

## BRITISH COLUMBIA.

## Around Rossland.

Le Roi and War Eagle shipments fell off late through a block of freight.

The Red Mountain Railway is blocked with ore from want of switches and other facilities.

Large quantities of machinery are coming into camp, Morning Star, Palo Alto, and Nest Egg being amongst this week's shippers.

A Stock Exchange is to be formed at Rossland, and it is expected to be working by April 1st. Sixty applications for membership are in.

It is estimated that there are about 4,000 claims owned by prospectors who make Rossland their headquarters or purchased by development companies with head offices at Rossland upon which the \$100 assessment work must be done this season, which totals \$400,000.

During the month of February, says the *Rossland Record*, there were 94 mineral locations recorded at the Recorder's office. In January there were 1,261 locations. In January, 1895, the records show that there were only 8 locations recorded, and in February, 1896, only 25.

The report of options on the Jumbo, Commander and Gertrude is corroborated. The Commander is for \$250,000, to be paid April 1st; the Jumbo for \$965 cash and \$500,000; the Gertrude \$700 cash, and price \$125,000. Douglas John Neame, of the Neame syndicate, appears in the records for these options, and also appears as the purchaser of Sunday Sun No. 2.

The recent successful test of the Le Roi low grade ore (says an exchange) will almost assuredly result in the erection of at least 10 stamp mills in the immediate vicinity of this city, the erection of which and the extra amount to be paid out to miners and mill men on account of this method of reducing the abundance of silicious ores in the Rossland mining district will swell the wage bill of the camp by at least \$600,000. It is safe to say then, that \$1,000,000 worth of work will be done this season by these two items alone.

The *Record* reports information that active work is beginning at the Ethel Group. A shaft is down 25 feet. A steam hoist, drill and pump are to be purchased for the Morning Star on Red Mountain. The shaft, 100 feet, had filled with water, which is to be pumped out when machinery arrives. The shaft, on Copper Queen, is down 33 feet, with bottom in arsenical iron ore, with stringers of clear galena throughout it. The clear ore averages, says the *Rossland Miner*, over \$70 in all values. 205 feet of tunnel have been made in the Golden Drip. Rambler Consolidated has declared a second monthly dividend of \$20,000, payable April 15th.

The event of the week at the War Eagle, says the *Miner* of March 8th, was the making of connections between the No. 2 and No. 1 tunnels, through the No. 3 ore chute. This gives a very large block of ore ready to break down. The main shaft is now down 125 feet below tunnel No. 2 and yesterday they started to drift both ways, east and west, on the vein. These drifts at the bottom of the shaft will give as much ore to break down as the company has mined during the past eight months. Between the two tunnels there are in addition many thousand tons of ore ready to break out. The shipments, however, will continue at about 250 tons per week for some time to come.

Evening Star shaft is down 30 feet, with 4 feet face of ore. The ore is uncommon in this camp, being, says the *Trail Creek News*, an arsenic-sulphate of iron in a very vitreous calcareous gage. Manager H. B. Nicholls says

he can ship 100 tons a month that net between \$20 and \$25 a ton. Five feet a day with a power drill is now the tunnel rate at I. X. L., says the *Rossland Miner*. May Flower has the deepest shaft on the South Belt. It is down 128 feet, but being perpendicular is not on the main vein. At 150 feet level a third crosscut to the vein will be run. East shaft on the Great Western is down 40 feet, all in ore as hitherto, and ore steadily improving. At the surface it assayed a trace of gold; at 12 feet, \$6; at 20 feet, \$12, and now is over \$16.

From January 1st to March 6th, inclusive, the shipments of ore from mines at Rossland to smelters were as follows:

Mine.	Tons.
Le Roi .....	6,813
War Eagle .....	2,137
Columbia and Kootenay .....	455
Iron Mask .....	517
Jumbo .....	91
Josie .....	126
Cliff .....	61
Red Mountain .....	56
O. K. ....	60
I. X. L. ....	12
Total .....	10,328

\*Concentrates.

From January 14th to March 7th, inclusive, the ore milled in the camp was as follows:—

Mine.	Tons.
O. K. ....	1,036

Shipments for the last week were: Le Roi, 894; War Eagle, 27; Iron Mask, 65; Columbia and Kootenay, 60; I. X. L., 12; total, 1,058 tons. During the same period the O. K. milled 107 tons. The Trail smelter shipped, during the last week, 71 tons of matte to Omaha. [For the week ending 13th the shipments from the mines at the Rossland smelter were:—Le Roi, 774; War Eagle, 110; Iron Mask, 80; O. K., 12. During the same period 146 tons were milled at the O. K. mine. The Trail smelter shipped, during the week, 136 tons of matte to Omaha.

