

dications of the occurrence of ore in payable quantities being good, and the management competent and economical.

The resumption of work on the Oyster-Criterion property, near Camborne, under the direction of Mr. A. H. Gracey, who is also manager of the neighbouring Eva mine, is a move in a direction that will tend to give confidence in the *bona fides* of the Great Northern Mines, Ltd., at any rate so far as this mine is concerned. Mr. Gracey is strong on work and weak on tall talk, the latter having been an unfortunate weakness in one or two of those prominently associated earlier with the management of the Great Northern's properties. If there are sufficient values in the Oyster-Criterion ore to make its mining and milling profitable and the mill appliances are efficient, Mr. Gracey may be depended upon to make as high a recovery as is practicable and that too at a low cost. The result of this move may be awaited in confidence that it will be satisfactory.

Dawson intends to entertain the members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers and other participants in their excursion in a manner well suited to so important an occasion. The council has agreed to an appropriation of \$2,500 for this purpose, and the citizens of the metropolis of the Canadian Yukon will subscribe an equal amount. The new Commissioner has, we understand, been authorised to give the visitors a public dinner as the Dominion government's contribution to their entertainment. Among other diversions proposed is one that will probably be a distinct novelty to the party, namely, a baseball game with play to commence at midnight, an arrangement hardly practicable, save in "the land of the midnight sun." The programme will be varied; pleasure will be freely provided for, yet the serious business of impressing the visitors with the golden resources of the Yukon will also be given due prominence.

It may well be doubted whether the cost of ferrying the men to and from Protection island is really the only obstacle to the reopening of the lately-closed coal mines at Nanaimo. It is almost incredible that an unwillingness on the part of the company to incur an additional comparatively small expenditure of \$450 per month is the actual difficulty in the way of an immediate resumption of work in that mine. We are informed that many of the men are fully satisfied the management of the company is insincere, and that if they accept as true certain of the statements made to them from time to time, they will sooner or later find that they have been misled. It appears that there is little confidence felt in the statements of either president or manager of the company, who are suspected of designing to obtain a moral victory over the men, following advantages gained on previous occasions. It seems reasonable to conclude that the real trouble lies deeper than the mere question of whether the men shall pay \$1 per month each for transportation or the company be at this expense.

The report of the address of the chairman of the Kamloops Mines, Ltd., printed elsewhere in this issue, shows the financial position of that company and what the expectations are in regard to the future. We sincerely hope the latter will be realised. The reports from the mine, which is the well-known Iron Mask, situated near Kamloops, indicate that there is an ample supply of ore available, including large bodies at the 200, 500 and 600-ft. levels, respectively. The chairman told the meeting that the London manager and secretary, Mr. John Morrish, had gone very carefully over the ore developments and had reported "that there were \$900,000 worth of high-grade ore on February 11 and sufficient low-grade ore to keep the mill going at the rate of 160 tons per day for three years." A smelting plant is being erected, and it is expected the first unit, with a capacity of 50 tons per day, will be in working order by the end of next month. Apart from this, according to the report of the gold commissioner for the district, included in the Annual Report of the Minister of Mines for 1904, very favourable arrangements have been made with the Trail smelter in regard to freight and treatment. This being so, and the average gross value of the shipping ore being, according to the statement of the same official, from \$30 to \$35 per ton, it would appear that conditions are indeed promising, and that the Kamloops camp should shortly add one more profit-earning mining company to the gradually growing list the province is now able to show.

May we respectfully submit to our many friends in the Boundary the desirability of their representing in the proper direction that it is not quantity of news matter sent out for publication that is likely to benefit their district so much as reliability. In our humble opinion the wide dissemination of allegations made by Brown, Jones or Robinson, estimable men though they may be, regarding such subjects, for instance, as the losses of copper in slags made by local smelters, is not in the best interests of local industries. It will be remembered that such allegations, made against the manager of the Montreal and Boston Co., operating the Boundary Falls smelter, by one utterly incompetent to give a fully qualified opinion on the subject, were last month published far and wide. That they were promptly denied does not, in our opinion, make their publication less reprehensible. They can do no good; they may, and probably do, have an opposite effect. The enthusiasm of the correspondent, who a few months since "discovered" the Boundary and its enormous mineral resources is commendable. His occasional blunders are comparatively harmless, except in such a case as that under notice. Discrimination may well be practised, else usefulness be much impaired by the eventual recognition by the public that grievances of individuals, real or imaginary, are sometimes unwisely permitted to take the place of facts. The outside stockholder usually has but few sources of information; the exercise of much care should, we think, therefore be regarded as an impera-