FRECHEVILLE'S ANSWER

Sent to Investigate Makes a Speedy Director Reply to the Demands of the Miners' Union.

Not the Slightest Yielding to the Agitators' Demands---Reasons for the Company's Attitude.

Mr. R. J. Frecheville, the well known The companies operating in Ross-land, however, including the Le Roi, con-London mining engineer, and a member of the new directorate of the Le Roi Mining Company, has arrived. His mission, as anounced in the London financial papers, is to examine and report on ful compilations of the extra cost enthe mining property and business management of that company.

The most important point in connection with Mr. Frecheville's visit here, as far as it immediately concerns the miners and business men of Rossland, is what he will announce as the company's in round figures. ultimate decision respecting the demands made by the Miners' Union.

Knowing the importance of an early announcement of the company's policy to the miners who have been awaiting Mr. Frecheville's arrival, a representative of the Miner called on that gentleman at same wages for a nine-hour day. This the company's offices, and when this subject was broached, Mr. Frecheville

have given the labor situation here, as it affects our company, considerable thought, and I am in a position to speak for the directors in this respect. It has been decided that the company cannot consider the demands made by time. cannot concede the demands made by the Miners' Union, and this policy, which has been cabled our general manager, and I understand, published by him as requested, will remain unas requested, will remain un-

"The directors have the welfare of the company's employes at heart, as well as the interests of the shareholders, but I think the company's employes have shared far better than its shareholders, in so far as the former have re-ceived the highest average wages paid in any mining camp in North America, while the latter have received no returns on their investment.

It seems to me and my co-directors that the Le Roi Mining Company has been very unfairly treated since it comnced operations in this camp, as the following points will bear witness:

Resume of the conditions affecting the mining operations of the Le Roi Mining Company, Limited, from its incorporation to the present time:

Before the company took over its mining property, the engineers reporting on it based their estimates for returns on the capital invested in the purchase price, on the output of the mines from the employes working 10 hours per day, the 10-hour day being that established strike. in the United States for the preceding 50 years, and in the Province of British Columbia since quartz mining was commenced.

XII.

After the mines were closed down 66 days (February 8 to April 16, 1900) the menced.

The standard scale of wages in Rossland camp never exceeded \$3.50 per day for miners and \$2.50 per day for muckers, except for shaft work. II.

Up to the time of the purchase of this property, the government tax was one cent on the gross value of the output. This tax, however, was doubled at a later session of parliament. III.

Following the doubling of the government tax, parliament enacted what is known as the Eight Hour Law, which reduced the hours of labor from the standard of 10 hours per day to hight hours per day, in consequence of which the output of the mine, per day's work, was reduced proportionately.

ON SILVER HILL.

B. C. Riblet, of Nelson, who has the contract for erecting the tramway from the mines of the London and Richelieu Mining and Smelting company, on Silver Hill, to the wagon road, is rushing work with all possible speed and expects to have it completed by December 15th. It will be 10,000 feet long, and will much facilitate the transportation of ore to

Consolidated were amalgamated into one company a short time ago, and now the properties of the new company are quite extensive, with a great deal of work done on them. The wagon road, extending about nine miles up from Crawford towards the mines, is a very goo one, and when the tramway is completed the ore will be conveyed by it to the en of the road, when it will be hauled in sleighs to the steamer landing. It is expected that an average output of 50 tons

per day can be maintained. Dry ores are now in demand by the es, and this has a very important significance to the London and Riche lieu company, as on the last ore it ship elter rate of almost \$14 had to be paid. The company has just closed a contract with the Trail smelter to treat 15,000 tons at \$7 per ton for freight and treatment on the ore landed at Crawford bay. As the ore from Silver Hill, as that

This signature is on every box of the gen Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tab

hour system entailed for the same amount of ore produced by the 10-hour system, which was 285 tons per day, was found to equal \$100,000 per annum

Up to this time the carpenters at the mine worked 10 hours per day, for which they received \$3.50. The Carpenters' Union then made a demand on the company that they should be given the

The additional cost which the eight-

Latter on the Miners' Union demanded VIII.

