

THE MINING REVIEW

The Main Event Was the Giant Resuming Shipments.

OUTPUT LAST WEEK 4,932 TONS

Properties in Sheep Creek Being Developed—X. L. Continues to Improve—Sir Charles Tupper Coming on the 28th to Look After His Mining Interests.

The principal event of the week in mining circles was the resumption of shipments by the Giant. Three carloads, or 75 tons, were shipped to the smelter during the past week. This is not the first shipment from the Giant. In 1898 it sent 114 tons of ore to the smelter. In the earlier history of the camp the Giant was bodded by the management of the Tacoma smelter and then several carloads were forwarded to Tacoma and reduced there. There are some 400 tons of ore on the Giant dumps and this is to be sent to the smelter. In Sheep Creek valley two companies have recently commenced operations on promising claims. These are the Evening and Arthur claims. The surface showing is excellent and the ore carries gold, silver, copper, zinc and lead. This mineral section is an extension of the rich leads of Sophie mountain. The miners there expect to be able to get their ores out via the Sheep Creek valley to the Red Mountain railway. There are a number of claims in this valley, and also up the sides of Nigger mountain, and if the two companies now operating there are successful, it will lead to the opening of other properties.

Sir Charles Tupper, the chairman of the New Gold Fields of British Columbia, will be here on December 23rd, for the purpose of examining the properties of the Velvet and Portland companies, of which the New Gold Fields of British Columbia is the parent company. Mr. Tupper is very enterprising, and has good connections and following. Sir Charles visited Rossland some two years since, and this resulted in the investment of considerable capital here, and it is hoped that a similar result will follow his present stay here.

I. X. L. continues to improve, and promises to make a mine of considerable importance. There are a number of claims staked on O. K. mountain, and some have fair surface showings, and the good result obtained by the development of the I. X. L. should have the effect of inducing owners of neighboring prospects to commence developing them.

Considerable attention was drawn to the investigation of the mining labor situation by Mr. Clute. Both the mine owners and the miners gave testimony, and with a clearer understanding of the situation on both sides, and mutual concessions, there should result a healing of whatever differences have arisen. Mr. Clute has won the good will of all who have appeared before him by the fairness of his bearing and his evident intention to get out the facts.

The Ore Shipments.

The output of the camp for the week well up to the average, 4,932 tons having been sent down to the smelters, and in the case of the shipments over the Columbia & Western, the figures given do not include the output sent down yesterday. The ore train was delayed in starting, and up to 4 o'clock the shipments had not entered up, otherwise, the total would have exceeded 5,000 tons. The shipments for yesterday will be included in this week's figures. It will be noted that the Giant joins the list, being credited with 13 tons, dispatched during the week to Northport. The I. X. L. sent out another shipment of 25 tons of rich ore, and the Monte Cristo is credited with five carloads, or 100 tons. The Le Roi heads the list with 2,272 tons; the War Eagle and Centre Star combined sent out 2,340 tons, while the Iron Mask's output was 120 tons. The Northport smelter received 1,372 tons, and Trail 2,560 tons.

The Ore Output.

Appended is a detailed statement (approximately) of the camp's output for the week ending December 23rd, and year to date:

Table with 4 columns: Property Name, Week, Tons, Year, Tons. Rows include Le Roi, War Eagle, Iron Mask, Evening Star, Deer Park, Centre Star, Columbia-Kootenay, Virginia, Mountain Trail, X. L., Monte Cristo, and Total tons.

War Eagle and Centre Star.—Mr. Kirby, manager of the War Eagle and Centre Star, has been very busy at the close of the week in preparing figures for Mr. C. Clute's inquiry, the result of which appears in another column. The big War Eagle compressor has been running all week, and the output of the combined mines speaks for itself of the progress made. The diamond drill has been kept busy all week with good results, and no difficulty has been experienced in working the machine. Beyond the fact that the James Cooper Manufacturing Co., one of the defendants in the big suits mentioned last week, has got back at the War Eagle by issuing a writ for damages, there is nothing of special interest to report this week about the two big mines.

Summet No. 2.—The strike on the No. 3 ledge on the 100-foot level is, it seems, the most important that has yet been made on the property. The ledge was crosscut to a distance of 26 feet, and has been drilled along on the south side for a distance of about 20 feet. The ore in the ledge when crosscut, was bunched, but it is claimed, to be getting solid, and copper is coming in. The ore is being managed to be of a shipping grade. It is expected, too, that the ledge will improve when it has been drilled on a little further toward the apex of the hill, as with each foot driven in that direction depth is gained.

