# ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER.

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## WEEK'S RECORD FOR THE MINES

### Shipments Are Greater and General Tone More Promising.

### Probability of Large Increase in Tonnage This Summer.

The past week's record of the Rossland camp in respect to ore shipments shows a substantial advance in tonnage over the previous week, and indicates that the camp is rapidly getting back to the 8000 ton per week mark. The improvement in conditions in regard to coke supplies at the smelters will have the effect at an early date of materially increasing the output of the principal producers, and this will bring the weekly output over the figure specified. It would surprise no one if the camp was shipping 10,000 tons of ore weekly within ninety days, in fact this seems the assured outcome of developments now under way.

The Le Roi company, as indicated by the management recently, only awaits the assurance of adequate coke supplies for the smelting plant at Northport, to substantially increase its daily shipments, and a couple of thousand tons per week more than is shipped at the present juncture would not materially strain the resources of the big mine. The Kootenay mine is increasing its output steadily, and will reach the 350 ton per week mark at a comparatively early date, to be further enhanced when the tramway now projected is installed. The White Bear's shipping operations up to the present time have in a sense been experimental with a view to testing the values of the ore bodies encountered in the lower workings. The higher grade ore bodies encountered in the upper workings have yet to be cut in the 850 workings, and when this is accomplished larger consignments of ore will be sent weekly to the smelters. The War Eagle and Centre Star mines may increase production during the summer, and it is practically assured that the Le Roi Two properties will figure much more extensively in the shipping list within the next ninety days than is the case at the present time. All these factors will contribute to swell Rossland's weekly tonnage into five figures.

The past week has witnessed several important developments in connection with the local mining industry, these having already been referred to at length in The Miner, or are published today.

It is assured that the camp will witness more construction work than has been seen in the past three years. Such operations on the part of mining companies are the best indications of confidence in the future that the community could desire. Everything points to a bright and active summer, although no special excitement is expected. Gradual and conservative development is looked for, and it is this that will contribute to the prosperity of the community on a substantial and permanent basis.

THE OUTPUT.

Shipments from the Rossland camp for the week ending May 16th and for the year to date are as follows:

| | Week. | Year. |
|---|---|---|
| Le Roi | 3360 | 70,194 |
| Centre Star | 1830 | 31,678 |
| War Eagle | 1200 | 21,405 |
| Le Roi No. 2 | 875 | 10,012 |
| White Bear | 80 | 267 |
| Velvet | 100 | 2,446 |
| O. K. | | 25 |
| Giant | | 335 |
| Kootenay | 290 | 735 |
| Homestake | | 90 |
| Totals | 7735 | 137,189 |

AMONG THE MINES.

VELVET.—Good news is to hand this week from the Velvet mine. Manager William Gray is anxious to secure a number of four-horse teams to handle the ore from the mine to the Red Mountain railroad, an advertisement to this effect appearing in this and subsequent issues of The Miner. Referring to conditions at the mine, Mr. Gray says: "Our ore bins are full and keep so. A recent discovery on the second level to the south disclosed over 75 feet of good ore the entire width of the drift. The total width of the shoot has not yet been determined, and the breast of the drift is still in ore. We expect to cut this shoot shortly on the third level. This is the furthest southern discovery made in the mine, and affords every reason to look for further possibilities for the lower levels, as well as for the Portland mine, that already has a good showing of ore 125 feet from our present workings."

WHITE BEAR. — The plans of the White Bear for the immediate future have been much in the public eye of late, and it is probable that the property will occupy this position for some months to come, in view of the extensive program outlined for the equipment of the property. After the meeting of shareholders on June 1st in Toronto, the plans outlined for the property will take active shape. Meantime the development of the 850 level is continuing actively. The drift is in ore of good concentrating quality, and is being pushed ahead to intersect the higher grade ore bodies disclosed on the 700 level.

LE ROI. — Nothing of special interest has been disclosed in connection with the Le Roi this week. The greatest interest in connection with the property centres about the exploration on the lower levels, and various reports are in circulation with respect to discoveries of late date. The management states that nothing of a nature justifying a public pronouncement has been ascertained as yet.

LE ROI TWO. — Deep level development in the Josie mine has had most gratifying results during the past week. The feature of the period was the commencement of the drift on the 700 west main stope to open the extension of the rich Annie vein disclosed by the diamond drill on that level. This work is being prosecuted steadily. On the 300 and 500 levels high grade ore is being stoped. Diamond drilling is under way on the 900 level with a view to locating the extension of the Annie vein on that level. In the No. 1 mine the usual work has progressed without incident of special interest.

