MR. BECK IS ENTHUSIASTIC

Over the Lake of the Woods' Mineral Wealth.

RAT PORTAGE AND ITS BOOM

Contracts Already Let for Over Two Hunbred Structures.

The Scramble Mine to be Put on the Market—White Men Pushing the Red Men Back—History of the Comstock—Belleville is Getting a Move on Now—She Wants Better Communication With the Mining Districts of North Hastings—Are Assayers Sharks?

At the Queen's is registered Mr. H. H. Beck of Winnipeg, who is extensively interested in the gold mines of the Lake of the Woods. Mr. Beck is enthusiastic over that section's mineral resources and he prophesies great things for the district and for Rat Portage, its capital. That Rat Portage has already greatly benefited from the inception of the development activity must be admitted when it is stated that town lots, which, in August last, sold for $5.00, are now held at $2500, showing an increase in value of 400 per cent. in less than six months.

Rat Portage will experience a building boom during the coming spring and summer. A $40,000 opera house is to be erected, and Mr. Peters, a Winnipeg architect, told Mr. Beck that contracts had been let for 200 new structures.

Mr. Beck is here in connection with the placing on the market of two somewhat striking propositions. One is the Scramble mine, which gave its name to the famous Scramble vein, the great "contact" lode, to which the Lake of the Woods largely owes its popularity. The other is a development company operating in the same district, with Hugh John Macdonald as its president.

The latter proposition, which will be introduced in a day or two, is the Black Sturgeon Mining and Development Co., which owns eleven Algoma properties. Part of the holdings consists of 800 acres of mineral lands on Black Sturgeon and Island Lakes. This area includes the Black Sturgeon mine, on which two shafts, 40 and 16 feet deep respectively, have been sunk, and the Haycock. These two properties adjoin the Princess, and the former has the Scramble vein, giving good assays, while the Haycock shows up a strong vein, running from Island Lake at right angles to the Scramble lode, and assaying $68.80 to the ton.

Two other properties of this company's are the Golden Rod and the King Solomon, near War Eagle Lake, six miles west of Rat Portage. The lead on these claims has been traced a mile, and the operations to be shortly begun will be the first development work in the district.

The company has besides two claims at Witch Bay, and four near Manitou Lake, on which development work will begin in the spring. The company's idea is to sell out claims at a profit after partially developing them. It is understood that the price at which this company offers its stock is 25 cents.

The Scramble mine will go on in about a week at 40 cents. It is owned as The World has before stated, by Messrs. L. W. Partridge and J. Williamson, Detroit; S. V. Halstead, Rat Portage; R. H. Beck and R. H. Agar, Winnipeg; Mr. Coates, Ottawa, and Col. Crawford, Montreal.

Broker R. H. Temple, 9 Toronto-street, will handle both companies' stocks in Toronto.

POOR LO!

Capitalists Trying to Take His Reservations—Jim Conmee Again Hit.

In the Rat Portage correspondence of The Winnipeg Free Press appears the following:

The monopolizing white man is regarding with covetous eye the mineral possessions of his red brother. Application is being made to the Dominion Government for the removal of one band to some more distant reserve, as it is alleged the presence of the miners on properties adjoining the present reserve seriously threatens the morality of the Indians. Surely so commendable an interest in the moral well-being of Poor Lo is a gratifying feature of Western Ontario mining operations, though it must be admitted that a certain transaction in which a bottle of whiskey and the name of an M.L.A. were very considerably mixed up, detracts somewhat from a picture which does infinite credit to our sense of our duty towards our unsophisticated neighbor.

HISTORY OF THE COMSTOCK

And How it Applies to the Development of the Rainy River Region.

Fort William Journal.

About 40 years ago a small group of ignorant prospectors were descending the south slope of Mount Davidson, in Western Utah (now the State of Nevada). They came upon a giant lodge of decomposed rock, from which they filled their rude sluice-boxes. They washed out a little gold, while they threw many a lump of nearly pure silver down the gulches, with loud imprecations because the "blue stuff" clogged the machines. They were looking for gold and drifted about from one place to another, with more or less success, until one day they suddenly cut into the rock of the great Comstock lode and began to take out gold at the rate of $1000 per day. But the "blue stuff" was becoming more and more troublesome. A rancher from Grass Valley, California, visiting the camp, picked up some of the despised rock from the waste heap of one of the mines, and afterward gave it to Judge Walsh of California, who saw at once that it was nearly pure silver. This happened about midnight and before dawn the cute judge was miles on the road to what was to be Virginia City; soon the place swarmed with Californians skilled in gold mining. They formed a multitude of mining camps besides the Comstock, and in a very short time this long-neglected corner of Utah became the State of Nevada. It created new forms of mining skill, maintained vast dependent industries, sent forth a new group of millionaires and added a dramatic chapter to the story of the American nation.

