

MINING NOTES.

A report has been received that the mill of the Mountain Lion Mine at Republic, Washington, U.S.A., has made a run in low grade ore with a very successful saving of values, the percentage of recovery being 83. The ore was ground so fine that 89 p. c. passed an 80 mesh sieve; the value of the ore treated is not stated.

The Canada Corundum Company, Limited, announces the completion of its new mill, and that it is now ready to supply the wants of all customers.

The Paradise Mine in East Kootenay is steadily shipping ore; many hundred sacks of ore are already stored in the warehouse at Wilmer Landing on the Columbia River, and will be shipped thence early in the season.

The North Star Mine is making steady shipments to the Hall Mines smelter at Nelson. The rate of output is about 100 tons per week, besides which the work of development is being continued.

It is announced that mining and concentration work at the Ruth Mine, in the Slocan, has been suspended. Both the mine and concentrator have been steadily at work since June 1903, and the suspension will prove to be only temporary.

The Four Mile District announces a new streak of high grade ore on the Lew Dillon group, near the Fisher Maiden.

The Athelstan Mine, in Wellington camp, has been making regular ore shipments during the winter, some twenty teams are employed in the hauling of ore from the mines to the spur track at the Winnipeg Mine, from which shipments are made to the smelters at Granby and Greenwood.

A regular pay-day has been proclaimed at the Great Northern Mines, Limited, near Camborne, and the 15th of each month is the day which has been appointed. The amount of the monthly disbursements aggregate in the vicinity of \$4,000. The Oyster mines disburse a similar amount monthly.

The Rossland Power Company has been employing about sixty men in the work of constructing a 200 ton concentrating plant, which it is hoped will be running in about three month's time. This Company will handle the low grade ores coming from the War Eagle and Centre Star Mines, and its success will occasion the employment of a considerably larger force of miners.

The White Bear Mines announce that it will begin the construction of a 100 ton concentrating plant in about a month's time.

Press despatches advise that the Velvet—Portland Mine near Rossland, will resume operations shortly, and that the corporation will begin the construction of a 100 ton smelting plant.

Rossland reports that 900 men are employed in the mines of that camp at the present time, and that the number does not vary much from week to week.

The Granby Consolidated Mining Smelting & Power Company report that it is smelting in the neighbourhood of 2 000 tons per day at the present time, and that the furnaces are kept in continuous operation. On the authority of an interview with Mr. Flumerfelt, it is stated that the management have in contemplation the doubling of the present capacity, increasing the total number of furnaces to twelve, thereby enabling the plant to reduce 4,000 tons per diem. This report lacks the confirmation of the President.

The B. C. Copper Company have issued a circular which announces that the plan of consolidating with the Snowshoe Co., which has been under consideration, has been abandoned. The plan failed because each Company made stipulations which the other could not meet.

The International Coal & Coke Company, operating in the Eastern Crow's Nest Pass field, have been doing business since the first of the year. The Company controls the town site known as Coleman, which is growing rapidly. A battery of 100 coke ovens is now building, and railway spurs are being run to the different mines opened, some 200 men are employed, and the output at the present time is in the neighbourhood of 3,000 tons of coal monthly.

Some optimistic spirits have the belief that the shallow placers of Lardeau Creek, near Trout Lake, will pay for working and have secured a five years lease of one-half a mile on the creek and have also obtained water rights on Half-Way Creek. Their scheme involves the building of a flume which will take the tailings from hydraulic directly into Trout Lake. The reported tests of the gravel are high, but these tests remain unconfirmed.

The International Nickel Company suffered a severe loss on the 19th of February, in the burning of the concentrating works at Copper Cliff. The loss is estimated at about \$175,000, on which there was an insurance of about \$90,000. The works had only been erected some three and a half years, and were built by the Orford Refining Co., for the purpose of concentrating the matte from the Canadian Copper Co. The final refining was done at the Orford Company's refinery at Constable Hook, N. J.

Our readers will remember the death of Mr. Hosking, a miner at the Le Roi No. 2 Mine, who was drowned in September, 1902, while working at the bottom of the main shaft which was suddenly flooded by a party of miners, in a drift above, suddenly holeing through into the bottom of an old shaft which was filled with water. The widow and her two sons sued the Le Roi No. 2 Company, and they recently obtained a verdict from the jury of \$3,223.50 and costs against the Le Roi No. 2 Company.