KOOTENAY. — Work at the mine has gone ahead without incident during the week, save that the survey for the aerial tramway from the mine to the Canadian Pacific railroad, under the direction of Andrew G. Larson, general superintendent, is practically completed and the survey crew has discontinued operations. At the company's offices the preparation of the plans for the structure is proceeding vigorously. In the mine mining operations are being carried on steadily in various levels.

WAR EAGLE.—No special changes in the operations at the War Eagle are reported. The mining and stoping operations are being continued steadily, and development in the lower levels is making good progress.

CENTRE STAR. — The usual program at the Centre Star has been adhered to closely with good results. The mine is steadily piling up a large tonnage, and the output may be increased at no late date. At the Silica works, where concentration tests are under way, good progress is being made. Various reports as to the company's plans in respect to concentration works are afloat, but none of these have the authorization of the management.

GREEN MOUNTAIN. — Next week will see a restoration of activity at the Consolidated Green Mountain- St. Louis properties. Steps are now being taken to acquire a powerful hoist for the mine, and this will be arranded during the present week. As soon as the winding plant is installed, the company purposes resuming work in the main shaft, which is to be continued to the 600 level.

SPITZEE. — The present week will see another substantial advance made in connection with the Spitzee mine, where construction work will be commenced on the shafthouse to house the new machinery and replace the present inadequate premises. The unwatering of the mine has been completed and excellent progress made with the work of straightening of the shaft, which has been under way for the past week. A fortnight should see active underground work under way at the property.

HUNGRY MAN. — The recent visit to the property of the New York people interested in the Hungry Man is regarded as significant of enhanced activity. The actual mining operations are now under way and good progress is being reported. The management is reticent as to its plans for the immediate future at this juncture.

GIANT. — The management has been unable as yet to complete arrangements with the Trail smelter for a resumption of shipments to the works, the reason given being that the uncertainty of coke supplies hampers the smelter. It is expected that this will be overcome at an early date, and that the Giant will then be able to dispose of the ores stored in the bins and blocked out in the mine ready for stoping.

I. X. L.—The lessees are working steadily in the mine, and preparing a shipment of ore to be made at an early date.

O. K.—The lessee is operating steadily and is breaking ore for another shipment.

BIG FOUR.—Several men are at work prosecuting development in the lower tunnel.

JUMBO.—The surface work at the Jumbo is being continued, and considerable progress has already been made with the preliminary work. Managing Director Galusha is expected here this week with a view to arranging for additional work on a larger scale.

ST. JOSEPH'S. — No development of special interest is reported from the St. Joseph's property on Murphy creek. Work in the main drift is being carried ahead as usual.

CONTACT.—The management expects to resume operations at the mine at an early date, the conditions in respect to the trail from the railroad to Burnt Basin having improved materially in the past week.

UNION JACK. — Some work is under way at the Union Jack mine, a well known property at the west end of the Rossland camp. Particulars as to the nature of the operations are not to hand.

BOUNDARY SHIPMENTS.

The following shipments were made by the Boundary mines last week: Granby mines to Granby smelter, 8101 tons; Mother Lode to Greenwood smelter, 2418 tons; Emma to Trail smelter, 210 tons; B. C. to Greenwood smelter, 375 tons; Snowshoe to Greenwood and Boundary Falls smelters, 1680 tons.

The Granby smelter last week treated 7593 tons, making a total of 118,339 tons for the year.

| | Week. | Total. |
|---|---|---|
| Granby | 8,101 | 127,832 |
| Mother Lode | 2,418 | 27,036 |
| Snowshoe | 1,680 | 11,640 |
| Emma | 210 | 8,006 |
| B. C. | 375 | 7,965 |
| Sunset | | 2,833 |
| Providence | | 451 |
| Totals | 12,784 | 186,363 |

It is said the American Steel Wire company is contemplating locating its Canadian branch at Port Colborne, instead of Hamilton, as at first thought.

## KOOTENAY'S RICH ORE

### Values Higher Than Expected—Fine Record Last Week.

### Company Won't Adopt Pohle-Croasdale System—Their Plans.

The recent record of the Kootenay mine in respect to the per ton value of the ore shipped is understood to have surprised the management. It was so generally reported that the Kootenay's best ore was $8 rock that the statement was almost accepted as fact, but it is now stated, unofficially but on excellent authority, that all the ore shipped last week ran considerably over $15, and that it has been demonstrated that the upper workings, to which stoping is now confined by reason of the facilities for loading ore at the third and fourth adits, carry values from $15 to as high as $25.