The situation with us to-day is the opposite in one respect only, and that is we must substitute gold for the silver in the above narrative and we will have our own story told.

We have been looking for the "blue stuff" only, and have been walking right over gold mines like the Empress, Sawbill, and others which have but recently been brought to the notice of competent explorers and discoverers, and to-day portions of this district are swarming with the Californians. We are on the eve of as great mining discoveries right at our door as the world has ever shown. Let us banish all thoughts of dull times and let vigorous manhood arise and claim his heritage. Tarry not to provide "scrip" for a long journey, but shoulder the pick and start out from Fort William, taking your course west by north and before you have gone ten miles you will come upon that union of the Huronian and Laurentian formations in which all these great mines are being to-day discovered. Shall we sit still and allow foreigners to have all of this great wealth, or let other portions of this district, with no more favorable opportunities, take the ascendancy in mining matters? If we do we will deserve to be swept away like chaff, as were those ignorant miners in the early days when the "big bonanzas" were being discovered in Nevada.

BELLEVILLE AWAKE.

Communication With the Mines of North Hastings is Discussed.

Since the revival of mining activity in Hastings, Bellevillians have awaked to the commercial benefits which should accrue to their city from the development of the county's resources, and they are discussing the question of establishing direct communication between the north and south of the riding. In this connection The Sun says: The lack of a prompt and easy method of reaching Belleville will unquestionably result in the local trade of small towns of the north; Marmora, Bancroft and Madoc will flourish directly, while Belleville's benefit will almost entirely be of a roundabout character. The natural result of this will eventually be the discontinuance of that interest and intimacy which should exist between the northern and southern townships of this county, and the final establishment of a northern county, with possibly Bancroft as its county town.

An electric line from Madoc to Marmora has been suggested as a means of improving the trade of both Madoc and Belleville with the Deloro miners. Still another idea is that the G.T.R. build a spur line between the same points. A third is that Belleville first secure connection with the C.P.R. at Tweed and that the same road be continued around by Madoc, Marmora and as far north as patronage warrants.

Are Assayers Sharks?

In the course of a letter to The Belleville Intelligencer supporting the establishment of a public assay office in that city, the correspondent remarks:

"I have been doing something at prospecting during the last year, and from my limited experience I find that it is next to impossible to get an assay office that can be relied on.

"A friend of mine, who is interested in a claim about twelve miles from here, sent samples of the same ore to seven different assayers. Four of these assayers found gold and silver in the ore; two found nothing and one found nickel, iron and arsenic. The question arises, whom are we to believe?

"I have had conflicting reports on ores which I have sent to be assayed. Old miners tell me that most assayers are sharks. I think that some of them are dishonest, some are incompetent, and others are lazy, while a few are genuine, but it is hard to know who are to be relied on."

The correspondent wants a Government office which can be relied upon.

Organized to Make Money.

"Organized to make money for its shareholders," is the attractive superscription which appears above the advertisement of the Confederation Mines Development Corporation on another page. This company is starting out with a program that should bring it success. The corporation is prepared to exploit, with the aid of its experts, every mineral district of Canada, and to extract the precious metals wherever they may be found. Already the company, besides having twenty options, owns the "Central" mine in Rossland's north belt, a location in the Lake of the Woods and a valuable Slocan property. An expert has also been despatched to Hastings to take advantage of the movement now going on down there.

This corporation has an authorized capitalization of $2,500,000. Its directors are: W. W. German, M.L.A., president; Henry A. King, Toronto, vice-president; Sheriff Dawson of St. Catharines, Harry A. King, Toronto; and H. H. Collier, St. Catharines. It pays no salaries and no head office rent, so that all money obtained from the sale of its stock goes into development work. At 12 King-street east 200,000 shares of treasury stock are offered at 10 cents.

Juliet Ore in Demand Already.

