

THE MINING REVIEW

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

The principle on which Mr. Corbin is selling property in Rossland appears to be according to the well-worn formula, "You pay your money and you take your choice." Of course, the Nelson & Fort Sheppard Railway company would not sell anything it is not entitled to sell. But why in the world does it refuse to let people know for sure that it is entitled to sell the property? It is a most extraordinary way of doing business, to say the least. It is further complicated by the fact that some of the most reputable and influential men in British Columbia maintain that the company does not own the property and never will own. The average individual is sadly confused by it all.

The British Columbia Bureau of Information has come in for some entirely undeserved condemnation. Its subscribers number some of the most prominent business men of Rossland. They believe that by collecting and disseminating information and statistics about the country they can advance its interests and through its interests, their own, and they are giving time and money to back their opinion. They do not seek any indorsement from the Board of Trade because they require no names behind them but their own. As a matter of fact the leading men in both organizations are the same. This Bureau of Information if it were guilty of booming certain properties and condemning others would condemn itself and meet well-deserved reprobation. But this is neither its scope nor its object, nor so long as the men at present at the head remain there is it ever likely to be prostituted to unworthy ends.

THE GEOLOGICAL AGE OF GOLD.

Among mining men and geologists there are various opinions in regard to the formation of gold-bearing quartz veins. Some maintain that the original occurrence of gold, as in veins, is almost exclusively confined to the older rocks; while others assert that the formation of these deposits belongs to a very recent geological period. Every vein is of more recent origin than the rock formation it traverses: when it intersects other lodes it is, of course, seen to be younger than these. Thus far the relative age of lodes may be easily ascertained, but seldom can their real age be determined, and that only approximately, when they can be referred back to a well defined sedimentary formation.

The age of lodes may at times be ascertained indirectly within a certain range, when it is evident that they owe their origin to reefs of certain eruptive rocks. Lodes of gold-bearing quartz are frequently associated with adjacent igneous rocks in such a manner as to compel the belief that their formation was caused by the upheaval of the eruptive rocks. Lodes, it is further to be noted, are usually found in regions in which igneous rocks have burst through crystalline schists or stratified deposits, and, as a rule, several occur together; therefore, when one lode has been

discovered there is great probability that others of the same kind will be found in the neighborhood.

It appears probable that instead of gold-bearing veins all being formed during a certain period, their formation has been taking place at all periods since a firm crust of the earth has existed, but at different depths and at different times in various places, dependent upon geological events, such as the upheaval of reefs of igneous rocks, and various terrestrial convulsions, producing deep fractures and fissures. That the older rocks contain more lodes than recent ones is probably owing to the fact that they have for a longer period been subjected to the possibility of the lode formation in them. The older the rocks the more vicissitudes they must have passed through the more they must have been been shattered and fissured. Since all true lodes are aggregations of mineral matter in fissures, fissures must have been formed and then filled. It is possible that the formations of all kinds of lodes is still taking place, but mostly at such depths that we can not observe them.

While the majority of the known gold veins of the world are associated with the older rocks, there are not wanting many examples of auriferous deposits in the more recent formations. In the Tyrolese Alps are found auriferous slates; in Switzerland, on the Callanda, an auriferous vein is found in Jurassic strata; in Westphalia, near Graves, the Lias limestone is somewhat auriferous; in the Valley of the Aar traces of gold have been found in the Miocene sandstones and conglomerates while the majority of the Hungarian and Transylvanian gold veins cut through Tertiary rocks, therefore must have been formed in or subsequent to the Tertiary age. This deposition of auriferous material in a Tertiary formation appears not to have been owing to insignificant chance; the gold bearing veins of Transylvania doubtless owe their existence to geological events quite as regular and legitimate as those which have in other places given birth to auriferous veins in the older crystalline and igneous rocks.

It is safe to say that the gold veins do not exist in violation of the physical laws which govern terrestrial events. The mines themselves are no trifling accident. They are as extensive and have been as productive as many gold mining districts in even the oldest rock formations. At one time, at and about the village of Voerospatak—Red Brook in Western Transylvania, no fewer than 300 veins were being worked. There were in operation over 1,000 quartz mills and the mines gave employment to several large and flourishing communities. The sandstone in which these gold mines are situated is said to belong to the Eocene, consequently the oldest of the Tertiary deposits.

