

Mining News

Two Hundred at Work Around Sandon.

The Sandon Paystreak says: There are approximately 200 men at work in the mines tributary to Sandon just now. The crews are as follows: The 40; Rambler-Cariboo, 25; Lucky Jim, 25; Silver Bell, 15; Ivanhoe, 12; Nature, 10; Ajax Fraction, 8; Reco, 6; Noble Five, 6; Uteia, 6; East Chance, 5; Ruth No. 2, 4; Queen Bess, 3; Sovereign, 3; Sunshine, 4; Sloan Star, 4; Chicago, 4; Dardanelles, 4; Ajax, 2; Wonderful, 2; R. E. Lee, 2. At White-water 12 men are working on the Jackson and a few on prospects. Fifty men are working on a prospect adjacent to the Ruth. The Ruth has also 20 men on their pay roll, building the concentrator and doing surface work at the mine, and the Ivanhoe has 15 men making trails and grading the concentrator site.

Sold for Forty Thousand Dollars.

The well known Lardauve property, the Theweser, the location to the famous Silver Cup mine, owned by D. Ferguson, of Ferguson, and J. Knowles, of Revelstoke, two prominent old-time Lardauve prospectors and who have been sold outright for \$40,000 to J. Skiff, managing engineer of the French Creek Company, for a Chicago syndicate. The price paid was forty thousand dollars, making the deal the biggest mining transaction which has so far taken place in the Lardauve. The new owners will proceed at once with the erection of cabins on the property and extensive development work will be undertaken with a view of thoroughly testing the claim, which is situated on the French Creek properties are now pending.

Greenwood Smelter.

Work in connection with the smelter has begun in earnest. For a week or two there was a hitch owing to some land required for a dump, and there was a possibility of some change being made in the location, but in arrangements previously decided upon. The delay was in consequence of the absence of the owner of the property. Mr. Keffer, manager of the Mother Lode, however, took a trip East in connection with the matter, and from telegraphic advices received the whole matter has been arranged satisfactorily, and a force of men have been put to work in clearing the site. In a day or two this work will be largely augmented for the purpose of erecting offices for the company, and in a week or more the smelter site will be a veritable "hive of industry." Paul Johnson and his assistants are exceedingly busy preparing the plans and attending to other details. Mr. Keffer while East was called to New York to consult with the financial principals of the B. C. Copper Company, and may have some important announcements to make in connection with the company, which will be in the course of a week.

Around New Denver.

Among the properties around the town that will be worked this winter are the Lost Tiger, Hartney, Marion, Home Run, Anglo-Saxon, Neglected, Bosun and Lake Shore, on Silver Mountain, and the Mollie Hughes and Capella, on Goat Mountain. J. C. Bolander and partners are erecting a camp on the Adlai, close to the Noonday mine, and will work the claim during the winter.

The Minnesota Silver Company, operating in the West, has at last secured a site for their concentrator, which will be erected just below Sandon, and close to the C.P.R. track.

The Marion looked better Saturday than at any time since work commenced on the site. An ore car and the necessary T rails have arrived for the Marion, and they will be packed up and put into place at once. There is little doubt of the bond being lifted on the property.

On Tuesday A. Blumensauer, who recently bought the Hartney, sent four men up the hill to commence the erection of winter quarters and other necessary buildings. He also purchased an ore car for the property, and is pushing development work on the group with a view to shipping ore this winter. The first payment on the bond will, following these preparations, be met. Several tons of sulphur have been ordered and are being packed up to the property.

Lucky Strike in Windermere.

F. M. Chadbourne returned to Nelson on Tuesday evening from the Windermere district, where he has been in the interests of the Hall Mines, Limited. He reports that the mining industry in that district is yet in its primary stages, but there are two or three properties sufficiently developed to ship ore, and arrangements will be made with them for shipments to the local smelter. During the early part of the present month Mr. Chadbourne secured on behalf of the Hall Mines on the Black Prince group of claims on Boulder creek, a tributary of Horse Thief creek. As there had been but two assessments on the property, he was secured upon exceptionally good terms, being for \$11,000, with a very small payment down, and no substantial payment for one year. Mr. Chadbourne started a tunnel in on the property and broke into good ore after he had gone two feet. The tunnel was continued for forty-five feet, and disclosed a very fine body of ore. The ledge appears to be about ten feet wide, and the tunnel has been driven along the footwall, upon which there is a two and a half foot body of bonanza, or what is locally known as ruby copper. No assays have been made since the work was started, but the croppings have a very high return in copper, and there is also the likelihood that the ore will carry good values in silver. With the showing on the property at present, it would be impossible to bond it for \$50,000, which is rather encouraging, and so far the result is that if anything the Centre Star power is being used to help the War Eagle, whenever the power in that mine falls short.

