

## MINERAL TAX BARS EXPANSION

The most largely attended and representative meeting of the board of trade held in many months took place last night and the principal action taken thereat was the adoption of a strong resolution relating to the necessity of abolishing the two per cent mineral tax. The resolution set forth in black and white—incontestable figures—were advanced—the manner in which the mineral tax acts as a dead weight on mines seeking to utilize so-called "low grade" ore deposits, and effectually bars efforts to extend the scope of important mining enterprises. The conditions thus brought about are among the most serious menaces to the future prosperity of the great mining industry of the Kootenays, and this was set forth in succinct yet forcible and convincing deductions. The resolution was unanimously carried, and will be disseminated widely for the purpose of doing missionary work in districts where the manner in which the mineral tax operates is not as apparent as it is the case in the Golden City.

Among the board of trade members in attendance last night were: J. Binn Johnson, president; Archibald B. MacKenzie, secretary; Arthur S. Goodeve, Archibald B. Barker, J. S. C. Fraser, Charles V. Jenkins, James Anderson, George W. McBride, J. Stephen Deschamps, Lorne A. Campbell, George Agnew, J. Stillwell Clute, Edmund B. Kirby, Robert Hunter, Alfred McMillan, Robert W. Grigor and Charles O. Landon.

Mayor Clute and Alfred McMillan introduced the appended resolution on the mineral tax subject:

### PECULIARLY REPRESSIVE EFFECT

Resolved: That the Rossland Board of Trade desires to call the attention of the government and legislature of the province of British Columbia to the present serious condition of the mining industry of the province, and to ask that at the coming session special consideration be given to the question of how to afford it relief and encouragement.

It is respectfully urged that the first step in this direction should be the abolition of the so-called 2 per cent mineral tax, the evils effects of which are now so widely recognized.

This tax is only one item in the total burden from which the mines are now suffering. Measured in dollars it is not so heavy for instance as the indirect tax imposed by the Dominion customs, by which the cost of mine equipment and supplies used is made very excessive. The 2 per cent tax is, however, the main direct tax levied by the province and within its power to reform.

It differs from all ordinary forms of taxation in having a peculiarly repressive effect on the mining industry. This effect is not apparent on its face, and is not measured by the amounts paid under it. It is nothing less than the stoppage or limitation of most new enterprises for the mining and treatment of low grade ores. Universal experience proves that the industry never becomes permanent until these ores are utilized, and any bar to this is fatal.

The reason for this effect is that in going to ore of lower grade with a smaller margin of profit, the tax seizes a greater and greater percentage of the net profits. To illustrate on Rossland ores:

### HIGH GRADE SMELTING ORE.

Assume gross value of . . . \$16.00  
Cost of freight and smelting . . . 6.00

Amount received by mine . . . 10.00  
Cost of mining and development . . . 4.50

Net profit . . . \$3.50

The 2 per cent tax figured on the above \$16.00 is 32 cents tax, which amounts to 3.3 per cent of the net profit.

### LOWER GRADE SMELTING ORE.

Assume gross value of . . . \$12.00  
Cost of freight and smelting . . . 6.00

Amount received by mine . . . 6.00  
Cost of mining and development . . . 4.50

Net profit . . . \$1.50

The 2 per cent tax figured on the above \$6.00 is now 12 or 8 per cent of the net profit.

### HIGH GRADE MILLING ORE.

Assume gross value of . . . \$3.00  
Cost of milling and smelting concentrates with tailings loss . . . 4.00

Amount received by mine . . . 4.00  
Cost of mining and development (on larger scale) . . . 3.50

Net profit . . . \$0.50

The 2 per cent tax figured on the above \$4.00 is 8 cents or 16 per cent of the net profits.

### LOW GRADE MILLING ORE.

Assume gross value of . . . \$6.00  
Cost of milling and smelting concentrates, with tailings loss . . . 3.25

Amount received by mine . . . 2.75  
Cost of mining on larger scale (ore bodies already developed) . . . 2.50

Net profit . . . \$0.25

The 2 per cent tax figured on the above \$2.75 is 5.5 cents or 22 per cent of the net profits.

It is needless to say that mining enterprises cannot stand the confiscation of such large percentages of their profits. It is practically impossible to reform the tax so as to prevent this peculiar effect, and there is no escape from the two alternatives—either to suffer this effect or to abolish the tax.

The low grade resources of British Columbia are practically unlimited and this tax has long been the chief barrier to their development. The vast quantities known to exist in the Rossland ore deposits cannot be utilized until this bar to investors is removed. The Rossland Board of Trade desires to press this policy, not only for the benefits to its own district, but on the ground of the general relief which will be afforded to all the mining districts of the province.