Giant.—The Giant shipped 75 tons of ore to the smelter during the past week, and the shipments will be continued until all the ore on the dump, amounting to 400 tons, is sent away. The compressor plant is being got in readiness, and should be ready for operation by the first of the year. The shafts are full of water almost to the top, and it will take a day or two to empty them. The first attention will be given to the 100-foot shaft, which is on the copper ledge. The intention is to crosscut from this shaft to the ledge, and also to deepen it to the 200-foot level. Further on the shaft on the other ledge, which is down to a depth of about 45 feet, will be unwatered and deepened.

California.—The work at present is confined to the surface. The combined compressor and shaft house is practically completed, and part of the electric machinery has been put in. The management is waiting the arrival of the 10-drill compressor plant, and it is thought it will start from the factory at Sherbrooke this week. The galloping frame over the shaft is being put in position, and this will be completed in a day or two. The intention is to commence work on the shaft by hand pending the installation of the compressor plant.

MINES OF ALASKA

A Broker Tells of New Discoveries Made There.

VALUABLE LOSE SECTION FOUND

The Means of Reaching the Country are Being Improved Rapidly and There is Now no Hardship Experienced in Reaching Dawson.

Mr. A. W. Taylor, mining broker of Victoria, B. C., is in the city. He recently returned from Dawson after two years in the Klondike, and is on his way to Greenwood. "There is no doubt about it," he said, "that the carrying out of the regulations in the Yukon territory is not in such order as we would have desired. A large portion of the charges that have been formulated against the department were undoubtedly true. There is a noticeable improvement in all of the departments, however, should be amended, and especially that of the 10 per cent royalty, which is not only a burden, but a hardship upon the individual miner. This, however, the government seems to realize, and it is only a question of time when something will be done. They will probably reduce the royalty to two per cent on the net, instead of 10 per cent on the gross amount."

"Wages are extremely good around Dawson this winter on account of the extremely large number of people going down to Cape Nome, near the mouth of the Yukon. It has taken away the bulk of the skilled miners. All who are not tied up by contract, or who have interests which they could not leave, have gone down over the ice. The ice makes an excellent highway over 1,800 miles from Dawson to the mouth of the river. "The output of the Klondike this season will largely depend on the kind of winter there. The winter so far has been so open that the drifts are not fully frozen up, and this has interfered to a considerable extent with the drifting. Should the mild weather continue it will cut the output considerably."

"From what I know of this and other sections of East and West Kootenays, I think a man's chances would be better here than in the northern districts. They are beginning to find in the Klondike good free milling ore which will pay handsomely, but even this should not induce a man to leave this section, where there is a permanency and a handy market. "It is estimated that from 60,000 to 70,000 will go to Cape Nome the coming season on account of the placer diggings on the beach there. I have learned that while a part of the beach is rich, it is patchy, and there will be opportunity for only a few of those who go there. If 10 per cent are successful it will be the limit, and the other 90 per cent will return empty handed after a hard trip. "Quartz mines have been discovered about 14 miles from Dawson, at the junction of Eldorado and Bonanza creek. The belt is quite an extensive one. There are also some large gravel bars 120 miles east of Dawson, in the McQuestion district. Here several syndicates will take large quantities of dredging and machine shovels in next season for the purpose of working these gravel bars. This is particularly good ground, and those who have obtained concessions from the government should stake themselves as particularly lucky."

"In the McQuestion district, at a point 125 miles due east of Dawson, a new placer district was found during the last summer. This promises to be quite an extensive district, and with the gravel deposits and the free milling lodes, will add to the permanency of Dawson. "Take the Yukon basin at the present time, including the Forty-Mile section, and there must be 35,000 people there. "Another point that should not be overlooked is that in the Yukon basin there is as good an agricultural district as can be found anywhere that far north. The soil is capable of producing cereals, and in fact, a great many of the hardier commodities. One man made a fortune last summer out of a farm which he had, which is located within two miles of Dawson. There are thousands of acres fit for stock raising, and the day will come when people will go into that country for the purpose of taking up homesteads. "Dawson is built on similar lines to this city, and has many of its architectural characteristics. "Communications from Skagway are daily becoming modern and convenient. The White Pass railway is being constructed this winter from Bennett to White Horse, a distance of 65 miles, which will make White Horse the terminus next summer instead of Bennett. Closeleigh is to be the name of the new town, and lots are now selling there rapidly. Next year the railway will, no doubt, be extended to Selkirk, a further distance of 300 miles. "Thence from Closeleigh to Selkirk the way is level, and it is an easy country to construct a railway through. The trip from Skagway to Dawson is now as easy as it is from here to the coast. There is no difficulty whatever about it. I have no doubt that the road will ultimately be built down the Yukon valley to the mouth. There is already a telegraph line from Skagway to Dawson, and in this way we have communication with the outside world. From Skagway the telegrams have to be sent by boats to Victoria or Vancouver. The trip takes four days. The government intends to further construct a telegraph line from Atlin to Telegraph Creek, and thence from Telegraph to Quenselle, which will then, of course, give wire communication with any part of the world. This will be extended from Dawson to various points, and down the river and ultimately to St. Michaels and across the straits to connect there with a trans-Siberian line. This will be carrying out the idea that was attempted by the Western Union in 1866 and which was only abandoned because the success of a cable across the Atlantic was demonstrated."

