

ROSSLAND WEEKLY

Two Dollars a Year

ROSSLAND, B. C., THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1901

LAND OF COAL

MR. SHARP TOOK UP 10,000 ACRES FOR HIS PRINCIPALS IN THE SIMILKAMEEN.

FOUR HUNDRED ADDITIONAL COKE OVENS ARE TO BE ERECTED BY CROW'S NEST CO.

Mr. Alexander Sharp, M.E., has returned to Rossland after a professional trip through the country to the west of Rossland, which extended over a period of two weeks. In speaking of his trip yesterday Mr. Sharp said: "I first went in to Penikese and thence out by Spence's bridge. I spent a month in examining the coal measures of the Similkameen coal basin, between Princeton and Copeland Mountain, on behalf of Messrs. Hunt and Burns. These deposits are ten times as extensive as those of the famous Wellington section. The upper seams are bituminous, the middle seams are semi-bituminous and the lower semi-anthracite coal. The seams vary in thickness from five to nine feet, and are of about the right thickness for convenient and economical working. I took up about 10,000 acres. When the development of the deposits will be commenced has not yet been determined. I regard the measures there as very valuable and when operated they will be a source of great wealth to the province. I next visited the Nicola coal valley, where there are deposits of coal of a fair quality, but the land was all taken up, and I remained there for only two weeks. From the Nicola valley I went into the Okanagan country, to the headwaters of the Kettle river into Fire valley. My mission was to examine some gold-copper properties for my principals. The copper, however, too deep, and too snowed out to determine their value. Nearly everywhere I went I met Rossland miners, and those from other sections seemed to have great faith as to the merits of mining properties. Amongst these were Messrs. Duncan and Hugh McCrae, who have a promising group of gold-copper properties on Kennedy mountain, which is opposite Copper mountain. While in that section, in company with Mr. R. A. Brown, managing director of the Sunset, I visited the Sunset mine. There is a very fine showing of gold-copper ore on the mine, the shaft having reached a depth of 240 feet, and drifts have been run a considerable distance, and all of the workings are in ore of a good grade. It is by far the best gold-copper showing in that section and is the best developed. "All that is needed to make the Similkameen section a very large producer of gold-copper and coal is the advent of the Kootenay railway. "In Fire valley, at the headwaters of the Kettle river, I met Messrs. S. G. McCormill and A. A. McPhail of Rossland, who have an excellent group of gold-copper properties which they are developing by means of tunnels. Everywhere that I went I was received with the utmost courtesy and kindness. Mr. Sharp will leave in a day or two for the First Thought mine, of which he is the manager.

DEVELOPING THE MABEL MAY.

Colonel W. N. Brayton of Kaslo, who was in the city yesterday, is interested in the development of the Mabel May group on Crawford creek. The property is located about four miles up the creek from Crawford Bay and about a thousand feet above the wagon road connecting the London Consolidated and Kootenay companies' properties with the water front. Last fall Colonel Brayton bonded the property in the interests of an eastern syndicate and the latter turned the group over again at an advance. Work is now being started, a crew of six men being employed to do the initial work. A crosscut tunnel is being driven to determine the width of the lead. The Mabel May has an unusually large body of concentrating ore, and may be expected to become an extensive shipper with the transportation facilities promised for the Crawford creek section in the near future.

MORE COKE OVENS.

Mr. Archibald Dick, provincial inspector of mines, is in the city with Nelson and will remain here for several days for the purpose of carrying out the duties of his position. In a talk had with him yesterday at the Allan hotel, he said that he had just come from Fernie, where he had been inspecting the mines of Crow's Nest Coal company. Four hundred and fifty coke ovens are being built there. These, in addition to the 300 already in existence, will give a total of 750. One hundred and fifty of the ovens are to be located at Fernie and the other 300 at Michel. It is thought they will be completed by July 1st. The new ovens will more than double the daily output of coke.

THE METEOR CAMP.

