

The Lead Problem In British Columbia

For a period of about nine months now an order-in-council has been in existence which offers a bonus for five years on refined lead which is "the product from ores mined, smelted and refined in Canada;" this bonus is a decreasing one, but averages \$3 per ton of refined lead produced for the whole five years. In the closing days of last December the Canadian Smelting Works, through its general manager, announced that a small refinery of ten tons daily capacity would be erected at Trail, B. C., to be completed about May 1st; so that it is probable that within 12 months of the date of this order-in-council British Columbia will have a small refinery and will then attempt to work out the problem of a market.

Numerous articles have appeared in print, both east and west, bearing upon this problem, and although the non-technical man may have difficulty in mind confused by the diversity of views presented, yet all of these articles have tended to throw light upon what is vital to the life of the silver-lead industry of Canada. The relation of the cost of production to the price received for the product is stated by one writer as the difficulty; but it seems to the Review that the real difficulty is to get a market for the products of the lead mining industry. There is no home market for lead of sufficient size or importance to be of any great aid; our country produces almost every mineral product largely in excess of its needs, and pig iron, coal, copper, lead, precious metals, asbestos, graphite, mica and other minerals are obliged to seek a foreign market. In the case of the lead industry and under the restrictions of the States, there is no market in that country, and lead bullion must go across the ocean, either to a European or Oriental market. To reach either of these markets involves such heavy charges for transportation and insurance as to quite obscure from popular view, for the time, the local charges for smelting and freight. The cost of land and ocean freight and treatment in European markets may be said to average not less than \$30 per ton. Considering the Oriental market, there is no demand there for other than a special refined quality of lead suitable for the native to beat into the tea lead used in the East. It is a matter of record, and of fact, that the large Australian corporation, the Broken Hills Proprietary Company, tried for three years before it succeeded in making a soft lead which suited the requirements of the Oriental leader. It is equally of record that the Selby Smelting and Refining Company of San Francisco also took much time to make a product which was satisfactory, and that the market is now largely supplied (if not completely filled) by the production coming from these two large concerns and from England. The Canadian refiner seeking an overseas task ahead therefore has in addition to lengthy experience required to make the quality which the eastern market requires, he would be handicapped by coming into direct competition with the well established product of the concerns already mentioned, and, unless a poorer article could be affected, a war of prices would unquestionably ensue.

The southern market, the United States, has been definitely closed by the action of the American Smelting and Refining Company, whose objectionable is to secure control of production so as to dictate the price of lead for the United States, and for the whole continent. This company will naturally restrict its production so as to enable it to keep control of the price of the metal, and a paragraph in the New York Evening Post of February 19th, 1902, announced that the Guggenheim had secured control of the principal producing mines in the United States.

Upon surveying the ground it is difficult to see how the erection of the refining plant at Trail will substantially alter the conditions which now prevail in British Columbia. As the entering point of a wedge, it may grow, in the course of time, to a factor able to afford a distinct relief to the industry, but it cannot for many months, and perhaps years to come, afford any distinct relief to an industry which, although it is not yet paralyzed, has nevertheless suffered a very serious curtailment of its production and its progressive condition. It is not so very many years since the United States tariff was so arranged as to promote and favor the importation of lead ores which were required to smelt the excess of dry ores which the country was producing, and, as a direct consequence, and subsequently of Canadian lead ores, was enormously stimulated. Some five or six years ago the United States production of lead ore had grown so as to be in excess of the amount required to flux the dry ores, and the tariff was again increased, being doubled. The direct result was beneficial to the United States, as it kept the lead smelting and refining industries alive, and supplied them with the proper ores. Now that the raw material is offered in excess of what is required for home consumption and quite recently the monopolizing of the industry by the trust called "The American Smelting and Refining Company" has enabled the price of lead in the domestic markets to be kept steady, although prices in foreign markets have dropped tremendously. The apparent control by the Guggenheim corporation (the trust) of the chief silver-lead producing districts in the United States, holds forth

lar respect to the Amalgamated company, but very much in opinion that the Amalgamated company would be found to be fairly well fixed when a solution was arrived at.

MARCONI'S VISIT.

To Make Arrangements for His Cape Breton Station.

NEW YORK, March 7.—Mr. Marconi will leave for Canada tomorrow to supervise the arrangement for a permanent wireless station at Cape Breton. The inventor will confer with officials of the Canadian government to obtain final assurances of their co-operation, and that the recent action of the English postmaster general will not affect his rights to use the system on Canadian soil.