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be printed by the secretary and mailed to each member of the government and of the legislature at Victoria.

### PARTING OF THE WAYS.

Edmund B. Kirby, general manager of the War Eagle and Centre Star mines, was invited to lead the debate on the foregoing resolution, and responded somewhat briefly. He remarked that it went without saying the resolution had his hearty approval. He had so often expressed his sentiments on the mineral tax question that recently the title "Two Per Cent Tax Kirby" had been applied to him by some one. (Laughter.) Speaking seriously, however, it was a fact that no one save those actually engaged in mining and who suffered from excessive amounts paid out and plans balked realized how the mineral tax hurt. Here in Rossland, he was pleased to note, all had a clearer idea of the situation than he had found elsewhere, and it gratified him to note the growth of this sentiment. It was realized that while hurt the mines inevitably injured the community and that the welfare of all was thoroughly interwoven. It gave him satisfaction to note that everywhere the question was being taken up—like all good fights for the right the contagion was spreading and growing.

From the advice he had in hand, Mr. Kirby continued, the government had reached the conclusion that the mineral tax was unpopular and must go. Personally he looked further than the repeal of the tax under consideration. The very fact that its repeal was being taken up at this juncture was an evidence of an awakening in legislative circles, of which the first step in the right direction was now in evidence.

He was satisfied that other steps would follow, that the government would not stop here if pressed hard by those to whom the prosperity of the mining industry was vitally important. (Applause.) A large part of the trouble up to the present had arisen from the fact that the people of the coast centres had not realized the value of the mining communities to their trade and commerce, nor the remarkable possibilities for future expansion of business from the coast cities to the Kootenays. If the opportunities for developing the 1200 miles of mineral-bearing country to the north, with the consequent building up of coast cities was only realized, the coast people would be ready and anxious to do anything and everything to advance the interests of the mining districts. Had this been appreciated heretofore the present lamentable condition of affairs, from a legislative standpoint, would not have been reached.

During the past five years, remarked Mr. Kirby, four or five measures affecting the mining industry had been passed, every sitting of the legislature, and a study of these enactments had failed to discover a single measure that benefited the industry. In fact, every one of them crippled and harassed the industry and injured the communities depending upon mining. Was it not, therefore, time that a turning point had been reached? He believed this point had arrived at last, and that more would be achieved if the matter was pressed home. (Applause.) Arthur S. Goodeve expressed his hearty sympathy with the resolution, and was followed by Alfred McMillan in a similar strain. Thereupon the resolution was unanimously carried amid further applause.

### LIBERALS WANT PROTECTION.

Rossland Liberal Association Votes to Endorse Producers' Application.

The liberals of Rossland have extended their approval to the efforts of the silver-lead producers of the Kootenays to secure tariff amendments such as will revive this important industry.

Last night a well attended meeting of the Rossland Liberal association took place at the association rooms and the subject was debated with keen interest, the principal debaters being Robert W. Grigor, Smith Curtis, M. L. A., and H. W. C. Jackson.

No division of opinion existed as to the necessity of securing some measure of assistance for the struggling lead industry, but some differences arose as to the proper attitude for the association, as a political organization, to take on the subject. Eventually the following resolution was adopted by a large majority of the members in attendance: Whereas, Since the present Canadian tariff was framed changed conditions have now placed Canada in a position to more than supply the lead necessary for home consumption, and her mines are now, through the smelters, marketing the bulk of their lead product in China, Japan and Europe, while German lead and Mexican lead, manufactured in the United States, is being marketed in Canada, supplying the most of the demand, to the detriment of the mines, smelters and refineries in Canada.

Whereas, Practically all the silver-lead mines are closed, due to the decline in the world's price for silver and lead—in consequence of which the vast amount of money invested in the development of these districts is now lying idle, and workmen, whose wages were as high as any in the United States and higher than the average paid in Missouri, Mexico and Australia, are unemployed; and

Whereas, The Dominion government has, through some of its members, stated that tariff revision would be made when changed conditions justified it; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of the Liberal Association of Rossland, do hereby endorse the action of the silver-lead miners and do especially urge upon the Dominion government the establishment of such duties as will secure for Canadian miners the benefits of the entire home market and will enable resumption of work in the many mining districts of British Columbia which are now suffering from great depression. Be it further

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be immediately forwarded to the members of the cabinet, senate and house of commons.

## BRADSTREET'S REPORT OF THE TRADE IN CANADA

TORONTO, Jan. 9.—The conditions of wholesale trade at Montreal generally are very prosperous.