This demand was also acquesced in, with the result that during the period following, the mine costs kept increasing enormously, until the probability of making any profits on the mining operations had disappeared.

The companies became alarmed and began to consider what could be done to make their mining operations profit-

Two plans suggested themselves: (1) A reduction of wages proportionate by the Eight Hour Law;

(2) The operation of the mine under the contract system. The companies were opposed to the reduction of wages, and adopted the contract system, basing the estimates for contract work on the standard scale

It was then announced to the miners that the mines would be operated henceforth on the contract system as far as would be convenient to do so. This the Miners' Union opposed, and declared a

of wages.

Miners' Union agreed to accept the company's proposition and allowed its mem-

XIII.

From that time until July 12, 1901, a period of over 14 months, the mines were operated under the contract system, the contractors making considera bly more than the standard scale of wages and doing cheaper work for the

To assist in making the Le Roi mine oduce a reasonable return on the capital invested, it was found that there would have to be a much larger output from the mines and the capacity of the smelting plant correspondingly in-creased. To accomplish this, an expen-diture of over \$350,000 was made in the

per ton in value, the company is now in

a smelter will probably soon follow .-

WATERLOO RECONSTRUCTION.

This Camp McKinney Mine to Go on

'Assessment Basis.

shares of a par value of 10 cents per

Nelson Miner.

installation of mine machinery and the sinking of a five-compartment shaft. At the same time the smelting capacity increased from an average of 300 tons to 1,500 tons per day. This was accom-plished at the cost of approximately for the eight-hour day that they formerly paid for the 10-hour day, making care-\$200,000, making the total aggregate cost for machinery betterments about \$550,000.

After this additional expenditure, made necessary by the operation of the Eight Hour Law and the doubling of the government tax, the company expected that it would be in shape to re alize suitable returns on the capital

These additions to the mine and smelter were about completed when the Miners' Union made the following demands: (a) That muckers' (carmen, shovel

ers and common labor) wages be increased from \$2.50 to \$3 per day. (b) That the hours of labor for car-

penters be reduced to eight hours per day without any reduction of wages (c) That the hours of labor for blacksmiths and helpers be reduced one hour per day without any reduction in wages, at the same time demanding an crease of 50 cents per day for the black-

(d) That the secretary of the union be permitted free access to the company's property to solicit the membership of its employes.

(e) That the company concede the demands of the Northport Mill & Smeltermen's Union for the re-instatement of

discharged men. The strike was ordered before thes demands were submitted to the mana-

The directors were chagrined at this

After full consideration of the conditions affecting the operations of the Le Rol mine since its acquisition by the company, as set forth in the above resume, and in the interests of the shareholders, who have, so far, not received one cent of profit from their huge investment of capital, the directors have decided that they cannot accide to the

demands of the union

In view of the fact that the scale of wages as set forth below, the conditions of life, accessibility and climate of this camp are ennal, if not approximate of this

justice of their decision. SCALE OF WAGES.

Machine miners, \$3.50 per day of eight Timbermen, \$3.50 per day of eight Timbermen's helpers, \$3.00 per day of

aght hours. Carmen, \$2.50 per day of eight he Shovellers, \$2.50 per day of eight hours. Surface laborers, \$2.50 per day of ten

Carpenters, \$3.50 per day of nine Blacksmiths, \$4.00 per day of ten

nours. Engineers, \$3.50 to \$4.00 per day of

eight to twelve hours. Firemen, 3.00 per day of eight to twelve hours.

a very gratifying position.

Development work is in progress on the Great Dane, the Commonwealth and An Important Contract by the London & Richelieu Company. other adjacent properties which are all showing up well, so that Crawford bay promises soon to be the scene of con-

riderable activity.

This company has in view the construction of a smelter at Crawford bay, which seems to be particularly well adapted for that purpose. It would be central to, and in easy communication with all the mining camps tributary to Kootenay lake. It would, of course, be primarily intended for London and Richelieums and months and the property of the The Richelieu company and the London ores, and would not be undertaken until the construction of a railway from the bay to the mines is arranged for, but as soon as that is done the building of

Spokesman-Review the Waterloo Mining & Milling company will disorganize and reincorporate as an assessable company with its old capitalization of 1,250,000 camp is called, runs from \$100 to \$125

the meeting that not more than one-half of this amount would be needed to de-monstrate that they had a mine on a dividend paying basis.