GRAND FORKS NOTES

RANCHERS AND BUSINESS MEN CONSIDER CHINESE QUESTION.

SHAREHOLDERS OF THE PHOENIX WATER AND LIGHT COMPANY.

(Special to the Miner.)

GRAND FORKS, B. C., March 6.

Archibald Mowat is erecting a 30-room hotel in the north, addition opposite the Granby smelter, for the accommodation of the smelter employees.

At the first annual meeting of the shareholders of the Phoenix Water & Light Company, held recently, the following board of directors was elected: H. N. Galer, G. W. Wooster, J. F. Hemlinway, O. B. Smith and Clive Pringle. At a subsequent meeting of the board Mr. Galer was elected president, O. B. Smith vice-president, G. W. Wooster treasurer, and Mr. Hemlinway secretary and general manager. The company secured a 25 year franchise and has already expended \$25,000 in installing a waterworks system, which is giving good satisfaction. The water supply for domestic use is pumped from Marshall lake to a 100,000 gallon reservoir tank located on the New York townsite, giving a 400-foot pressure. In addition there is another tank of the same capacity which is supplied from the Old Ironsides mine. This water is held as a reserve for fire protection. The company has also secured the light franchise, and has already taken over the lighting plant hitherto operated by the Greenwood Electric Light Company. The plant will be improved and placed in first class condition immediately. These improvements will tend to give Phoenix all the advantages of older and more favored centres.

THE COPPER SITUATION.

Views Expressed by Two Mining Men of Butte.

A. E. Spriggs and James H. Lynch, of Butte, are in Boston on business connected with the Butte Mining & Development Company. A few days ago the former lieutenant-governor was interviewed and this is what he is quoted as saying:

"The copper situation from our standpoint is all right. We do not care about the manipulation in the east and stock markets in the east, but so far as it affects the operation of our mines, all of the mines are now running practically on full time and development work is progressing favorably. None of the mines are worked out or showing any indications of being so, and new mines are constantly entering the producing class."

When asked as to the effect of the big slump in Amalgamated on Butte stockholders, Governor Spriggs said: "The slump cost me as much as \$8,000 in margins and as far as I know the people out there have still got their stock. There is no reason from their standpoint why the stock should not regain its former position. They can only judge of conditions as they see them, and with all the mines operating and producing copper to the east, they in large amounts to cause them to feel any doubts as to the final outcome. Personally, I look to see copper on a 15-cent basis and maintained there, but if it is continued on a lower basis, say 11 or 12 cents, our mines can still operate at a profit and the only effect would be a reduction of the dividend rate. As to what the Amalgamated should be able to pay, I, of course, can make no estimate other than to say that the earnings from the Butte Montana group of mines alone should be sufficient to pay the dividends on the entire capitalization of the company. Of course at the present time they are tied up through an injunction issued by the court, and the Amalgamated treasury is not receiving anything from the operation of the mines, but the money is still there, and the mine is producing, smelting and shipping copper. As far as I can learn, the output during the year 1901, during a part of which the mine was under Amalgamated control, was very largely in excess of that during the previous year."

"The Amalgamated-Helme fight shows no signs of terminating, reports to the contrary notwithstanding. Every Amalgamated stockholder will agree that the sooner this young man is placated the better it will be for that company. If, as was stated, it is the purpose of the Amalgamated company to make him general manager of all of their mines, it would be a good solution of the whole difficulty.

"The political situation in Montana shows very little signs of any change. We will elect a legislature for two years in the autumn, and the same old fight is likely to be precipitated, I, of course, cannot say as to the outcome at this time, but it will be an interesting fight."

Governor Spriggs would not say to how he thought the copper situation would work itself out, with particu-

PASSENGERS BURNED

A Frightful Train Wreck on the Southern Pacific.

Many People Caught in Burning Overturned Coaches.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 7.—A broken rail caused a frightful wreck on the Southern Pacific railroad near Mason station, 250 miles west of San Antonio, at 3 o'clock this morning. From the latest accounts received here 13 people were killed outright and 28 were more or less injured.

The train left San Antonio at noon on Thursday, two and a half hours late, and at the time of the accident was running at a high rate of speed in order to make up time. The road at the point where the wreck occurred is in a rough country, the curves sharp and the grades heavy. It was when rounding a curve that the train left the track, caused on account of a broken rail.

The hour was 3 a. m., 15 hours after the train had left San Antonio, showing that it was still behind time. All the passengers were asleep, and the shock that followed was the first intimation they had of the danger. The train was going at such a rate of speed that the tender and engine landed 75 feet from where they left the rails. The cars behind piled up on top of the engine, causing the fire, and all were consumed except the sleeping cars.

