Crofton and Mount Sicker.

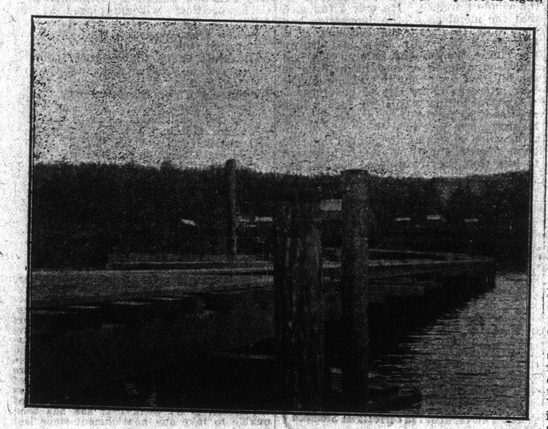
Description of the Smelting Plant Being Erected at the New Town.

It is only two months and a half since the first sod was turned at Crofton, and in two months more it is expected that the furnace will be blown in. At present many parts of the plant are partially made ready, and it is in such shape that it will go together quick. Three levels have been graded out, involving the excavation of 20,000 cubic yards of dirt. On the highest level are two ore bins, with the sampling mill in between. The top of the ore bins will be connected with and form the terminus of the railway, which will approach them on an elevated trestle. Another branch of the railway will connect with the wharf, where a slip is now under construction. The bins have a capacity of from 1,600 to 1,800 tons of ore. The foundation for the furnace lies 16 feet below that of the ore bins, and the charge will be transferred from the one to the other in cars pushed by hand. Except for this the ore will not be handled until it comes out of the converter as blister copper ready for shipment to the market. The dimensions of the furnace are 50x125 inches. It is a counterpart of the furnace installed at Northport by Messrs. Breen and Bellinger, and should have an effective capacity of about 350 tons of ore each 24 hours, although this depends to some extent on the character of the ore charge and its fluxing qualities. Eight feet below the furnace floor is the foundation for the converters. It is not the intention to ship any matte, but to reduce the product in practically one process to blister copper, which is, except for the percentage of precious metals contained in it, pure copper. In addition to the ore bins, furnace building and converter, there are a boiler house 50x60 feet, almost completed and ready for the instalment of three 200 horse-power boilers now on the ground; an engine room 60x60 feet, of which the frame-work is completed; and a small building for storing the silica required to line the converters.

The town of Crofton so far consists of a long street running at right angles to the shore line from the wharf. Its chief lack at present is house accommodation for the men employed about the smelter, but this will be remedied as it spreads out and takes shape. The railway track is now within 300 yards of the smelter, and the track will be laid and connections made with the wharf and ore bins very shortly. Leaving Crofton the track traverses Mount Richards, which is all in the same mineral belt as Mount Sicker. Two small lakes have been dammed to form reservoirs of water for the boilers and water-jacket of the furnace. One of these has a storage capacity of 75,000,000 gallons at 350 feet head, and the other of 40,000,000 gallons at 500 feet. The journey to the Lenora mine from the track of the E. & N. railway to the Mount Sicker camp is picturesque in the extreme. From one point in particular a very fine view is obtained of the Gulf, studded with islands, and with the mountains of the Mainland in the background. The evolution of mining transportation can be traced by the evidences met at different points of the old wagon road, and also of the old horse tramway, both of which have given way to the iron horse.

Mount Sicker differs from most mining camps at the same stage of development in that it possesses a modern and exceedingly comfortable hotel. Tourists visiting this part of the world should not overlook a trip to Mount Sicker. They can enjoy mountain scenery of the most exquisite kind, experience the sensation of being behind a railway engine which can do anything in the way of climbing except run up a telegraph pole, gain a glimpse of the mineral resources which are making British Columbia great, and undergo no greater discomfort than they would in a well-appointed hostelry in the Engadine.