Gold Rock Found Near Midway.

About two and a half miles south of Midway, in the Colville reservation, a strike of gold-bearing quartz has recently been made on the Golden Chest, on which an open cut was being run. The character of the ore is identical with the

free-milling quartz found on Myers' creek. The width of the ledge is not yet known. The hanging wall is porphyritic. The ledge can be traced by croppings the entire length of the claim and also onto the adjacent claims, the Velvet and the Nettie. The properties are owned by C. N. Owen and Robert Lockhart, both of Midway. Work is being pushed on the open cut at present.

On the other side of the same mountain, two years ago, Dan McClain staked the Hazel, on which he has already done considerable development work and from which he has obtained rock assaying from \$3 to \$70.

That portion of the Kettle valley has not been extensively prospected.

Rossland Camp.

The Rossland Miner, in its weekly mining review, says: Outside of the camp, and particularly in the east, it has been rather broadly stated that the interests of the War Eagle mine were being sacrificed in the interests of the Centre Star, or to put it in another way, that the development of the War Eagle was being hindered and delayed by power being diverted and used in the development of the Centre Star that property should be used in the interest of the general manager of both companies how very wide of the truth the alleged statement is, and Mr. Kirby's explicit account of how matters really stand should be carefully perused.

The news of the camp generally for the past week has been of an encouraging nature, but no strike of importance other than the Deer Park find has occurred. The total output for the past several days from Rossland camp is almost the same as the previous week, and, considering that the Centre Star is not included in the list, is all the more to be expected. In all 4,000 tons, it is estimated, were sent out. The shipments for the week ending 23rd of September and year to date (estimated) are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Week, Year, Tons. Rows include Le Roi, War Eagle, Iron Mask, Evening Star, Deer Park, Centre Star, Columbia-Kootenay, Virginia, Mountain Trail.

Le Roi—A 40 drill Rand compressor of the latest type has been ordered and will be placed on site to the present Black Bear compressor, giving the combined plant, when completed, a capacity of 80 drills, and making one of the most efficient compressor plants in the world. The whole plant will be completed and in running order in about five months' time. It is intended to pipe all the other B.A.C. properties except the Columbia-Kootenay, and to supply them with power from the source until further power is needed. Twenty-five Rand drills, of a large type have been ordered to replace twenty drills now working in the mine. What is known as the Black Bear electric shaft is now down nearly 700 feet, is being sunk as rapidly as possible, and is being converted into a three compartment shaft. It is intended to sink at this point to a depth of 1,000 or 1,500 feet. Sinking will not be maintained in the old shaft below its present 900 foot level at all events, for the present.

Number 1.—Preparations are being made to build a three-rail tramway on the Number 1, to run from the ore bins to the Black Bear compressor. The tramway will be used to carry the ore from the Josie and Number 1 as soon as shipping commences. Machine drills will be used exclusively in the Number 1 and Centre Star. The shaft in the Number 1 is now being converted into a three-compartment one. Two will be used for hoisting and one for the pumps.

War Eagle.—The main shaft of the War Eagle is now down about 780 feet, and sinking is being continued. Work is also being carried on in the levels mentioned last week. With regard to the statements appearing in some of the Eastern papers that work was being retarded at the War Eagle on account of some of the available power being diverted and used in developing the Centre Star, Mr. Kirby, the general manager of both properties mentioned, stated that while any assistance rendered either property by the other was a matter of bookkeeping, a strict account was always kept. It was quite untrue to state that the development of the War Eagle was hindered by the diversion of available power to the workings of the Centre Star.

"My plain instructions," said Mr. Kirby, "were only to use such power in the Centre Star as were not required or could not be used in the War Eagle, and, as a matter of fact, these instructions have been literally carried out. If at any time, either mine had to suffer or be delayed in its operations it was the Centre Star and not the War Eagle that was selected."

