

IMPORTANT TO MINING

Were Various Developments of Past Week Here.

Record of Continued Activity and Enhanced Production.

Lack of snow on the Kootenay and Jumbo wagon roads prevented any shipments in connection with the first named mine and restricted the output up the Jumbo, despite which the week's tonnage is substantially in excess of the previous week's output, largely owing to increased tonnage from the principal mines. If the present rate of output is maintained for the last three and a half weeks of the year, Rossland's output for the year will be slightly in excess of 400,000 tons, thus attaining by far the largest yearly aggregate ever witnessed in the camp. The next year's operations should see an equally large increase on the record of 1903 as the outcome of increased extraction of milling ores. The past week witnessed various incidents of interest and importance locally. At the banquet marking the opening of the week it was announced that before the close of the ensuing year the iron ores of the camp would be treated on a commercial scale by a process that had stood the laboratory and other tests on a minor scale so successfully as to warrant its adoption on a working basis. This is presumably the Hendryx process of electro-cyanide treatment, and its adoption in one instance, if successful, is certain to be followed up by other mines. This opens up a vista of Monte Cristo and Kootenay mountains dotted with reduction works just as Red Mountain will be dotted with concentrators.

The announcement that the Velvet mine is to resume operations and add to its equipment a pyritic smelter for the purpose of concentrating its ore, thereby evading the extremely heavy tolls for teaming, will be received with gratification locally. The property has been the principal mine of the Rossland district outside of the city proper, and in past years it has contributed largely to the revenue of the community and the province generally. Moreover, the certainty of resumed activity at the Velvet renders the construction of the Sophie mountain wagon road almost imperative at the earliest possible moment. Much of the supplies required at the mine will be handled from Rossland, and the volume of this business will be largely increased if the supplies in question can be delivered at the mine with a twelve mile haul instead of the wearisome and costly twenty-two mile drive, partially through American territory, now required to reach the property. Then there is the practical certainty of much mining activity along the route of the proposed road, from which the city would derive a large amount of business. Few wagon road propositions in the Kootenays offer such substantial inducements as the Sophie mountain road, and no stone should be left unturned to accomplish the end desired at the earliest possible moment.

The addition of an expert ore buyer to the Le Roi's smelter staff has a deeper significance than appears on the surface. The smelter's avowed idea is to increase its customs business, and its natural field of activity is the Rossland camp. It has been demonstrated in the case of the Jumbo mine that some properties which could not be operated profitably four years ago can now earn excellent profits, and the Le Roi interests have doubtless satisfied themselves that many other such properties exist and have taken this step with a view to convincing the proprietary companies that the juncture is at hand for a resumption of operations. The information secured about the principal idle mines of the camp last summer when exhaustive examinations were made would seem to be preliminary to the campaign now to be inaugurated by the Le Roi interests. The course of the situation will not be marked by pyrotechnics, but substantial results may be expected to eventuate at a comparatively early date. The effect will be excellent from the viewpoint of the camp, for increased activity means the employment of more men and all the advantages accruing from enhanced payroll.

At the concentrators matters have progressed satisfactorily. The Le Roi Two plant has operated steadily, and the works are running with exceptional smoothness. Construction on the Rossland Power company's plant is proceeding rapidly, about seventy men being engaged.

THE OUTPUT. Shipments from the Rossland camp for the week ending December 3, and for the year to date are as follows:

Table with columns for Week, Year, and Total. Rows include Le Roi, Central Star, War Eagle, Le Roi No. 2, Le Roi No. 2 (milled), Jumbo, Spitzee, and I. X. L. (milled).

BOUNDARY SHIPMENTS. One shipment from Boundary mines for the week and year to date were as follows:

Table with columns for Week, Year, and Total. Rows include Granby, Mother Lode, Snowshoe, Emma, R. C., and Sunset.

Table with columns for Name and Amount. Rows include Kootenay, Giant, Iron Horse, Velvet, White Bear, O. K., Homestake, and Totals.

