

too. But taking him as a business man, speaking deliberately to business men words that will be widely published and implying conditions having or about to have such

An Important Bearing

upon this district that they, in his opinion, will transform a small provincial town into "a place larger than Butte, Montana," something more than the merest generalities might reasonably have been expected of him. But nothing more was communicated, notwithstanding that Mr. Johnson claimed to have seen for himself some of the "big things" he referred to, and to have been told of others by mining men who had been a long time in the district.

Of course Mr. Johnson is perfectly at liberty to say as little or as much as he pleases in favor of or against the district. So far as he is personally concerned no one may fairly question his right to do so, but since bald assertion is of itself far from convincing, even though made by one who is quoted as an important authority, it appears desirable that this be supplemented by information that may assist in carrying conviction as to the great promise of the district to those to whom it looks for capital and other assistance towards its adequate development, so as if possible to hasten attainment to the very desirable position indicated as its goal. With this object in view—not to attempt to make good the "biggest mines" assertion, but to show that a large aggregate output from local mines may be looked for—the following is submitted:

It was suggested in last week's Advance that there may be twelve months hence available in the Boundary district smelting facilities equal to the treatment of 1,500 tons of ore per diem. Probably this allows a very liberal margin beyond what will actually be provided by them, but since statements have been published placing the eventual full daily treatment capacity of the Granby Company's smelter at 5,000 tons, and the British Columbia Copper Company's at 1000 tons, it is a considerable reduction to place next year's capacity at one-fourth of the prospective total. If this district is during the next three or four years to even fairly begin to make good the claim to having the "biggest mines on the continent" it must certainly "get a move on" and not simply a move, but it must hustle right smartly. A daily average of 1500 tons of ore means a yearly aggregate of more than half a million tons. Is the Boundary district likely to produce this quantity? Last week's Greenwood Miner states that the total output of the Rossland mines for 1898 was 111,282 tons and that the estimated output for 1899 is 166,282 tons. This is the output of one camp, against which Boundary district has several camps giving fair promise of being producers. A liberal estimate of this year's combined output of Rossland's two big mines, the Le Roi and the War Eagle, based upon their figures for eight months to August 31, is 135,000 to 140,000 tons, or about 400 tons per day. Are the mining camps of the Boundary district likely to together produce twelve months hence nearly four times as much as the 1899 total of Rossland's two jig mines? To get some idea of the probabilities in this direction it will be necessary to go into details. Leaving out of present consideration the several mining camps along or tributary to the North Fork of Kettle River—and since these include the Volcanic with its reputed "mountain of ore", Golden Eagle, Seattle, Pathfinder and other mineral claims stated to promise a comparatively big output, they should together contribute a considerable total—there are the better-developed of the claims in Greenwood, Wellington, Summit, Deadwood and Central camps, in Greenwood camp there are the Old Ironsides, Knob Hill, Victoria, Brooklyn, Stenwinder, War Eagle, Gold Drop, and Snowshoe. Having in view present development

MONTREAL MINING EXCHANGE.

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	Sept 19.		Sept. 20.		Sept. 21.		Sept. 22	
	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.	Asked.	Bid.
\$1.00 Payne xd.....	1.28	1.22½	1.25	1.22	1.25	1.22	1.26	1.22½
1.00 War Eagle xd.....	3.40	3.28	3.35	3.20	3.30	3.15	3.29	3.15
1.00 Republic x d.....	1.19	1.18	1.21	1.10	1.20	1.18	1.20	1.18
1.00 Virtue.....	.44½	.43	.45	.40	.50	....	.46	.43
.24 Montreal-London x d.....	.55	.51	.54	.53½	.54	.53	.54½	.52
1.00 Big Three.....	.20	.18	.21½	.18	.21½	.18½	.20	.18½
1.00 Brandon & G'ld'n Crown	.29	.23½	.29	.24	.29	.24	.32	.27
1.00 California.....	.16	.12½	.16	.14	.16	.14	.14½	.14
.10 Canada Gold Fields Syn..	.08	.05	.03	.05	.03½	.05	.07½	.05½
5.00 Cariboo Hydraulic.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1.00 Evening Star.....	.11	.09	.11	....	.11	.10	.12½	.10
.25 Fern.....	.35	....	.25	....	.35	....	.30	....
1.00 Gold Hills Developing...	.08½	.07½	.08½	.05	....	.05	.07½	.04
1.00 Iron Colt.....	.09	.05	.09	.05	.09	.04	.09	.05
1.00 Knob Hill.....	1.00	.86	1.00	.85	.96	....	.96	.90
1.00 Monte Christo Con.....	.00½	.04½	.00½	.05	.08½	.04	.00½	.04½
.25 Montreal Gold Fields.....	.14½	....	.15	.13½	.15	.12½	.15	.12½
1.00 Noble Five.....	....	.21	.35	.20½	....	....	....	....
.10 Novelty.....	.03	.02	.03	.02½	.03	.02½	.04	.02
1.00 Old Ironsides.....	1.15	1.09	1.15	1.08	1.15	1.09	1.15	1.08
1.00 Virginia.....	.11½	.07	.10½	.08	.10½	.08	.10½	.07
1.00 Rambler Cariboo.....	.49	.45½	.49	.47½	.48½	.45½	.49½	.46
1.00 Bullion.....	.59	.51	.59	.49	.59	.48	.59	.55
1.00 Decca.....	.23	.20	.27	.21	.28	....	.28	.16
1.00 Morrison.....	.17½	.15	.18	.14	.18	.15	.18	.15
1.00 Golden Star.....	.40	.36	.40	.35	.37½	.35	.43	.39
1.00 Slocan Sov.....	.36	.34½	.36	.35	.36	.35	.36	.35½
1.00 Fontenoy G. M. Co.....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1.00 Rathmullen.....	.09	.08	....	.07½	.09	.08	.09	.06½
1.00 Winnipeg.....	.35	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1.00 Dardanelles.....	.17	.13	....	....	....	....	....	....
1.00 Deer Trail No. 2.....	.24½	.22	.24	.23	.24	.23	.24	.23