"The main trouble has been caused by the failure of the new electrical compressor to run continuously. As is well known now both the hoists and the compressor from which so much was expected have not so far proved an entire success, necessitating a great number of alterations and additions. Had the plant worked smoothly the War Eagle would not only have had plenty of power, but there would have been additional power available for the Centre Star. To obviate the difficulties arising from this quarter and to hasten matters as much as possible, the management have arranged, as stated last week, the following temporary programme to keep the development up to what was originally intended. Two seven-drill compressors are being grouped on the Centre Star ground, giving a nominal capacity of 35 drills. The ventilating system of the War Eagle has been pushed to completion with the utmost dispatch, so as to recognize the air that would be otherwise used for this purpose, and the Centre Star hoist, which was run by air is now supplied with a small steam engine and the air used elsewhere. The result is that if anything the Centre Star power is being used to help the War Eagle, whenever the power in that mine falls short."

"The big War Eagle compressor had a run with both sides during the coming week, when further action will be determined up. A temporary hoist is being rigged up on the 200-foot level, in case of

accidents to the big hoist, one side of which is only being used. Every effort is being made to keep up and advance the monthly output of the mine."

Mr. N. L. Good progress is being made with the development of this mine. There is one strike of the lower and upper drifts. Both have been driven along the vein for a distance of 140 feet. The faces look better than ever and for a number of feet the ore has been of a high grade. The ore that is taken out during the progress of the work is being sacked, and it has averaged for a considerable distance about \$100 to the ton, and there is some of it that will go higher. The intention is to shortly go to a point 100 feet further down the hill, for the purpose of driving an other tunnel, so as to tap the ledge at a lower point. About the middle of the present week a carload of ore will be sent to the smelter.

Deer Park.—During the week a survey has been made on the 300-foot level for the purpose of determining the direction in which a crosscut will have to be run at that level to tap the newly found ledge. An air pipe line has been laid from the compressor to the new surface, and a distance of 400 feet. Two machines are at work. One of these is engaged in sinking a shaft on the new find. The other is engaged in crosscutting toward the recently found ledge on the 300-foot level. This crosscut is being extended from the south drift. This week a new galvanized frame will be erected and a hoist installed on the new shaft. The intention is to sink a new shaft on the 300-foot level, to a depth of at least 200 feet. Twenty-five men are at work, and the property is looking very well.

Wallington.—The workings are getting pretty close to the shaft. Sixty men are now employed in the mine, and the fact that the rock now being passed through is extremely hard. A survey is being made in the tunnel for the purpose of determining how many feet away the ledge is. It is now confidently anticipated that the ledge will be met before the 1st of November.

Masot.—The usual progress is being made in this property, and work is being pushed along the vein. In both the upper and lower tunnels. The operations are now confined to the vein. The west drift in tunnel No. 1 was extended 10 feet further during the week and is now in for a distance of 23 feet. The ore here is of fine quality. The east drift in tunnel No. 1 was extended 17 feet during the week and is now in 57 feet. Crosscut No. 2 from tunnel No. 3 is in for a distance of 19 feet. The full face of the crosscut is mineralized, and there is a foot of clean ore.

Columbia-Kootenay.—A forward movement has been decided on in the Columbia-Kootenay. It is shortly intended to commence cutting out a station 1,500 feet in tunnel No. 8, and from this point a horizontal vertical shaft will be sunk in that part of the vein where the most promising ore chutes have been found above. It is intended to sink about 1,500 feet in width. This shaft will be used for hoisting and for the purpose of sinking a shaft now down nearly 700 feet. Of course, the entire ledge is not shipping ore, but there are several wide pay chutes of ore running through it that are four feet in width. These are the most promising claims that are not of a shipping grade. Virginia.—The work of continuing the shaft on the recently found ledge still goes on.

Waneta and Trail Creek.—The contract for sinking and crosscutting in the latter property has just been let for a distance of 50 feet, and the crosscut has been driven 20 feet. The work so far done is very satisfactory, but it has shown the necessity of further depth. It is thought that the shaft will be met at a further depth of 100 feet.

California.—Six men are at work grading the roads and the site for the compressor building. It is likely that a small force of men will be put to work on the level of the compressor plant.