It has a Number of Promising Mining Properties. A letter has been received by Mr. Charles E. Benn of this city, from a Rossland man, who recently paid a visit to the Meteor camp in Ferry county, Wash., situated about 12 miles from Daisy, and judging from his account of the situation the place has some exceptionally promising properties. He fully confirms the reports made quite frequently here of late in the Spokane and other Washington papers of the rapid progress that is being made in the development of the mines and the large values in silver and gold that are occasionally met with. The papers state that they expect that there will be quite a rush thither during the coming summer. Mr. Carruthers, a mining engineer, whom Mr. Benn's correspondent met at the camp and who had been there for several days, said the ore was largely telluride and that, in his opinion, gold would ultimately be the main product. He thought that the camp resembled Copper Creek and on the whole, was most favorably impressed. His opinions entirely coincide with those of Mr. H. Luemark of this city, who also recently visited the camp in the interests of a Rossland syndicate, which has acquired a number of properties here. Samples showing the quality of the ore may be seen in the window of Mr. Benn's office. Mr. Luemark in his report says: "The different mining claims, located mostly last fall, have already attracted the attention of capital, and work is being carried on on a large scale by different companies and capitalists, besides many prospectors are working their claims at the present time. The development, considering the age of the district, is surprising. The veins found are partly fissure veins, the country rocks granite and slate. The ore is mostly a dry ore, composed of chlorides of silver, ruby silver, black sulphurets of silver and native silver, having sometimes a small percentage of iron. Gold values of two ounces per ton are claimed. Some of the high grade leads are small, eight to twelve inches. I was shown many assay returns showing values mostly in silver and gold values up to one ounce. There are, as well, large defined leads, partly opened, which possibly in future may include larger concerns to invest. The gangue of all the ore consists of silica. "I took a number of samples from the various claims which were being worked, the assay returns from which lead me to form a very favorable opinion of the camp."

A COMING DIVIDEND PAYER.

The prediction is freely volunteered among mining men who are following the course of Kootenay mines that the next property to become a regular dividend payer will be the Athabasca in the Nelson camp. The property has produced some unusually rich free-milling ore, it being nothing unusual for a month's run to average over \$50 per ton. The drawback has been heretofore that the lead was apt to fault badly, and the consumption of ore in the mill has taken practically every pound of ore produced, so that the good results attained in one month were eaten up in dead work. The management has taken the first step toward remedying this trouble by shutting down the mill for two months. In the meantime the underground force will be increased, and the power available for operating the compressor plant will be materially increased by the closing down of the batteries. The effect of the move will be to give the mine a reserve of ore from which it will be possible to sort the supply from time to time, thereby securing uniform results. In other words the expenditure on capital account for the opening up of the property that should have been made on the start will be made now. While the mill is closed down the assays collected since the mill started, with the exception of the portion last year through the bursting of the

RAILWAY RUMORS

C. P. R. IS TO DO CONSIDERABLE TERMINAL WORK IN THIS CITY.

OPERATIONS ON THE BRIDGE ACROSS THE COLUMBIA MAKING GOOD PROGRESS.

Within the next fortnight work will be started in the C. P. R. yards here in connection with the additional siding space to be provided for the growing business at Rossland. The work will be done by W. P. Tierney & Co. of Nelson, who are doing all the work under the maintenance department this summer. Mr. Tierney was in the city yesterday and stated that he expected to have his crew on the ground within the period mentioned. Fred P. Gutekha, resident engineer for the Kootenay division, went through to Greenwood yesterday to look into matters affecting his department of the C. & W. On his return he will be in Rossland to lay out the lines for the new siding. The appropriation of work between Rossland and Nelson is now fair, under way, but the crews at work will be increased in strength within the next few weeks. Tierney & Co. have 75 men at work on the west approach to the bridge across the Columbia, but this undertaking is under the direct supervision of H. J. Cambie, engineer for the Pacific division, whose representative on the ground is H. L. Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong recently returned from a trip to Montreal and Toronto. While there he inspected the steel superstructure for the bridge, which the manufacturers have ready to deliver at any time the company will accept the material. It is not the intention, however, to have the superstructure forwarded until September, and the actual work on construction will probably not be recommended until toward the end of October. The Columbia is now rising very rapidly, and the false work necessary to the swinging of the heavy steel girders cannot be started until the level of the river once more approaches normal low water mark. Contractor John Gunn, who built the piers and abutments for the new bridge, is now winding up his work and will be out of the country within two weeks. Mr. Gunn, junior, who is superintendent of the work, frankly admits that the firm's experience of operating west of the Rockies has not been so satisfactory as they could have desired and that in future they will not be in the race for Kootenay contracts.

A SLENDER MARGIN

MRS. MCKINLEY'S ILLNESS TOOK A MOST SERIOUS TURN YESTERDAY.

THE PRESIDENT HAS DECIDED TO ABANDON HIS TOUR OF THE WEST.