"Mr. Taylor says he is opposed to the alien and thence from the last legislature. He says: 'The more people we can get into the Yukon and British Columbia, the better. What we lack is development and revenue, and the more people there are here the greater the opportunities for these. Atlin has already suffered very severely from this unwise legislation, and many practical miners have been driven out of the country. There are undeveloped resources enough in British Columbia to require the services of a million of men for many years and many millions of capital. So the more men and capital that come in from abroad the better.' Mr. Taylor will leave in a day or two for Greenwood, where he intends to establish himself later on in business. He has business interests that will take him back to Dawson in June next."

THE DAYLIGHT CAME THROUGH.

The Two Sides of Bulldog Tunnel Connected.

In the Bulldog tunnel through Bulldog mountain, on the line of the Columbia & Western Railway, on Friday a well directed round of shots led the daylight in from one head of the tunnel to the other. This does not by any means complete the work. There are 430 feet of benches to be taken out before the tunnel can be used, and it is thought it will be at least 60 days before trains can pass through. The tunnel is about 3,000 feet in length, and when it is used it will do away with the need of using the switchback over which the trains now travel. Work was started on the tunnel in November, 1898. Mr. Richard Williams of the Jencks Machine company, Mr. John Stewart, J. G. Sullivan, superintendent of construction of the C. & W., and Chief Engineer 'Ive of the same road, came through the tunnel yesterday afternoon. They were on the regular passenger train, and had to wait nearly half an hour for the train, which had to go over the switches, a distance of between six and seven miles.

Jumbo is Looking Well. Superintendent Stickney of the Jumbo, reports that the big ledge on the 450-foot level has been drifted on for a distance of 60 feet. The showing is so good that it has been decided to crosscut the ledge at this point. The ledge here is something over 40 feet in width. Mr. Stickney reports that the Jumbo is looking exceedingly well.

SITUATION IN THE KOOTENAYS

LETTER FROM THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER.

Pleased at the Cordial Relations Which Exist Between the Men and the Mine Owners.

Editor Miner:—I am asked to give my views on the conditions as they affect mining interests in Southern British Columbia. This, it will readily be seen, I am not at liberty to do, even if I had formed opinions. I may, however, take this opportunity to thank the owners and their representatives and the officers of the various Miners' Unions for their assistance so cheerfully rendered, which has greatly facilitated my work, and I am also glad to learn of the cordial relations which exist between the owners and the men, notwithstanding their different views in relation to wages which exist in some of the camps. I am especially pleased to find that all recognize the sacredness of person, property and individual rights as they exist under British law. This is a matter vital to the well-being of every man, whether he be owner or workman, within the mining districts of Southern British Columbia. In my judgment the recognition of these rights is an absolute necessity to ensure the future prosperity and well-being of this community; that the law cannot and will not tolerate any interference with these rights; and it is a great satisfaction to me to feel, after a somewhat intimate acquaintance with the men representing the different interests here that the first principles of our institutions are fully recognized, and that there is a settled conviction in the minds of all that these principles should be violated. With these principles well fixed and recognized it does not require an optimist to forecast the future of the mining interests of Southern British Columbia. I venture to think they are assured, and can only be imperilled by a forgetfulness that might entail disaster for a time upon all concerned. I desire especially to commend the earnest effort put forward by the Sandom Union and the various mine owners of the Slocan district to reach an adjustment of the differences there existing, which I trust will be crowned with success. Concluding my work in this part of the province, I bear away with me a confident belief in its future development and prosperity, and extend to those who have so cordially assisted me my sincere thanks. R. C. CLUTE, Commissioner.

MR. CLUTE LEAVES TODAY.

The Commissioner Well Satisfied With the Result of His Inquiry Here.