Echo Group.—Mr. W. D. McFadden will commence the development of this group during the present week with a good force of men. The main ledge on this group runs through three claims and carries good values in gold, silver and copper.

Green Mountain.—The shaft is down for a distance of 320 feet, and drifting on the ledge has progressed for a distance of 40 feet. The drift is still in rock that is strongly mineralized.

Sunset No. 2.—Good progress is being made in all parts of the mine. Two machines drills are at work. Both are crosscutting on the 100-foot level from the new shaft. Twenty-seven men are at work.

Centre Star.—The main shaft of the Centre Star is down about 300 feet, and the mine will appear in the shipping list this week.

Homestead.—Development work continues. The crosscut to the north has now been run to a distance of over 100 feet, and is now in ledge. It is hoped that the ore chute will soon be encountered.

New St. Elmo.—Good progress is being made in the main drift, which is now in for a distance of about 90 feet.

Josie.—The shaft is now down in the 500-foot station in the Josie. Sinking will be resumed for another 100 feet, when drifting will be commenced.

Velvet.—A large force of men is at work on this mine. Good progress is being made on the main drift and in all other portions of the mine.

The Yml's Estimated Profit.—Richard Popkins, the director of the Yml Mines, who made a trip through Kootenay a short time ago, has issued a report to the shareholders concerning the ore bodies of the Yml mines, and the grammar for their development, and the profits which may be made from them. He says: "The mine workings already carried out have proved the reef to a depth of something over 400 feet, opening up two or three inches of clean ore, so as to recognize the vein in places attain a width of 30 feet or over. This pay ore is of three classes, one being capable of treatment in the mill at the mine, the others consisting of galena and carbonate of iron, which are packed in the mine and shipped direct to the Hall Mines smelter at Nelson. As this rich shipping ore occurs throughout the reef in streaks and patches, it is most difficult to arrange any definite conclusion as to the average value of the vein, until it has been further worked into. However, from the work already carried out, Mr. Fowler puts the value of the milling ore at from 22

to 100, per ton, and the shipping ore at from 25 to 100, per ton. The manner in which the mine has been developed reflects the greatest credit upon the local administration, and is consequently one of the most economical workings of the kind. Mr. Fowler considers that he will be able to bring down the cost of mining and milling to \$4 (about 10s. 8d.) per ton, thus giving a profit upon the milling ore of from 24s. to 84s. per ton, less the cost of freight and smelting treatment of the concentrates produced. The cost of freight, smelting, duty and all other charges upon the rich ore which is sacked at the mine and shipped direct to the smelter, can be taken to produce half its value in profit work, or about 47.50s. per ton. Although the machinery was erected and ready for work in January last the severity of the season did not permit mining operations to commence until the March following, and since then owing to minor alterations being rendered necessary by actual experiment with the ore, and the trouble resulting from the driving gear, the mill has in no single month worked continuously.

Notwithstanding such unfortunate incidents from the starting of a mine where the ore is varied in character, it is not after making due allowance for development work, and the other items which it would be unfair to charge against revenue, during the period the mill has worked an approximate profit of 25,000 has been made; and, considering that only 16 men are employed by the Yml, and has shipped during that period, such a result is highly satisfactory.

Notwithstanding the difficulties of estimating the actual bulk value of the vein, both Mr. Fowler and Mr. Barrett do not think that we can expect a profit of £2,500 per month from the mine immediately the mill can be relied upon to work continuously.

Mr. Popkins recommended a further expenditure of £2,000 in development, in order to open the mine for another two hundred feet, and suggested that the company should increase its stock so as to provide funds. He also recommended that the company should acquire from the London and British Columbia Goldfields either by purchase or option some properties adjacent to the Yml—Nelson Tribune.

Alberni and Sprat Lake.—Mining matters in Alberni are progressing very favorably nowadays. On Granite creek the Three W's mine is working a full force of men, and from latest reports the lead is looking splendid. The Alberni property, the Ellipse 1 and II, is also being developed and shows very well, the ledge having widened out. Upwards of 200 lbs. of ore have just been brought out as a trial shipment.

Work has been steadily pushed ahead on the Golden Slipper. The ledge resembles in many respects the Three W's, and the ore gives a good assay value.

