

GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

The Laurier government has purchased the Baie des Chaleurs railway and made it a part of the Intercolonial system. This may be one of those straws which indicate which way the wind is blowing and we trust it is. Should it be an indication that the Laurier government is in favor of the state owning and controlling the public highways, it must have an important bearing on the policy to be pursued by the government in relation to the proposed Crow's Nest Pass railway.

The Laurier has long felt that it is imperative if the Crow's Nest Pass railway is to be of real benefit to the people of Canada that it should be under government control, and control by the government can never be completely exercised unless the government builds and operates the road.

The Intercolonial railway may not have been a success financially under the administration of the conservative government but that is no indication that it cannot be profitably operated by a government which is not absolutely under the thumb of the C. P. R. as the late government undoubtedly was. But even under the conditions which have existed since its construction we are inclined to the belief that the Intercolonial has been a pronounced success in the broadest sense of the term. We venture the assertion that few of its patrons would be content to see it operated by any other than the government despite its shortcomings in the past.

As the government of Canada has seen fit to assume the construction and ownership of a railway connecting Quebec with the maritime provinces we insist that it is equally the duty of the government to build and operate the proposed national highway through the Rocky mountains connecting the fertile plains of the Northwest Territories with the mining districts of Kootenay. By so doing two of the principal links in a chain destined to rivet all portions of the Dominion in one homogeneous whole would be successfully cast.

There is another aspect of this question which seems to us to compel the government to this policy. Without the Crow's Nest Pass railway assures to the people of Kootenay a cheap supply of fuel all the expense of its construction will have been in vain. The great coal fields of East Kootenay have been reserved to a syndicate of local land sharks, headed by the Hon. Col. Baker, provincial minister of mines. This syndicate can only acquire title to these coal fields by building the Crow's Nest Pass railway. Were the Dominion government to build the railway it would forever prevent this syndicate from acquiring title to these coal fields, and the accomplishment of this object alone would be ultimately worth to Canada the entire cost of the railway.

With the Dunsmuir controlling British Columbia's coal fields on the west, and Col. Baker's syndicate controlling the Crow's Nest coal fields on the east, the miners of Kootenay would be between the upper and nether millstones. The Crow's Nest Pass railway must be built, owned and operated by the Dominion government.

OUR CABINET REPRESENTATIVE

Rossland is proud to have had the opportunity so early in her career of having entertained so distinguished a statesman as the Hon. A. G. Blair. The wants of the district as well as its resources have been fully laid before him and he has shown great readiness to appreciate both. We, therefore, feel that Mr. Blair's visit marks an epoch of no little importance in Rossland's history and that in the privy council and in the house we should in future be represented by a cabinet minister. We trust that Mr. Blair may be able to pay us a second visit in another year on the completion of an all-rail line from eastern Canada through the Crow's Nest pass.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Ex-Alderman Hewitt of Toronto, who has been in Rossland and British Columbia we don't know how many weeks, took occasion at the banquet last evening in proposing the toast of "Our American Cousins" to pledge himself and Mr. Blair as being opposed to legislation which would exclude Chinese from Canada. We regret that this matter has been brought up at this time as we are confident Mr. Blair will change his views if he has any, on the Chinese question when he comes to study it at first hand. We take this opportunity however, of assuring him that on this question Mr. Hewitt represents very few in Rossland or Kootenay except himself. If Mr. Blair and his administration should decide to champion the Chinese he can rest assured that the building of several railroads through the Crow's Nest Pass would not suffice to elect a single liberal member from this province at the next election. Mr. Blair will hear and see more of the Chinese when he gets to the coast.

A Boundary correspondent states in a private letter that Mr. Heine has put up the forfeit of \$50,000 for the construction of the Columbia and Western railway to Penticton.

Our London correspondent has made a very shrewd guess as to what will be done with the Hall Mines surplus. The matter has been kept very quiet so far but we have reason to believe that the money is to be used in the manner he indicates.

THE OLD FLAG GOLD MINING CO., Ltd.