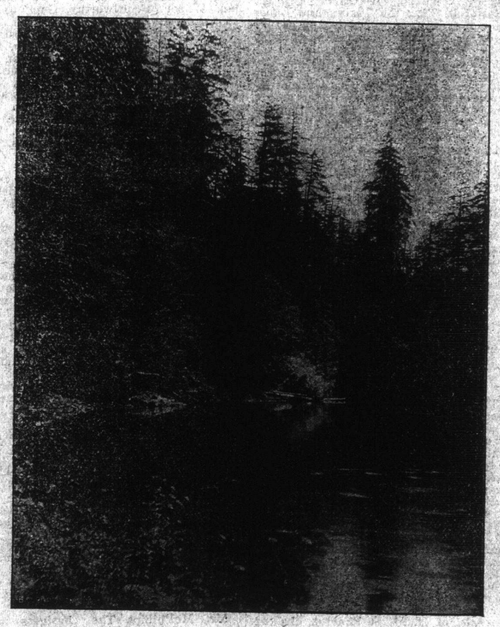
But for two forest fires it is unlikely that the mineral resources of Mount Sicker, which have already produced the Lenora and Tyee mines, would ever have been discovered. It is an extraordinarily hard country to prospect. The ore deposits throw little or no float, or at least the moisture is so great that what they have thrown has been covered up and grown over till it might as well not be there. On the Lenora and Tyee one fire came along and killed the timber; then, some years later, another burnt it up, exposing the typical iron cap which marked the outcrop of the Lenora ore chute.



NEW WHARF AT CROFTON.

In dealing with the general topography of the mineral zone it is hard to describe the Lenora and the Tyee as separate mines. They are really separately owned and operated segments of the same mine. At the extreme Eastern face of the second level of the Lenora mine, for instance, the tapping of the machine drill in the westerly drift on the Tyee at the 200-foot level can be distinctly heard. On the vein, ledge or fissure plant, or whatever else you like to call it, on which the mines are located, two immense chutes or lenses of ore have been developed, one on the Lenora and one on the Tyee. They are practically on the same straight line, but are separated by some distance of barren ground. It is quite possible, of course, that they are really both one deposit, a central portion of which has been thrown to one side by some lateral pressure. The ore in both is of exactly the same character, a massive chalcopyrite in a barytic gangue, carrying a high percentage of copper and very steady and uniform values in gold and silver. The Lenora chute is developed by two main tunnel levels, with intermediate stoping floors. All the ore shipped from the Lenora has had to be hand-sorted up to a certain grade, and there is left not merely a very large amount of ore unbroken in the mine, but a very large dump of second-grade ore, which can all be profitably treated with the improved facilities now being procured. In addition to the two levels on which ore has been developed, there is a long adit tunnel on the third level, on which over 1,600 feet of exploratory work has been done. So far the main Lenora deposit has not been discovered on this level, and it is a question whether it has been faulted or does not come down to this level at all. As the formation is regular and it looks as though the fissure had been caught, it is likely that, so far as this ore body is concerned, its limits lie above this level. On the other hand, it is practically certain that the zone makes ore bodies lower down, and mining in such a formation, such a grade of ore would be too easy a way of making money if there were no barren ground. On this level, however, another vein has been encountered containing a different character of ore and averaging much higher in gold and silver values. In a crosscut from a 40 foot upraise from this level 24 feet of very high grade ore were recently encountered. Too little work has been done on this vein, for it is to be said that there is any ore in sight, but the indications are most satisfactory and encouraging, and the ore in this vein is of so high a grade that it is likely to add very much to the profit-earning capacity of the mine. Great preparations are being made for the reopening of the mine when shipments are again possible, as they will be in a week or two. A new 90 h.p. boiler is being installed and a belt conveyer designed by Mr. Henry Croft himself, on which the ore will be roughly sorted as it passes from the mine to the cars. The Colonist representative was shown great courtesy while at Mount Sicker, both by Mr. Croft and by Mr. Buxton, the superintendent of the Lenora. Mr. Buxton is an old Comstock lode miner. It was a pleasure to go through the mine with him. He is as familiar with the ground as with the pages of a well-thumbed book, and has the nose of an old hound for variations in the formation and indications of ore. The Lenora mine owes something to his experience and sagacity.