Mr. Watson has a number of men working on his property in the vicinity of Muskrat, near Granite creek, and more men are employed by the Sullivan. The mine is going down to put up cabins, cut trails, etc.

Work is being proceeded with steadily on the Golden Eagle Mine, at Haye's camp. Nelimit, and development work is to be started on the Red Lion, and Redbreast property on Anderson lake.

On Taylor river, at the head of Sprout's lake, W. Lindsay has been developing his Jingo Bird I. and II. claims, and putting up a cabin. He has a trail to his claims that is not of a shipping grade. The Jingo Birds show an exceptionally fine ledge, 11 1/2 feet wide, giving good assays.

W. Lindsay is also the locator of two giant ledges on a tributary of the Taylor river, about 9 miles from the mouth. These are the Red Lion, and the Jingo Bird. Of the group, 2 claims, Trendwell I. and II. show a lead upwards of 25 feet wide of quartz carrying iron. The remaining three claims of the group, Monie, Bessie and the Red Lion, show a lead 100 feet wide, and where the vein is creek and gorge, a depth of 100 feet is exposed. The latter big ledge is of quartz highly impregnated with iron sulphides and iron blend in places. The Monster group cutting in the Red Lion, shows a vein from the mouth of Taylor river, which can be reached by steam launch, to within three-quarters of a mile of the claims, is on a very gentle grade. The rest of the road is steep.

There are a few properties, undeveloped as yet, thousands of tons of ore in sight, and this group, it is confidently believed, will repay working on the largest scale.

Sprout lake has but little prospecting up to the present time, but what prospecting has been done has revealed ledges carrying values, and showing as well, if not better, than any in the district. The distance from Sprout lake to deep water on the Alberni canal is only 3 miles.

Slocan Mineral Plant.—The Wills has temporarily closed down. Last week the Idaho shipped 190 tons of ore. The mine will appear in the shipping list this week.

The ore shipments last week totalled 346 tons. Eighty tons of ore was shipped by the Payne last week. Several prospects round the town are being developed. The Arlington, Springer creek, is employing 22 men. Six inches of high grade ore has been struck on the Essex. The Lucky Jim is shipping 600 tons of zinc ore to England. It is stated the Blue Bell mine, at Pilot Bay, is to resume operations. The No. 5 tunnel of the Payne is now showing four feet of clean ore. Work on the tunnel of the Last Chance was commenced on Friday. It is stated the Wakedfield will soon start up with a large force of men. The Emily Edith is employing union men underground, and is adding to its force. The Bessie-Fidelity will give employment to 100 men when operations are resumed. The Payne is employing in the neighborhood of 40 men. More will be added as they can be procured. Twenty inches of clean ore has been uncovered in the second workings on the Sunshine. It assays upwards of 200 oz. in silver. B. C. Riblet, of Nelson, has received a contract from the Wakedfield to put in a tunnel with a tramway, with a daily capacity of 240 tons. The owners of the Capella group, on Goat Mountain, are building another trail and making other preparations for working the property this winter. R. C. Campbell-Johnston has resumed work on the Lakeshore group, round in the bay. The work is being confined to the tunnel on the wagon road. A. C. Allen and Jim Ward came down

the hill from the Ellipse on Saturday. There are two tunnels on this property. The ore runs high in lead and silver. The Wakedfield has awarded the contract for its construction to White, Rogers & Co. of San Francisco. The plant will cost 100 tons per day and will be installed by the end of the month.

Chas. Greenlee has finished his assessments on Kokanee creek, and will commence another tunnel this week on the Home Run. This property is not far from the Mountain Chief, and has a good showing of galena. A big strike has been made in the No. 5 tunnel on the Madison, 300 feet from the mouth. Four feet of shipping ore is showing in the breast, which assays 500 oz. silver and 75 per cent. lead. W. W. Warner will finish his contract on the property this week.—New Denver Ledger.

Rossland Shipments.

The shipments for the week ending September 23rd, and the year to date, are estimated as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Mine, Week, Year. Rows include Le Roi, War Eagle, Iron Mask, Evening Star, Deer Park, Centre Star, Columbia-Kootenay, Virginia, Mountain Trail.

