

A BIG BOOM COMING

The World's Next Mining Rush Will be to Kootenay.

OPERATORS INTERESTED

G. F. Whiteman, Just Back From London, Predicts a Brilliant Future for Rossland-Undeveloped Properties Useless in England.

"Six months ago English mining operators would scarcely so much as listen to a proposition including a British Columbia property, but now they are anxious to get hold of any meritorious Kootenay mining interest."

"When I arrived in England last August," continued Mr. Whiteman, "the mining market was practically dead. The collapses in West Australia and South Africa had completely taken away the appetite of the public for investments in even the most widely known mines, and as for properties in British Columbia, which to a large part of the public was hardly even a name, it was impossible to get as much as a hearing when they were to be presented."

"With the Klondike boom, however, all this was changed. The tales of the phenomenal strikes on the Yukon attracted the attention of the entire world, and could you tell me whether British Columbia was in South Africa or next to British Guiana, suddenly began turning their attention this way with the result that their eyes were suddenly opened to the vast mineral resources of the province. The Klondike boom is leader than a salt mackerel in London, but the big operators are looking to Kootenay as the scene of the world's next great mining excitement. They do not expect, however, that the boom will come this year. Confidence in mining is not yet fully restored, and it will take time for it to recover from the shock received in the West Australian failures, but 1899 should see the attention of the whole English mining market focussed on this district, and when the market does take up the Kootenays, all the money now accumulating in the safe deposit vaults for lack of field for investment will be thrown into the mining interests in the district."

"The English operators who are now taking hold in Trail creek want at least partially developed properties with some ore in sight. Unopened prospects are useless, and it is impossible to place them. As it was with me, I did not succeed in placing them, but I am here now to open them this summer, and next winter I shall offer them again in England, with, I hope, better success."

"On Sullivan creek, I shall work the Washington and Maryland, but I shall spend most of my time in operating the Imperial and the Porcupine fraction, on Porcupine creek near Ymir, where I shall have four men at work."

"What about the affect of the Hispano-American war on the mining interests?" Mr. Whiteman was asked. "While the war will undoubtedly make money tighter, yet I think that it will help Kootenay by diverting hither English money, which would otherwise be spent in American industrial stocks."

PROSPECTORS RETURN

Explored the Cariboo Lake Country But Found Nothing Worth Staking. Robert McCann and Jay Benn returned Monday from a prospecting trip in the vicinity of Cariboo lake. They report that there is plenty of iron capping along the borders of the lake, but they saw nothing that seemed to them to be worth staking at a point that is so remote from transportation. The iron capping is similar to that in the vicinity of Rossland. There are a number of bald faced grizzlies along the shore of the lake, but as the two prospectors had not lost any grizzlies and were without firearms they gave them a wide berth. Once when Mr. Benn was going along the ledge of a cliff his hat was blown off by the wind. He started down the declivity after the missing hat and when he had gone a short distance he saw two of these ferocious animals between him and the place where his hat was. Quickly he retraced his steps to the place from whence he had started and waited patiently until the bears had gone when he secured it.

They say that where there appears to be only one lake on the maps there are really two. The showing of mineral is not very good, and it is doubtful if they will ever visit this section again, as it is rather a difficult country to prospect in. They complain of the fact that the C. P. R. steamers refused to pick them up. From Christie's landing on Friday they hailed the Trail and on Saturday the Rossland and fared to get them to stop, but on Sunday they went out in the lake in an open boat and were taken on board the Trail.

Mr. Christie has a fine farm back from Arrow lake. Last year he cut 25 tons of timothy hay from his meadow, and this year he expects to double the quantity. He has grown tomatoes, peas, potatoes, onions, and excellent corn. In addition to this he has planted and raised strawberries, and has planted a number of fruit trees that seem to be thriving. The ranch is in a bottom and the soil is very rich, but had to be cleared of trees and stumps. In a year or two it promises to be a very valuable farm.

FROM THE GAZETTE.

In the last issue of the British Columbia Gazette the following certificates of incorporation are found: The Abbott Mines, limited, with a capital stock of \$50,000, divided into 50,000 shares of \$1 each. The office of the company is at the city of Vancouver. The objects of the corporation are to purchase the Abbott and King William claims in the Kootenay district, to operate them and to carry on a general mining business. The English Bay Canning company, limited, with a capital stock of \$50,000. The office of the company is located at Vancouver and the object is to purchase and can fish.