San Francisco, Cal., May 15.—Secretary Cortelyou informed the Associated Press today that Mrs. McKinley's serious illness had compelled the president to abandon his proposed visit to other states, to which he had looked forward with so much pleasure. As soon as Mrs. McKinley's health shall permit he will return to Washington direct. It is generally reported in this city that the condition of Mrs. McKinley is extremely critical, but nothing definite can be learned, as Mr. Cortelyou, the only avenue of official information, declines to make public at present anything tangible regarding the happenings in the sick room. San Francisco, May 15.—At 7 o'clock tonight Mrs. McKinley is no better. She has taken nothing but liquid nourishment for several days and her extreme weakness excites much apprehension. The attending physicians are to hold another consultation about 10 o'clock. The members of the cabinet, who were to have attended an entertainment given by the Bohemian club, tonight, sent their regrets. The president late this afternoon cancelled his engagements for the banquet which was to have been tendered in his honor tomorrow night by the Ohio society of California. Secretary Cortelyou at 9 o'clock tonight issued the following bulletin to the Associated Press: "The physicians report an improvement in Mrs. McKinley's condition since noon today." Secretary Cortelyou stated that no further bulletins would be issued tonight. Owing to the very serious character of Mrs. McKinley's illness, the president this morning definitely decided to abandon his contemplated northwestern tour and to return to Washington direct as soon as Mrs. McKinley shall be able to stand the journey. The gravity of Mrs. McKinley's condition has been known to the members of the president's immediate party for several days, but had been concealed in the belief that she would rally, as she has so frequently done in the past when suffering from one of her periods of depression. But her present illness has been attended with unusual complications, which have not yielded to treatment, and the president concluded this morning that it was time the public should be apprised of the true situation. Dr. Henry Gibbons, a celebrated physician of San Francisco, had been called in consultation with Dr. Hirschfelder and Dr. Bixler. Even since Mrs. McKinley arrived at the Scott residence she has been depressingly ill. Her extreme weakness has been the most alarming feature of her condition. Her vitality has been at a low ebb and she has spoken seldom to those about her. The president has been continually at her bedside since her arrival here on Sunday night, save the few hours Monday afternoon when he left her to go to San Jose, and the three hours he spent yesterday in the parade. Mrs. McKinley's illness has cast a shadow over the entire city. People have shown their sympathy in a multitude of ways. All day long little groups have been standing across the street opposite the Scott mansion watching the drawn blinds of the room in which the first lady of the land lay. The news of the serious character of her illness evidently travelled fast, because from all over the country this afternoon telegrams have been pouring into

ROSSLAND'S GROWING

Pay Roll of the Camp is Increasing at a Very Rate—For Labor and Supplies the Mines Disbursed the Sum of \$225,000.

Yesterday was pay day for the miners in the Rossland camp and the mining of the district settled with their employees for the month of April. In many respects the event was notable, particularly for the reason that the aggregate amount paid for wages and supplies during the month establishes something of a record for the Rossland camp. The sum distributed by the mines on these two accounts in April run well into a quarter of a million dollars and there is every indication that the barometer of disbursements may be expected to rise gradually until the quarter-million mark is passed. In fact it is next to impossible to foresee just where the development of the camp will end, and the predictions volunteered as to further and substantial increases within the next year or two are not without the realm of the possible. In any event the fact is demonstrated at the present time that Rossland's pay roll is so much greater than that of any other Kootenay camp that the comparison approaches the ridiculous. Inquiry on the point demonstrates that the amount disbursed in wages and supplies for April closely approximates the following figures:

Rossland Great Western	\$100,000
War Eagle	37,000
Veivet and Portland	10,000
Iron Mask	7,000
St. Elmo	2,000
Homestead	2,000
E. X. L.	3,000
Other properties	15,000
Disbursements for supplies	56,000
Total	\$225,000

It is interesting to note what disposition will be made of this large sum of money thus put into circulation in the city. A prominent business man has estimated that of the amount distributed in wages one half will be sent out of the city in the shape of bank or express drafts, withdrawn from circulation by reason of being deposited in savings banks or invested by wage-earners in real estate and improvements to real estate already purchased. The appropriation for supplies goes largely to local business houses and constitutes an important source of revenue. The balance will stimulate trade for the next two weeks. Last night most of the stores were open to an unusually late hour and this will be the rule for a few days until the press of business due to the monthly pay day has passed.

The growth of Rossland's pay roll has been consistent since operations were commenced on Red Mountain with the exception of a few months when circumstances led to material reductions in the crews of the principal mines. As properties open up and become shippers on a large scale the pay roll will grow and it may be confidently expected that the miners bring month to month as the sum regularly sent abroad that the trend of affairs is setting in this direction will hardly be gainsaid and it is not difficult to foresee the day when practically the entire amount paid out by the mines of Rossland will pass through the channels of local business. The effect of Rossland's extensive pay roll is not exclusively local. The entire Kootenay district enjoys the reflected lustre of the mining operations in this camp, for wherever the Kootenays are mentioned it is natural to refer to the Rossland camp in the same breath. The success of Nelson's wholesale houses is affected materially by the prosperity of the Rossland mines and in every section of the Kootenays, east and west, it will be found that when Rossland is prosperous the balance of the country enjoys a measure of prosperity more or less liberal.

