

ROSSLAND'S RICHES.

The Rossland Record in a recent issue contained the following: The aggregate wealth of the city to-day is \$23,000,000. No other city in the world has so much wealth in comparison with its population; no other city in the world can boast of having 50 mine-claims stake inside its city limits, 17 of which are fully developed properties running full blast. If the other 33 claims should produce one-third of the wealth turned out by the other 17 developed properties, the wealth of Rossland would run up into the billions besides which the wealth of the Klondyke, South Africa, Australia and other places would pale into insignificance. The citizens of Rossland even, many of them, do not know the wealth contained within the limits of their own city. In order to satisfy the inquisitive it will be necessary to classify the wealth in order that the figures given may not seem visionary. Inside of the city limits are 50 properties. The 17 developed properties are as follows: Le Roi, War Eagle, Centre Star, Nickel Plate, Iron Horse, Iron Colt, Kootenay & Columbia, Sunset No. 2, White Bear, San Francisco, California, Josie, Great Western, Golden Charm, City of Spokane, Black Bear. These mines represent \$20,000,000 in gold cash. The 33 undeveloped mines are valued at \$1,000,000, which is a very conservative estimate. Indeed when the good results obtained from the surrounding developed properties are considered. This brings the wealth inside the city limits up to \$21,000,000. Add to this amount the estimated valuation of the city, which is \$1,500,000, and the amount climbs up to \$22,500,000, or nearly \$23,000,000. If the wealth were distributed equally every person in Rossland would receive nearly \$3,000 on his or her share. If the dividends paid by the mines could be added to this amount the total would fairly startle the credulous. The Le Roi alone has paid \$75,000 dividends. Then there is to be considered the amount of money invested in stocks, the sums represented by those interested in mines here, and the bank accounts from various sources, which would again swell the total to a fabulous amount. There is also a pay roll of \$75,000 per month or over. In the opinion of a prominent mining man from whom these figures were obtained, inside of a year there will probably be 10 more claims shipping ore, providing there are facilities for handling it which will bring the total up to 57 developed properties. When it is further considered that the city is but three years old and is equipped with all modern appliances, such as finely graded streets, a sewerage system, a city council, board of trade, water and light plant, then it will be easy for outsiders to understand why the citizens of Rossland are proud and have such faith in their city. So speaks the Record, making of course, the most of its city. The figures quoted however, are certainly significant of a fair future for Rossland.

ORE SHIPMENTS.

The ore shipments from Rossland for the past week aggregated 1,760 tons, all of which went to the Trail smelter. The Le Roi's output was 1,650 tons, which brings the total shipments from this mine since the beginning of the year up to 41,997 tons. The Iron Mask mine furnished its usual quota of 60 tons, while the Centre Star was in the list with a shipment of 50 tons. This makes the total tonnage sent out from

A SHREWD OPINION.

This is what the Mining Journal, of London, Eng., the oldest mining paper in the world and certainly one of the best, thinks of the Klondyke and its companies in their relation to the British investor. Quoth the Mining Journal: "The Pall Mall Gazette has been at pains this week to interview His Honor Mr. MacIntosh, Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Territories of Canada, to ascertain his views on the richness of the Klondyke gold fields. As might be expected from one who is imbued with the sentiment of patriotism, this gentleman thinks very highly of this gold field and expressed himself in this self-satisfied manner—'The Territories are a treasure house of the empire, and when it has been exploited the rest of the world will rub its eyes and wish it had a share in it. All our great colonies in Africa, Australia, and India have had their time, and they are not played out by a great deal. But now it is Canada's turn, and I think our little surprise packet on the Yukon river, as well as in British Columbia, will be about the biggest thing of the century. Give us a year or perhaps two and we will astonish the dear old mother country, and make the nations outside the empire green with envy.' No person, we take it, would be insane enough to deny the wonderful richness of the Klondyke gold-field, and no one has the slightest doubt that it possesses an abundance of the precious metal. But what we do contend is that, owing to the terrible difficulties encountered in the gold field, and the insurmountable obstacles which forbid mining work during a great portion of the year, the possibility of profitable working is almost out of the question. There may be a few persons who will alone benefit from this marvellous 'treasure house,' but we think the chances which British and other investors stand of reaping any profits from the development of the field are very remote. Judging from the amount of capital that has already been subscribed in Klondyke companies we greatly fear that those who have been foolish enough to part with it will stand little chance of ever seeing it back again, and, in spite of Mr. MacIntosh's opinion, we would earnestly advise them not to entrust any further capital in the exploitation of this phenomenally rich but unworkable gold field. But when applied to Canada, and especially to British Columbia and Ontario, the remarks of the Lieutenant Governor possess a greater significance. We have persistently advertised the claims of both these gold fields, and we repeat what we have frequently said, that investors, if they wish to embark upon safe enterprises, would be far wiser to intrust their capital in mining properties in gold fields such as these, which possess abundant facilities for economical working, than to send it to a country such as Klondyke, where it stands a great chance of being profitlessly expended. Therefore, we have no exception to take to the views held by Mr. MacIntosh on Canada generally. We desire to add our testimony to his that the future will reveal this country to be a veritable 'treasure house,' and that it is destined to give the mining community and the world in general a pleasurable surprise."

KLONDYKE GOLD.

This gold is much less pure than that of California, which averages at least \$17.50 an ounce. Some of the Klondyke gold only assays at the mint \$15.48 an

MR. HEINZE'S ADVOCATE.

The Rossland Miner has begun its work for its new owner, Mr. Heinze. It consequently advocates very strongly the cause of the Columbia and Western Railway, and its claims for a Dominion subsidy towards the proposed line from Penitcton to Boundary, as against the Coast railroad syndicate, whom, referring to Dr. Milne's attempted bargain and sale of charter claims, it stigmatises as charter mongers. Meanwhile, whether Mr. Heinze and his press advocate like the situation or no, the C. P. R. has determined to extend its Crow's Nest road from Nelson to Rossland, if possible fair terms being arranged, via the Columbia and Western line of Mr. Heinze and his associates, otherwise by a new branch of its own. The news naturally delights both Nelson and Rossland.

It looks as if, having regard to the practically unlimited resources of the C. P. R., it were best for Mr. Heinze to follow the scriptural maxim, "Agree with thine adversary quickly." All shrewd observers in B. C. are compelled to recognise that as things are, it is useless to oppose the great transcontinental railroad in any large and important matter, be it Mongol immigration, local service or otherwise. The C.P.R. is strong enough at Ottawa and elsewhere to go very directly in any direction which it may please its powerful director to take, and fortunately for B. C. the present policy of the C. P. R. is, as regards the mining country at any rate, eminently progressive.

THE LAST CHANCE.

The Slocan mine, adjoining the "Noble Five," is reported sold for \$250,000 per Mr. McDonald, manager of the Payne mine, Messrs. McCune, who own already dominating mine interests in the Slocan, are reported to be the purchasers.

OFF FOR PEACE RIVER.

R. Applegate, who was in Vancouver for several weeks, left the other day for Peace river where he and his party will do some prospecting and next spring they will probably push through to the Klondike. They left by way of Ashcroft and from there took the trail to Queenelle. They had two years' provisions.

Telegraphic Address: Code: "Bed-rock. Moreing & Neal."

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