Notice is given that the Pug mineral claim, owned by the Columbia & Ontario Gold Mining company, limited liability, will be sold on May 25. This is done to satisfy a judgment in favor of J. B. Miller for the sum of \$1,942.22. The sale will take place at the office of the registrar of the registry of the Supreme court in the city. In the matter of the winding up of the affairs of the Ibez Mining & Development company of the Slokan, limited liability, notice is given by Mr. Justice Plake that on May 15, at the chamber court in Victoria, will be the time and place for the appointment of an official liquidator to succeed Clarence E. Steele. Municipal courts of revision will be held as follows: At Rossland on Monday, June 6, at Vernon on June 6, and at Nanaimo on June 6.

GRADE ESTABLISHED.

Columbia Avenue Inequalities to be Toned Down. At the council meeting Tuesday the aldermen took steps to proceed at once with establishing a grade along Columbia avenue and getting the sidewalks raised or lowered to the grade. This will do away with the high walks along the south side of the avenue from the Windsor hotel to Spokane street, and nearly all the owners of property in that vicinity have announced that they will immediately lower their buildings to the grade. To facilitate this the council last night authorized the board of works to open the lane south of Columbia avenue between Washington and Lincoln streets so that the earth taken out in lowering the buildings can be easily removed. A sewer pipe now runs down the lane, and as it would be of ground which is the alley is opened, the board was also authorized to take up the pipes.

In response to a request signed by J. S. C. Fraser, W. Oliver, John M. Smith, K. L. Burnett and J. L. G. Abbott, the council decided to give a gold medal, the cost not more than \$50, to the winner in the military tournament that will be held here on the 25th instant, between Sergeant Elliott of Victoria, and Sergeant Edmond of Rossland, for the championship of Canada.

Will Assist at Celebration Committee. At the suggestion of A. W. Strickland, secretary of the Queen's birthday celebration committee, a special committee, comprising Aldermen Clute, Lalonde and Thompson, was appointed to see to the repairing of the streets and making any other improvements adapted to helping the celebration along.

The report of Provincial Engineer Ernest Mohun on the city's sewerage system, in which he recommended that the sub-soil irrigation system be adopted, was received, but no action was taken and the report was referred to the board of health.

Wants Earl Street Opened.

A. H. MacNeill, in a letter to the council, asked that when the city undertakes the contemplated improvements on the city highways Earl street be opened and graded from Victoria to Phoenix avenue, and that some improvement be made in the roadway from Davis to Earl street so as to afford passage for the needs of foot passengers. Mr. MacNeill suggested, could be met by building a platform down Earl street from Le Roi to Phoenix avenue. No action was taken.

The Cost of Fire Protection.

The fire, water and light committee reported that it estimated \$5,795 as its expenditures during the coming year, as follows: Rental, \$110 per month, \$1,320; maintenance of fire department, \$1,500; arrears per annum, \$125; cost of horses, \$300; cost of extra fittings, \$200; rubber coats and special paraphernalia, \$150; hoses, \$2,000; repairs, \$200. The committee also announced that it had purchased a team of horses for the fire department from the B. C. S. & R. Co. for \$300.

That the city's control of the garbage collection department is proving a financial success was demonstrated by the report of Sanitary Inspector Monteith, which showed that a net profit of \$141.11 had been made by the city in operating the department during the month ending May 2. The total expenses were \$318.89, while the receipts amounted to \$460.

A tender from the Canadian Rubber company offering to supply two and one-half inch rubber fire hose at 90 cents a foot was referred to the fire, water and light committee.

More Returns to Rossland. Alderman John S. Clute, Jr., arising to a question of privilege, announced that he was mistaken when several weeks ago he informed the council that ex-Mayor Scott was about to go to Dawson City. Alderman Clute had since been informed that Mr. Scott had no intention of going to Dawson or any other place, as Rossland is good enough for him, and he will be back here in a week or so.

A few routine bills were allowed before the council adjourned.

Too Late for This Season.

