

in a mineral claim in the Lemon Creek section applied for a crown-grant for the property, the application being, however, opposed by those holding the remaining three-sevenths' interest. Upon referring the matter to the Minister of Mines a ruling was obtained to the effect that any person having an interest in a mineral claim may crown-grant that interest. The question then is, as the *Drill* puts it, who is now responsible for the work required to be done by the partners in the claim whose interests have not been crown-granted, and can the interest or the claim lapse in the event of the minority interest neglecting to fulfil the legal requirements? Of course the answer to these queries would appear simple enough, namely, that the interests to which title has not been secured are alone subject to the regulations governing the holding of un-crown-granted mineral location. But supposing the owners of these interests fail to live up to the requirements, how can a three-sevenths' interest in a claim, a four-sevenths of which is crown-granted, be re-located or "jumped"?

We publish elsewhere in this issue a valuable paper recently contributed to the Canadian Mining Institute by Prof. R. W. Brock, on the subject of Poplar Creek and other camps of the Lardeau district, which sections the author in the course of official duty visited last summer. The paper, even in its condensed form, for space limitations unfortunately did not permit of its publication quite in full, might well, we imagine, be accepted as a model for bulletins such as our Provincial Department of Mines might periodically issue and afterwards embody in the Annual Reports of the Minister of Mines. Throughout, the tone Prof. Brock adopts in discussing the mineral potentialities of this district is such as might be expected from an impartial but at the same time a scientifically trained observer. He is neither optimistic nor pessimistic in his point of view, and touches on the commercial side of mining in the briefest possible manner and then merely in order to more accurately describe existing conditions. We are glad to learn that practically the same, though a fuller description of the Lardeau district is published in the Summary Report of the Geological Survey of Canada for the year 1903; for information of this character is not only of great practical value to prospectors and mine operators, but serves also to advertise the mineral resources of the country and is thus conducive to development and progress.

In the interesting case just brought to a close of the Centre Star Mining Co. vs. the Rosslund Miners' Union in which the plaintiffs sued for the recovery of \$50,000 as damages for loss and injury sustained by the plaintiffs by the action of the defendants in "maliciously conspiring" to bring about a sympathetic strike among the employees of the Centre Star mine in connection with the Rosslund strike of some three years ago, the jury brought in a verdict awarding the plaintiffs in the action damages to the amount of \$12,500. The amount of damages awarded is, how-

ever, of minor importance relative to the importance of the precedent established in Canada which agrees with a recent notable decision of the English courts, and though, it is stated, the case will be appealed and may be taken ultimately to the Privy Council, there is little likelihood of a reversal of the decision. The verdict in effect makes clear the fact that while the right of the individual worker to go on "strike" is not denied, he has no right to induce or compel a fellow workman who has no actual grievance against his employer to "strike" also. The illegality of this practice thus once for all established, and the knowledge that a labour organization committing the offence renders itself liable to heavy damages, should serve as a wholesome preventative of widespread strike epidemics in the future and induce the professional labour agitator to abandon an employment which now promises to become less remunerative than it has been in the past.

Mr. W. M. Brewer contributes to this issue a brief but interesting account of conditions in the northern mining camps of Atlin in British Columbia and of Whitehorse and the Big Salmon in the Yukon territory. The conclusions at which he appears to arrive are that a promising field for dredging enterprise has been developed in the Atlin district, the success of this industry being assured, the only check to be overcome being a slight and easily remediable disability in the mechanical device for handling heavy boulders. The Big Salmon district is, in his opinion, the richest placer field yet explored, though its area is extremely limited. Mr. Brewer anticipates that the gold production therefrom this year will have a valuation of about \$125,000, representing the work of some sixty men. He is, however, particularly optimistic in speaking of the future of the Whitehorse "copper belt," the present showings of ore, generally of high grade value, there met with, inducing him to predict that eventually the camp will become one of the largest copper areas in the West. Of course much development work must be undertaken before this can come to pass, and capital is badly needed for this purpose. The opportunities for the profitable investment of capital appear to be excellent, provided claim-owners show a disposition to treat with capital in a reasonable spirit. The district is no longer an inaccessible one, and we understand the railway company is prepared to transport ores to the Coast smelters upon most moderate terms.

We have received from headquarters confirmation of the intelligence contained in recent press despatches that the Canadian Smelting Works at Trail are about to commence the manufacture of lead pipe with a view to supplying the Canadian market. In addition thereto experiments are being made in the manufacture of sheet lead without the use of rolls. It is yet uncertain whether experiments on these lines will prove successful, but if so the Trail works will be in a position to supply the market with pig lead, sheet lead and lead pipe of any standard size up to four-inch. This