NEW ENGINE AND ORE TRAIN ON LENORA & MOUNT SICKER RAILWAY.



VIEW OF COWICHAN RIVER, NEIGHBORHOOD OF MOUNT SICKER.

The Tyee mine is developed to the 300-foot level by a vertical double compartment shaft. A short crosscut from the 100-foot develops the main ore body at this level. It is in the shape of a lenticular mass of ore 450 feet long, of great width in places, but everywhere very wide and strong, extending from the 175-foot level to at, or near, the surface. It is in beautiful shape for stoping, in fact, it has never been the pleasure of the writer to see a mine in which cleaner, trimmer and more effective development has been done. The hoisting facilities are very bad, however. At present two hoists are used, one little prospecting hoist from the 100-foot, and another not much better from the lower levels. The hoisting engine is besides separated some distance from the shaft Louse altogether, an arrangement which is inconvenient, and, without great caution, might be dangerous. This defective and costly system is, however, now being done away with and an adequate hoist has been ordered and will shortly be installed.

In the main chute as developed there is two years' supply of ore at 100 tons a day. In addition, appearances look most favorable for a large increase in the reserves. From the 200-foot to the 300-foot level is practically barren, but indications are not wanting on the 300-foot that another lense of ore lies below. When the hoisting apparatus is improved it will be possible to develop the mine to greater depth and to explore the ground below. In the east drift on the 100-foot level a discovery of great promise has been made lately. After drifting for about 00 feet beyond the extremity of the main chute through barren ground, ore began to come in on the south side and at the bottom of the drift. At the time it was seen by the Colonist representative, streaks of ore were also visible on the north side of the face, and the ore on the south side was very strong. Every indication was present that the schist was giving place to another body of ore which is as likely as not to be as large as any yet discovered. At this point the 100-foot level has about 200 feet of backs, so that if another body has been struck here ore will be made very fast. Altogether, the Tyee mine could not have looked more promising and satisfactory than it did. An aerial tramway is being constructed 3½ miles to the track of the E. & N. railway, over which it will be hauled to the smelter at Ladysmith, and it is under contract to be completed in 90 days. The furnace for the smelter at Ladysmith has been ordered from the Allis-Chalmers company and it is expected to be ready for operations in August. The Mount Sicker ore reduces to a serviceable matte very easily, according to experiments lately conducted by Mr. Thompson, of New York, and the slag loss of copper is not by any means excessive. It is quite obvious that the latter half of this year will see a marked development in the copper-gold production of Vancouver Island.

The Mount Sicker ore belt is not by any means confined to the Lenora and Tyee mines. The formation is persistent and regular, and extends to Mount Richards in one direction and Mount Brenton in the other. The difficulties of prospecting and preliminary development are certainly very great, but there can be no question at all but that the fissure plane on which the Lenora and Tyee mines are worked, makes other great ore bodies, both in its horizontal and vertical extensions; while it is more than likely that other fissures, developing other ore bodies, will be discovered in the schist. The Mount Sicker camp is a mineral asset of tremendous possibilities. It is handicapped by the number of claim-owners who are doing nothing to test their property, and who are dodging behind each others' backs to see who is going to have his property made valuable by another man's work. This is disadvantageous to the claim-owner himself, to the man with money to invest in development, and particularly to the country which is to a large extent dependent on its mineral resources for growth and prosperity. Another circumstance which is not helpful is the indifference of the people not directly interested to the development now going on, and their ignorance of the tremendous impulse which would be given to their own businesses by the adequate development of such a district as that of Mount Sicker. The location of mineral claims and speculation in them does not permanently benefit the community by one dollar. It is development with consequent production which enriches the business man, provides work for miners and laborers, and gives to everyone in the country an opportunity to better his condition. It looks, however, as if, through the ample provision of facilities to transport ore cheaply, and treat it locally, an era of industrial activity was about to dawn in the unquestionably rich mining territory tributary to Victoria.