Hewitt Bostock, M. P., has written to the secretary of the East Kootenay Miners' Association stating that he has represented to the Dominion government the desirability of encouraging the lead smelting industry as per their resolution, but he is afraid the session is now too far advanced to enable the subject to be dealt with this session.

THE LILY MAY SOLD

It Passes Into the Hands of an English Company.

A CASH AND STOCK DEAL

Mike Shick Brings in Some Free Gold From the Big Mike Group in the Burnt Pass Basin - The Ore is a Smoky Quartz.

The Lily May company, at the meeting of its stockholders, formally ratified the sale of the property to the English company just formed in London by Harry White to operate a number of Rossland properties. The deal is for a cash payment of \$50,000, and ten per cent in the stock of the new company, which will be capitalized for £500,000. A part of the cash payment has already been made, and the balance is to be paid on or before the 15th of June. Harry White, the organizer of the new company, says that he will be in shape to commence operations on the property by the first of next month, if necessary.

The Lily May is famous as the first location in the Rossland camp. It lies in the south belt, on the south slope of Deer Park mountain, and is just along the line of the Dewdney trail. It was this proximity to the Dewdney trail that led to its location, as some wanderer over the trail happened to notice some promising galena float, with the result that he followed it and staked the ledge, which was subsequently abandoned by the original locator, and for some time lay vacant, when the strikes on Red mountain led to it being restaked for its gold values. The Lily May company was subsequently organized to operate it, and has done several hundred feet of work on the ledge, with excellent results. There is a complete compressor plant at the mine.

HER MAJESTY, QUEEN VICTORIA

THE MINER offers two cash prizes of \$10 and \$5 respectively for the best and next best essay on the subject, "Her Majesty, Queen Victoria."

The contest is open to any boy or girl enrolled in the public schools of the Kootenays. Contestants must turn in their manuscripts not later than May 22. There must not be more than 1,000 words in the essay.

The awarding of the prizes will be left to a committee consisting of Rev. H. Irwin, rector of the Church of England, Rossland; W. A. Blair, principal of public schools, Rossland, and the editor of THE MINER.

A Mining Company Formed.

The Canada Western Mining & Exploration company was organized Tuesday evening with the following officers: President, Arthur Marsh; vice-president, Ross Thompson; general manager, O. O'Brien Reddin; treasurer, John McKane; secretary, E. Baillie. These officers with S. Clute, Jr., and W. I. Reddin, make up the board of directors. The capital stock of the company is \$1,000,000, divided into 1,000,000 shares of \$1 each. The company is an assessable one to the extent of 10 cents per share. The assessments can only be made at the rate of one cent per share at a time, and a notice of 30 days must be given to the shareholders before one can be levied. The assessments can only be made for a specific purpose such as the purchase of new properties or for a plant. The company already owns the Glasgow and the New Glasgow mineral claims near Ymir. These properties are considered to be valuable, each having a two-foot ledge of quartz that assays \$20 in gold on the surface. As soon as the properties of the company are surveyed by H. B. Smith the work of developing them will commence. The first block of 50,000 shares of the company's property will be placed on the market immediately at 40 cents per share. In this company the interests of the stockholder are fully protected.

Free Gold From Burnt Pass.

Mike Shick returned Tuesday from a prospecting trip into the Burnt Pass country, bringing with him some of the finest free gold specimens that have been brought into camp this spring. The rock came from the Big Mike group, about eight miles up McKee creek from the head of Christina lake, where Mr. Shick located five claims on the trip from which he just returned. The main ledge, he says, traverses three of the claims, and is about 24 feet wide. It was from this ledge that he secured the samples with which he returned. The rock is a smoky quartz, varying into a sugar quartz formation, and it is the former which carries the free gold, for which the specimens are notable. The gold seemed to be scattered throughout the whole body of the quartz, and is plainly visible to the eye. It would be hard to estimate how the rock would run, but it would assuredly assay high in the thousands.

While away Mr. Shick also did some work on the Snowdrift, in the same locality, which he located last year. The ledge was crooked and under the capping some promising quartz carrying galena was met.

C. S. Clarke, of THE MINER's staff of topographical artists, left Tuesday for Republic, whether he goes to look after some 20 old locations that he and his partners staked last year.

