

CONCENTRATES.

The highest price ever paid for lots in Rossland was given by John R. Cook, one of the original townsite owners, for the Hart block.

The Sunset has struck now vein of good grade ore, which shows the best copper values of ore ever found in the south belt.

People continue to come into Kootenay in large numbers, and everything points to a very good season. A good many prospecting parties are already out and more go daily.

L. A. Jarnigan has bonded to Herbert Cuthbert for \$12,900 the mineral claims Lost Paradise, Hidden Treasure, and Easter, lying about one mile from the Blue Bell.

A local broker sent to Chicago, San Francisco and New York, a list of 20 claims which show good assays, and is in receipt of replies which evince a lively interest in British Columbia.

Herbert Cuthbert has secured a bond on a property not far from the Blue Bell mine, opposite Kaslo. Several years ago rich float was found in this vicinity, but not until a few weeks ago was any work of development done.

Ore receipts at Kaslo this week were 212 tons. These small reports are due to poor roads, but in a few weeks more it is expected the movement of ore in the Slo-can will again equal the high level of last winter's production, which frequently exceeded 800 tons a week.

Reports from Iron Creek and Christina Lake to the west, and from Salmon River to the east of Rossland, are highly encouraging, and in the latter section it is confidently expected that several miles, such as the Dundee, Tennessee, and Y. M. I. R., will become shippers this season.

An important deal was consummated within the past few days, whereby the Kootenay and Columbia Prospecting and Mining Company bought a quarter interest in the Sunset claim from Duncan McDonald, Hector McRae making the deal. The Sunset is located near the Whitewater.

A rumor has been in circulation to the effect that the Whitewater has been sold. This proves upon inquiry to be untrue. Major Montgomery, one of the owners, says he knows nothing of a sale. Negotiations for a sale have been in progress for several weeks. The Whitewater is one of the best known properties and has been turning out a large amount of high grade ore.

There are rumors of several important changes to be made in the management of the Hall Mines. One of the first, it is said, will be that M. S. Davis, the present superintendent of the Silver King, will be succeeded by a Mr. Kellogg, late manager of the Lexington mine at Anaconda. Mr. Kellogg is now on a visit of inspection. Should Mr. Kellogg accept

Kellogg is spoken of as a thoroughly experienced and capable mining man, who has made an enviable record in Montana and the Cœur d'Aléons.

From Revelstoke the shipments during the week ended May 22 consisted of 200 tons, value \$14,800, sent by E. R. White & Co. to Omaha.

Mr. John J. Banfield and others are reported to be interested in the "Cordova Masher" mine, located on Trail Creek. The company already possesses excellent development machinery.

The shipment of bullion, matte and ore, from the Slo-can and other districts tributary to Nelson and Revelstoke, have reached the substantial total of \$3,000,000 for the first five months of this year.

The Horne-Payne concentrator at Laurie is handling 200 tons of ore every day and the shipment of the daily car of concentrates goes on like clockwork. The company intends to put in another dynamo for lighting purposes.

Duncan McDonald, of Nelson, is credited with having sold a one-fourth interest in the Sunset mines, in the Whitewater basin, to J. Fred Ritchie and the Kootenay & Columbia Prospecting and Mining company for \$10,000.

Passenger travel throughout Kootenay continues to be very heavy, and Kaslo and the Slo-can country are attracting the bulk of the immigrants. The hills around Kootenay and Slo-can lakes are fairly alive with prospectors, and the summer's work in this line is likely to be the most important in its results since the country was first discovered to have valuable mineral deposits.

At Nelson the event of the week was the trouble between the government and the squatters, but this seems to be in a fair way to be settled without further friction. Mining developments in the vicinity have also been important, and great interest is being manifested in the progress of work on the mines on Forty-Nine and Rover creeks as well as Toad Mountain.

Our great mineral discoveries are sure to attract considerable numbers of people and, indeed, have. Daily hundreds of people are seeking locations in this new country and almost daily new towns are springing up as places of habitation for them. The growth so far, at least in Kootenay, points to the existence of a number of towns rather than that of one large one. The trouble with the settler is which then, out of many places bidding for favor will he settle in.

In Rossland the week has been a period of important events. The Centre Star has begun work on a new shaft on the north or War Eagle vein, and has uncovered on the surface a big body of solid high grade ore. The shaft on the Le Roi has now reached the 570 foot level, and is in the highest grade ore ever found in the mine. It is almost free milling and for

peculiarity about it is that it is becoming almost free milling and particles of free gold are often noticed.

A small piece of almost solid mineral, running in value, according to assays, \$6 in silver, \$14 in gold and about \$17 in copper, was exhibited by a prospector this week on the Hudson's Bay wharf in Victoria just before his departure for the Sound. The quartz came from a claim not 50 miles away, situated on Mount Cleecker, which mountain is now staked from base to summit, according to the testimony of the bearer of the specimen.

Ainsworth camp is no doubt on the eve of a very busy summer. The properties that are being worked show improvement in every instance, and the indications are that work will be immediately resumed on several others. The discovery of gold in paying quantities in the ore of the Highland caused considerable speculation in the camp. The discovery was made by Alex. McLeod, who, upon looking over the Highland dump, suggested that the ore looked as if it carried gold. Two days spent in assaying the dump proved that the supposition is well founded. The ore is combination of quartz and iron. It gave assay returns running from \$2 to \$70 in gold. There is a three-foot body of similar looking ore in the Highland. Gold has also been found in the Black Diamond ore, occurring in the galena. Recent assays have been had of from \$5 to \$8 in gold. It will be remembered that upon the discovery of the Little Donald, an adjoining property, a gold nugget worth \$7 was found.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AGASSIZ, B.C., June 2nd, 1897.

EDITOR CRITIC:

Mining in this section is being carried forward with a great deal of activity. The Cliff Gold Mining company, at Harrison lake, is pushing development work rapidly. The Star mine, adjoining the Providence, is making a good showing, considering the amount of development work done. It has sunk a shaft twenty-five feet in depth.

Mr. Joseph Trethewey, superintendent of the Providence mine before alluded to, is sinking a double compartment shaft, five by thirteen in the clear, which has attained a depth of thirty-five feet. The intention is to sink down one hundred feet, and then drift to the larger of the two veins on which work is being done with good surface indications. There is about thirty tons of high-grade ore now on the dumps.

The Blue Bells, on Frederick's arm, shows a ten-foot face of ore, carrying gold, silver and copper. An average test shows forty dollars to the ton, and if the indications are verified by present