon. T. Mayne Daly and the other directors left this afternoon for their respective homes, greatly pleased with the prospects of the Brandon and Golden Crown, and of the outlook in the industry generally.

County court was held here yesterday. Judge Spinks made an important decision respecting the right of the free miner to the use of the timber on his claim. There were half a dozen cases in which this right was in one way or another involved, but only one was heard, that of John Muirgan vs. Louis Bue, Adolphi Higgs, et al, in which the defendants were sued for damages for cutting and carrying away timber and trespassing on the plaintiff's mineral claim.

The evidence went to show that the defendants, who were sawmill men, had gone on to the plaintiff's claim, and had cut a certain number of trees which were traced to the mill. The point of law involved was, whether the owner of the mineral claim could, under the act, prevent the mill men from entering, cutting and carrying away timber. No evidence was offered in behalf of the defence, the plaintiff's solicitors applying for a non suit.

His Honor gave the following written judgment: "The mine owner is entitled to the timber on his claim for mining purposes. Anyone who takes timber from his claim interferes with that right and commits a trespass. The defendants had cut and carried away from the plaintiff's claim, the extent of the quantity the plaintiff cannot say, but he claims over 91 trees, and the defendant does not contend for \$45 and costs. He expressed the opinion, which had no right to sell or dispose of the timber, or to use it for any other than mining purposes. This is a very important decision, and as it will be appealed from, the result will be looked forward to with general interest throughout the province. The interest of every claim owner is affected. The other cases will stand over pending the result of the appeal.

Greenwood Celebrates. Greenwood, Jan. 25.—(Special.)—Burns' birthday anniversary was celebrated here this evening by a dinner at the British Columbia hotel, which was largely attended and very successful.

Greenwood had five big events tonight: McCulloch, champion skater of the world; Burns' dinner, Mendelssohn and a performance at the Alhambra theatre.

CAUSED BY FIRECRACKERS. A Chinese Laundry and Store Gutted by Fierce Flames.

Hop Lee, a Chinese, who owned a store and wash house on West Le Roi avenue, is sorry that he and his friends participated in the new year's festivities, for he is out about \$1,500 as a result of the pyrotechnic portion of the festivities. Hop Lee and his companions celebrated the opening day Tuesday by affixing themselves in their silken jumpers and dealing out Oriental delicacies, strong waters and cigars to visitors. One of the features of the celebration was the explosion of numerous firecrackers. These set fire to the store and at about 9:20 the premises resounded with the frantic cries of excitement, panic-stricken Mongolians, for the apparently emotionless captives completely lost their heads when there is a fire. The flames had a good start before the alarm was turned in from box 52. By the time the department arrived on the scene the whole structure, which was a story and a half high, was wrapped in flames. The firemen quickly got to work and in a few minutes the blaze was extinguished. The building was partially burned down and those goods which were not burned were badly damaged by water. In the laundry considerable of the clothing of customers was destroyed. The loss is estimated at about \$1,500. There is no insurance.

Licenses Paid. There have been no changes in the city hotels and saloons for the first half of the present year. City Assessor Harp has issued licenses to all the old holders for last year, none having dropped out. The receipts for the first six months of the year are as follows: Fourteen hotels at \$150 \$2,100 Thirty-six saloons at \$300 7,800 Total receipts \$9,900

The Patriotic Fund. The Bank of Montreal in Rossland is authorized to receive subscriptions for the Canadian Patriotic Fund, and will transmit all amounts received to the treasurer of the fund for the Dominion at Ottawa.

A Miner Seriously Injured. Thomas Gossett was brought to the Sisters' hospital at 2 o'clock yesterday morning suffering from severe internal injuries and his recovery is a matter of considerable doubt. He went to work in the Le Roi yesterday, and fell down the shaft a considerable distance, sustaining the injuries mentioned. At a late hour this morning he was resting easy and there was a slight change for the better in his condition.

Mr. D. M. Walters, superintendent of the Pathfinder mine at Grand Forks, who went east last month has been married, and with his wife arrived in on the afternoon train yesterday. Mr. and Mrs. Walters leave for Grand Forks this morning.

THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE. MARTIN TO MAKE ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO DEFEAT GOVERNMENT. Higgins and Fighting Joe Denominated Floppers—Placed on Some Important Committees.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 29.—(Special.)—The atmosphere of the legislature, which was calm and sedate most of last week, was more highly charged this afternoon. The fact was easily explained by the presence of Joseph Martin after an absence of some days in Vancouver. Joe, quickly proceeded to criticize in committee some bills of his successor Henderson, and succeeded in getting one or two little alterations in the companies' amendment bill, with the idea of keeping down the expenses of corporations wishing to go into business in this province. Just before the sitting closed, McBride, opposition, moved, seconded by Ralph Smith, government, that Martin's name be placed on two important committees.