In view of the unusual economy in operating which is obtainable at the Kootenay mine, a neat profit can be made on $8, possibly as large a margin as is secured on the average ore shipped from the camp from week to week. This is brought about through handling all ore by gravity and the lack of necessity for pumping and hoisting. Timbering is also reduced to a point where the per ton cost is trifling. Then the exceptionally low treatment rate secured further promotes the prosperity of the mine, with the result that it is intimated by those who have been over the figures carefully and examined the situation at the mine that the product is now being produced, shipped and treated at $6 per ton.

Much of the information now in hand relative to the Kootenay has been secured since stoping operations were started in the mine a couple of months ago. When the big ore bodies were attacked, it was found that the average of values, especially in the upper levels, was very substantially in advance of expectations, a feature that is gratifying to the company and of importance to Rossland, inasmuch as it assures the steady operation of the property with a constantly increasing payroll.

Incidentally it may be stated that the Mascot company, owning adjacent ground to the Kootenay mine and operating under similar conditions on parallel veins of similar ore, is following the course of the Kootenay with close attention, their object being to resume the operation of the mine should the Kootenay's successful record be maintained.

Various interesting facts in relation to the Rossland-Kootenay company are disclosed in the appended circular issued to the shareholders in England under date of April 27:

THE COMPANY'S PLANS.

"In December last the chairman visited British Columbia, and thoroughly investigated the affairs of the company at Rossland. Before returning, he appointed Mr. Wm. Thompson, formerly superintendent of the mines, as general manager for the company in British Columbia, in succession to Mr. Bernard MacDonald, resigned.

"n February Mr. Thompson came to London and discussed the future policy of the company with the board. The general manager is now actively engaged in carrying out the work of development decided upon by the board after consulting with Mr. Bedford MacNeill, who has been appointed consulting engineer in London to the company.

"In a reecnt communication Mr. Thompson advises that the first trial shipment of ore in bulk, from the upper levels of the Kootenay mine to the Trail smelter, has proved satisfactory, the value of the ore averaging over $8 per ton. Ore is now being broken down in several of the upper levels, and as soon as the snow has disappeared and the condition of the roads will permit it (probably in May), bulk shipments will be made to the smelter from each level. Should the values equal those of the first shipment, the directors expect to be in a position to make contracts with the smelter on terms which will leave a fair margin of profit on every ton shipped.

"For the present the board have deemed it prudent to suspend operations at the Nickel Plate mine, and concentrate the attention of the staff in Rossland on the Kootenay mine. So soon as the Kootenay has become productive, which should be during the autumn, it is intended that oprations will be resumed at the Nickel Plate, and also that the Great Western mine will be unwatered and prospected.

"The results of the shipments from the third, fourth and fifth levels of the Kootenay mine should be learned in July, and the directors will lose no time in communicating these to the shareholders.

"The directors have received an exhaustive report from Mr. Thompson on the Pohle-Croasdale process for the treatment of low grade ores, regarding which a proposal has been submitted to the company by the Metals Volatilization company of Denver, U. S. A., but in view of the heavy initial expenditure involved and the difficulty of ascertaining the actual cost of treatment on a large scale, the directors have decided not to adopt the process for the reduction of the company's ores."

JOIN JOHN LONG.

Rossland Miners to Join Former Superintendent in This Camp.

John M. Long, former superintendent of the Le Roi mine, is now in charge of the Yreka mine on Vancouver island, and a number of Rossland miners have gone to work under their former superintendent. Among those ticketed out in the past day or two over the Spokane Falls & Northern were Thomas King, Robert Webb, William Symons, John Michaely, Peter Simonetti, Charles Gilmore and Andrew Delong.

The Yreka is a well known coast mine. It is a gold-copper proposition, producing ore of good quality and shipping 800 tons per month or thereabouts to the Crofton smelter.

## MINING LAW REFORM

### MOVEMENT TO OVERCOME THE OPPOSITION OF THE MINING COMMITTEE.

### A PETITION TO THE HOUSE CIRCULATED FOR SIGNATURES.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Throught the medium of the press dispatches of The Miner it has generally become known that a majority of a mere quorum of thirteen members of the mining committee of the provincial legislature voted to postpone until next year the consideration of the remedial legislation recommended by the executive committee of the Provincial Mining Association. This vote, by such a small number of the mining committee against considering the amendments asked for, has met with strong opposition from a large number of the other members of the mining committee, who were not called to the meeting in question, but who, in common with many of the other members of the house, were not only friendly to the proposed amendments, but also favored the immediate consideration of the same.

