

THEY WILL PETITION

Squatters to Address the Government on Their Claims.

FOR THE EVICTION FUND

An Entertainment to be Given and Merchants Asked to Subscribe—Boycotting Proposition Voted Down—Answer to the Writs of Ejectment.

The largest meeting of squatters ever held in Rossland assembled at the International hall at 8 o'clock Monday afternoon. Chairman Frank was present, but was not well enough to take the chair and Wm. R. Beatty presided.

Colonel Leddy was called upon in the absence of Smith Curtis to give a statement of what had been done toward putting in an appearance at Nelson and Victoria for the squatters against whom writs of ejectment had been issued.

It was stated that a petition was already being circulated by other parties. J. L. Parker championed the proposition of circulating a petition, not only among the squatters but among the community.

Mr. Parker made a lengthy argument in favor of this, but his proposition of boycott was vigorously opposed by a majority of those present.

THE FIRST SERIOUS FIRE

A Large House on St. Paul Street Completely Guttled.

The Fire Brigade Was Able to Keep It From Spreading—Loss Estimated at \$2,000.

The first serious fire that has visited Rossland took place on Sunday evening, and although it was a sad loss for the owners and tenants of the building it was useful in proving the efficiency of the fire brigade.

It was discovered at a quarter to six. The inmates were at dinner when some one rang the bell and informed them that the house was on fire.

About the same moment Josh Squires rang the fire bell, and the hose was screwed to the hydrant and the cart dragged along Columbia avenue and up St. Paul street, paying out the hose as it went, in double quick time.

With the one hose very little progress could be made, for as the fire was being put out in one spot it was gaining dangerous headway in others.

Meanwhile, however, the whole interior of the house had been gutted by the flames, which had burned through the shingles of the roof but not through the stringers and rafters.

The origin of the fire is unknown. The total loss is said to be about \$2,000. The firemen played on the burning

building for an hour and a half, yet the water in the tank was scarcely lessened and the pressure had not diminished at all.

There was a gentle breeze to help the fire, and that the walls and roof should be left speaks well for the efficiency of the fire department.

Repairs to the building were begun early yesterday morning, and it will soon again be ready for occupancy.

RICH COPPER DISCOVERY

Chunks Shown That Assayed 90 Per Cent Copper.

Paul Gaston Says They Are From a Big Ledge on the Okanogan Boundary Line.

SPokane, Wash., Feb. 8.—[Special.]—Paul Gaston, a well-known mining man, arrived in the city this morning from Victoria. He brought with him some rock containing about 20 pounds of the richest copper ore that has ever been seen in the city.

Mr. Gaston was asked where it came from, but declined to give the location, saying he wanted to get hold of all the ground he could before others got in.

BOUNDARY MINING NOTES.

Boundary Creek Times: An agency of Bradstreet's has been established in Greenwood.

Mr. H. H. Huff is making a thorough test of the coal from Rock creek, as regards its value for blacksmith's work.

The London and British Columbia Gold Fields company has purchased two Anaconda claims, the New York and the No. 9, in Central camp.

A petition addressed to the minister of mines, is being circulated for signatures, asking for the establishment of a record office at Grand Forks, and recommending that Mr. I. A. Dinsmore be appointed to act as mining recorder at that place.

The Commercial club, of Anaconda has petitioned the chief commissioner of lands and works to shorten the road between Penitentiary and Grand Forks, and to improve the grades, also for a wagon road to Central camp and one between Boundary and Fourth of July creeks.

FIFTEEN FEET OF ORE.

Magnificent Showing in the White Bear—Two Kinds of Ore.

The drift from the bottom of the White Bear shaft has now been sufficiently advanced to prove the wealth of the vein. It is 15 feet between walls. On the hanging wall side are six feet of a greenish quartz ore heavily seamed with copper and carrying a little iron.

The other nine feet consists of a coarse pyrrhotite, which also assays well in copper. The gold values in both kinds of ore are understood to be satisfactory.

THE ETHEL GROUP.

Work to Begin and \$3,500 Expended in Development.

A contract was let Tuesday for \$3,500 worth of development work on the Ethel group of mines. Up to the present time very little work has been done on the properties.

A shaft will be sunk to the 100-foot level. From 35 to 60 feet of tunneling will be done and a 40-foot crosscut driven. Out of the amount to be expended will be built the necessary cabins, etc.

Greenwood Claims Sold.