Other examples of gold found in rocks of comparatively recent formation might be given, but it is not in violation of any natural law. It is only because the recent rocks have not been so long exposed to shattering subterranean convulsions, and to the liability of having mineral veins formed in them, that they do not contain as many as the older rock formations, which have been rent, upheaved, tossed about and subjected to all manner of geological changes for ages incalculable. The formation of mineral veins is evidently a slow process. Undoubtedly the work is still in progress, as in the early ages of the world, but at great depths. The heat and pressure there appears to be necessary to the formation of most kinds of metalliferous veins. Ages after formation they make their appearance at the surface through upheavals of mountain ranges and the erosion of superincumbent strata. This work still proceeds. The coast of Peru has risen over 80 feet since the Spaniards first set foot upon it. Three times, the geologists tell us, the Andes sank hundreds of feet beneath the ocean level, and again were slowly brought up to their present height. It was an operation covering untold millions of years, yet the Andes are rated geologically as "recent."

As regards the question of the age of gold, it is safe to say that the metal is as old as the oldest mountain on the face of the globe and as young as the babe born but today. It is of all the ages since the formation of mineral veins first began. Gold-bearing veins were doubtless formed during all geological ages, but locally at different times.

MARKET REPORT.

The market has been featureless this week. Among the heavy stocks Jumbo and Josie have had a dull market, and no trading has been done except at under the market price. The best feature of the situation is the rapid and easy placing of treasury stocks that have merit. This means active development work, and it is that which tells. A steady advance all along the line is to be looked for through the winter, with a few sensational rises upon the discoveries which development work is certain to lead to.

COMPANIES.	CAPITALIZATION.	PAR VALUE	MARKET PRICE.
Alberta	\$1,000,000	\$ 1 00	t 10
Alamo	500,000	\$ 1 00	*
Butte Gold Copper	1,000,000	1 00	t 07½
Big Three	3,500,000	1 00	t 10
Caledonia Con.	500,000		t 11
California	2,500,000	1 00	15
Cambridge	1,000,000	1 00	t 08
C & C	500,000	1 00	*
Centre Star	500,000	1 00	*
Celtic Queen	750,000	1 00	t 07½
Commander	500,000	1 00	t 28
Crown Point	1,000,000	1 00	45
Colonna	1,000,000	1 00	t 15
Cariboo	800,000	1 00	36
Cumberland	500,000	1 00	*
Deer Park	1,000,000	1 00	18
Elise	1,000,000	1 00	t 15
Enterprise	1,000,000	1 00	*
Eureka	500,000	1 00	t 05
Evening Star	1,000,000	1 00	25
Georgia	1,000,000	1 00	35
Good Hope	500,000	1 00	8
Great Western	1,000,000	1 00	18
Grey Eagle	750,000	1 00	
High Ore	500,000	1 00	07½
Homestake	1,000,000	1 00	17
Hall Mines	£300,000	£1	8 15
Hilltop	1,000,000	1 00	t 10
Idaho	500,000	1 00	*
Iron Colt	1,000,000	1 00	t 15
Iron Horse	1,000,000	1 00	*
Iron Mask	500,000	1 00	75
Ivanhoe	1,000,000	1 00	t 10
Josie	700,000	1 00	60
Jumbo	500,000	1 00	75
Juliet	1,000,000	1 00	t 12
Kohmoor	1,000,000	1 00	t 10
Kootenay-Columbia	40,000	100 00	*30
Kootenay London	1,000,000	1 00	10
Le Roi	2,500,000	5 00	7 50*
Lily May	1,000,000	1 00	15
Mayflower	1,000,000	1 00	16
Monte Cristo	1,000,000	1 00	20
Mugwump	1,000,000	1 00	t 20
Monita	750,000	1 00	t 25
Minnesota	1,000,000	1 00	*
Northern Belle	1,000,000	1 00	t 15
Noble Five Con.	1,200,000	1 00	40
Old Ironsides	1,000,000	1 00	15
O. K.	1,000,000	1 00	30
Orphan Boy	7,000,000	1 00	t 15
Phoenix	500,000	1 00	t 12½
Poorman	500,000	1 00	9
Red Mountain View	1,000,000	1 00	20
Rossland, Red Mt.	1,000,000	1 00	20
Rambler Con.	1,000,000	1 00	*
St. Elmo	1,000,000	1 00	13
Silver Bell	1,000,000	1 00	t 07
Silverine	500,000	1 00	12½
Southern Cross & W Con.	500,000	1 00	20
St. Paul	1,000,000	1 00	t 10
Stocan Star	500,000	50	2 15
Sunshine	500,000	10 00	*
Trail Mining Co.	250,000	100 00	*
Union	600,000	1 00	*
Virginia	500,000	1 00	24
War Eagle	500,000	1 00	75
West Le Roi	500,000	1 00	*27
White Bear	500,000	1 00	*
Young British America	1,000,000	1 00	t*
Wonderful	1,000,000	1 00	15

Dividend paying properties appear in italics. An asterisk denotes that there is no stock on the market. t denotes treasury stock.

VICTORY-TRIUMPH TREASURY STOCK.

All arrangements have now been completed for the sale of the Victory-Triumph treasury stock, which will be placed on the market in a few days at 10 cents a share.