Higgins rose and expressed surprise that as well as Joe, had been set on such bodies. The only explanation he had seen of this action was that he and Martin were floppers. This, he felt, did not preclude him from serving on a committee, and if one flopper was put on, he, Higgins, although not very anxious for work, thought the other flopper should be placed on the committee as well.

Then arose the chief incident of the day. Colonel Baker, in the absence of Turner, the leader of the opposition, arose and solemnly renounced the two floppers for this occasion. He said the house was a triangle, and the premier should certainly allow the third party to be represented on the committees.

The premier cast the onus of leaving Martin and Higgins off the committee on the opposition. All the members of the government had been provided for. However, he agreed to find places for floppers, stipulating only that the government should retain a majority as usual on the committee.

This gave Martin an opportunity of asking the government supporters and papers to correct the mistake of placing Higgins and Higgins among the regular opposition. Altogether it was as good as a play.

Martin hopes to have another try at defeating the government on Wednesday, when he will move a vote of censure to nullify the bill. He expressed the opinion, which had no right to sell or dispose of the timber, or to use it for any other than mining purposes. This is a very important decision, and as it will be appealed from, the result will be looked forward to with general interest throughout the province. The interest of every claim owner is affected. The other cases will stand over pending the result of the appeal.

NEWS FROM THE CAPITAL. Drowning Accident on the West Coast—The Provincial Offer of Troops.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 29.—Captain Christensen, the well known pilot of this city, characterizes as an absolute fake, the story appearing in the Montreal Star, that he presided at a meeting of Boer sympathizers in Victoria, at which subscriptions in aid of the cause were made. He says he knows nothing of any such meeting, and that his sympathies are with the British side, as his record during 36 years residence in Victoria would indicate.

Captain Hansen and James Moir have met death by drowning near Kyaukot, on the west coast, their boat swamping on the way to their mining camp at Cape Ged, nearby. Hansen was a German who joined the ranks of the Victoria seafarers after his schooner, under the German flag, had got into serious trouble with the Russians for raiding their sealing grounds. He had a weakness for this form of enterprise, and two years after establishing in Victoria, he was caught red-handed raiding the United States rookeries on the Pribilofsky. To the sealing fleet he was known as the "Flying Dutchman," from the mystery constantly enveloping his movements.

The committee of citizens appointed at the public meeting last week in connection with the provincial offer of troops for South Africa, met today and decided to start a movement to have private enterprise supplement the provincial government's offer so as to bring the total to 250 in place of 100. This would remove the objection raised by the Dominion government that there is no domestic available on the transports already arranged for, and that 100 men would be too small a contingent to justify a special transport. It was resolved to undertake to raise in Victoria 50 men of the extra 150 suggested. All the other cities in the province will be invited to co-operate.

RECRUITING POINTS. Where Men for Strathcona Hore Can Join May Sail on the 17th From St. John.

Ottawa, Jan. 29.—(Special.)—The following are the recruiting stations for the Strathcona Horse in British Columbia: Golden, Revelstoke, Vernon, Kamloops, Fort Steele, Nelson, Vancouver and Victoria.

An effort is being made to send the British Columbia contingent from St. John on the 17th, with a boat which is taking a cargo of hay.

THE B. C. CONTINGENT. Arrangements Being Made For a Later Date Than the 17th.

Ottawa, Jan. 30.—(Special.)—As the British Columbia contingent will scarcely be ready to leave by the 17th of February, from St. John, N. B., and as another steamer will be dispatched with hay shortly afterwards, it is likely that they will go with that one instead. The government here is trying to make arrangements in this direction.

Mr. John Withell of Montreal, one of the directors of the Midway company, limited, and proprietor of the Midway Advance, has just got in from the east, and leaves today for Midway, Phoenix and Greenwood on townsite business. He will return to Rossland early next week.

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AT VICTORIA. Yesterday Session a Routine One For the Most Part—The Third Party.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 30.—(Special.)—Save for the opening references by the premier to the British Columbia contingent, the legislature today was entirely given over to routine. Directly after prayers, Hon. Mr. Semlin read a further unsatisfactory telegram from Hon. F. W. Borden, minister of militia, intimating that no extra space was available on the Strathcona transport to accommodate the British Columbia contingent. However, the minister added that he was negotiating elsewhere, and expected an early reply. Colonel Baker advised the government to make some arrangement with the Dominion government to be allowed to proceed with the organization of the scouts so as to be ready directly transport was available. The premier took occasion to remark that already applications to serve were more than enough to fill the contingent.