CHINA'S PROPOSAL

FOREIGN MINISTERS AND OFFICIALS EXPRESS DIVERGENT VIEWS.

GERMANS THINK THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS MAY NOW COMMENCE.

Berlin, May 15.—Officials here discussing the answer of the Chinese press commissioners say the fact of prime significance therein is that the commission agrees to the indemnity as mentioned and the withdrawal of the troops can now proceed forthwith, but not all the foreign forces will be withdrawn at once. "Chinese proposition to raise the important export duties will probably be accepted, since the only other possibility of increasing China's revenues is the reform of the likin duties, which the powers particularly wish to avoid because it would require too much mixing in the internal affairs of China." Pekin, May 15.—The foreign ministers refused to allow themselves to be quoted for publication regarding the Chinese government's answer to the indemnity demand, but three of them gave expression to their personal views of the matter. One of these said he had never expected the Chinese to agree to the demands without fighting even had the total been only ten millions. He considered the Chinese offer of fifteen million taels annually for thirty years absurd and ridiculous and thought the request that seven millions be given them from the foreign customs bordered upon insolence. The powers, he believed, would make a mistake if they should not exact the utmost centime. Another said it would not matter what China said and that whatever the powers should decide upon would have to be agreed to eventually. A third expressed himself as satisfied that a majority of the powers would agree to the demands being modified in accordance with China's ability to pay. Pekin, May 15.—An explosion at the arsenal at Kalgan today wounded one German officer and four privates. It is supposed that they were blowing to pieces. The Germans generally believe that the Chinese intentionally committed the outrage, although evidence to substantiate this view is lacking. A thorough investigation will be made. Berlin, May 15.—The war office has received the following from the German headquarters at Pekin: "General Liu's troops attacked and scattered 1,000 Boxers 45 kilometres south of Pao Ting Fu."

DOWN ON DOLE.

Honolulu Home Rulers Say the Governor Is a Tyrant. Honolulu, May 8, via San Francisco, May 15.—By the steamer Mariposa today, Home Rule Representative F. W. Beckley, Hon. Samuel Parker and Delegate R. W. Wilcox left for San Francisco. Beckley goes to vote before President McKinley a home rule resolution passed in the house and the senate asking for the removal of Governor Dole. Parker had a memorial, unanimously endorsed by the Republican members of both houses and by the territorial representation central committee, relating to the home rule charges against Governor Dole. Representative Wilcox is on his way back to Washington and says he has nothing to do with the fight. When the resolution was brought up in the house to send Beckley to Washington, Representative Emmuel, dome ruler, made a sensational speech against Governor Dole, in which he declared that the conditions that led to the revolt in 1895 had developed again with Dole now the usurper of power instead of the ex-Queen.

JURIES IN IRELAND.

Nationalist Members Object to the Selection System.

Fatal Explosion in a West Virginia Shaft.

Farmington, W. Va., May 15.—An explosion occurred at the George's Creek Coal and Iron company's shaft here today. Nine men were killed.

At least ten men are still in the mine. As the shaft was still 300 feet down this afternoon it is impossible to make an effort to rescue them, and it may be a day or two before the bodies have been recovered and 14 other miners have been taken out, a number of whom are not expected to live.

VILLAGE BLOTTED OUT.

A Disaster in Italy Caused by the Fall of a Rock.

Rome, May 15.—Most of the houses of the village of Acreenza, near Potenza, have been swept away by the fall of an immense rock. Troops have been despatched to the scene of the disaster. Thus far 15 bodies have been recovered.

TROUBLESOME DEWET.

Rumor That He Has Again Invaded Cape Colony.

London, May 15.—An unconfirmed report has been received from Bomedad that General Dewet with a small command and a "long tom" has crossed into the Zurdary district of Cape Colony.

The Comos has been thoroughly renovated and newly furnished throughout. Any one desiring a neat, clean room will please give us a call. Mrs. Meagher, proprietress.

al.)—The Kettle bill was called today. A charter, Rossland, with The company in Cascade City along the point near the and Columbia. Canadian branches from camp, a distance from to Fourth to Phoenix and within a radius Mr. McCrae's first asked for and last year his and what he sought. His parliament again

Victoria—A Pool

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SEALS.

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