Mr. R. C. Clute, Q. C., who has been conducting the investigation here into the labor situation under his commission from the Dominion government, will leave Rossland for Spokane today on the 11:25 train. He will go to Seattle, and from there to Vancouver, Victoria and Montreal. He expects to return east about the middle of next month. His report to the Dominion government will be prepared as rapidly as possible and presented to the government during the approaching session, which is expected to open some time in January. A great deal of important evidence has been taken down, and it will take Mr. Clute's secretary, Mr. Harris, some little time to extend his shortened notes. Last evening Mr. Clute expressed his gratification at the way in which both miners and mine superintendents had come forward and testified on the questions embraced by his commission, and at the frank and cordial way in which the witnesses had spoken. The commissioner added that he had received all the assistance possible from every quarter of the camp, and he sincerely trusts that the efforts here would eventually prove of some assistance in helping to work out the vexed problems that confront both the mine manager and the working miner.

Ernest Kennedy, & Co.

Mines, Stocks and Real Estate

27 W. Columbia Ave., ROSSLAND, B. C.

THOS. S. GILMOUR

Accountant Mining Agent Stocks and Shares

16 Columbia Ave. P. O. Box 88. ROSSLAND, B. C.

MUNROE & MUNROE

MINES AND MINING

68 Canada Life Bldg, Montreal, Quebec.

Katie D. Green G. M. & D. Co.

LIMITED, NON-PERSONAL LIABILITY.

Property Situate on North Fork of Salmon River

ERIE DISTRICT, B. C.

FOR DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES ONLY.

Fifty thousand shares of the Company's Treasury stock is now offered to the public at 7 1/2 cents per share and can be had on application to

22 Columbia Avenue GEORGE H. GREEN

ROSSLAND, B. C. Secy. Treas.

JAMES KERR THOMAS McDONNELL R. P. McENTIRE

McEntire, McDonnell & Co.

GREENWOOD, B. C.

J. B. Johnson & Co.

(Members of the Rossland Stock Exchange.)

Brokers & Financial Agents

STOCKS BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION ONLY.

Send for our Weekly Market Report. Special agents for the Gold Dollar Mines Limited; Crown Gold-Copper Mining Company in Greenwood Camp.

Correspondence Solicited. ROSSLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA

ACCIDENT IN THE SNOWSHOE

FATAL EXPLOSION FROM SHOTS WHICH HAD BEEN OVERLOOKED.

John Nelson Was Blown to Pieces and Stanley McLeod Seriously Injured—Both Single Men.

Greenwood, Dec. 23.—(Special.)—A fatal explosion occurred in the Snowshoe mine at Phoenix camp at 12 o'clock today, caused by drillin ginto an old blast that had missed fire. The victims are John Nelson, killed; Stanley McLeod, seriously, perhaps fatally, injured. Both single men. No blame is attached to the management. The engineer claims to have warned the victims before going to work that two shots had missed fire. Nelson was blown to pieces. The funeral of John Nelson takes place Monday.

TELEPHONE DEAL

The Columbia Co. Acquires a Number of Miles of Line.

A deal has just been consummated by which the Columbia Telephone & Telegraph company has acquired the lines of the Spokane Falls and British Columbia Telephone company. The two have been operating their lines jointly, but by this consolidation they will be owned by one company, and can be operated to more advantage. The deal was closed on Saturday. The control of the Spokane and British Columbia company was owned by Mr. C. O'Brien Reddin and Mr. W. I. Reddin, the former of Spokane and the latter of this city. This company owns the line from Spokane to a point on the international boundary line near the Red Mountain railway. It also owns a branch line from Marcus to Republic, and from Rossburg to a point on the international boundary line south of Cascade City. The Columbia Telephone & Telegraph company owns an exchange in this city and a line from here to it owns a line which extends from Cascade City to Grand Forks, Greenwood and Midway and from thence to Camp McKinney, with lateral branches running thither and thither. Mr. W. B. Davey, president, and J. B. McDonald, superintendent, of the Columbia

A Good Investment

Big Four Consolidated

Capital \$250,000

One mile west of P. O., and the best buy in Rossland at the price, viz. pooled shares 3 cents for treasury purposes only, and treasury shares 4 cents, which is all intact. We are crosscutting No. 2 vein, and the ore body will soon be reached and shipping begun, when large capital that is waiting development will come in, and small investors get big returns. As says from \$1.20 to \$800 in all values. P. O. Box 545; office, Columbia avenue, two doors above Masonic hall. Please call and investigate and see samples.

ROSSLAND, B. C.

A. C. GALT

Barrister, Etc., Rossland

Postoffice Building Telephone 47

Telegraph & Telephone Company, carried on the negotiations in behalf of their company. The intention of the new purchasers, now that they have control on the American side, is to improve the facilities and to give the public a better service than heretofore. The terms of the sale are withheld.

Temporarily Closed Down.

The War Eagle and Centre Star mines have been closed down for a couple of days to allow certain repairs to the machinery to be made. The Le Roi is also closed down for the same reason, but it is expected to start up again on Thursday.