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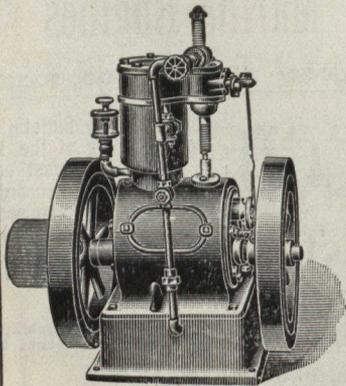
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A DESPATCH from Victoria is to the effect that the Yreka mineral claim on Mount Richards, near Osborne bay, the site of the new smelter, has been bonded for \$25,000 to Tacoma capitalists, who agree to expend \$10,000 in development.

THE North Star mine was last week closed down in consequence of difficulties with the labor element. For the third quarter of the present year a dividend of 1½ per cent. has been declared, which is smaller than usual, owing, it is explained, to the reduced price of lead.

THE third annual meeting of the Centre Star Mining Company was held in Toronto on Tuesday last. The financial statement showed that during the year the company's indebtedness had been reduced from \$182,122 to \$42,120, besides paying \$175,000 in dividends. The mine resumed operations a few days ago. The old Board of directors were re-elected, as follows: George Gooderham, president; T. G. Blackstock, vice-president; W. H. Beatty, W. G. Gooderham, A. E. Gooderham, Charles R. Hosmer.

THE tonnage of vessels entering Montreal harbor, inwards and outwards (sea-going and inland navigation), exclusive of coasting, was this year 26,029,808 tons, or less by 884,287 tons than in 1900, the record year; but it is still five million tons greater, however, than it was five years ago. Tonnage of vessels engaged in the coasting trade entered inwards and outwards was last year 34,444,796 tons, which is considerably the largest Canada has ever known. It is 813,000 tons greater than for 1901.

THE second trial of Alexander McCullough, of the Croil, McCullough Dairy Company, in connection with the famous Montreal Cold Storage & Freezing Company frauds, opened this week. The charge is conspiracy to defraud the Merchants' Bank of Halifax out of \$220,000 between August, 1899, and March, 1900, by means of fraudulent warehouse receipts and fictitious bills of exchange. At the trial last year, McGillis, the secretary, was sentenced to a term in the penitentiary, but in the case of McCullough, a partner in the concern, and in whose name the alleged fraudulent receipts were made out, the jury disagreed; hence the present trial.

IN a fire which broke out at G. H. Hanover's shirt factory, in Montreal, the top flats of this building were destroyed, and the adjoining premises of W. F. Currie, drain pipe merchant, badly damaged. Loss, altogether, about \$40,000, covered by insurance. Other fires during the past few days were at the Canadian Electro-Chemical Company's works, at Sault Ste. Marie, where the bleaching powder room and other departments were destroyed, at a loss of \$30,000, fully insured; some fifty hands being thrown out of employment. Lindsay's elevator, Beresford, Man., with some 30,000 bushels of wheat destroyed. W. D. Bower's general store, at Crandall Station; loss, \$5,000; partly insured. Martin Mfg. Co.'s buckle works, at Whitby, damaged.