Mr. S. J. Sharp, secretary-treasurer of the Juliet mine, received a letter from their superintendent this week, stating that he is now completing arrangements for the purchase of machinery, with which he intends to push development work on the "Juliet," and he says they are now taking out pay ore of a very high grade. This mine gives promise of becoming one of the largest shippers in Rossland. The manager of one of the largest smelters in the camp likes the "Juliet" ore so well that he has made the company an offer to buy the ore right on the dump. There is a small block of this stock now on the eastern market at 15c per share, and the probability is that it will advance very shortly.

The Great Northern.

Owing to the fact that all shares have been withdrawn from the market, the Great Northern Mining, Exploration and Development Corporation of Ontario (Limited) have not been advertising recently, but it appears that they have been eminently successful in securing some very valuable properties. Their agents throughout the large district in which they operate have been quietly securing every desirable proposition offered, and, as their treasury is well filled, they are able to push business with energy. Among other propositions lately secured is a magnificent iron property, the assay from which, made at the School of Mining, Kingston, went 64 per cent. of metallic iron. Their representatives expect to leave for England about April 1 to place the balance of the treasury shares upon the English market at par. They will have a splendid proposition to offer to English investors and, should they succeed, this corporation, which has been successful from the start, will be in a most enviable position.

Mines Development Co.

Practical mining is the special feature of the Mines Development Company, and they have already bought promising locations in British Columbia and the Rainy River district, where they will have men at work as soon as the season opens.

The "Minnie" a Bird.

A special from Rossland says: Since the purchase of the Minnie mineral claim by the Canada Mutual Mining and Development Company, two strong ledges have been uncovered on it that had not previously been discovered. This makes in all five different well-defined leads that cross this property. On the Blue Elephant, immediately adjoining it on the west, where one of the leads has been opened, is an ore body 6 feet wide, from which the surface gave returns of $20 in gold, 6.1-2 per cent. copper and 12 ounces of silver; total $41.45. The Minnie is on a level with the Le Roi, War Eagle and other shippers and close to the Cliff, City of Spokane, Red Mountain and Monte Cristo, all of which are working with machine drills and have their own compressor plants. It is thought the Canada Mutual has struck a bonanza in purchasing this property.

The Great Western.

We are informed that the indications are that the first issue of shares in the Great Western Mutual Exploration and Development Corporation of British Columbia (Limited) are going to meet with as great popular favor as did the shares of the Great Northern, which were put on the market by the same firm of brokers, which were all snapped up within thirty days after issue, and which are now withdrawn altogether from sale. The strength of their directorate and the fact that all their shares are in the treasury are arguments which investors appear to appreciate and the applications for shares are pouring in.

Bellwoo is Park.

Editor World: The letter of G. M. Hunt in last Saturday's paper voiced my sentiments. It is a crying disgrace to the city that the work of destruction at this park should continue. The city fathers are now piling up an ash heap under the able supervision of Prof. Penny, who is, I must say, a very capable man for this work, but it is a penny wise and pound foolish policy to destroy a park and a natural drive which can be made with little expense in this locality.

What are the representatives of No. 5 Ward doing? Are they only in the Council for the paltry remuneration they receive? It looks like it, when they turn a deaf ear and a blind eye to the frequent complaints received by them on this subject. The street from the corner of Dundas and Ossington-avenue along Arthur to Shaw is a disgrace to any city; in fact, it would not be allowed to continue in its present shape in the poorest village in Canada. If the city still adhere to their plan of filling in this bridge, let it be done with clean earth and not with the filthy ashes they are now dumping there. I am astonished that the City Engineer should recommend a work like this to be carried on. It is suicidal to the best interests of the citizens of the West End, both from a sanitary and also a picturesque point of view. Stop this work of destruction at once.

A Citizen.

Aliens in Canada.

Editor World: In your issue of Feb. 25, on page six, under the heading "Tit for Tat," one of the sentences of the article says: "In Washington State, we understand, an alien is prohibited from owning any real estate except by foreclosure or inheritance." You do not need to go so far for more restrictive legislation, for in Chicago, Illinois, I knew of a wealthy American citizen whose daughter, native born, had married a Canadian, and to enable her to inherit a part of her father's real estate her husband had to move to the city and become naturalized, as she had forfeited her citizenship by marrying an alien. I also understand that aliens cannot own real estate in that State. Under these circumstances why should Americans be allowed to own real estate in this Dominion, if we are excluded from owning property there, and why are they allowed to buy up our timber and our mines? I am also informed that aliens cannot own real estate in the State of New York.