STRIKE AT THE LE ROI.

Miners in the Shaft Refuse to Work Ten Hours.

THE SLOKAN IS ACTIVE

The Antoine Is Soon to Declare Another Dividend - Force on the Athabasca to Be Increased - Strathmore to Ship Ore That Goes \$100 Per Ton.

The news from the several mining divisions reveals that there is a great deal of activity all along the line. In the Slokan the miners are particularly active and the development in that division promises to be very large during the present year. In the Nelson division, and particularly in the vicinity of Ymir there will be developed this year at least half a dozen shipping properties. Appended is condensed news from the several mining divisions: AINSWORTH DIVISION. The Whitewater has already more than a continental reputation, and in the hands of the new company which is erecting a concentrator, it is certain to forge ahead faster than ever before. The concentrator will be commenced within two weeks. The Whitewater Deep on the same vein as the Whitewater, but lower down, is now preparing to drive a new 2,000 feet tunnel lower down than their present strike, which will be near the level of the country, but sufficiently high for a reasonable dump. They will use a water-wheel to secure a full supply of fresh air in the workings. The Charleston is now being worked again and will doubtless be heard from to advantage later on. The Northern Bell has 10 men working, with a certain increase in a few days. They are putting in hoisting machinery and a saw mill, so they are confident they have a good property and are going to make the most of it. Development work on the Hillside near Whitewater is being pushed with encouraging results. SLOKAN DIVISION. Col. Ray is pushing development work on his properties across the gulch, a few rods up Oddy way. The Mollie Hughes mine, near New Denver, has turned out a sample of ore giving \$28.65 in gold and 4,039 ounces in silver. The Sovereign mine is one of the first to pack ore this spring. There are several horses at it now. Prof. Liddy says the mine has considerable ore ready to ship. The Noble Five has largely increased its staff and is pushing its development work rapidly. When it commences to ship again it will have a large quantity on hand to start with. It is not unlikely active operations will commence on the Monitor near Three Forks shortly. For some time past the two owners, W. H. Vickers, head, and neither would work with the other. There is talk of new parties taking it over. Assays from the recent strike on the Mary Durham, close to New Denver, give 700 ounces in silver and \$20 in gold. The Vancouver group, at the lower workings have tapped the vein, but some distance has yet to be covered before the ore chute is encountered. The Slokan Star will have a full force of men at work by May 15. There is enough ore in sight to keep the concentrator running a year. So soon as the snow permits, the Freddie Lee will commence operations for the season. Last week the force on the Slokan Star was increased. Six men are working on the Rambler-Cariboo, crosscutting in the lower level. The Antoine is about to declare another dividend. Up to date it has paid \$53,000. Dividends amounting to \$1,800,000 have been paid by the Payne mine to date. It is a private corporation, composed of American capitalists. Last Friday the Slokan Star concentrator resumed operations for the season. The Star is employing a large force of men. Shipments will be made regularly. The Texas is to be worked this season on a lease. Six hundred and six tons of ore went out of the Slokan last month by way of Nakusp, and 945 tons via Kaslo. R. S. Kirkwood is starting development work on the Speculator, which has one of the largest and best showings on Springer creek. NELSON DIVISION. The Athabasca Mining company has commenced the construction of a wagon road from the Silver King road to the Athabasca mine. As soon as this road is completed the force of men employed at the mine will be increased and the mine made a regular shipper. James McCreath of Nelson is in Ymir arranging for work to be recommenced on the Tennessee, one of the most promising claims in the camp. The New Brunswick, in the Ymir camp, is being started up for the season, under the management of J. Henderson. F. C. Davey of Rossland is commencing development on the Blackcock, in the Ymir district. Twenty-five men will be employed. There were 10,000 shares of Flossie B stock disposed of to the residents of Ymir during the past week at current prices. Work is progressing rapidly on the Dundee tramway and it will be completed within a few days. Then work will begin on the concentrator. Work on the Tennessee mine will be commenced in a short time. There has been hundreds of dollars worth of work done on this property and the showings are good. The Tennessee is owned by the Rossland-Hamilton company which is amply supplied with funds.

THE DISTRICT NEWS

A Concentrator Is Being Erected for the Whitewater.