The Waterloo property is located in Camp McKinney, B. C. Within the past

year the stock has mercurialized in price from 1 cent per share to 12 cents, and brokers consider it one of the most widely disseminated stocks on the Spokane market.

The ore is similar to that of the Cari-The ore is similar to that of the Cariboo, in the same camp. The vein has faulted repeatedly, necessitating considerable extra work. The recent reports from the property are said to be favorable, and although the mine has been idle for some time, the management is sanguine that a few weeks will place the

The incorporators of the new company are C. K. Merriam, T. F. Holman, J. F. Reddy, Dr. P. S. Byrne, Thomas Graham, E. W. Taylor and B. A. Merrick.

THE CRICKET MATCH.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. - 30.-The cricket match between the All-Philadelphia team and E. J. T. Bosanquet's English eleven, which was begun on the grounds of the Merion cricket club at Haverford on Friday, ended today in a victory for the Englishmen, who won by a margin of of 63 runs. When stumps surrender of the old company upon the At the meeting of the stockholders held at the office of the company in the Rookery building 900,000 shares of stock were represented and voted by actual holders or by proxy.

The amount for which the stock is assessable is 4 cents per share, payable at a rate not to exceed a share. The new company will give one share of the new stock for every share men had completed their two innings

The amount for which the stock is assessable is 4 cents per share, payable at a rate not to exceed 2 mills per share per month. This assessment will bring the company \$50,000, and it was the belief of the stockholders represented at Killer, Perry Davis'. 25c. and 50c.

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American Line—St. Louis Sept. 25
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Some Busy He in the Prain ital.

THURSDAY

WINNIPEG

A Great Crow

the Royal Pa

terda

WINNIPEG, Sept. 5 Duchess of Cornwal welcome to the West day. They arrived a ing a halt of ten hou the guests of a Thousands of visitors towns gathered for p reception, and the with cheering crowds party arrived.

It was shortly befor royal special pulled Pacific station, and t throng gathered to gre All of the local militi regulars quartered h civic societies were for station for the process The Duke and Duche by Premier Laurier of Minto, who arrives special, Lieut. - Gove Premier Roblin, Ma the bishops of the Ro Anglican churches, supreme court and a

nent citizens. After the formal and Duches through flag-decorate der arches made of in front of the city h of addresses were m Duke replied, after w service medals to 96 who served with the At the conclusion at the city hall, the were driven to G

where they lunched nor and Mrs. McMil in the afternoon the assisted in the form building of sity. There was ar gathered about the Duke and Duchess 1 when they drove up grounds. They were address, and after plied were taken in sign the register. hool children mas stand sang patriotic company of young In exhibition drill. Par

tators joined in the Save the King," who Duchess took their le United States Co presented to the Di buthnot and was gi

The Duke and Du bers of their suite prominent Canadian dinner tonight at The city was bright during the procession and an fireworks. The nig streets, with the l tractive. Hundred torches escorted t their train at 10 o parting cheer as it

SWIFT CURREN -The Duke and I and York spent to plains of western morrow night will They rode through ed wheat fields an that had the chill they left their train Regina, capital of

tories, they were n Their special tra of Manitoba during into the territory less of the weather at the stations to western cheers to widely separated draped, and each display of bunting ceeded westward of Indians appeared stations.

Regina was read stop of three hour Lieutenant Govern Haultain and a dele leading citizens me corted by a detacl mounted police, th and the Countess Laurier and a num driven to Governm ing to the address the Duke said in pa free, healthy and enjoyed in this cou and alas! too ofte ence of thousands home, one cannot prospects here offe known and more fi Service medals

men who fought in the line filed past and Viscount Crick geant Major Chur Police, an old sold Royal Horse Gua Church his medal congratulated him The party lunched and at 3 o'clock di At the station the Richardson from Mounted Police a on winning the V