

British Columbia Mines.

Vancouver, B. C., July 12.—The most important event of the week in local mining is the sale of 10,000 treasury shares of the Golden Cache, on Cay-cosh Creek, Illicoet district to an English syndicate at \$1.70 per share. The deal was completed Saturday and the money paid into the bank. While the names of the syndicate were not made public, it is known that for some weeks past, it has been picking up all the shares offered in both the eastern and local market, the price paid ranging from \$1.80 to \$2.25 and now the syndicate owns 100,000 shares and has a controlling interest in the mine, which was previously held by Dr. Montague and his associates. Before making the purchase of stock, the syndicate sent an expert to examine the mines and word has been received that the representative of the syndicate will be here the first week in August. Latest advices from the mine state that it is looking as well as ever and good progress is being made in erecting the stamp mill.

In sloping and drifting on the Fern Mine, near Nelson, it has been found that the ledge instead of being 2-1/2 feet wide was between 6 and 7 feet, of which from 50 to 60 per cent is free milling ore and the balance concentrating. As a result of this discovery, it has been decided to increase the capacity of the mill from 10 to 20 stamps and part of the machinery has already been shipped from San Francisco. Fifty men are now at work erecting buildings at the mine and the tramway, which will be 3,000 feet long. Two four horse teams are also employed hauling ore.

The Great Western mine in the Slocan, recently purchased by the Two Friends Mining Company of this city, has made the first shipment under its present ownership. President Lines estimates that in a short time the Great Western will ship eight tons of concentrates daily and at least one car of clean ore weekly.

Supt. Wing, of the Athabasca mine, owned by the British Canadian Gold Fields company, has just issued a report on the work done since May 13th, when the company commenced active operations. A large amount of preliminary work, such as building paths, making roads, etc., had to be done, and work in the mine was somewhat retarded owing to water. At the old shaft near the top of the little ledge, the ledge dips at a low angle and is somewhat broken. This ledge is now being stripped and some very rich ore extracted, and 180 feet from that, but it is too early at present to tell much about it. In Fairview camp, the Stewwinder, Morning Star, Joe Dandy, Smuggler, Strathely Group, Tin Horn and Fairview consolidated. The Tin Horn company is erecting a stamp mill while the Smuggler people are using the Strathely company's mill. Several strong quartz veins run through the country, says Carlyle. "They vary much in width, running from two to twenty feet. Changes in the width are not great but they occur abruptly. The Morning Star milled 2,700 tons at \$11 per ton on the plate. As for the ore of the camp is low grade, but there are some very large veins and I think on the whole it can be worked profitably. It is about the old shaft another ledge of similar size has been struck. The first ship-

ment amounting to 33,268 pounds to the Nelson smelter netted \$1,003.12 after paying freight and treatment charges of \$12 per ton. At the present time, there are 300 sacks of ore on the dump ready for shipment, and the superintendent estimates it will go \$100 per ton. He expects shipments of twenty tons of first class ore weekly very shortly. Eighteen men are now employed, but this number will be increased to twenty-five.

Efforts are to be made at Revelstoke to have the Orphan Boy scandal made the subject of presentment by the grand jury at the assizes.

Nickel of high grade is said to have been discovered three miles above Ferguson in Lardeneau district. The lode is four feet wide.

Thos. Richards and Fred W. Low, representing the Dominion Exploratory Company of London, Eng., are now examining claims in Boundary Creek district with a view to purchase.

It is stated in Spokane that negotiations for the sale of the Deer Park mine in Rossland district are nearly concluded. This mine has been closed down for some time.

Placer claims have been located on the Main Kettle River, 500 yards from the limits of the town of Grand Forks. Gold as high as 10 cents per pan, averaging 5 cents, has been found in the black sand of the river.

The Ilex mine in Slocan has shipped a carload of ore. It was consigned to Pueblo smelter.