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REVELSTOCK AND TROUT LAKE.

There is considerable activity at Trout Lake City and a good many people are going in. The snow is a good month later in going off than it was last year and has scarcely begun to go on the hills in the Lardes at all yet.

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THE BOUNDARY COUNTRY.

The work of developing the Old Ironsides and Knob Hill properties in Greenwood camp has become so extensive that a new superintendent for both properties has been secured. Last week all the water was pumped out of the Old Ironsides mine. Superintendent Williams intends employing a force of 12 men on the Old Ironsides. Work on the Knob Hill will begin in a very short time. J. Farrell, G. W. Ramberger and W. Porter are working on the Ironclad, a claim northeast of the Athelstan, in the Boundary camp. The work being done on a recent strike, the ledge having been uncovered for a distance of about 30 feet. The claim gives promise of being one of the best in the camp. J. H. Suesman of Montreal, mining expert for the Canadian Pacific Railway company, arrived in Greenwood on Wednesday and will spend several weeks examining properties in the district. Ore will be shipped from the Strathmore near Greenwood camp shortly.

THE STOCK MARKET

It Was Not Near as Lively as It Usually Is.

A Flurry in Monte Christo - Sale of the Le Roi - Grand Prize and the Park in Demand.

There was not quite as much life in the stock market during the week as usual and the volume of transactions was not as large. It was suggested by a broker yesterday that one reason for the lessening of the orders from the east was because there is a great deal of speculating in wheat on account of the war, and that many instead of buying stock were taking profits in wheat futures. One of the principal features of the week was a flurry in Monte Christo. The transactions ran into many thousands of shares and the demand up to yesterday was still in excess of the supply. The price ranged from 19 1/2 up to 23 cents. The most talked of matter among those who deal in stocks was the sale of the Le Roi to the British America corporation for \$3,000,000. It was conceded that the ultimate effect of having the dividends from this mine go to London instead of Spokane would be beneficial in its effects on the shares of this section as well as upon the mines. It is evident that Grand Prize is being picked up by parties who desire to secure the control of that company. The property of the Grand Prize is located near the Deer Park, and the strike in the latter probably led to the idea of securing control of the Grand Prize. Those who have visited the Deer Park within the past few days report that it is looking first rate and that it promises to be a success. There is a ledge of about six feet in width of what looks like shipping ore. There has been a steady demand for the shares and at prices that ranged from 13 to 15 cents. A block of 5,000 of Kenneth Gold Mining company shares changed hands yesterday at a price little under the market price. This company is operating the Tamarac property near Ymir. The sale of a block of 15,000 shares of Joeie was reported yesterday by a local broker. The price is 28 cents. One firm has purchased 65,000 shares of this stock in the last two months, and has it safely locked up in its safe. War Eagle, which is now shipping ore regularly to the Trail smelter, is steady at from \$1.45 to \$1.50. The shares of the War Eagle have advanced from 90 cents to \$1.55 in the past four months. Within the past two weeks they declined from 5 to 10 cents. This reaction was probably due to the rapid way in which the shares advanced, and a turn upward should soon take place, as it is certain that War Eagle will be the next company in the Trail Creek division to begin the paying of dividends. There is a good demand for Virginia at 25 cents, but the stock is almost out of the local market, and it is therefore hard to secure. Those who hold shares of Virginia here seem to consider that 25 cents is not a sufficient price for it and usually refuse to sell at that figure. A new stock was placed on the market this week. It is that of the Canada Western Gold Mining & Exploration company. The company has a million \$1 shares and is assessable to the extent of 10 cents per share, at one cent per share at a time, but only for specific purposes, such as the purchasing of new mining properties and the acquiring of plant. A block of 50,000 of the shares were yesterday placed on the market at 10 cents.

Co. Ltd., MINERY NY, COLUMBIA.



NOTICE. The annual general meeting of the company...

ros. & Purgold LAND, B. C.

Letter. met has been quiet for some time...

Goat Gold Mining company stocked in Rossland...

gold. We understand that work was done by the Jubilee previous to...

Table with 3 columns: Par value, Price this week, Price last week. Lists various stock prices.

7 Broad Street Avenue London, E. C. address, "Nuggets." Solicited.