

HALL MINES SMELTER.

Will Probably Shut Down To-night for Repairs.

It is expected that the Hall Mines smelter will shut down to-night so as to allow a new foundation to be built under the engines, the one now in use being worn and faulty. The shut down will give the company an opportunity to repair the blast furnace, should it be found that any repairs are needed. The tramway is ahead of the mine, and the stop will allow the latter to get a quantity of ore on hand. The quantity of ore coming down lately has been very fine, and a correspondingly large amount of matte has been produced.

A large amount of custom ore is on hand, particularly from the War Eagle at Rossland. Last week a shipment of about 30 tons was received from Evening Star No. 8 on Dayton Creek, but this will probably be used when the blast furnace is blown in. The Athabasca, on Toad mountain, has just shipped about 100 tons, which will be used in the calcining furnace as soon as it starts up. The new roaster and reverberatory furnaces are progressing favorably and will probably be ready to blow in by Christmas.

FORT STEELE.

F. B. Smith, of Union, went through on Monday to Coal Creek to take charge of the Coal Company's workings there. Mr. Smith has been in the employ of the Dunsmuir's on Vancouver Island for a long time, as superintendent, and will fill a similar position here. Mrs. Smith came in with him, and will remain at Fort Steele during the Winter.

Ross Mackenzie, who enjoys the reputation of being the finest lacrosse player that ever handled a "stick," and who occupies a position on the Crow's Nest Railway, under M. J. Haney, was in town this week. He left here for Moyle, where he will probably be located during the Winter.—"The Prospector."

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NELSON.

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to the Iron Mask ground. An appeal will be made before the Full Court on November 22nd.

Yesterday J. H. Smith, of Rossland, representing the Bank of Halifax, was in Nelson. It is stated upon the best of authority that the bank intends to establish a branch in this city, and that Mr. Smith's visit was for the purpose of selecting a suitable location. If this bank establishes a branch here, it will give Nelson three banks.

Nelson to-day received an intimation that Winter is very near, the first snow of the season falling. It was of short duration, only staying on the ground a few hours. The snow on the hills has gradually crept down, until now they are pretty well covered.

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WONDERFUL LEDGES.

They are Situated Twenty Five Miles East of Argenta.

During the week some ore was brought into Nelson from the East Kootenay district that established beyond all doubt the fact that there is some very high grade ore there. For divers reasons the name of the party making the discovery is withheld.

It appears that the prospector made his way up the old Government trail from Argenta for a distance of about 25 miles to the now famous Jumbo and

Mineral claims on Toby Creek. Going a short distance northward he ran across surface showings that were greater than anything he had ever seen before. The ledges cropped out fifty feet wide in places, and laid on the ground in great boulders weighing about two and three tons. He made three locations under the names of Iron Horse, Elk Horn and Matterhorn. Going over the divide, he again found enormous croppings, and located three more claims under the names of King Solomon Island. Assays on the samples brought in ran as high as 78 ounces in silver, 58 per cent. copper, and 16 in gold.

The ore makes a handsome appearance, and a large portion of it looks like matte from the smelter. It also contains copper pyrites and peacock copper. The vast extent of the ledges guarantee that they will be developed into mines before many seasons. It is now too late to get into the district, as the ground is completely covered with snow, and stories of fearful violence are able to be heard at any hour. The outlook is that there will be a rush into that district next season. The new finds are about 16 miles west of Winderman Lake.

DEAL SAID TO BE CLOSED.

The Le Roi Mine Sold to an English Syndicate.

That the deal for the sale of the Le Roi mine to a London syndicate for a price between \$5,000,000 and \$6,500,000, has been practically closed is the information that has come in a private cablegram from London.

Particulars are not obtainable, and the report is not entirely authenticated, but those who claim to have information say there is no doubt as to the reliability of the news.

It is announced that the private cable brings information that Rathburn, the English expert who examined the mine, has returned to London with a favorable report, and that there is no doubt the syndicate which has been negotiating for the purchase of the property will close the deal as speedily as possible. It is further stated that the Rothschilds are indirectly behind the syndicate. Whether or not the Rio Tinto Company, which endeavored to make terms for a purchase some months ago, figures in the deal, could not be learned.

When Senator Turner and Col. Peyton went to London, it was generally understood they went to confer with some capitalists regarding the property, although it was given out by them that their trip had no such object. The report that now comes would seem to indicate that their trip had some connection with a sale. Their presence in London would tend to confirm the report.—"Spokesman-Review."