

Weekly Rossland Miner.

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THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF THE WEEKLY ROSSLAND MINER for all points in the United States and Canada is Two Dollars a year or One Dollar and Twenty-five Cents for six months.

Shipments of Ore. From January 1 to March 13 inclusive the shipments of ore from mines at Rossland to smelters were as follows:

Table with columns: Mine, Tons, Cents. Rows include Le Roi, War Eagle, Columbia & Kootenay, Iron Mask, Jumbo, Ford, Cliff, O. K., L. X., Total.

Concentrates. From January 14 to March 13 inclusive, the ore milled in the camp was as follows:

Table with columns: Mine, Tons, Cents. Rows include Le Roi, War Eagle, Columbia & Kootenay, Iron Mask, O. K., L. X., Total.

THE ORPHAN BOY SWINDLE.

The government of British Columbia has at last an opportunity to prove to the public that it is desirous of protecting the investors in mining companies. There has just been perpetrated in the name and by the secretary of a company organized under the laws of this province the coldest-blooded swindle ever brought to light in connection with the flotation of a British Columbia mine, and if ever there was a case of culpable and if not criminal negligence in the management of the affairs of an incorporated company it is manifest in this instance.

The whole episode is one of the most discreditable which we have ever heard of. A claim in the Big Bend, generally believed to have real merit, was incorporated as the Orphan Boy Gold Mining company. The officers were: E. H. Wedekind, at that time manager of the Trail smelter, president; J. W. Haskins, Revelstoke, vice-president; F. C. Whitney, Revelstoke, secretary-treasurer; H. C. Bellinger, of the Trail smelter, director. This was an eminently respectable board of trustees, and the public consequently placed some confidence in the company.

H. C. Whitney, secretary-treasurer of the company, came to Rossland, was interviewed at length in the papers regarding the Big Bend country, and advertised the sale of promoters' and treasury shares, the president of the company at this time being a resident of Trail, seven miles distant, and the vice-president a resident of Revelstoke, 200 miles away, with a tri-weekly mail service. Mr. Whitney was also equipped with a lot of blank stock certificates signed by the vice-president and himself and impressed with the company's seal. These certificates he sold for coin of the realm. All this took place last October, and yet it was only the day before yesterday that any intimation was received in Rossland, where about 40,000 shares of stock had been sold, that these shares were not regularly and lawfully issued.

The letterhead on which the new secretary-treasurer of the Orphan Boy company makes the astounding announcement that the stock sold in Rossland by Secretary Whitney five months ago was a forgery, bears the names of the following as officers of the company: J. W. Haskins, president; H. N. Coursier, vice president; H. A. Brown, secretary-treasurer; Charles R. Carlson and F. O. Whitney, directors.

Now we submit that on this statement of the case the government or some member of the provincial parliament should move for a committee to investigate the affair. If no responsibility attaches to the company for the acts of its secretary under its seal, then it should attach to the board of directors, and if no such liability attaches, then the new Companies act should guard against such swindles in the future by placing the responsibility somewhere.

McCONNELL'S REPORT.

In another column will be found the summary report of the Dominion geological survey for 1896 relating to Rossland and its vicinity. This report is the work of R. G. McConnell, who spent all

of last summer in this district. It will be found to be very interesting and instructive reading, and it advances one or two theories, the correctness of which time will demonstrate. In one particular only is the report not quite up to date, but this is not to be wondered at since the report deals with conditions in 1896, while the discovery that the Le Roi low grade ore was free milling was only made a couple of weeks ago. Had the result of this test been known before Mr. McConnell's report was issued it would have materially modified the last paragraph.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The worst outrage which has yet been perpetrated on the investing public, and one which throws all other disreputable episodes connected with the flotation of British Columbia mines into insignificance, is the action of the directors of the Orphan Boy company of Revelstoke in turning their secretary loose with the seal of the company to run around the country selling what they are now pleased to term forged stock certificates.

We would like Mr. Kellie, who represents both Rossland and Revelstoke in the provincial parliament, to ask the honorable attorney general how it was that the secretary of the Orphan Boy company, who was arrested for forgery, was permitted to go free at the same time that the secretary of the company was refusing to register stock certificates issued by him, he still being held out to the public as a director of the company?

The Orphan Boy company is morally liable for every share of its stock bearing its seal. Whether it is legally responsible or not we do not know, but a concern which knowingly permits its seal to be used to swindle the public, or entrusts its seal to one who does swindle the public, should be made to stand good for every cent so obtained.

ROSSLAND'S WATER SUPPLY.

Among the many grave problems the new born city government of Rossland will have to consider immediately is the question of water supply. We are not aware that the Rossland Water company is taking any steps to increase the water supply this summer and we are very sure that unless there is something done in this direction we will be running great risk of a water famine. In its original charter the water company had the right to appropriate the water of Little Sheep creek, which runs just west of Red mountain, but the stream was seized by the Le Roi Mining company last summer and that source of supply was lost to the city. The sole dependence for water this summer appears to be on Stony creek and this we believe to be inadequate to the demands that may be placed upon it.