At the time of the explosion at the Coal Creek Mine of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, in 1902 a number of miners were killed. Damage suits,

aggregating something like one hundred in number, were brought against the C. N. P. Coal Company. On the 12th of February, a decision was obtained in the Courts of Ontario on the first seventeen cases, which suits were brought by the Italian Consul at Toronto for the estates of the deceased miners; these suits were all dismissed. The remaining suits will be tried at the Assize Courts in British Columbia next May, and, by order of the Court, only four of the whole number of cases will be tried; from the decision on these four a verdict will be rendered in all the remaining suits.

The value of the gold recovered from the districts of Atlin Cassiar and Omenica in British Columbia during the season of 1903, totals between \$400,000 and \$430,000 as made up from the returns obtained from the Banks and Express Companies; to this amount may be added about \$50,000 which fairly represents small parcels of metal taken out by individual miners of which no record is available. The production from the Omenica District was insignificant, not reaching to the value of \$10,000.

The year 1903 in New Zealand shows an increase in the gold production of that colony of 25,269 ozs. of gold, and 186,477 ozs. of silver. The total gold produced for the year was 479,798 ozs., of the value of \$9,917,414.

The Russian Department of Mines reports the production of platinum for the year 1903 at 204,892 troy ozs., a reduction of 29,986 ozs. from the product of the year 1902.

The second ordinary general meeting of the Canadian Ore Concentration Limited, was held on the 22nd February, at the offices of the Company at Salisbury House, London Wall, London. Mr. Ernest E. Sawyer presided, and stated in regard to the experimental plant of two units, erected for the Le Roi No. 2 at Rossland, that \$2.00 per ton should be the very outside cost of working. The consumption of oil per ton of ore treated had been 1.03 gallons, and there was a concentration of 16 tons of ore into one; the assay of the final tailings was 75 cents per ton in gold, 15 cents per ton in silver, and one-tenth of one per cent of copper, which losses were regarded by the corporation as being satisfactory. Mr. Stanley Elmore, one of the inventors, gave the meeting the actual figures above quoted, and stated that orders had been secured for a plant at the White Bear Mine at Rossland, and the Massey Mine in Ontario, and that negotiations for plants were pending with other mining companies in Canada.

The London *Critic* is not taking an optimistic view of the condition of Le Roi No. 2 Mine, as shown by the Company's report for the past year. It appears that the Company for that period reported the magnificent sum of £6,208 sterling as earnings, which only permits declaring the small dividend of one shilling per share, or one per cent. on the capital stock; a balance is carried forward of £9,741. The *Critic* is of the opinion that this balance cannot be maintained, and that there will be more reports of a pessimistic nature. Quoting from the report of the new manager, Mr. Alex. Hill, he says (as to the Josie Mine): "It would appear to be beyond doubt that the lower levels of this mine are of no value, nor do I believe that any enrichment is likely to occur with greater depth. I expect to be able to extract ore of good quality for the next year, or one and a-half years, but if no further discoveries are made, then all the good ore will be exhausted and the life of the mine may then be considered ended." Similar pessimistic remarks are made in regard to the No. 1 Mine, so that prospects are anything but bright, and the shareholders can only wait to see if anything turns up.

South Carolina's Phosphate Industry.

A POSSIBLE CHANCE FOR THE REVIVAL OF THE INDUSTRY IN CANADA.

The following clipping from an exchange shows that some of the sources of Southern phosphates are rapidly approaching exhaustion. It would therefore be well worth the while for owners of phosphate lands in Canada to examine the present market conditions.

The operations in the mining of South Carolina phosphate for 1903 and the amount of royalty received, show a steady decrease, and where ten years ago the State treasury received nearly \$300,000 in royalty this year the amount is little over \$15,000. This amount is \$12,157.68, less than that received the previous year, the total being but little more than half what it was in 1902. There are five companies in the field, the decrease in the number of tons mined being in the neighborhood of one-half, and if the same proportionate decrease continues as it has done in previous years there will soon be no revenue whatever from the industry. The following is a comparison for 1902 and 1903:

	Tons
December 1, 1902, to November 30, 1903.....	45,003
During 1902.....	86,284
Decrease.....	41,281
Estimated on hand November 30, 1903.....	16,810
During.....	37,314
Decrease.....	20,504
Amount shipped during 1903.....	60,536
During 1902.....	108,416
Decrease.....	47,880

The royalty in 1903, for shipments, amounted to \$15,133.97, against \$27,291.65 in 1902.

The amount mined by the several companies is as follows: Coosaw, 369 tons; Central Phosphate Co., 33,706; Beaufort Phosphate Co., 3,200; "Empire," Virginia-Carolina Co., 73; Stono mines, 7,655.