

THE EXCHANGE NEWS.

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MINING NEWS.

THE MT. LION MILL.

James Cronan, late superintendent of the Zala M. Sheridan camp, and a mining man of close observation and much experience in the milling of ores, has been out to see the new Mountain Lion reduction plant and has consented to give *The Miner* a statement of his impressions of the same. He spoke as follows:

"I went to the Mountain Lion mill expecting to find a large part of the machinery outside knowing the bad condition of the roads and the consequent delay in the transporting such heavy material.

"I entered the mill through the boiler room and was surprised to see a large 5 by 16 or 18 foot boiler with 100 3-inch tubes in place. The workmen were just finishing the fire box. The twin boiler was up and the work of walling it in was also under way.

"The large Corliss engine I did not examine as there were too many busy men there for an outsider like myself to keep dodging. Passing them to the four batteries of five stamps each, I could look them over more carefully without being in the way of workmen, for they are almost finished.

Here, as in the boiler and engine room the economy of the best machinery and the best mechanical skill shows complete grasp of the work going forward.

"These batteries are models of their kind and their construction cannot be improved upon. Each five stamps is driven separately thus saving time when from any cause a battery must stop instead of each 10 stamps on one shaft as is the common custom. The cam shaft of each battery is the same diameter as that generally used for ten stamps, insuring them against spring or jar at the highest speed. These shafts are not weakened by the usual key seat for tightening the cams, but are smooth, the cams fitting the shaft by the very latest and best improvement.

They are self-tightening cams and there can be no slipping of belts as there are only five stamps to each belt. The slipping of cams and driving of keys to weaken them is entirely done away with as the cams cannot get loose.

"This insures more regular and even balances of all the batteries of five each on a shaft than it is possible to obtain where ten stamps are on one shaft. The last improved guides go with each battery. The batteries are the knee frame style, leaving the front of each clear, there being no braces to obstruct work in front of the batteries. The mortars are to do the work for years, being extra heavy in the wearing parts. The discharge of ore under the stamps is also the latest improvement, made heavy to stand wear, and projecting so as to protect the large inside electro-silver plates used for amal-

gamating inside of the mortar. These plates are set at a pitch between 40 and 50 degrees, and the ore is forced into them by the splash of the stamps, being washed off gradually by each successive splash, thus giving the gold time to catch and stick and not as usually placed almost vertical at a pitch of 70 to 80 degrees when the ore is splashed against it only. The large plates in front of the battery can be kept in the best condition being supplied with good light from the window above, thus showing any defect rising on them from any cause. So much room is left in front of the batteries, the operator has every facility afforded to do his work thoroughly.

"The ore or pulp passes to four Huntington mills and is ground still finer. The old Mexican arrasta is considered the very best saver of gold, but too slow for these times. The Huntington mill is the nearest approach to the arrasta and the best grinder in use for gold ore.

"The stock tank, fresh water tanks, leaching tanks and precipitating tanks are large and are of the most improved make and placed to do their work thoroughly and economically.

"The plant is a credit to the management. No expense has been spared to make it complete. Nothing has been spent for appearances."—*Republic Miner*.

THE FEELING AT ROSSLAND — SLO-CAN STRIKE SETTLED— ROSSLAND SHIPMENTS.

Rossland, B. C., Feb. 17.—While ore shipments have fallen away to 750 tons for the past week, the general mining situation in the camp has decidedly improved. Over 400 men will find steady employment on the Le Roi, War Eagle and Centre Star mines until the present difficulties with machinery are over, when the staff employed will be larger than ever. Machinery for the War Eagle and Centre Star is already arriving, but that for the Le Roi will be delayed for at least three weeks longer. In mining circles it is felt there will be no further reductions of the force of men employed in the camp's mines and the situation from this on will continue to improve until the time is reached when shipping will be commenced once more.

The settlement in the Slo-can of the labor troubles which have existed there since June last, and which were ended on Thursday, has helped to steady matters here, and the outlook already has brightened up. The men are going back at \$3 25 a day.

The smallpox scare appears to have nearly subsided. There were only two cases detected, which have been removed to the isolated hospital, are both progressing favorably, and no fresh cases have been reported.

Appended is a detailed statement of ore shipments from Rossland Camp (approximately) for the week ending February 17, and year to date:

	Week.	Year.
Le Roi	12,202
War Eagle	213	10,603
Centre Star	213	7,017
Iron Mask	91	1,257
Evening Star	30	85
I. X. L.	50	148
Monte Christo	278
Giant	42
Total tons	751	31,627

THE TOM THUMB MINE.

Rich Ore Chute Traversed for Nearly 200 Feet.

Yesterday Lake D. Wolfarú, president of the Tom Thumb Mining Company, who has been in town for several days, was asked

for a statement as to the mine. He consented to do so and the information is highly interesting. It shows that the Tom Thumb is probably a great mine. The statement is as follows:

"On the 100 foot level we ran the south drift 90 feet. We did not drift north on that level. In running the south drift we found the ore body of an average width of five to six feet. It improved both in appearance and grade as we went south. Where we stopped work in this drift the company got \$27 and some cents from a sample taken from over the entire face. I myself, in order to confirm this, took a similar sample and got \$26.80.

On the 150 foot level they have drifted 38 feet north of the crosscut and 140 feet south, making a total of 178 feet of drifting. In the north drift the ore body averaged from 3½ to 6 feet in width. The highest general average we obtained from over the face was \$48.68. The entire north drift should average something over \$20. It was in this drift that we first encountered the black streaks in the quartz which carry high values. Several assays showed over \$100.

"In the south drift we encountered the black streaks and high grade ore. The black streaks first appeared within about fifteen feet of the crosscut although we had a good grade of ore previous to that. These black streaks have continued through the entire south drift and to-day they are in the face and more pronounced than ever. The ore body has run from five and a half to 15 feet in width and in value determined by general averages over the face exceeding \$20. There are places where for several feet the average runs much higher. From the face back for 40 feet or more the average has run over \$40. To-day by actual measurement the ore is six feet wide in the face. Our superintendent, Mr. Downey, says he has taken out over \$5,000 worth of ore in the last month in this drift alone, this covering a distance of 40 feet.

"Our present plan is to continue the south drift on the 150-foot level until the ore chute we are in is fully explored. We will continue our new working shaft, which is now down 75 feet to a point 100 feet below the 150-foot level on which we are now drifting. At this point we will run a crosscut out to the vein at the same time continuing the shaft down to the lower levels."

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