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## Pannings.

Phillips Arm gold properties are being developed and a considerable quantity of ore, it is thought, will find its way to the smelters at Tacoma.

The Jarvis Inlet copper field contains gold, and is exceptionally rich in copper. The field is practically unworked, but is thought to be extensive.

A Vancouver contributor to the *British Columbia Mining Record*, says Mr. Fraser, M.E., has reported very favorably on the Silver Tip mine, Texada Island.

The Orphan Boy mill, to be erected in April, is of American make; it will be carried in sections on pack mules, as the mine is far away from the highroad of travel.

A good many Americans have been in Vancouver lately trying to get offers for propositions either in the Colville reservation or at other points on the other side of the international boundary. "As, however," says a writer in the *Mining Record*, "the liberality of American mining laws and the safety of mine investments are far less favorably regarded than those of British Columbia, and as there are more than sufficient good propositions in this province awaiting the investment of home capital, little has yet resulted from the inquiries from across the border."

A set of locators have proved the existence of large deposits of good coal on the north coast of Queen Charlotte Sound, and workers have been sent thither to fully mark out the various claims and begin the work of opening them out. Easy access by water to San Francisco market

is to be had, but it is thought the new coal field will meet with formidable opposition from the Dunsmuirs and other capitalists of the Nanaimo district. Boring for coal is to be begun just outside of South Vancouver. "It is doubtful," says a writer in the *Mining Record*, "whether the coal is a good coal or merely a lignite possessing moderate fuel qualities."

## NEW ONTARIO MINING COMPANIES.

LETTERS patent have been issued, incorporating the following Ontario mining companies:—

The Sovereign Gold Mining and Development Corporation of Ontario; capital \$2,500,000, in \$1 shares. The incorporators are Albert Edward Jones, London, Eng., gentleman; John Sifton Dignam, manufacturer; Francis Phillips, contractor; Orlando Randall Sprague, prospector, and James Francis Latimer, mining expert, all of Toronto, and Henry Jones of Niagara Falls, N.Y., manufacturer.

The Cronsted Mining Company of Algoma; capital \$450,000, in \$10 shares. The incorporators are William Horatio Davis, gentleman; John Kelderhouse, vessel owner; George William Maytham, secretary Maytham's Tug Line, and Oliver Wilder Day, superintendent International Ferry Company, all of Buffalo, and William Bowman, London, Ont., merchant.

The Thessalon Gold Mining Company; capital \$800,000 in \$1 shares. The incorporators are Nathaniel Dymont, Barrie, lumberman; John Knight, Township of Plummer, Algoma; John Gunn, Township of Gladstone, Algoma, lumberman, and David Gordon and Albert Edward Dymont, lumberman; James Samuel Dobie, B.A. Sc., and Mary Caroline Dobie, married woman, all of Thessalon.

The Coronada Gold Mining Company of Rat Portage; capital \$40,000, in \$100 shares. The incorporators are George Drewry, merchant; Geo. Girard, prospector; John William Colclough, accountant; James Malcolm Savage, lumberman, and Arthur Cyril Boyce, barrister, all of Rat Portage.

The Black Sturgeon Mining Company of Ontario; capital \$1,000,000, in \$1 shares. The incorporators are Hon. Hugh John Macdonald, barrister; Herbert Henry Beck and William Phillips Sweatman, insurance managers; Robert Henry Agur, manager Massey-Harris Company; Robert Johnston Blanchard, physician, and William George Nichols, financial agent, all of Winnipeg; William Chalmers Edwards, lumberman, and Newton Cyrus Westerfield, mineralogist, both of St. Paul, and George Alexander Hamilton of New York, manufacturer.

The Bath Island Mining Company; capital \$750,000, in \$1 shares. The incorporators are John Galt, civil and mining engineer; John Gray, lumber merchant; Robert MacLaurin Gray, banker; Ralph Kerr Burgess and William H. Collinson, gentleman, and John Ferguson, real estate dealer, all of Toronto.

The Central Ontario Mining Company; capital \$49,000, in \$10 shares. The incorporators are William Herbert Robinson, commercial traveller; Henry Wilberforce Maw, solicitor, and William Ernest Barnes, all of Toronto; George William Edgar, Toronto Junction, accountant, and Hiram Burley Smith, Yarmouth.

In the Cuzco district on the boundary line between Peru and Bolivia there is great excitement about the discovery of new and very rich gold fields. English and American capitalists are sending representatives to investigate.