The large trade in staple goods for the winter and also the good volume of spring orders have caused a feeling of buoyancy. The holiday sales were large and have provided the retail merchants throughout the country with ample supplies of funds, so that the disposition to make preparations for the coming season on a liberal scale is now quite marked. There is no sign of waning confidence in the future, and the present year of manufacturing and mercantile operations is expected to be fully as satisfactory as in 1921.

Values of staple goods are firmly held. The supply of money is increasing and rates are easier. Call and time, 6 to 6 1/2; mercantile discounts, 6 to 7; New York funds, 1-4.

### AT QUEBEC.

General business during the past week at Quebec has been somewhat quiet, particularly in retail circles, which is usual after the holidays. Holiday sales are generally reported satisfactory. Payments are a little slow, but an improvement is expected in a few weeks. Travelers are on the road with full lines of spring samples. The general outlook is encouraging. The shoe manufacturers continue busy.

### THE PACIFIC COAST.

There is a better feeling in wholesale trade at the Pacific coast, according to Bradstreet's report, doubtless the result of the holiday sales. Orders for the spring are now coming forward satisfactorily and the outlook in business is encouraging. Values of staple goods are firmly held, owing to the difficulty of getting repeats in many departments at previous prices.

### AT WINNIPEG.

Trade in wholesale circles at Winnipeg is more active than it was last week, when holiday making kept down the demand. The demand for winter lines is now pretty well over, and jobs are engrossed in the spring business, which, it is expected, will be the largest on record.

The sales of land to settlers coming

from across the border and from other countries continue large. It is estimated that upwards of 150,000 settlers will arrive in the Canadian Northwest during 1932.

Scarcity of cars is complained of, and it is expected that the railways will have all the freight they can move till the beginning of the next harvest.

### AT HAMILTON.

The spring trade is largely occupying the attention of wholesale firms at Hamilton at present. Shipments are being made now and numerous well distributed orders are being received from travelers who returned to their routes this week. The outlook for trade is encouraging. The prospects point to fully as large a volume of orders this month as for January last year.

### IN LONDON, ONT.

Values are firm in London this week. There has been more demand for goods for forward shipments and the jobbers have been busy booking and filling orders for the spring trade. Payments the past week have been very satisfactory. Staple goods are firmly held.

### AT OTTAWA.

Ottawa wholesale trade this week has shown signs of renewed interest in the future on the part of the retailers throughout the country. Numerous orders are coming to hand for the spring, and the volume of trade promises to show a marked development as the month proceeds. Values of domestic and imported goods are firmly held.

Campbell, outside guard; Joe Martin and W. J. Pascoe, trustees. The balance of officers will be installed at some future date.

The Deborah Rebekah lodge will hold a meeting next Wednesday night at Odd Fellows' hall for the purpose of installing their new officers. Several interesting features have been prepared for the occasion and an enjoyable time is predicted.

The Rossland Hive No. 5, of the Ladies of the Macabees, will probably postpone the installation of officers for the time being, although it is not certain that this will be done. The members of the Hive are making great preparations for holding an open installation.

The ladies of the Eastern Star installed their new officers at a meeting held early in the week. The meeting proved to be a very enjoyable one.

### FEELING THE PUBLIC PULSE

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 10.—The Express tomorrow will say:

"There is just a chance, perhaps a good prospect, if the truth were known, that Jim Jeffries and Corbett will battle their mill for the world's heavyweight boxing championship at the International Athletic club of Erie, Ontario, next summer. Since the arrival of Corbett in Buffalo last week the matter has been quietly discussed by the men interested in the Canadian boxing club. It is understood and it is expected that something definite in the way of an offer to the pair of big men will be made shortly, possibly today or this week. Corbett says he is willing to meet the champion any place."

### WHOLESALE DRUG COMBINE.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Jan. 10.—Following the partial investigation by the grand jury of the local coal combine and its voluntary dissolution County Prosecutor Keeler has started an inquiry into the alleged trust of wholesale druggists in this city. Keeler has sent out letters to the wholesale drug houses stating that he is led to believe that a trust exists in the local drug trade, and that the same is in violation of the Valentine anti-trust law. In conclusion the prosecutor says:

"You are hereby notified that a fine of \$50 will be imposed for each consecutive day on each member of the combination so long as it exists after receipt of this notice."

### EFFECT OF THE STORM.

Scarcity of Fuel Makes Conditions Alarming at Huron.

HURON, S. D., Jan. 10.—Another severe wind and snowstorm struck this part of the state today, and tonight the wind is howling a gale and the air is so filled with snow that travel is unsafe. Railroad cuts are again filled with snow and great drifts are seen everywhere.