AMONG THE MINES. LE ROI.—Nothing of a special nature has been reported from the mine for the week ending yesterday. Operations have been conducted steadily along conventional lines, special attention being directed to the deep level exploration and development. Much information of an interesting nature will probably be divulged at the forthcoming annual general meeting, the date of which is not yet definitely stated, owing to the probability of an adjournment being taken from the statutory date.

LE ROI TWO.—In the Jostie mine the usual work has been carried ahead steadily, and development on various levels as described as made in the past. At the concentrator concentrate bins are being constructed at the railroad track, and the tramway is being extended to deliver the product of the mill to the new bins. This points to the shipment of concentrates at an early date, the company having accumulated several carloads of the product.

WHITE BEAR.—Deep level development and exploration have been continued during the week, the 1000 foot crosscuts being advanced consistently. This class of work will be continued. The trestle and grade for the spur from the Spokane Falls & Northern road has been completed, and the steel for the siding is expected to reach here during the present week. This will permit of the completion of the spur in time for the prompt handling of the 200 horse power hoist now in transit from the manufacturer at Sherbrooke, P. Q. The compressor plant will follow a little later.

CENTRE STAR.—Mining and stopping operations on various levels down to the 700 have been continued without incident of special interest during the week, and good progress has been made with development on the 700 level.

WAR EAGLE.—Steady operations along conventional lines is the story of the week's operation. Mining and development have been maintained without cessation. Under the head of development unofficial reports of unusually satisfactory conditions are to hand.

KOOTENAY.—The Kootenay suffered last week through the lack of snow. It was impossible to handle any ore between the mine and the loading platform on the Spokane Falls & Northern road, and a couple of partially loaded cars left on the siding at the first of the week had to be unloaded to await the snowfall necessary to place the road in shape for a resumption of teaming. The ore bins at the mine are filled with product awaiting removal, and the management is anxiously looking for snow. With the snowfall a considerable quantity of water is pumped daily from the mine, and the supply thus available would go far toward operating a mill. If the supply can be augmented to some extent the company will construct its plant on the mill site available alongside of the new headworks, this being the location which the company will utilize if possible. The machinery for the mill is under contract to be delivered here by April 1, and as it is the intention to have the building in readiness for the plant by that date, the company hopes to have the works in full swing by June 1.

IN AS MUCH as the White Bear is practically a virgin mine in the matter of production, about 300 tons being the total extraction to date, its possibilities as a long-lived producer seem to be exceptionally bright, all of which will substantially assist in securing the funds necessary for the future development of Rossland's hidden wealth.

IT'S IN THE GAZETTE. New Business Contained in Last Issue of Official Publication. The last issue of the B. C. Gazette contained the following new matters: The date for revising the Similkameen voters' list is postponed to February 8.

THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY. The Bennett Lake and Chilkat mining division has been abolished and the territory contained therein merged with the Atlin Lake division. Certificates of incorporation are issued in respect to the following concerns: Fred Irvine Company, Limited, of Nelson; Nelson Brewing & Ice Company, Limited, of Nelson; Trout Lake Risk Company, Limited, of Trout Lake City; the Light Traffic Company, Limited; the Pacific Pile Servicing Company, Limited; the Surrey Shingle Manufacturing Company, Limited, and the Trust Agency & Loan Corporation, Limited.

Table with columns for Name and Amount. Rows include Oro Denoro, Athelstan, Morrison, Winnipeg, Providence, Elkhorn, Senator, and Totals.

SHIPS NEXT MONTH. WHITE BEAR WILL JOIN THE LIST OF PRODUCERS IN JANUARY. ALSO STARTS WORK AT ONCE ON CONCENTRATION WORKS.

The White Bear will commence shipments soon after January 1, on a basis of fifty or sixty tons per day. This will be maintained until the concentrator is completed, when the shipments will be increased to 100 of smelting ore daily and the product of the mill. The foregoing emanates from James J. Warren, of Toronto, managing director of the White Bear Consolidated Mining Company. Mr. Warren reached here on Sunday and will remain in the city for a week or thereabouts on business in connection with his company.