Prof. Carlyle, provincial mineralogist, has just returned from a tour through Fairview and Boundary camps. He first went to Vernon, where he states there is a lot of three miles from the centre of the camp to Okanagan River, and there should be a tramway built down to the river so the ores could be taken there at a low cost for treatment. The Smuggler is making some improvements in its plant, and a good deal of work is being done on properties of the Fairview Consolidated. I may add that the ore of the camp is perfectly free milling and can be successfully treated by stamps. I went from Fairview to Camp McKinney, where I saw the Cariboo mine. It has a shaft down 170 feet, and in the bottom they are finding the best ore ever taken from the mine. Underground workings extend 700 feet on a solid ore clute, which surface workings indicate to be 1,200 feet long. The vein is from 4 to 6 feet wide, and the company claims to be saving from \$15 to \$16 on the plates. It is a fine property. I went to Midway for a short time, and then to Greenwood, where I spent three weeks in visiting all the surrounding camps. At Long Lake camp, Leslie Hill is doing some fine prospecting work in the Jewell. He has a vein of quartz which runs high in gold. Greenwood is the central point of what is going to be a good camp. There has not been a great deal of work done, but some large ore bodies have been found, though, as a rule, they are of low grade. I went down to Grand Forks to see the Volcanic, Pathfinder and other properties on the north fork of the Kettle river. The Volcanic surface showing is enormous, but it remains to be seen how much solid ore can be found, and how much it is worth. The Pathfinder looks well. Taking the Boundary country altogether, it is certainly one of the great

possibilities. I would be glad to see more active work done there, more real earnest mining. They will tell you they are waiting for a railroad, but it should not be forgotten that the best way to get a railroad is to show up enough ore to justify its construction."

At the present time, negotiations looking to the establishment of a smelter and refinery in Vancouver are at a standstill. A. P. Hogue, Canadian representative of the Universal Corporation, Limited, offered to construct two stack smelters of 100 tons capacity and refinery for \$100,000 bonus, payable at the rate of \$2 per ton on every 2,500 tons treated. The city council, however, considered the bonus too large. Another English company, who offered to construct the smelter just outside the city limits for a bonus of \$65,000, announces that it intends to commence building in September, and may submit another proposal to the council. The latter, however, seem unwilling to grant a cash bonus; free water and exemption from taxation for ten years being about the only inducement that will be offered.

Lanark mine at Lawrie in Illecillewaet district and owned by the Illicoet, Fraser River and Cariboo gold fields, (Horne Payne Co.), continues to ship steadily to the smelter at San Francisco, five cars of ore, having left here last night.

Rossland, B. C., July 12.—Shipments of ore from Rossland mines since January 1st total up 34,476 tons. Shipments for last week totalled 2,432 tons, as follows: Le Roi, 1,905; War Eagle, 250; Iron Mack, 48; Columbia and Kootenay, 76; Centre Star, 128; Cliff, 25. This is the largest output for any week in the history of the camp, the total for the previous week of 1,890 tons having been the largest up to that time. The Trail smelter has shipped as part product of the above ore, 3,345 tons of matte.

The Slocan has shipped since January 1st, via Kaslo, 14,109 tons of ore and concentrates, and via Nakusp 4,090 tons, a total of 18,199 tons. The Hall mines' smelter at Nelson, which treats the entire product of the Hall mines, together with small quantities of ore from Slocan and Rossland, has shipped 826 1-2 tons of matte.

Meetings of the Homestake, Gopher and R. E. Lee companies were held here to-day and the sale of these properties to the Homestake Consolidated Gold Mines of London, England, was ratified. It is expected the new company will take charge and begin mining operations inside of fifteen days. The London company pays in cash or stock 12 1-5 cents per cent share for all stock of the above named companies which were capitalized for \$4,000,000 and provides a cash working capital of \$125,000.

THE COMMERCIAL MEN.

R. R. Gallagher western representative of S. Greenshields, Son & Co. of Montreal, is in Winnipeg this week, and is at the Manitoba with his samples.

Most of the travellers for city houses are in the city this week, to assist in entertaining and looking after the wants of the large number of retailers who will be in the city to attend the Industrial Exhibition.