Boundary Creek Times: Four claims have been sold within the last few days from Greenwood, all situated within a short distance of Greenwood: The New Alaska, an extension of the San Bernard, in Providence camp, to Mr. C. S. Gallo-way; the Esperanza to Messrs. Rendell and Bert Taylor; the Arion to Mr. W. B. Paton; the London to Mr. Cottam.

To Make Deer Tame.

Boundary Creek Times: The prospectors living in the vicinity of Pass creek have adopted the plan of feeding the deer by felling moss-covered trees upon the trails. The animals in consequence are extremely tame and larders may hence be replenished at very short notice.

The Queen's Hotel, Toronto.

Attention is directed to the advertisement of the Queen's Hotel, Toronto, Canada. All the prominent mine owners from Rossland and other mining districts make their Toronto headquarters at the Queen's, and at any time of the day or evening mine owners and speculators from any part of the Dominion may be found in the corridors of the hotel. The Queen's is one of the leading hotels of the Dominion all its appointments being first-class in every respect.

THE FIGHT IS BEGUN

Helmecken Opens the Battle at the First Session.

B. C. SOUTHERN GRANT

Its Forfeiture Will Be Moved by the Member From Victoria—Question About Miners' Licenses—Opening Ceremonies, Speech From the Throne

VICTORIA, Feb. 8.—[Special.]—The third session of the present parliament of British Columbia opened today at precisely 3 o'clock. The proceedings were to have taken place in the legislative chamber of the new capitol building, but as it was not ready the old chamber had to be used.

The Hon. D. W. Higgins, speaker of the provincial parliament, called the assembly to order, and immediately afterwards Lieutenant Governor Dewdney, accompanied by a brilliant staff composed of officers of the British army and of the fifth regiment of militia appeared.

The speech was listened to with the closest attention. It was introduced by the following reference to the mineral development of the province: "It gives me great satisfaction that the widespread discovery of abundant mineral wealth throughout the province has attracted capital from the great financial centres, and that great activity is manifested in the development of our mining industry, as evidenced by the large increase of the public revenue. Notwithstanding that the output of coal is less than last year, from increased competition in the San Francisco market, the value of the annual export of minerals of all kinds exhibits a very large increase."

A Railroad Policy Promised.

Reference to the same subject was made later on in the following words: "The discovery of our extensive and wonderful resources in minerals calls for the consideration of a railway policy which will prove adequate to provide transportation facilities for the development of the natural wealth which is known to exist, and a measure of this object financial aid in the construction of such public works as will tend to the profitable development of the resources of the province."

The speech devotes more attention to the precious metals industry than any other and it is quite evident that this subject will claim the chief attention of the government during the session.

Some interest is felt as to the meaning of that portion of the speech referring to the measure to be submitted concerning financial aid in construction of public works for the profitable development of the resources of the province. There is very good authority, however, for the belief that the government proposes to give financial assistance to certain railroads to be built through the districts of West Kootenay and Yale. The policy of the government in this regard no doubt will be developed in a short time.

Helmecken's Sensation.

As soon as the lieutenant-governor had delivered the speech and retired from the hall, the premier, the Hon. J. H. Turner, moved that the address be taken up next Wednesday. Two or three unimportant motions were made from the government side, when Mr. Helmecken, member for Victoria, gave notice to move for the forfeiture of the shipping lands granted to the British Columbia Southern railway. This created a sensation at once in the drift of sentiment.

It was somewhat unexpected that a motion of this kind should come from Mr. Helmecken, who has been a quasi-supporter of the government. His action clearly indicates the drift of sentiment, which is that the company having these lands has been given enough time.

Another Surprise.

Mr. Helmecken then gave notice of a question asking the government if they intend to take the tax off the men working in the precious metal mines and off the teamsters and others employed about mines. This question indicated that a strong movement will be made to have this tax removed. It is interesting to note that the position the government will take in regard to the subject.

Helmecken Forces the Fighting.

It is evident from the course adopted by Mr. Helmecken today that he means to fight the government and that the issue is to be made immediately. What the result will be is hard to tell. There are all sorts of rumors about and it need not be a matter of surprise if the government is defeated at any time, even on the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

The Incorporation Bill.

Col. Robert Scott and Mr. Macneill are here in the interest of the bill for the incorporation of Rossland. Since the government has agreed to take up the bill as a special measure it is thought it may be put through in two or three weeks. It has not yet been able to see a copy of the bill, but as soon as it can secure a copy I will send it to THE MINER so the people of Rossland can see what its provisions are. I imagine they do not care to have it hurried through without an opportunity to see it. J. R. E.

STILL AFTER THE LE LOI.