Closing of Tournament

Prize Winners in Daughters of Pity Ping Pong Tourney.

Affair to Close With a Cinderella Dance This Evening.

(From Tuesday's Daily).

Miss E. Green won the ladies' championship at the Daughters of Pity ping-pong tournament yesterday, and Mr. J. Leeming carried off the first prize in the gentlemen's singles. Mrs. Crow Baker and Miss Holmes were the successful players in the ladies' doubles, and Mr. J. W. D. York and Miss John won the mixed doubles.

The results of yesterday's play were as follows: Ladies Singles: Mrs. Burton beat Mr. L. B. Trimen and Mrs. Carr-Hilton 6-2, 6-4. The prizes were: Ladies' singles, 1st, won by Miss E. Green and presented by Mrs. James Dunsmuir, gold locket; 2nd, won by Mrs. Burton and presented by Mrs. Pemberton, puff-box. Ladies Doubles, 1st, won by Mrs. Crow-Baker and Miss Holmes and presented by Miss Pemberton and Mr. Burton, silver cut glass bottles; 2nd, won by Miss Gowen and Miss K. Brown and presented by Mr. C. E. Redfern, chatelaine bags. Gentlemen's Singles, won by J. Leeming and presented by Mrs. H. Dallas Helmcken, whisk; 2nd, won by J. Hart, and presented by Mr. Galletly, silver pencil. Mixed Doubles, won by Mr. J. W. D. York and Miss John, and presented by Mr. Holland, four silver backed brushes; 2nd, won by Mr. L. B. Trimen and Mrs. Carr-Hilton, and presented by Mrs. Croft, photo frames. The tournament proved very successful. The net receipts at the present are $200, and it is hoped to augment these at the dance this evening in order to hand over a substantial sum to the hospital. The B. C. Electric railway will have special cars at the Assembly hall after the dance.

The society of the Daughters of Pity was formed some three years ago to aid the hospital in all ways within their influence and means. Since and time they have been ready to help in every emergency, and assist at every entertainment. They have given time and service and provided many graceful comforts at the hospital, besides visiting and sewing. Finding their work growing and a continual drain upon their working fund, (which has hitherto depended upon their own fees and incidental donations) they decided to brave an enterprise of their own, resulting in the ping-pong tournament and dance at Assembly hall. It is needless to say more. Chivalry will send the gentlemen, and interest and sympathy the ladies—and it is expected that the concluding dance will be the crowning success of a most successful affair. Entrance for gentlemen will be $1, and ladies 50c., who are all asked to send or bring a cake or plate of sandwiches. Ice cream will also be sold, and a good orchestra is promised.

HALL MINES SMELTER.

Closed for a Few Days to Clean Out Furnaces.

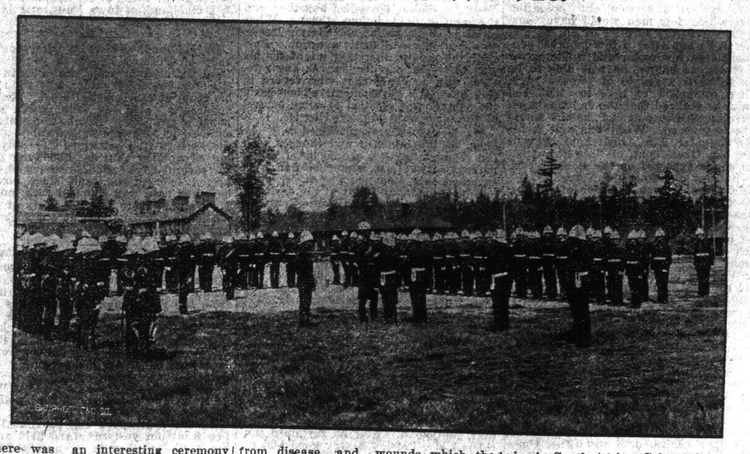
Nelson, B.C., May 5.—(Special)—The Hall Mines smelter closed down to-day for four or five days to allow the cleaning out of portions of the furnaces. Coming closely after a large number of men having been laid off at the Silver King mine, the report was circulated that the closing down of the smelter was permanent. The superintendent, when seen, said that it was but temporary and that there was plenty of ore in. The new electrical apparatus is now in working order throughout the plant.