Continuing to discuss the company's affairs, Mr. Warren stated that two carloads of machinery for the mine headworks were now in transit from the manufacturer in Sherbrooke, P. Q., and that the plant should reach here about the 15th inst. Allowing until January 1 to get the hoist in running order, he expects that matters will then be in shape to permit of the commencement of shipments. In the various levels down to the 1000 level, now in course of being opened up, the mine has extensive ore bodies containing such quantities of smelting ore as warrant the statement as to output. On the start shipments will be confined to the smelting ore that can be extracted conveniently; on the commencement of stopping in the milling ore reserves it is figured that sufficient high grade material will be broken down to allow the output of smelting ore to at least 100 tons daily exclusive of the product of the mill. This is in line with the experience of other mines, where it has been found that milling ore reserves always carry higher grade ore than can be profitably handled as a by-product, in a sense, of the larger tonnage of milling material broken down.

On the subject of milling Mr. Warren states that his company's intentions in this direction contemplate a plant of 100 tons capacity daily on the Elmore oil process, and that construction will be commenced within the next few weeks, or as soon as arrangements for a supply of water are consummated. At the present time a considerable quantity of water is pumped daily from the mine, and the supply thus available would go far toward operating a mill. If the supply can be augmented to some extent the company will construct its plant on the mill site available alongside of the new headworks, this being the location which the company will utilize if possible. The machinery for the mill is under contract to be delivered here by April 1, and as it is the intention to have the building in readiness for the plant by that date, the company hopes to have the works in full swing by June 1.

In as much as the White Bear is practically a virgin mine in the matter of production, about 300 tons being the total extraction to date, its possibilities as a long-lived producer seem to be exceptionally bright, all of which will substantially assist in securing the funds necessary for the future development of Rossland's hidden wealth.

IT'S IN THE GAZETTE. New Business Contained in Last Issue of Official Publication. The last issue of the B. C. Gazette contained the following new matters: The date for revising the Similkameen voters' list is postponed to February 8.

THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY. The Bennett Lake and Chilkat mining division has been abolished and the territory contained therein merged with the Atlin Lake division. Certificates of incorporation are issued in respect to the following concerns: Fred Irvine Company, Limited, of Nelson; Nelson Brewing & Ice Company, Limited, of Nelson; Trout Lake Risk Company, Limited, of Trout Lake City; the Light Traffic Company, Limited; the Pacific Pile Servicing Company, Limited; the Surrey Shingle Manufacturing Company, Limited, and the Trust Agency & Loan Corporation, Limited.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—The board of foreign missions of the Presbyterian church has chosen Rev. G. Alexander D. D., to succeed the Rev. John D. Wells, D. D., lately deceased, who had been for 47 years a member of the board, and for 19 years its president. Dr. Alexander is pastor of the University Place Presbyterian church, New York City, and a member of the board of directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary.

General News Of the Kootenay

THE LARDEAU. Further evidence was recently discovered of the continuity of the Lardeau free gold belt at least as far north as Ground Hog basin. The lucky locator was J. O. Bradley, who has named the big lead discovered by him the Eureka. It is a massive white quartz, heavily iron-stained, and has a minimum width of eight feet. The main lead runs north and south and has been traced across five claims, a total length of 7500 feet.

A rink company has been organized at Trout Lake with the following directors: J. A. Wetmore, N. Abrahamson, J. C. Murray, Malcolm Matheson, Bert Ackert, Andy Craig, H. L. Godsoe, J. A. Wetmore, treasurer; E. G. Saunders, secretary. It was decided to build a rink 60x150. Within the past eight weeks there have been three rich strikes made on three different properties in and around Mohawk creek, a tributary of Pool creek, which joins Fish river at Camborne.

J. A. Darragh has secured an option on the Silver Dollar from the assignee of the estate of the late J. Best, and will endeavor to place the property shortly in the east. Cory Menhinick has taken the contract to cover the Eva flume. The work has been undertaken to prevent the mill being again shut down through the flume freezing up. J. B. Sibbald, manager of the Revestoke and McCullough Creek Hydraulic is getting ready for an early start of hydraulic operations in the spring.

