

From the Kamloops *Standard* it is learned that the old Dominion group of mineral claims, which lies on Coal Hill east of the Iron Mask, has been bonded to Glasgow parties, who have also taken an option on the Python group.

The *Slocan Mining Review* of Sandon thinks "the Slocan district offers unrivalled inducement for capital at this moment, and as there are numerous properties with large bodies of pay ore in sight, dwellers in the Slocan confidently anticipate a big rush the forthcoming spring." May their expectations be abundantly realized.

The Canadian commercial agent in South Africa (C. M. Kittson) reports that asbestos in payable quantity and of excellent quality has been discovered in the Transvaal. An expert who has examined the deposit states that it is of abnormal width and equal to the finest in Canada or Italy. An offer of £40 per ton has been received from Germany for the best quality.

What is popularly known as the Eight-hour Smelter Bill, has been passed by the Provincial Legislature. In two previous sessions a similar bill had been defeated, but on the premier this year announcing his intention to support it, the passage of the measure was assured. The text of the new act is printed on another page of this number of the *Mining Record*.

As the British Columbia Bureau of Mines has exhausted its supply of copies of the "Annual Report of the Minister of Mines" for the year 1900, the provincial mineralogist is desirous that anyone having a spare copy will be good enough to forward it to him. As soon as the "Annual Report" for 1906 (now being printed) shall be issued he will be glad to send a cloth-bound copy of that volume in exchange for every paper-covered copy of the 1900 report he shall receive.

In a review supplied to the *Revelstoke Mail-Herald*, E. A. Haggren, mining engineer, who is well informed on mining matters in the northern Lardau, said: There is likely to be some activity in Eva and Imperial stock. The Eva mine at Camborne has been steadily making profits, a compressor plant has been installed and the excellent management of the property has instilled in the minds of investors increasing confidence in the property. All that is now wanted to place the property on a steady dividend paying basis is a larger mill, and this will undoubtedly be undertaken at an early date.

In the Provincial Legislature, Mr. J. A. Macdonald asked the premier the following question: 'Is it the intention of the Government to introduce legislation at the present session of the House providing for the granting to the City of Rossland of a portion of the mineral tax collected, or which may hereafter

be collected, from the mines within the corporate limits of the City of Rossland?' The Hon. Premier McBride replied as follows: "This Government does not admit that the City of Rossland is legally entitled to any proportion of the mineral tax collected from the mines within its corporate limits; but the question of paying a sum by way of a grant to the municipality, as a matter of equity, on account of the peculiar physical conditions of the municipality in its relation to the situation of the mines in that district, is under consideration." The Government afterwards placed the sum of \$2,500 on the estimates as a grant on this account.

The Le Roi Mining Company has taken a long-time option on the properties of the Spitzee Mines, Ltd. The mineral claims are the Spitzee, Fool Hen, Darby and Nelson No. 2, having an area of 110 acres in all. The Rossland *Miner* reports Mr. A. J. McMillan, managing director of the Le Roi Mining Company, as having said lately in regard to the deal: "It is quite true the Le Roi Company has taken an option on the Spitzee group of properties. The negotiations have been in progress for several months but were only concluded today. The Spitzee has shipped a few thousand tons of ore containing good values, but like many others, the company owning the Spitzee group has been hampered for want of funds and has only worked its mine at intervals. As the Spitzee is situated some little distance from the other working mines in Rossland, its success would mean much, not only for those immediately interested, but for the community as a whole. If there is a mine in the Spitzee, we hope to ascertain that fact within a few months, for it is our intention to put men on at once and proceed with development." Mr. McMillan further stated that he was not at liberty to mention the terms of the option further than that the Le Roi Mining Company had a working bond covering a long period.

The increasing importance of the copper mining industry in British Columbia is made manifest in the article on this subject appearing in this number of the *Mining Record*. A total production to date of 243,400,000 lb. is, for a country like British Columbia, which did not begin producing copper on a comparatively large scale until 1901, makes a creditable showing. The development of the industry has been much greater during recent years than earlier, as the following figures will show. The total value of copper produced during all years to date was \$34,535,000. Of this amount all but \$255,000 was the product of the ten years reviewed in the article above alluded to. The total value of the production for five years, 1897-1901, was \$8,554,000, and for five years, 1902-1906, it was \$25,726,000. Another striking comparison is that of the average yearly production of the last-mentioned five years—\$5,145,200—with that of last year—\$7,277,500. It is especially satisfactory to know that this substantial advance was not the result of higher prices only; the