These latter gentlemen have urged the executive committee of the Provincial Mining Association to continue their efforts in pressing for consideration during the present session, and acting upon this suggestion the executive has had prepared a petition.

Local members of the Provincial Mining Association are disgusted at the inertia of the mining committee of the legislature, which seems to be controlled by Premier Prior, and are busily engaged getting signatures of business men to a petition against delay that would stultify or make abortive the patriotic principles that they have at hand. As a consequence, they are getting all sorts and conditions of men interested in the welfare of the province to sign a petition to the members of the legislature, in the hope that there will be no delay in the granting of the reforms urgently needed. Everybody having the welfare of the mining industry and the district at heart will, therefore, readily sign the petition that is being circulated in Rossland.

The petition is as follows:

To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia.

The petition of the undersigned taxpayers of the province of British Columbia humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners strongly urge upon your honorable body the vital necessity for the favorable consideration at your present session of the amendments to the Mining Acts, both mineral and placer, recommended by the convention held at Victoria on the 25th of February last.

That we see no good reason why crown grants of placer claims should not be given and the placer miner placed upon an equal footing with the mineral miner.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound will ever pray, etc.

B. C. DOING WELL.

Forty Men at Work Breaking Ore Steadily.

Robert H. Anderson, general superintendent of the B. C. mine in Summit Camp, leaves this morning for Eholt, having concluded the business that brought him to Rossland.

Mr. Anderson states that he has a crew of forty men at the B. C. and that all are engaged in stoping ore. The workings are all underground as the company is not now stoping in its glory hole.

The crew is taking out for shipment about 180 tons of ore daily, the quality being substantially higher than the Boundary ores extracted on the quarry plan. The mine's output is restricted to some extent by the shortage of coke at the smelters.

Mr. Parrish of Rossland retains his connection with the B. C. company for the present at least.

So far this season 1,356,000 bushels of grain have been delivered at the Montreal Transportation company's elevator at Kingston, as compared with 406,931 for the same period last year, the increase being attributed to the removal of the canal tolls.

A meeting of the Nickel Copper company's shareholders at Hamilton decided to make an effort to secure about $500,000 capital with which to start the nickel copper business on a large scale. The agreement to borrow $65,000 from the Sterling company, New Jersey, was endorsed.

## COKE SUPPLY FOR GRANBY

### The Big Boundary Concern Makes an Important Move.

### Going Into the Coke Business Near the Town of Blairmore,

PHOENIX, May 16.—Information has been received here that in consequence of the delays in the receipt of coke from the present source of supply in the Crow's Nest for the past year, together with the high prices charged for the same, the shareholders of the Granby have not been idle. When it became apparent that the Crow's Nest coke, as manufactured and sold at present, could not be had in sufficient quantities to operate four blast furnaces steadily, let alone 2 or 4 more to be installed, the Granby managers began to look around for another source of supply within a reasonable distance.

A bond was taken on some coal measures 45 miles east of Fernie, in the Crow's Nest, near the town of Blairmore, Alberta, and steps were taken to organize the International Coal and Coke company under the laws of the state of Washington, with a capital of $3,000,000, in dollar shares. This was done and the coal claims acquired, it being ascertained that the coal was of a good quality for coking purposes.

The coal claims have a length of seven miles, with nine seams, four of which have been prospected, giving an aggregate width thus far of sixty feet of excellent coking coal.

A force of men is now employed at the properties developing in three different seams, and it is understood that a contract has also been awarded for the erection of coking ovens, which will number at least one hundred, according to the present plans. The coal has already been tested with satisfactory results.

The first board of officers of the International Coal and Coke company are: A. C. Flumerfelt, of Grand Forks, president; Will G. Graves, of Spokane, secretary; H. N. Galer, of Grand Forks, treasurer. Mr. Flumerfelt is assistant to President Miner, of the Granby company, and Mr. Galer is assistant manager of the same corporation.

While the new coal company will be closely allied with the Granby company, it will be operated separately, but will, of course, dispose of its output primarily to the Granby smelter and then to other independent smelting concerns and to the railways. It will, of course, be some months before the output of the new coal fields will be of much importance, but it can hardly fail in the course of time to have a most important bearing on the development of the immense low grade ore propositions that are found all over the Boundary district. The secret of smelting Boundary ores at a profit apparently is cheap fuel, and the Granby company is thus taking steps to secure an unfailing supply of fuel of the best quality.