TO DEPORT CHINESE.

Decision in Regard to Those Held at San Francisco.

Washington, May 5.—The Chief Justice of the United States Supreme court today rendered opinions in the test cases affecting the transit of Chinamen throughout the United States to other countries, sustaining the action of the government authorities in having them detained at San Francisco. There are said to be 40 or 50 Chinamen who have been thus detained in San Francisco for the past four or five months, and who have been very restless of the restraint. The result of this decision will be the deportation to China of the Chinese detained.

PRESENTATION OF WAR MEDALS.



There was an interesting ceremony at the church parade of the Garrison at Work Point on Sunday morning, when Colonel Grant presented South Africa war medals to three members of the local detachment of the Army Ordnance Corps. In making the presentation, the gallant Colonel addressed the soldiers in a brief but impressive speech, in which he alluded to the hardships and the great loss of life from disease and wounds which the troops had suffered in Africa. Now that the war was drawing to a close it was possible to realize the great difficulties that had beset the army, and the uniform pluck and determination with which those difficulties had been met and, overcome. The Colonel also spoke of the heroic defence of Ladysmith, in which one of the men present, Private Cannon, had taken part. In conclusion, he hoped the recipients of the medals would live long to wear the mementos of their service in South Africa. Colonel Grant then fastened the medals onto the breasts of the three men, saying a few words as to service of each recipient, after which the soldiers formed into line and marched off to church. The recipients of the medals were Corporal Dobson, Private Cannon and Private Wilkins. Second Corporal Dobson's medal has two clasps, "Orange Free State" and "Cape Colony." Private Wilkin's medal has the "Natal" clasp, and Private Cannon's the clasp "Defence of Ladysmith."

GARDEN TOOLS
Lawn Mowers and Poultry Netting
FOR SALE BY
The Hickman Tye Hardware Co., Ltd.
32 and 34 Yates Street, VICTORIA, B.C.
TELEPHONE 59. P. O. DRAWER 613.

WE'VE BEEN WORKING
A long time on making this reputation of ours, and we've accomplished a great deal in that time. Every year we add to our accomplishments and this year we are pushing harder than ever. Bit by bit we have increased our standing, and are anxious to show you to what extent we have succeeded.
BOCK BEER, 2 bottles ..... 25c.
SOLUBLÆ COCOA, lb. ..... 25c.
CRANBERRY JAM, 1 lb. jar ..... 25c.
ENGLISH SAUCE, bottle ..... 10c.
SHREDDED WHOLE WHEAT, pkg. 10c.
TABLE PEACHES, tin. ..... 20c.
DIXI H. ROSS & CO.
Cash Grocers.

Open—Ready For Use.

Health Is Wealth
The Use of Our
Vapor Bath Cabinet
Makes the weak strong. A valuable book giving full instructions is given away with each Cabinet.
Prices reduced. Ask us to show you one.
Cyrus H. Bowes
CHEMIST.
98 Government St., Near Yates St
Telephone 425.

Notice is hereby given that two months after date I intend to apply to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 640 acres of land in the Renfrew Division of the Victoria District, situated at the N. W. corner of San Juan Harbor, commencing at a post marked H. E. Newton's N. E. corner, thence west 100 chains; thence south to a point on the harbor; thence following the coast in an easterly direction to a post marked H. E. Newton's S. E. corner.
H. E. NEWTON.
Victoria, B. C., May 6th, 1902.