Incorporated Under the Laws of British Columbia, Companies Act, 1890.
Capital Stock 1,500,000 Shares.
 Par Value \$1.00 each, of which have been set aside as Treasury Stock 500,000 shares. Fully paid and non-assessable.
Head Office, Rossland, B. C. Mine, South Slope of Lookout Mountain.
Trustees for the first three months are: C. M. Carpenter, President; Robt. Dixon, Treas.; J. E. Crane, Vice-Pres.; W. J. Whiteside, Sect.
 Directors: C. M. Carpenter, Robt. Dixon, J. E. Crane, J. B. Henderson.
 Solicitors: Elliott & Whiteside. Bankers: Bank of Montreal.
 Harry Gager, Mining Engineer.

The Old Flag Gold Mining company is the owner of the Eureka group of mineral claims, consisting of the Eureka No. 1, Triumvir, Esmeralda, Old Flag and Omicron, situate on the south slope of Lookout Mountain, in the celebrated Trail Creek mining division of West Kootenay district. Good surface showings have been found on each, assaying from a trace to \$5.50 in gold, \$5.95 in silver and from 1 to 17 per cent (\$28 to \$44) in copper.
 This property was purchased on the report of Mr. Harry Gager, mining engineer, on the Eureka No. 1. The following is his report in full.

Report on the Eureka No. 1 Mineral Claim.

LOCATION.—This property consisting of one full claim, fifteen hundred by fifteen hundred feet (1500 x 1500), is situated on the east slope of Lookout Mountain about seven (7) miles below and south of Trail, B. C. and one (1) mile west of the Columbia river, at Poulton's landing near old Fort Sheppard, and from two (2) to two and one-half (2 1/2) miles north of the International boundary line, Trail division, West Kootenay district, British Columbia.
FORMATION.—The general formation consists of granite, diorite and syenite, with dykes of porphyry running parallel with the granite. The trend being almost due north and south.
VEIN OR LEDGE.—The vein or ledge is of the same character as those found near Rossland, known in a general way as "iron capping," the gangue consisting of diorite mixed with quartz, carrying arsenical iron and iron pyrites and copper chalcocrites, more or less on the surface. At the discovery there is a small outcrop near the hanging wall which is well mineralized, but in bunches. This cry there is a good indication of what may be expected upon development, as samples of this have however, is a good indication of what may be expected upon development, as samples of this have given assay values of \$5.50 to \$5.95 gold and from 14 per cent to 17 per cent copper and also some silver. The principal outcrop is about eighty (80) feet north of the discovery, and is very strong, showing it to be fully fifteen (15) feet in width, and it shows for fully thirty (30) feet in length, being comparatively free from slide rock or drift for that distance. This outcrop stands out boldly from the ledge being mineralized, but not sufficient to carry much value, yet assays have been taken near the footwall showing from a trace in gold and copper to \$2.45 gold and one and one-half per cent copper, which is a good showing for surface.
 Small particles of native copper have been found near the hanging wall at this point. The ledge shows to be in a contact between granite and porphyritic granite, and the dip, which is now at an angle of about forty (40) degrees to the west, will change when development work is done to an angle of perhaps from sixty (60) to seventy (70) degrees. The general dip of the formation would indicate this.
WORKINGS.—The only work done on this property at the present time is a small open cut at the place of discovery, and a cut made at the principal outcrop as assessment work. This cut was made through the foot wall and into the ledge for a short distance.
GENERAL REMARKS.—This is in my opinion a most promising prospect, and upon development it will prove a very valuable property. The surface showings of many of the principal veins in the district and in the vicinity of Rossland were not as good as this, and like them it will require development to demonstrate its value. A wagon road can be made almost to the property at a small cost, and by that the ore could be transported to the smelter at Trail or Northport, Washington, by steamboat, or ferried across the Columbia river and loaded on cars at Waneta, B. C., and from there taken to the smelter at Nelson, B. C. or to the states via the Nelson & Fort Sheppard and Spokane Falls & Northern railway.
 Respectfully submitted, HARRY GAGER, Mining Engineer.