## MAY ADOPT OIL METHOD

### White Bear Negotiating For Elmore Process Plant.

### Matter Now Under Advisement—No. 2 For Rossland.

The Rossland camp may have a second oil process concentrating plant. The Le Roi Two has already taken the initiative in adopting the process on an experimental basis, with provision for substantial increases in capacity in event of success being secured. Now the White Bear company has the process under advisement, and the negotiations leading to the establishment of the works have already reached an advanced stage.

The proposition by the White Bear company to the Canadian Ore Concentration company, owning the Canadian rights for the Elmore oil process, is that the latter company should install a 100-ton, or four-unit, plant at works to be erected by the mining company. The mining company proposes to furnish buildings and crushing machinery together with other appliances not immediately connected with the application of the principle of oil to the milling of the ore. The Canadian Ore Concentration company is required to supply all the mechanical apparatus necessary to demonstrate its process, and to successfully apply the process to White Bear ores with a minimum saving of 85 per cent of the values for a period of sixty days, after which the mining company takes over the entire plant.

This proposal has been submitted, and is under advisement by the Canadian Ore Concentration company. In some respects the proposition is novel, but it has its recommendations, and the outcome of the negotiations will be awaited with interest.

In event of the negotiations resulting in a deal, the concentration works will be proceeded with at an early date. The annual meeting of the White Bear company takes place in Toronto on June 1, after which the company will be in a position to proceed with the milling plant and other works contemplated in connection with the property. The preparation of plans and the manufacture of the machinery in England would require several months, but there seems to be no reason to disbelieve that the plant could not be in operation by next fall. Prior to this period the Le Roi Two concentrator would be in operation and the Centre Star works completed, or practically so, making up a substantial list of concentrating works actually in operation or under way.

## THE LAND SCANDAL

### Hon. D. W. Higgins Makes Reference to the Investigation.

### Speaks of the Legislature aud the Mining Law Question.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Ex-Speaker D. W. Higgins, who has been in town for the past two days, leaves for Fernie this morning. A Miner representative interviewed Mr. Higgins yesterday. He declined to express any opinion upon the extraordinary developments that have taken place at Victoria before the parliamentary committee, beyond stating that one side or the other must have sworn to falsehoods. Both stories cannot be true. Asked as to the value of the lands proposed to be conveyed by the cancelled grants, he said they have been estimated to be worth anywhere from $5,000,000 to $20,000,000. Mr. Higgins, who speaks without personal knowledge of the land, says he thinks it may be fairly stated that if properly administered they would provide a sum sufficient to pay off the provincial debt. The investigating committee are doing good work and out of a bushel of evidence may be able to extract a few grains of truth.

The Provincial Mining Association were turned down by the house, but it is the intention of Rossland's member to bring the matter into the open house, and by forcing a vote compel members to declare themselves for or against the reform of the mineral laws.

Mr. Higgins concluded by saying that he is surprised at the almost universal expression of public opinion throughout Kootenay in favor of party lines in provincial politics—a system which he himself deems impracticable at this time.

Mr. Higgins has enjoyed the distinction of being one of the earliest old-timers in British Columbia. He has witnessed the care-burdened vicissitudes of an early pioneer. It is decidedly refreshing for the rising generation of British Columbia—faced with the immense possibilities and governed by the untoward conditions as they exist today—to find a man who can tell, as Mr. Higgins can, the story of our great and noble heritage.

It has been a pleasure and a delight for the subscribers of more than one coast paper to read the reminiscences that Mr. Higgins has recently given to the world. He has told of what James Whitcomb Riley characterizes "The old-time pioneers." He has given us renewed remembrances of the stirring days of '58 and '63. He has told of the escapades of the young bloods of the North Pacific fleet. Their devil-may-care doings, as he tells them, breathe of the deep sea and wholesome romance that Robert Louis Stevenson loved to depict.

Mr. Higgins has prospered in later times, but he abjures the strenuous life of politics. The glare and excitement of the political arena no longer charm, although they interest him. His patient duty has been done, so he says; but his rugged honesty and lofty principles will, beyond question, have their weight in the formation of patriotic ideas of the rising generation.

CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

Proposal will be Carried Out as Soon as Feasible.

The proposal to institute a circulating library in connection with the public library will be put in effect as soon as feasible. A committee consisting of Mayor Dean, Principals Bruce and McTaggart and Mr. Job, with three members of the Sons of St. George, has been formed to constitute a working committee to carry out the circulating library idea as soon as possible.

Rev. C. W. Hedley, M. A., explains the library position, stating that the cash balance of the institution is $88.