The storm is severe on stock, and the scarcity of fuel makes conditions in this locality alarming. The various churches will hold their meetings in private homes.

### ANOTHER SHUTDOWN.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 10.—Two Indianapolis factories, employing 500 men, were compelled to shut down today, being unable to secure coal.

The central hospital for the insane is nearly out of fuel, and today was the coldest of the season. The thermometer is nearly at zero.

Other factories are embarrassed by a lack of fuel.

### A \$10,000 JOCKEY.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 10.—J. S. MacDonald today paid \$5000 to Burns and Waterhouse for a release from the contract on the Jockey Ranch, and signed the boy to ride for W. K. Vanderbilt at a salary. It is stated, of \$10,000 a year, with the privilege of renewal.

### LOSS BY FIRE.

CHICAGO, Jan. 9.—Part of the Federal Manufacturing company's plant was destroyed by fire this morning, causing a loss of \$150,000.

certainty. So that "if I were" has not only a doubtful past, but a doubtful future as well.

Note.—If we were, If you were, and If they were, are the same in both forms, consequently it is only necessary to determine when to use If I was, If I were, If he was, If he were, "If I was" and "If he was" are the proper forms to use when the supposition of the action or state is merely thought of.

If I was and "If he was," are the proper forms to use when the supposition of the action or state may be regarded as a fact.—Correct English.

### CAUSE FOR ALARM

WHEN YOU GROW WEAK AND YOUR CHEEKS LOOSE THEIR COLOR.

This Means Anaemia, and If Neglected Consumption May Follow.—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills the Only Certain Cure.

Anaemia, or poor or watery blood, is a trouble from which most growing girls and many young boys suffer. It comes at a critical period of the young person's life, and unless prompt steps are taken to enrich the blood and thus strengthen the system, decline, and most likely consumption, will follow. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is the only medicine that acts directly upon the blood and the nerves, promptly restoring the circulation, complete health and strength. The following statement from Mrs. Lena M. Ryan of Welland, whose daughter was a victim of anaemia, gives the strongest proof of the value of these pills. Mrs. Ryan says: "About three years ago the health of my daughter, Birdie, became so bad that I was seriously alarmed. She was pale and almost bloodless; had no appetite, lost flesh and suffered from severe headaches. I took her to a doctor, and although his treatment was followed for some time it did not benefit her. I then tried some other remedies, but these also failed, and she had wasted away to a mere shadow of her former self. At this stage I was advised to give her Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and she began this treatment. Almost from the outset these pills helped her, and as she continued their use the color came back to her cheeks, her appetite improved, the headaches ceased to trouble her, and by the time she had taken eight boxes she felt stronger and better than she had ever done in her life before. I think Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are unsurpassed for all ailments of this kind, and strongly recommend them to other mothers."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills not only cure all cases like the above, but also cure all other troubles arising from poor blood or weak nerves, such as rheumatism, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, indigestion, kidney and liver troubles, scrofula and eruptions of the skin, etc. These pills are also a direct cure for the ailments from which so many women suffer in silence. Give the pills a fair trial and they will not disappoint you. The genuine one sold only in boxes that have the full name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People" on the wrapper around every box. If your dealer does not have them send direct to the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., and the pills will be sent postpaid at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50.

### NEW MANAGER.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—An unofficial report says President Vreeland, of the Metropolitan street railway, will go to London as manager of the Yerkes "Tube" system.

### METAL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—Amalgamated copper, 64 1/4; bar silver, 177-8c. LONDON, Jan. 9.—Lead £11 7s. 6d.

### THE RAZOR STEEL, SECRET TEMPER, CROSS-CUT SAW.

GREENWOOD, B. C. officers for the ensuing year were installed last night.

The members of the club, which was organized for social purposes and well attended dances, hold the first of their things tomorrow night. Dances are usually a joyous entertainment and are participated in by many of the city, together with their friends.

William Downie, C. superintendent, was yesterday interviewing managers relative to fuel supply. The blame has been attributed to the fact that Mr. Downie did not take into account that it has been a long time since the Crown's Nest Pass Company has been and still be sufficient cars to amply fuel requirements of smelters. However, that some mines and quarries in imminent shut down for not knowing whether to keep them going will next following 24 hours be at times a source of trouble.

It does not pay to buy a saw for one dollar less, and 25 cents per day in labor. Your saw must hold a keen edge to do a large day's work.

Thousands of these saws are shipped to the United States, and sold at a higher price than the best American saws. Manufactured only by SHURLY & DETRICH, Galt, Ontario.

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