The directors have let a contract for sinking a 100-foot shaft, under the direction and superintendence of H. Gager, Esq.
 The directors have placed a small amount of the treasury stock on the market at 10 cents per share.
 The shares of the company provide that the directors shall not contract any debts without having sufficient money on hand to meet same when contract is entered into.
 When the mine is on a paying basis, and should that be remaining in the treasury, shares exceeding 50,000, the surplus will be divided amongst all the then shareholders.
 For shares or other particulars address:

W. J. WHITESIDE, Secretary, ROSSLAND.
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OFFICERS AND PROVISIONAL DIRECTORS.—J. K. Clark, President; J. Fred Ritchie, D. L. S., Vice-President; P. G. Nash, Secretary-Treasurer; George P. Brophy, O. E.; Sanford H. Fleming, O. E.; John W. McRae; W. A. Allen; Hector McRae of Ottawa; Wm. McNally of Montreal and Harold Kennedy of Quebec.
Mine: The Red Point on Lookout Mountain in the Trail Creek Mining District.

Position and Size.
 The Red Point claim was the first location made on Lookout Mountain and lies between St. Charles, Debs, and Sovereign, on the one side, the Imperial, K. of L., Wolverine, Occidental and St. Croix on the other. The property has been paid for and surveyed. The size of the property is 1500 by 1500 feet the full size claimed. The citizens of Trail city have contributed a fund for the building of a wagon road from the town up Lookout Mountain to connect with the mines. About \$3,500 worth of development work has been done and a contract has been awarded for a 300-foot tunnel.

J. K. Clark's Report.
 "I have made a careful examination of the Red Point mineral claim situated on Lookout Mountain and beg to submit the following report:
 "The ore deposits occur in the form of three parallel veins as shown by the outcrop which is large and well defined and can be traced nearly the entire length of the claim, the trend or strike being in an easterly and westerly direction. The width of the veins of unusual thickness, the croppings in several places being over 50 feet in width.
 "The vein matter or matrix consists of large masses of oxidized iron, interspersed with streaks of arsenical iron on the surface, carrying small gold values with a percentage of copper. At a depth of a few feet, as shown by the limited development work done, the oxidized ore changes to a sulphide, carrying iron pyrites, arsenical iron, copper sulphides and chalcocrites of copper, and greater values in both gold and copper. These features are characteristic of the principal mines of the district where pay values are not expected at the surface. The development work consists of several open cuts from five to ten feet in depth and in each of the openings a fair showing of ore is exposed."

E. S. Topping's Report.
 TRAIL, B. C., September 12, 1896.
 "In answer to yours of the 3rd Sept. re Red Point claim, will say that there are three veins or ore bodies on the claim, one of which has a width in sight of six feet, one of probably four feet, and one of about twenty inches. Two of these veins have been traced for several hundred feet on the surface. Of assays I have taken but two, one tested by F. Pellew Harvey ran \$73 gold, one from the present tunnel ran with a local assayer \$6 gold. In 1894, I took a piece of the croppings, and after crushing and washing I found gold to the value of \$50 and upwards per ton. I have always thought highly of the property. There is sufficient spring water on the ground to supply any works that may be devised. The country about is fairly timbered, and the fuel supply need not be considered for many years."

T. H. Finnegan's Report.
 "The vein the shaft is on is about 20 feet wide, and is traceable for about 600 feet, and no doubt can be traced further by removing the top soil. The shaft is down about 12 feet. We had ore to start on, but it improved in quantity and quality as depth was attained. I did not consider it economy to continue the shaft, as we had decided to leave it to the decision of the diamond drill. I think the next best showing is the big cropping up the hill, where the \$87 assay was taken from. There is still another good showing over northwest of the discovery line. It is a remarkably good showing. The fact of the Sovereign passing from a prospect to a mine, would in my estimation enhance the value of the Red Point 100 per cent. I have conversed with several mining men in regard to it, and they all agree that the surface showing of the Red Point is as promising as that of the Josie, Le Roi and War Eagle."

Treasury Shares.
 The owners having tested the property by considerable surface work, opening up and exploring the ledges, and with borings with their diamond drill, and fully satisfied that the Red Point will make a shipping mine when opened up by a tunnel to crosscut the four ledges 200 feet from the surface, now offer One-Half of the Treasury Stock—150,000 shares—to the public. The balance of the treasury stock will be placed in the market later on at an advanced price.
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