R. K. Floeter and J. A. Darragh have secured an option on the Homestead group on Mohawk creek, one of the most promising gold properties in the Fish creek belt. The property is owned by Mackay Bros. and Strutt. The reorganization of the North-western Development Syndicate has been completed, and work will be resumed at once on the company's properties. At a meeting held in Calumet, Michigan, a new board of directors was elected and is composed as follows: Edward Ulseth, president; Joseph Herman, vice-president; Isaac Primrose, treasurer; W. Frank James, secretary; J. C. Light, assistant secretary; A. E. Rosenberger, general manager; E. Roehm, W. London, W. Cleaves and Joseph Vertin.

The Oyster-Criterion stamp mill is running smoothly and gold is piling up on the plates. A clean-up will be made about the 25th inst. POPLAR CREEK. O. Lermo, Gus Berg and N. Bodin have eight good claims situated at the head of Poplar in the neighborhood of the new famous Winquist claims. On the Hecla claim a 50-foot tunnel has been driven showing up a foot of galena (clean) of a good grade. On the Vandalla and Poplar there is a 75-foot tunnel which opens up a three-foot vein of high grade concentrates.

On the Red and Blue claims the work done shows up 18 inches of galena of value. The owners have at their own expense built two miles of trail which greatly facilitates the getting in and out of that part of the country. C. Ehlers, of the Royal Hotel, and some Rossland parties have, it is said, taken up the Beautiful (Buffalo) property at Second Crossing on a \$45,000 bond, ten per cent down. Marquis & Gilbert will ship this week to the Trail smelter 200 sacks of their high grade ore. Work is being pushed by the Great Northern company on both the Lucky Jack and Swede groups. Shipments will be made to the company's mill at Camborne from time to time until the plant is installed at Poplar. Assays from the Swede group give values of \$216 for the width of the four-foot lead.

EAST KOOTENAY. Moyle is full of men seeking work. The closing down of several of the mills has deprived many of a position. Fire clay has been discovered near Morrissey, and a brick plant will probably be installed in the near future. A. H. Reeder, the new general manager for the Crow's Nest Coal Company, accompanied by Mrs. Reeder and two children, have arrived in Fernie. They have taken up their residence in the manager's house in the park. Mr. Reeder was installed in his new office by Mr. Lindsey, who recently returned from a trip to the coast. B. L. Thorne, who has charge of the C. P. R. development work in the coal property recently acquired at Crow's Nest, was in Fernie last week to see the office manager for the work. He was successful in getting as many as he required.

The car famine at Fernie and Michel has been relieved by the C. P. R. and the coke surplus has been moved. This will enable the coal company to increase its output at these places. Judging from the reports of numerous gun plays in the Crow's Nest district, there is considerable laxness in the administration of the law there. The Fernie public school is overcrowded and lacks space to accommodate the increasing demands of the town. All appeals to Premier McBride are without avail. James H. Schofield, president of the Crow's Nest Hockey League, is arranging for the annual meeting of the league to be held in the near future at

VELVET MINE GETS SMELTER

Pyritic Plant Designed to Concentrate the Product.

Resumption in Spring is Now Assured—Some Details.

Next spring will see active mining operations resumed at the Velvet mine and the addition of a smelting plant of sufficient capacity to handle the output of the property together with that of the Portland mine adjoining and owned by the same people. This announcement will be received with gratification by Rosslanders generally, who have regarded the Velvet as the most important property in the Rossland district outside of the city limits.