London Syndicate Asks Time to Submit Another Proposition.

SPokane, Wash., Feb. 8.—[Special.]—The London syndicate, which has been making an offer for an option on the Le Roi, called from London today asking for some time until tomorrow to make another proposition.

THE ROYAL GOLD MINING CO.

OFFICERS: President, J. G. McMillan; Vice-Pres., A. Polson; Secretary, D. D. Birks; Treasurer, J. L. Whitney.

Capitalization 3,000,000 Shares. Par Value \$1 Each.

Fully Paid and Non-Assessable. \$25,000 Treasury Stock to be used for Development Purposes only.

Property.

THREE GROUPS comprising SIXTEEN FULL CLAIMS

On the Colville Reservation between Rossland and Northport, Wash.

Assays from the surface of a 20-foot ledge on the Empire Group on Grouse Mountain, gave \$2.65 in free milling gold; and surface assays from the Royal Gold group on Cronger Mt. gave a total value in gold, silver and lead of \$59.50.

Advantages Offered to Investors.

- 1. Three groups of claims at sufficient distance from each other to give three distinct chances for paying mines.
2. Splendid surface showings on all of the groups.
3. None of the properties more than three and a half miles from a railroad, and one group is only about 2,000 feet.
4. Abundance of timber for all mining operations.
5. One property only a short distance from North port, the proposed smelter site.
6. No duty on ores sent to any of the big American smelters.
7. Winter quarters are now completed, supplies in, and everything ready for rapid development which is now being prosecuted. Day and night shifts are pushing the work as fast as it can possibly be done.
8. Negotiations are pending for the introduction of machinery and cheapest methods of ore reduction.

A block of stock now on the market at the low price of

3 CENTS A SHARE

Offers one of the best and cheapest investments to be found in the Trail Creek district. Owing to the rapid sale of stock at the present price, the company finds it necessary to advance the price on February 15th, after which date treasury shares will be sold at 5 Cents per Share.

For stock or further information apply to D. D. BIRKS, OR McMILLAN & WHITNEY, Box 447, Rossland. Agents, Rossland.

The Ottawa Gold Mining Co. Limited Liability. Capital Stock \$250,000. Par Value, \$1.00 Each. Rossland, B. C., January 28, 1897. GEORGE A. POUNDER, President and Gen. Manager. GEORGE E. TOMS, Vice-President. JOHN A. POUNDER, Secretary and Treasurer. JOHN A. POUNDER, Superintendent. The Directors of the Ottawa Gold Mining Company (Limited) wish to draw your attention to the following facts: The capitalization of this company is, perhaps, the smallest met with in the history of the Rossland mines, being only 250,000 shares of \$1.00 each. The Treasury Stock is \$50,000, and it should be known to possible investors that before one share of this stock has been sold the sum of \$2,000 had been spent upon the property. The Directors have decided to limit the first and present issue of Treasury Stock to 20,000, and this number will be sold at the low price of 25 cents. When they have been sold, it is further decided to raise the price for the balance of the treasury stock to 50 cents. The Directors undertake that no further Treasury Stock will be placed upon the market until the proceeds of the first issue has been expended, or practically so. The Ottawa is not a mere prospect. With the excellent showing resulting from the \$2,000 already spent upon the property, the Ottawa may be said to have passed the period of uncertainty, and work is now being actively pushed night and day by five men. The management of the Company is under the able and careful direction of the Pounder Bros., who may be depended upon to exercise judicious economy in protecting the rights and expenditures of the Company. Remember the small capitalization, and also remember that 5 per cent. dividends upon \$1,000,000 means a 20 per cent. dividend upon a small capitalization of \$250,000. Finally, the Ottawa, from its partial development, excellent location and experienced management, promises to exceed the greatest expectations of its Directors. Order stock from GEORGE A. POUNDER, President, ROSSLAND, B. C. Two cuts, showing plans of the work, were not ready for the first issue of Prospectus, but will appear in second edition.

SMOKELESS POWDER RIFLE CARTRIDGES. The Weekly Rossland Miner. Sixteen Pages, 96 columns. The largest weekly paper in the province and the largest mining paper in Canada. Issued on Thursday. Subscription \$2.00 per year. WE CARRY A FULL LINE OF WINCHESTER AND MARLIN RIFLES. And a Well Selected Line of Fixed Ammunition. We Cater to the Sportsmen, and Guarantee Satisfaction. We have a good line of all Sporting Goods. Ware Bros. Gun Store, Spokane, Wash.