

IN THE SLOCAN.

Though winter checks the ardour of the prospector in the Slocan, B.C., silver camps, work on the claims which laid in their winter supply goes on briskly. The Wellington has shipped five carloads since snow fell. They have struck another 37 inch vein of galena and grey copper, giving 500 of silver per ton, as the average of several tests and they have had to put on more men. The White Water is shipping two carloads per week, and the ore is remarkably rich, at times yielding in considerable quantities \$1 per pound of silver and lead.

English capital is developing the Colorado, and the Sunset has got down to work for the winter.

The output in fact from the Wellington and White Water camp, as a whole creates a general activity.

The Lone Star, though work only began late in the fall, has already run one tunnel 120 feet, 40 feet being through the ledge, and two others are being run at lower levels.

The Charleston also has four tunnels running up into big pay, it is said, and the owners of the Corinne or Corean are pushing work, as the Lone Star adjoining is, and saying little. The latter, with four other claims, has been capitalized as the Hansard.

It is reported that the Eldon has already withdrawn its stock from the market.

The Slocan Star has paid its fourth dividend since August, and in all \$303,000 or three fifths of the capital, 250,000, of this has been paid this year.

The fraction between the Eldon and Paradise was sold for \$500 one day, its owner being in need of money, and the buyer resold the next day for \$2,000. This claim is entirely undeveloped, but in a rich camp.

The comparative ease with which mining is carried on in the Slocan silver district is shown by the work already done in the Charleston, the Corrine and the Lone Star. The former began in August last and the Corrine and Lone Star in November.

The influx of strangers on the lookout to buy claims only shows that the Slocan may expect in spring.

A TEXAN ON ALGOMA.

In an interview. Mr. A. Blum, of St. Antonio, Texas, spoke as follows about the mining prospects of Algoma:

In speaking in a general way of Algoma as a mining country, he entertains most sanguine opinions—quite differently to Selwyn who spoke at Montreal a few days ago—that Algoma is, in his estimation, one of the richest gold fields that has yet been opened up to the world. The reason of her delay in being recognized as such is owing to the pioneers wanting to get all the valuable land they desired before telling the world how rich Algoma is in minerals and the abundance thereof. In all his experience in mining, now covering 18 years, he has not known a country where the general discoveries were as satisfactory as they have been in Algoma up to date. By way of comparison with other countries he pointed out that the veins at a depth of fifty feet as in most countries at a depth of 400 or 500 feet showed an equal improvement from the surface.—Port Arthur Journal.

BIG STRIKE IN THE HALL MINES.

A big strike has been made in the Hall mines, and although the management admits as much all details are refused. It has been learned from other sources, however, that the men working in the old tunnel struck a big body of ore yesterday that is the richest of any found since the mine has been in operation. Why there is so much secrecy in regard to the good news is a mystery.

The reports this morning were to the effect that the find had been made on the lower level, in the body of ore that was located some time ago by the diamond drills, but later advices prove that this is incorrect, and that the discovery was wholly a pleasant surprise. Manager Croasdaile looks very happy and was actually seen to smile during business hours to-day.

The smelter is running to its fullest capacity, and there appears to be plenty of ore on hand. Work is progressing on the buildings to encase the roaster and reverberatory furnaces, and Superintendent Johnston states that they will be ready for use in two or three weeks.

The right of way party on the Slocan river branch of the Columbia and Kootenay road is making favorable progress, having slashed over three-quarters of a mile of the way. A gang of men is engaged in sawing the fallen timber into cordwood.

A new freight schedule is to go into effect on the steamers recently acquired by the C.P.R. Rates will be reduced on staple goods, and raised on fancy goods. Valuations will take the place of the bulk measurement of the past.—Rossland Miner.

AT CAMP HEWITT.

Some very encouraging assays were received this week by the Camp Hewitt Mining Company from their claim, the Gladstone. One from Prof. Carlyle went \$72 and another from the same source \$50. From Pellew Harvey an assay of \$35 was also received. The average of five assays so far made from this rock runs over \$50 per ton in copper, silver and gold. The men at work are now engaged sacking up rock for shipment to the Tacoma and Everett smelters, and a ton, for test purposes, will be forwarded to each of these smelters in a few days. The ledge continues to increase in width as the shaft goes down, and everyrning points to this claim soon becoming one of the best in the district. The company also owns nine other claims in Camp Hewitt, several of which are thought to be equally as rich as the Gladstone.—Vernon, B. C., News.

AT GOLDEN, B.C.

The Anglo Canadian Mining Co., have been doing extensive development work on their claims on Jubilee Mountain and in the Ottertail district.

The Bald Mountain Mining and Development Company are already at work on a group of claims situated on Bald Mountain near Donald and have run a tunnel in 100 feet with satisfactory results. The company is composed of Calgary men who are showing their faith in East Kootenay in a substantial manner.

The bond held by Vancouver parties on the claims "Giant" and "Hidden Treasure" owned by William McNeish and Thomas Jones of Golden has been taken up and the first payment has been made thereunder. Thus some more good properties pass into the hands of the capitalists who are getting fond of East Kootenay properties.—Golden, B.C. Era.

WHY MINES OFFERED ARE NOT SOLD.

"A great many of those who have mines to sell in this country claim that it is not true that there is much capital seeking investment in that direction. Yet there is a demand for all the mines offered in proper shape and at reasonable prices. The great trouble with those who have mines to sell—both owners and promoters—is that they do not have their properties opened to show whether they are of real value or not; or, if they do, do not have them properly examined and sampled so as to give prospective purchasers some guarantee that they are more than mere prospects. This is specially noticeable, in California, where as much is often asked for a prospect as for a developed mine, simply because the prospect is well located. They do not appreciate the fact that mining is being conducted on a more business-like basis than it was a decade ago.

"A very small amount of work in developing will often make a showing that will enable a mine owner to ask enough to repay him many times over. True, a little work will often spoil a very good prospect, but the owner must learn that he has to deal with business men who are not buying prospects."

"Investors will not go to the necessary expense of having a mine examined without some proof that there is a strong probability that it is valuable. For this reason they refuse to examine many good properties that are not properly presented. Mine owners should learn that mines may be sold by samples of the ore bodies, to a certain extent, just as are wheat and other articles of commerce. Yet the average mine owner has a bad habit of taking samples that are of no value, and not only deceives himself but others. He must learn that mines are not purchased nowadays without thorough examination, and that he must present only such facts as may be substantiated."

EVENING STAR.

Early in the week The Miner learnt of a very important strike which showed up a first class body of pay ore in the Evening Star.

When Mr. Nichols assumed control of the affairs of the Evening Star company, a radical change was made in its mining operations. He decided to sink on a body of pay ore, known to be in sight on which is supposed to be the Colonna lead. A shaft was started on an opening made last summer, and now at a depth of 15 feet, the bottom of the shaft sows a body of ore three feet wide. Unlike the general run of the arsenical iron ore on the Evening Star, the ore shows a goodly smattering of copper, and sample assays give proof that the ore body is of pay value.

For some time past the readers of The Miner have been anxiously looking for news regarding the Evening Star, and this paper is glad to be in a position to state that a new and rich find of ore has been uncovered.—Rossland Miner.

GOOD FOR WHITE BEAR.

The development work in the White Bear is making the prospects exceedingly good. The shaft is down to 110 feet and drifting at a depth of 100 feet shows a fine body of ore of great size.