Some of the details are set forth in the following excerpt from the London Financial Times: Velvet—The secretary has issued copies of a letter, dated 23rd October, from Mr. Allan Maclean, who has just returned from British Columbia, and is a director of the company. Mr. Maclean says: "After carefully considering the adaptability of the smelting plants inspected, in Mexico and elsewhere, we became thoroughly convinced that a small pyritic smelting plant, with a capacity up to 100 tons per day, would be most suitable to treat the ores of the Velvet and Portland mines, and the knowledge gained by our investigations will enable the company to erect a very suitable plant at a moderate cost. The copper values shown in the Velvet and Portland mines by recent assays will be of great assistance in collecting the gold and silver contained in the ore, and no great difficulty should be experienced in securing a ratio of concentration of 20 to 1; that is, for each 20 tons of ore fed into the furnace, one ton of matte, containing the gold, silver and copper contents, should be produced. Had we been in a position to treat at the mine by concentration or pyritic smelting the ore shipped during the past year, there would have been a saving in the freight and treatment charges, amounting to nearly \$40,000. On account of the probable results to be gained and the splendid equipment that the mine has for carrying on the further development work, I consider that it would be suicidal to abandon or to close it down. The suggestions made by Mr. William Thompson in his report (copies of which have also been issued) should, in my opinion, be carried out. To effect these, and in view of the position and trend of the ore bodies, an amalgamation of the Portland and Velvet mines would be mutually advantageous. At the same time I would suggest that the combined capital of the two companies be reduced to a sum upon which dividends could, with reasonable hope, be paid, when the concentration and smelting plants, now recommended, are in full operation." Since the publication of the foregoing it is understood that the company's plans have advanced substantially, and that the details of the scheme are practically completed. Locally it has been felt for a considerable period that the solution to the problem of utilizing Velvet ore was simply that of so concentrating the product as to escape the heavy charges for freight, hauling and treatment on the crude output. The company will secure this measure of concentration by the use of the pyritic smelting works on the ground. In addition, it is not impossible that the establishment of the works may have an important effect on the section generally, inasmuch as there are various properties between Velvet and the summit of Sophie mountain that could ship ore at once were there facilities for concentrating the ore.

The resumption at the Velvet mine makes it almost essential in the interests of the community that the construction of the Rossland-Velvet wagon road should be effected. The only obstacle in the way of securing this road has been that the Velvet was closed down. This drawback is removed, and no stone should be left unturned that may assist in securing the appropriation required for the undertaking.

THE SERBIAN CABINET. BELGRADE, Dec. 8.—Finance Minister Radovanovich has resigned and has been succeeded by Dr. Pasich. This is believed to foreshadow a change in the entire cabinet. Premier Grucic, it is understood, will resign on the plea of ill health and is likely to be succeeded by Dr. Pasich.

LANGLEY FAILS AGAIN. His Air Ship Has an Exceeding Fondness for the Water. WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The Langley second attempt to fly the Langley aerodrome today was a failure. The machine when released from the launching car took a downward course and fell into the river. The machine broke in half and fell into the water a total wreck. One man, who was operating it, became entangled in the wreckage, but was quickly rescued.

FIFTY DROWNED. Two Great Steamers in Collision With Fatal Results. ATHENS, Dec. 8.—The Greek steamers Eferos and Assos collided at Rhacata today. The bows of the Phyloros were submerged and fifty of her passengers were drowned.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The Langley second attempt to fly the Langley aerodrome today was a failure. The machine when released from the launching car took a downward course and fell into the river. The machine broke in half and fell into the water a total wreck. One man, who was operating it, became entangled in the wreckage, but was quickly rescued.

Don't harden or shrink with Sunlight Soap. Of the oils and fats absence of free alkali.

Other yellow race, and perfect equality in the first civilized nations.

ANNA LEGISLATURE. Extra Session to Consider Butte Controversy.

Mont., Dec. 1.—The leg-vened here in extraordi-nary session today to con-sider a fair and also a measure giving the right to review the duty cases.

R. CHRISTMAS RATES. PEG, Dec. 1.—The Christ-mas rates to the east were today by the C. P. R. three hundred westerners took of the cheap tickets.

RAZOR STEEL, SECRET TEMPER CROSS-CUT SAW. Like pleasure in offering to steel saw manufactured of the finest steel, and a temper which refines the steel, gives a cutting edge and holds it longer in process known. A saw to cut just hold a keen cutting edge.

More money is being made at present than at any time in past history by investments in stocks the better class. We can furnish all western stocks at the lowest price obtainable for cash or monthly payments. We also have valuable mining properties for sale.

L. Whitney & Thomas S. Gilmour ACCOUNTANT, Insurance Agent and Stock Broker. Member Rossland Stock Exchange.

Shares Bought and Sold Strictly on Commission. Special Attention to Interests of City Residents living out of City. Office Address "WHITEHALL," Rossland. Messrs. Bedford McNeill, Clough.

Place Building, Rossland, B. C.