O. B.

Like Privileges to All.

Kingston, Feb. 26.—Rev. John Mackie, M.A., St. Andrew's Church, in an address last night asserted that the stone used in the construction of the Roman Catholic Church of the Good Thief at Portsmouth was "taken from the Government quarry and every dressed stone in it has been squared and chiselled by the convicts within the walls of the penitentiary, and to this hour at the nation's expense." The clergymen wanted the Presbyterian Church of St. Peter's to be built alongside the penitentiary on the same terms, saying "like privileges to all."

ORGANIZED TO MAKE MONEY FOR ITS SHAREHOLDERS.

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"The Central" mining property in the North Belt at Rossland, British Columbia.
A Splendid mining location on the Lake of the Woods, Ontario, and acquired for the corporation by an expert who has been eight years in that locality.
A Valuable Slocan property and options on twenty claims now under examination by our trusted experts.
Our representative is now in the County of Hastings looking over properties in the interest of the Corporation,
The Corporation is without prejudice and is prepared to go into any camp where money can be made. We have employed the best talent and will act only on their advice.
To Develop properties now owned, to buy properties favorably reported on, to do a general brokerage business in Mines, Mining Claims, Mining Stocks, etc. The Corporation offer

200,000 Shares for Sale at 10 Cents.

No salaried officials, no head office rent, every dollar received to be expended in the legitimate expenses of the Corporation.
For prospectuses, reliable reports and full particulars, address . . . . . .

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All stock placed with the Trusts Corporation of Ontario to be sold only under authority of the Board of Directors.
A permanent institution that will keep on year after year making money for its shareholders by taking it out of the ground.
Its fields of operation—all the mineral belts of Canada.
Valuable mining properties already owned outright, aggregating three hundred acres.
Three mining camps to be started immediately and development pushed as rapidly as possible.

PRESENT PRICE OF STOCK - - - - - - - TEN CENTS.

For prospectuses and reliable reports on properties apply direct to the Company.

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We are the only authorized agents for sale of the above stocks.
Instructions have been received to dispose of the following stocks at closest prices, as they must be sold:
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Saw Bill	8	—
Empress		23
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Kelley Creek		15
Two Friends		25
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Smuggler	.22	Palo Alto	.10
Dardanelles	.20	Mugwump	.18
Ottawa and Ivanhoe	.12½	Colonna	.25
Dellie	.15	O. K.	.33
Cariboo McK	.50	Josie	.55
Golden Cache	$1.65	Mayflower	.16
Golden Queen	.08	Vulcan	.05
Eureka Con.	.08	E. E. Lee	.Call
North Belle	.11	B.C. Gold Fields	
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Deer Park	.Call	White Bear	.Call

Mining Claims in Cariboo and Kootenay.
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Victory-Triumph	500	share lots	....
St. Elmo	1000	" "	11c
Mayflower	500	" "	14c
Deer Park	500	" "	23c
O.K.	1000	" "	31c
War Eagle Con.	1500	" "	....
Ibex	500	" "	4c
Royal Gold	1000	" "	5c
Northern Belle	1000	" "	10c
Homestake	500	" "	15c
Silver Belle	500	" "	7½c
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Eastern Mining Syndicate	13 c
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Now working the **"ALFE" MINE,** situated one mile south of Rossland, upon which during the past four months **$3500.00 HAS BEEN EXPENDED FOR DEVELOPMENT.** A shaft has been sunk and at present a tunnel is being driven 268 feet to connectwith shaft. This tunnel will crosscut three rich veins.

Present assays from ore found in the first vein in the "Alfe" tunnel run $23.87 per ton, while on the second vein on the adjoining property assays have been made of **over $900.00 per ton. Work on the tunnel is being continued night and day to cut the other two veins.** As an investment **Alf stock is one of the safest purchases on the market. There is sufficient money in the treasury to pay for the development work for six months ahead.**

The company has no salaried officers and its affairs are managed on a careful and business-like basis. Owing to a large number of daily inquiries for stock the directors have decided to offer a limited number of shares (fully paid and non-assessable) to the public at **15 cents per share.** Shares will be allotted and information given on application to the secretary,

W. E. PHIN, P.. Box 574,
Brantford, Ont.