

ing the Winnipeg mine, situate in Wellington camp, Boundary district, in closing down the mine for no known reason other than that contained in the flimsy excuse that consolidation with the Brandon & Golden Crown company, whose mine adjoins the Winnipeg, was being negotiated. For this both the MINING RECORD and myself were subjected to abuse and misrepresentation by the editor of the *Greenwood Times*, who made among other mis-statements, the following assertions: "The 'RECORD' contains some untruthful statements regarding the 'closing down of the Winnipeg. The actions of Duncan McIntosh were known to all the officers of his company, and negotiations for the consolidation were carried on by them with the officers of the Brandon & Golden Crown in the East. Last month I met Mr. D. H. Beecher (formerly treasurer and now president of the Winnipeg company, vice Mr. McIntosh retired,) at Greenwood and in response to my enquiry I was assured by that gentleman that the mine was closed down without his previous knowledge. This then is the testimony of one of the directors who since his connection with the company, commencing with its inception, has continuously taken an active interest in its affairs. Regarding the consolidation project, two letters were published in the *Rossland Weekly Miner* of March 29 last, one from the secretary of the Brandon & Golden Crown Co. and the other from the official broker at Rossland of the Winnipeg Co. The former contained the following: 'The idea of consolidation originated entirely with the Winnipeg people, and it is the manager of that company (Mr. McIntosh) who has been forcing the issue, and he it was who gave publicity to the matter.' The latter wrote, in part, 'The directors and officers of the Winnipeg other than Mr. McIntosh were not consulted, so it is quite possible that the consolidation scheme will not get beyond the embryonic stage.' I revert to this matter to show that your advices in this connection were reliable, whilst, on the other hand, the assertions of the *Greenwood Times* in reply were as unreliable as are many of the inflated statements that journal is in the habit of publishing as mining news."

It is hardly necessary, we think, to make any comment on our correspondent's letter, except to say that before the remarks which were published in the April issue appeared, we had received very precise information from more than one independent source on the subject of the closing down of the mine.

We note that work has been resumed at the Winnipeg mine, Boundary district, this time, so it has been officially stated, under the direction of a practical mining man of many years' experience. In 1897, prior to incorporation of the company, the then trustees published a prospectus which contained the following: "A careful, practical, economic and business-like management of the company and operation of its property is assured stockholders, and there is good reason to believe that the mine will be more than paying operating expenses before the end of the coming year." It cannot well be maintained that either the assurance or the anticipation contained in the foregoing has been satisfactorily realized. Again we remember that Mr. Duncan McIntosh, then president and managing director of the company, was last fall interviewed by the *Rossland Miner*, which on Oct. 19, 1899, published, among other statements, the following: "There is 20,000 tons of ore in sight

which will run from \$20 to \$30 per ton. There are 2,000 tons of ore on the dump ready for shipment." Referring to a new strike made by men engaged in grading for the railway it stated: "About 200 tons of ore had already been taken out of this find, and is piled up ready to be sent to the smelter. The assays of this ore average about \$87 to the ton." In view of the fact that Mr. Beecher, now president of the company, a few weeks ago was reported by the *Phoenix Pioneer* to have informed its representative that "the returns of from \$18 to \$24 per ton on the ore shipped thus far more than realized the expectations of the stockholders" it seems that these were either not well informed as to the late manager's opinion of values, or they discounted them. However the statements lately made to our correspondent indicate that matters will henceforward proceed upon a more business-like and dependable basis. With an experienced mining man in charge, liberty to employ all the men he can work to advantage, a thousand tons of ore on the dump to start with, 30 feet of solid ore in a surface vein and 50 feet at the 300-foot level, all the plant and machinery in good working order and equal to developing the mine down to the 500-foot level, and the railway within a few yards of the dump—surely this is a combination of advantages that, with no further erratic interference to prevent, ere the current year closes should prove earlier faith in the Winnipeg to have been fully warranted and so restore confidence in the property and stock.

The *Vancouver News-Advertiser* has done much good work for the Boundary creek district during the past three years in publishing more news from that section than any other of the larger newspapers of the Province, and withal more generally correct news. Latterly though, it has, in selecting matter from district newspapers for its mining columns and in publishing "boom" communications from Grand Forks especially to a considerable extent sacrificed quality to quantity. This is to be regretted, since the almost irrepressible boomster correspondents to be found in both Grand Forks and Greenwood should certainly not be encouraged in their mischievous efforts by leading newspapers of the province. As an instance of this unfortunate departure from its earlier avoidance of such evils we refer to a contribution published in the *News-Advertiser* of May 15, in which some grossly exaggerated statements appear relating to Summit camp, Boundary district. The ingenuity displayed by the writer thereof in securing a free advertisement for a townsite in which are largely interested such men as Messrs. A. W. Ross and W. C. Haywood, the elasticity of whose imaginations in depicting townsite advantages is perhaps not yet forgotten on the Coast—is no doubt, from his own point of view, admirable. But while we are not concerned with this aspect of his effusions, we take strong exception to the misstatements concerning the mines of Summit camp. But to quote: "Huge plants, the transportation of which represents a small fortune, are ceaselessly throbbing; vast ore-dumps attest the fact that mining in Summit has long since passed the experimental stage." This "word picture" is of the kind to be looked for from the pen of an O'Farrell but the *News-Advertiser* has been accustomed to leave such fairy tales for some of its less particular contemporaries to publish. As a matter of simple fact—and it is facts, not fairy tales, the min-