and that already arranged for, if the claim to have big mines be well grounded, it is surely not too much to estimate that the daily output of this camp will twelve months hence be

Not Less than 500 Tons.

Nor should a similar quantity be then too large to expect from Summit camp, with the B.C., Oro Denero, Emma group, Homestake, Josie, Rathmullen group, R. Bell and others to draw upon for supplies. Deadwood also should contribute a like daily total from the Mother Lode, Sunset, Morrison, Buckhorn, the Anaconda group, the Boundary Creek Mining and Milling Company's big group and a half a dozen other well known claims. Then it should not be too much to look for at least 250 tons each from Wellington and Central camps, for in the former are the Winnipeg and Golden Crown (each occasionally mentioned as ready to ship ore) and other claims less forward with their development work, and in the latter the City of Paris and No. 7 groups each with a lot of ore "in sight." besides a number of other claims upon which more or less development work has been done with generally promising results. These five camps then should, if development work be meanwhile steadily proceeded with, be in a position a year hence to fully tax the treatment capacity of the two smelters one of which is already under construction and the other apparently having preparations made for an early commencement with construction work.

It would therefore appear that the output of ore in the Boundary district should, with continuous development in progress from now on a year hence easily

Exceed the Capacity of the Smelters

for the building of which assurance is given that provision has already been made. In support of this view it may be pointed out that not only should ore supplies come from the five Boundary district camps named above, but that there should be appreciably large additions, in either crude smelting ores or concentrates, to the total supply from the North Fork camps, also already mentioned, as well as from numerous claims

in Siskiwit, Providence, Smith's, Copper, West Copper, Graham's, Kimberley, Long Lake and Pass Creek camps. Widening the field to be drawn upon for the raw material there is the Oro Fino group and other claims near Rock creek; the Crown Point group, with its silver lead ores, on James Creek, and the Barrett group in the same direction; the claims scattered up the West Fork, Beaver creek, Canyon creek, Triple Lake camp, and away up the main Kettle river to the Lottie F. group on Copper creek. Then concentrates may be expected from camp McKinney and across the International Boundary line from Meyers creek down to Palmer mountain. From Toroda south to Republic, Wash., ores or concentrates should come to one of the Boundary smelters, and even now the list is not exhausted, for there remain among other ore-yielding properties the Lone Star, Washington, La Fleur, and others across the line from White's camp. With such an extensive area to draw from it matters little whether or not

"The Biggest Mines on the Continent"

be found in this district, or whether this particular site or that be in the opinion of one man or another the place for a smelter than which there is no better in Canada. The plain unmistakable facts remain that for number and size of ore showings, for variety of ores, for average values and for accessibility for sending in mine supplies and getting ores out to smelting or other treatment points, the Boundary country and contiguous districts are now or soon will be singularly favored, to a degree almost incredible to those not personally acquainted with these unusual conditions. And under these circumstances it does not seem unreasonable to conclude that it will not be very long ere half a dozen smelters or other reduction works will be established in the Boundary district, embracing as it does the country from Cascade on the east to Rock creek on the west, and that the very large expenditure the C.P.R. Co. is incurring in railway construction to and in the district will prove to have been amply justified and secure to that company as well as to mining and smelting companies also expending money freely, an ample return for enterprising confidence.