The shaft on the Gem is now down 35 feet in the showing of ore. On the John Le's, a small force is at present engaged. The showing on this property is satisfactory. There is nothing special from the Estelita. Work is going right along with good results. The new shaft on the Hope claim, of the Sullivan group, is now down 30 feet, and there is ore the full width of the shaft. The ledge on the surface is from 80 to 100 feet wide.

The shaft on the Hamlet is now down 160 feet. The crosscut running to the new shaft is now in 78 feet, and 16 feet of ore has been encountered. At present 16 men are employed by the Sullivan. The Swansea mine, near Windermere, will be operated all winter, and a road will be put in to haul ore to the river for transportation to the smelter in the spring. Development will now be started 500 feet down the northern slope of the mountain so as to get depth on the property. Active work has been commenced on the Minnie M. and Tiger.

The development of the Crescent and the adjoining property, the London, which has been started, and the work which is in the Viking showing six inches of ore at the surface, and at 30 feet was widened to three feet. On the Crescent the work is harder, but the tunnel is in about 15 feet and the ore is of splendid quality, and in appearance closely resembles that taken from the Le Roi at the 300-foot level.

The Humming Bird group of mines consists of five claims. The ledge is from 25 to 30 feet in width, mixed with calcite and yellow spar, in which copper, galena and copper pyrite appears. The North Star Mining Company is putting in a diamond drill for exploration work. The company has now about 1,000 tons of ore in the shaft, and the shipment will commence as soon as the railway is completed. The big shaft on the property is now down 200 feet, and crosscutting at the 100-foot level to catch the ore has been commenced. The company will add the shaft of 50 men now employed as fast as they can be made available.

On the North Star hill assessment work is now being done on the Gold Bug and Silver Bug fraction. In addition to this, other development is being done on several claims.

Lardauve-Trouit Lake.—Bad Sled has been developed by over 500 feet of work, and has exposed a magnificent showing of high grade ore. It is owned by Messrs. F. C. Campbell, F. Johnson and W. Johnson, of Trout Lake. The Lade is the only telluride proposition discovered in this section. It carries immense quantities of gold, a shipment of several tons going \$40 to the ton in gold. Ethel is one of the high grade propositions of Trout Lake, and has a good showing of ore. It is developed by about 150 feet of tunnel.

Silver Cap is the banner mine of the Trout Lake district, and is too well known to need very particular mention. It is one of the high grade propositions of the Pacific Northwest. Almost 1,000 tons of ore has been shipped, which will average \$15 to the ton in silver, lead and gold. Silver Tip has been bonded by an American syndicate, and is being actively worked at present.

Beattie is located at the head of Mohawk creek, and has shipped about 70 tons of ore, running over 100 ounces in silver, with a good percentage of lead. It is bonded to Beer Bros. of Nelson. Great Northern is owned by local and Montana parties, and can boast of having one of the largest showings in the camp. It has been extensively developed, proving that a large body of ore lies beneath the surface.

Glenarry, situated near the head of Boyd creek, is a galena proposition, carrying good values in silver. It is being extensively developed.

Black Diamond, at the head of Silver Tip creek, has a fine showing of high grade galena ore. It is bonded, and is being actively developed.

Silver Queen is located on Great Northern mountain and is owned by Vancouver parties. Almost 200 tons in crosscut and drift has been run on the vein, exposing a huge body of a fairly good grade of galena ore. Silver Belt Mines.—This property, located on Brown's creek, under development, has a high content of ore, which totals a value of over \$500 to the ton in silver, copper, lead and gold. Hidden Treasure is located on the Trout lake slope, and has a very good showing of ore. It is bonded to London parties. Nettie L.—For the development done on this property has shown up better than any other in the district. Recently the bulk of a carload shipment went \$440 to the ton, while five sacks went a dollar per pound. The Nettie L. is owned by the Great Western Mine, Limited, of Revelstoke.

Around Alsworth.

The well known Blue Bell mine, across Kootenay lake from Alsworth, may be reopened. Mr. Hicks, who was superintendent of the property when it was work-

ed by the Hendryx outfit, has returned. It is said, in the interest of the Hall Mines people. Another outfit, whose managing partner is Kaskis, is also said to be negotiating with a view of acquiring the property. The two outfits are said to be working jointly, and have six or seven men pumping out the shaft and cleaning up the workings.