All the injured in the coaches just behind the express and baggage cars were cremated. The people in the sleepers were saved with the assistance of the uninjured passengers. The wrecked train was the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio, with a bound passenger, and consisted of an engine, small car, baggage car, one coach, one chair car, three tourist sleepers, one Pullman and one private car.

All the injured who were in a condition to be moved were sent to El Paso, where they are receiving careful attention.

PRAISES NORTHWEST

REV. W. T. STACKHOUSE SEES A GREAT FUTURE FOR TERRITORIES.

A PLEASANT AND INTERESTING RECEPTION HELD LAST EVENING.

"I have no hesitancy in predicting that the forthcoming year will see 100,000 souls added to the population of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories," said Rev. W. T. Stackhouse at the Baptist church last night in the course of an address in which he dwelt with enthusiasm upon the wonderful possibilities of the prairie provinces. For several years, the Rev. gentleman said, the population of the area between Lake Superior and the Rockies had grown at the rate of 20,000 per annum, and enough had been accomplished to demonstrate beyond the shadow of a doubt in his mind that the country in question was to see its greatest development in the approaching decade. At the end of that period he believed that in using the word "Canada" referred to the Northwest in the same sense that the word now refers to the portion of the Dominion east of Lake Superior.

Last year's work in the prairie provinces has made an enthusiast of Mr. Stackhouse, and the great Northwest has no more ardent advocate than the Baptist denomination. Furthermore he evidenced in his remarks that he was in love with his work, and rejoiced in the great field lying before him.

The reception tendered Rev. Mr. Stackhouse last night was largely attended and of a most pleasant nature. James Carson Murray presided efficiently as chairman, and gave expression to the pleasure which the congregation experienced at having their beloved ex-pastor once more in their midst together with their regret at the fact that his visit was so short as not to extend to the approaching Sabbath. Rev. Dr. Robinson of St. Andrew's church and A. M. Sanford of the Methodist church were present and addressed the gathering in felicitous terms. Incidentally Dr. Robinson remarked that British Columbia would enjoy during the approaching decade a most extensive growth as the section in which Mr. Stackhouse labored, particularly if the government at Victoria would get down to a definite basis and legislate in the interests of the country.

He believed that this measure of efficient government would never be attained unless the legislature was divided on straight party lines in order that some one might be held responsible for legislation that was manifestly opposed to the best interests of the country. The balance of the evening was spent in a series of exercises of a pleasant nature, a feature being dainty refreshments served by the ladies of the church.

Rev. Mr. Stackhouse leaves this evening for Calgary, where he opens evangelistic service on Monday night.

A CHARGE OF THEFT

ON INMATE OF A HOUSE ACCUSED OF STEALING FROM LANDLADY.

THE STANDING OF "DOCTOR" LYNCH ALSO UNDER INVESTIGATION.

A visitor to Chief of Police Ingram's sanctum yesterday might have concluded from the quantity of feminine clothing distributed about the office that the police contemplated going into the mercantile line. This was not the case, however, the clothing in question being the effects of a young woman who was occupying cell No. 6 pending a hearing on the charge of theft.

On the previous evening Dora Clarke, the proprietress of a sporting house, reported to the police that an inmate, Bessie Campbell, had departed suddenly leaving unliquidated bills aggregating \$130 behind and thoughtlessly taking away certain articles belonging to the complainant. The statement was made that the Campbell woman lowered her trunk out of a second story window with the assistance of a couple of male acquaintances, and placed the woman under arrest at an early hour yesterday morning, locating her in the company of another woman who was being taken to the city for several weeks. It appears that one of the articles whose ownership is in dispute is a full-lined overcoat held as security by Dora Clarke for accounts unpaid by "Dr." Lynch.

The case will come before Judge Boulton this morning. The police have located all of the goods claimed to be stolen, some of them being discovered in a hotel where they were cached by one of the woman's acquaintances who assisted her in the hurried departure from the house which had been her home for a month or two.

Incidentally the police are looking into the standing of "Dr." Lynch, who is alleged to have no right to the prefix "Dr." Certainly the gentleman is not licensed to practice in British Columbia, his name not appearing on the roll of licensed physicians. It is stated that since coming to the city he has practiced whenever an opportunity occurred, prescribing for patients and receiving pay in at least one instance. This constitutes a very serious offense under the act regulating the medical profession, and the penalty provided is of a severe nature.