LEYDS AND KRUGER.

They Are Holding Conferences With Each Other.

The Hague, May 3.—Dr. Leyds, the Boer representative in Europe, arrived here this evening and proceeded to Utrecht for a conference with Mr. Kruger.

ROSSLAND OUTPUT.

Shipments for the Week Over Seven Thousand Tons.

Rossland, May 3.—The shipments of ore from Rossland camp for the week ending tonight average over 1,000 tons daily, made up as follows: Le Roi, 5,172 tons; Le Roi No. 2, 1,500 tons; Rossland Great Western, 300 tons; Centre Star, 100 tons; Giant, 100 tons. Total for the week, 7,172 tons; total for year, 122,297 tons to date.

In the Supreme Court of British Columbia

IN PROBATE:

In the Goods of Arthur Switzer, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having claims or demands upon or against the estate of Arthur Switzer, late of Clinton, B. C., deceased, are hereby required to send in writing, particulars of their claims or demands, duly verified and the nature of the securities, (if any), held by them, and all persons indebted to the said deceased are required to pay such indebtedness to the undersigned at the offices of his solicitors, Messrs. Kitto & Gooch, number 35 Yates street, Victoria, B. C., on or before the 10th day of June, 1902, after which date the undersigned will distribute the assets of the said deceased, Arthur Switzer, amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he has then had notice, and the undersigned will not be liable for the assets or any part thereof so distributed, to any person of whose claim he shall not have had notice at the time of distribution.

Dated at Victoria, B. C., this 26th day of April, A. D., 1902.

JOHN W. SWITZER,
Administrator of the Estate of the above-mentioned Arthur Switzer, deceased.

"FOUR ACE" AND "GOLCONDA" MINERAL CLAIMS.

Situate at Kitsalas Canyon, on Skeena River, in the Skeena Mining Division of Cassiar District.

Take notice that I, Patrick Hickey, Free Miner's Certificate No. B56544, for myself, and as agent for Helen Flewin, Free Miner's Certificate No. B56518, and Donald A. Robertson, Free Miner's Certificate No. B56551, intend, 60 days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claims.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificates of Improvements.

Dated 20th day of March, 1902.
P. HICKEY.

NAPOLEON REG. NO. 691.

This splendid Black French Coach Stallion, 16 hands, 1450 weight, a prize winner and sure foalgetter, will be bred to a few choice mares this season.

For terms see posters or apply to Gerald L. Simon, 50 Wallace street, near Beacon Hill, or to C. N. Cameron, Douglas street, Victoria.

APIOL & STEEL PILLS for Ladies.
A REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES Superseding Bitter Apple, Pil Cochia, Pennyroyal, etc.
Order of all Chemists, or post free for $1.20 from EVANS & SONS, Ltd., Victoria, B. C.
Martin Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton.

NOTICE.

STAR MINERAL CLAIM.

Situate in the Victoria Mining Division of Mallahat District, and located on Mount Mallahat.

Take notice that I, Mary Palmer, Free Miners' Certificate number B53821, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

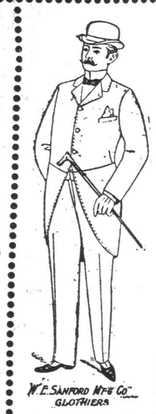
And further take notice, that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

Dated this 13th day of March, 1902
MARY PALMER.
By P. J. Pearson, Agent for Applicant.

B. WILLIAMS & CO.
Hatters and Clothiers, 68-70 Yates Street.
New Spring Suits
$6.75, $7.75, $8.75, $10.00.
20th Century Brand and Royal Brand.
HIGH CLASS. READY TO WEAR.

DR. JAEGER'S UNDERWEAR.

...Flannel Suits...
$5.75, $6.50, $8.75, $10.00.
20th Century Brand and Royal Brand.
HIGH CLASS. READY TO WEAR.



W. E. SANFORD MFG. CO. CLOTHIERS