The people at Pilot Bay hope that some deal will be made so that the smelter will start up. They claim that there is ore enough in sight in the properties that are being opened up on Crawford creek to keep the smelter running, to say nothing of the Blue Bell ore.

On Crawford creek the properties most talked of are the Silver Hill, Hidden Secret, Legal Tender, and the Richelieu, on all of which men are working.

At Alsworth things are fairly booming. In that times are better than at any time since the summer of 1891. On the Number One 20 men are at work; the Star has 8 or 10; the Little Hill 35 to 40; at the concentrator and the Highland and at the Steerenson tunnel 30 to 35; Buckeye 8; Illinois 5 or 6; and the Tariff 2 or 3. The Little Hill is taking out from 40 to 50 tons of ore daily, and the Tariff will resume shipping at soon as it is transferred to its new owners. The Highland, also, is expected to be transferred to new owners in a short time, the consideration being a pretty big figure—some say as high as \$120,000.

Owing to a delay in the shipment of pipe, the Taylor compressed air plant on Coffe creek is not yet in a position to supply power to the mines in the camp.

Back of Argenta, at the head of Kootenay lake, John McKean, of Rossland, is managing a property that has a number of men employed. The group is named the Lavinia. Adjoining is the Lost Mountain group, owned by the Financial Trust & Mining Company, and on which work is to be started at once.

THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

Speculation being rife as to the results that will follow the completion of the trans-Siberian railway, we shall try to consider whether Russia's advantages derived from that undertaking will be really so gigantic and so full of danger to her neighbors and rivals as Russian and Russophile papers are anxious to make us believe. With regard to the future colonization of this outlying portion of the Empire of the Czar, there is no doubt that an unmistakable gain will be derived, for the growth of the population in Siberia, where an area of 13.4 million square miles is inhabited by only 7.1 million souls, and where the extraordinary wealth in minerals, woods and furs, and the vast stretches of land will certainly proceed with greater strides than heretofore.

Without giving implicit faith to Russian official statistical data, it may fairly be assumed that, owing to the particular care the government has always taken as to further colonization, the eminently agricultural Russian will probably avail himself of the offered facilities, and that the population in the hitherto empty lands will considerably increase. It may be objected that Russia, the most thinly populated country in Europe, will hardly find a surplus to provide for the newly opened territory; but it must be borne in mind that in the most fertile districts of south-western Russia, the density of population remains far behind that of other European countries; for whereas one reckons upon one square kilometer in France 71.5, in Germany 81.5, in Italy 102.5, in England 122, and in Belgium 210 inhabitants—in southern Russia we find only 48.4.—Professor Arminius Vambéry in the Pall Mall Magazine.

FRENCH WAR MINISTER.

A Letter Written to the Duc D'Orleans On His Appointment to the Cabinet. (Associated Press.) Paris, Sept. 29.—The Marquis de Gallifet minister of war, having written to the Figaro asserting that he had never written to the Duc D'Orleans since the end of 1858, when he declined the latter's invitation to shoot at Wood Norton, the "Intransigent" publishes this morning a reply by publishing a letter which the paper says was seized among the papers of M. Andree Buffet, one of the persons recently placed on trial before the senate, sitting as a high court of justice, on a charge of having conspired against the state. In this letter De Gallifet says: "If the Republic's representatives are so stupid as to confide the ministry of war to me, your messieurs, will not have occasion to be dissatisfied with me."

RAIDS BY INDIANS.

A Fight With Cowboys During Which Several Were Killed. (Associated Press.) Austin, Tex., Sept. 29.—A dispatch from Ortiz, state of Sonora, Mexico, says a band of 200 Yaqui Indians attacked the ranch of Lonoro Benoit at Teacumblate. After a fight with a force of about 50 Mexican cowboys, which several of the latter were killed, the Indians burned all the ranch buildings and drove several hundred head of cattle and horses into the mountains.

HILL TRIBES DEFEATED.

Native Police Kill and Wound Two Hundred. (Associated Press.) Bombay, Sept. 29.—It is reported a body of armed British soldiers, the company near Kherkom, and that the police of two companies of native infantry from Baroda overtook the Khils, with whom they had a fierce encounter. The raiders are said to have lost 200 killed and wounded.

Medicines can talk, but it is for genius to observe.—Disraeli.