It is not unreasonable to suppose the population of Rossland will be twice as great in the summer of 1897 as it was in the summer of 1896. We do not wish to play the role of an alarmist, but it is well known to many that there was no water to spare last summer. It was said at the time the intake flume was badly constructed and that half the water in Stony creek was lost. It is claimed by the manager of the water company that changes have been made by which all the flow in the creek will be saved. Possibly so, but we still think the risk remains and that the new city government ought to take up this subject immediately after its organization. One of the most important requisites in the life of any city is an adequate water supply.

ENGLAND AND THE TRANSVAAL.

Preparations for war by England seem to be unmistakable. Merchant ships have been chartered for transports and supplies are being hurried forward to Cape Town. The trouble is in the Transvaal with Paul Kruger and his Boers. The quarrel is one of long standing and there is probably no way to settle it except by war. English interests in the Transvaal are too great to be abandoned. The Transvaal is now the greatest gold producer in the world and the larger part of the mines there are owned in England.

Kruger has a real hatred of the English and the galling restrictions placed upon the Uitlanders are being made more oppressive every day. The strain has almost reached the breaking point so far as England is concerned. It is the evident purpose of Kruger to drive the English out of the Transvaal. But they will not be driven out, and their right to remain there and work the mines which their enterprise and capital have opened is going to be supported by the entire power of Great Britain.

It is difficult to imagine but one result of the conflict which now seems to be inevitable. That the Boers are good fighters cannot be denied. They have shown their courage on many battlefields, but they have never met a real English army, nor had a real battle with English soldiers properly equipped. If England goes into the Transvaal now she will go there to stay, and to master of the situation. And the world, we think, will be the gainer thereby.

Kruger and his Boers are a non-progressive, ignorant, prejudiced, narrow-minded people. They are not much better than the barbarous tribes of native Africans by whom they are surrounded. Through long years of isolation they have almost relapsed into barbarism. It is not in accordance with the enlightened spirit of the age that they should continue to block the way of progress in South Africa.

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ETHE COROP GOLD MINING COMPANY, OF ROSSLAND. Six full claims seven miles from Rossland, on the Murphy and Sheep Creek divide. Capital 1,500,000 Shares. \$1.00 Each. Treasury Stock 350,000 Shares. First Block of Treasury now on sale at 10c. per Share. OFFICE: Cor. Lincoln and Columbia Ave., Rossland, B. C.

Certificate of the Registration of a Foreign Company. No. 334. Registered 25th day of January, 1897. I hereby certify that I have this day registered the "Mayflower Number Four Gold Mining Company," (Foreign) under the "Companies Act," Part IV, "Registration of Foreign Companies," and amendments thereunto, in the State of Washington, U. S. A.

Notice to Stockholders. Notice is hereby given that the first annual stockholders' meeting of the Finance Gold Mining Company, Limited, (Foreign), will be held at Rossland, at 2 p. m., on Tuesday, April 1, 1897.

Certificate of the Registration of a Foreign Company. No. 335. Registered 17th day of February, 1897. I hereby certify that I have this day registered the "Rossland Gold Mining Company," (Foreign) under the "Companies Act," Part IV, "Registration of Foreign Companies," and amendments thereunto, in the State of Washington, U. S. A.

Certificate of Improvements. Notice is hereby given that the next ensuing section 37 must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

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FITZG... THE W... When Corb... Was Cr... First to... CARSON... clear sky... the sea, cit... tains which... light, mak... never before... kind, Jam... defeat toda... who became... pugilist of... not gained... victory... simon's u... battle. He... of slowly g... erated a bl... it up with... Californi... of pain a... and he... the limit w... When t... arose with... tendants a... his dazed c... ity that ha... with all th... and dicar... victorious... struggle to... desisting... friends for... new cham... room amid... who were i... his second... wife, who... position w... even, and... her husba... sible at he... Victor... It was a... standing t... majority o... fight coul... appointme... they did... Corbett f... sure of ga... was accom... which atte... a wait for... would be t... electrical... was locate... able to ob... For two... the ring t... a tempora... having the... centre with... rising from... ing but th... moment a... principals... as such occup... George S... few prelim... and about... Little w... rounds Co... the fifth r... severely b... body until... face, and... of the bi... there unil... had expir... ceeded in... remaining... all the spe... a telephone... and then... game bat... though th... ing that h... have him... -d blows... heavy, too... too effect... At the o... And las... Though s... -strong and... to preven... keep up th... came the... blow whic... hand pun... was the C... when it c... tensely d... spleen an... intense a... -conscious... of the bi... rolling on... ghasly a... death str... spectator... for the vic... Then fo... day when... all the str... opponent... Those ne... ropes, in... to preven... the entir... crowding... and con... referee w... -decision... mons. Be... In the... he had fr... friends, ... rushed a... but inst... fight he... another... from his... words fo... Fitzsim... the glo... Corbett... San Fr... despair... Re... 42 years o... killed his... dangerous... years old... some of a...