Hon. Mr. Cotton, replying to a motion made by McPhillips, said he did not see why the crown should refund monies and twice over, to renew free miner's certificates. The government had informed parties who did this that payment was unnecessary, but certain people persisted in paying their fees last year, as their legal advisers suggested they might jeopardize their property by not doing so. It was decided to strengthen the companies' act by preventing directors borrowing money without the consent of those representing two-thirds of the capital stock.

Much discussion took place on the reprehensible practice of some small debtors courts magistrates collecting accounts. Hon. Joe Martin secured the insertion of an amendment to the small debts court bill preventing this, and Attorney-General Henderson hinted that he would put down wrong-doing of this kind with a high hand if it was brought to his notice. The names of Martin and Higgins, members of the third party, were placed on important committees.

LOCAL LEGISLATION. Another Uneventful Session—Illness of Hon. D. W. Higgins.

Victoria, Jan. 29.—(Special.)—The absence of Messrs Higgins and Martin, the former through illness, which it is feared will prove fatal, yesterday's complete clearing of the order paper, and the "standing over" of the coal miners' bill, together with the speaker's decision that the liquor license bill must come down by message, produced another uneventful sitting of the legislature today. A number of unimportant public bills went through the committee on second reading, and the house adjourned in time for a full government caucus to be held at 4:30, at which it is understood the alien exclusion bill and partial or complete redistribution of seats were the subjects of debate. The largest bill yet introduced, and what promises to be the longest bill of the session, was given its introduction this afternoon. It is to consolidate and revise the Vancouver city charter legislation, and will take at least a week in the private bills committee. It contains 134 pages, 239 clauses and a score of schedules.

THE EIGHT-HOUR LAW. Petition Presented For Its Continuation—Mr. Higgins' Health.

Victoria, B. C., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—The parliamentary week has closed with another light day, only routine work being witnessed, and the coal mines regulation bill, the most important government measure now on the paper, being stood over indefinitely to permit of the report of the provincial coal mines commission of inquiry being received.

Mr. Higgins, though looking very ill and feeble still, was able to take his seat in the house for half an hour today, and brought forward the long list of motions for returns that have been standing in his name, and the majority of which were agreed to without debate.

During the day Mr. J. M. Martin presented a monstrous petition from 98 per cent of the merchants of Rossland, 40 hotel keepers, being all in the city, and many others, miners, artisans and professional men, asking for the continuance of the eight-hour law intact, as in the nature of working the greatest good to the greatest number.

A NOVEL BILL. How Kellie, M. P., Proposes to Evade Dominion Disallowance.

Victoria, Jan. 28.—(Special.)—A novel and original method of evading the disallowance of the Chinese exclusion act on the score of its discrimination against a friendly nation, is proposed in a bill presented to the legislature today by Mr. Kellie of Revelstoke. It is entitled "An act to regulate the length of hair that may be worn by employes in the metalliferous and other mines of British Columbia."

B. C.'S OFFER ACCEPTED. A Mounted Troop of 100 Men From Here Will Go To Africa.

Victoria, Jan. 27.—(Special.)—The official acceptance of British Columbia's offer of a mounted troop of 100 men for South Africa is promised on Monday by Dr. Borden, federal minister of militia and defence, in a telegram today to Premier Semlin. The acceptance would have been forwarded earlier but for difficulty in arranging transport. Recruiting will probably commence next week, and be rushed as much as possible.

OVER THE C. P. R. All Mail Matter From the Boundary Will Take This Route.

Victoria, Jan. 27.—(Special.)—In pursuance with instructions issued by the postal authorities all mail addressed to the Boundary country and Southern Kootenay will hereafter go by way of Vancouver over the C. P. R., instead of by the Sound. This step has been taken as a precautionary measure against the spread of smallpox, which is known to exist in Washington state.

The assets, consisting of buildings, household furniture, tools and mining apparatus, of the late Secretary-treasurer's office expenses, etc., were sold at public auction yesterday.

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Two Dollars

THE MINER

Statement of the Board of the Present

TO PUSH WORK

Meeting of the Board of the Present

Smelter Returns From I. X. L.

A meeting of the directors of the Consolidated Gold and Silver Mining Company was held last Monday.

The company's office, new Bank Building, Washington street, is now ready for occupancy.

Mr. Cranston, in the absence of Mr. King, acted as president, G. M. King as secretary-treasurer.

Before the business commenced, Mr. Cranston, in a statement of the work of the company had been in the past.

They all knew the result was shut down last spring and December last. It is of interest of the stockholders.