A Swedish woman employed at the Hoffman house states that "Dr." Lynch proposed marriage to her, a proposal she declined, and induced her to this understanding he reduced her to a loan or gave him the sum of \$50. The loan or give him the sum of \$50. The woman is in possession of all the information relating to this incident. Moreover it is stated on excellent authority that "Dr." Lynch has endeavored to negotiate checks in various quarters, but so far as he realized upon one of these checks he was arrested. Other stories are afloat as to his attempts to raise money on collateral that was not in evidence. While in Sandon at the bospital "Doctor" Lynch says he made \$25 by performing an operation on a woman. These and other stories are related on the strength of statements made by the "Doctor" personally, and by parties having a knowledge of the facts.

The "Doctor" is said to have been negotiating with a well known Nelson physician for the purchase of a house, the consideration to be some \$9000. His case is receiving the attention of the police department at the present time.

MAY SMETEL B. C. ORES.

The Great Falls Silver-lead Smelter to be Remodeled.

GREAT FALLS, Mont., March 7.—The American Smelting & Refining Company has decided to expend a quarter of a million dollars in remodeling the old silver smelter here. The work is to be done at once and is to be completed about the time the standardizing of the Great Falls & Canada railroad is finished, or in the late summer. Charles Kretlow, ore buyer for the smelting and refining company at Salt Lake, in a letter to a local friend confirms this report. It is understood the company intends making this one of the chief features of the west and will make a direct bid for the ores of the Coeur d'Alenes as well as those of the other camps on both sides of the international boundary line, which the Great Falls & Canada and Great Northern branches reach.

In his letter Mr. Kretlow states that the money for the remodeling was set aside some time ago and that work will commence here shortly and will be completed before October. The entire plant is to be gone over and changed in conformity with the latest steam power, which has run the plant so long, is to be replaced by water power. The changes will greatly cheapen the cost of treatment, and Mr. Kretlow intimates that much of the ore treated will come from the north and over the writer states that the Great Falls smelter will be the only one of all of the old smelters of the company which is to be started up again and that all the others will be dismantled.

Mr. Kretlow has many interests in connection with the smelter at this place. The news is the most encouraging which has been received since the shutting down of the plant nearly two years ago.

Before. After. Wood's Phosphorine. Sold and recommended by all druggists in Canada. Only reliable medicine discovered. Packages guaranteed to cure all forms of Sexual Weakness, all effects of abuse of excess, Mental Worry, Excitement, nervousness, or Stimulants. Mailed on receipt of price, one package \$1, six, \$5. One will please, six will cure. Pamphlets free to any address. The Wood Company, Windsor, Ont.

Wood's Phosphorine is sold in Rossland by Goodeve Bros. and Rossland Drug Co.

PLENTY OF EXCITEMENT

Victoria Parties Worked Up to the Fighting Pitch.

Further Developments in Regard to Railway Contract.

(Special to the Miner.)

VICTORIA, B. C., March 8.—Smith Curtis on the house resuming on Tuesday will move for a committee of the house to investigate the conduct of the premier in using his office as premier to sell his own railway as part of the Canadian Northern and practically charging him with malversation of office as premier.

Mr. Greenshield interviewed this morning said the deal for the E. & N. was not completed, but it would likely be this afternoon. He said he was the representative of MacKenzie and Mann in this matter.

Government supporters this forenoon state that the government is reaching an agreement with the C. P. R. to undertake the construction of the Coast-Kootenay line.

As election day approaches the political excitement here is becoming intense. W. W. B. McInnes held forth to labor men last evening, supporting Premier Dunsmuir. A strong anti-Dunsmuir element of labor men was present, and several free fights took place in the body of the hall, as well as on the platform.

Col. Prior held a meeting, at which he declared that as a result of the arrival of Mr. Greenshield that evening from the east, clause 18 of the contract, which allowed the company to drop the agreement if so disposed within six months, had been eliminated. He also stated that the negotiations with MacKenzie and Mann for the taking over of the E. & N. railway were almost complete and would be finished by tonight, when Greenshield would take the platform and describe the bargain.

Wreckage from some of the many ships which have been lost off the entrance to the Straits is still coming ashore in the vicinity of Carmanah, but with the same unsatisfactory results in respect to the identity that has characterized so much of that which has been found before. One of the light keepers has just completed a tramp along the coast for a distance of seven miles to the east of Carmanah, and he has found a great quantity of floatam. Considerable of this is white painted wood. He picked up one piece with the brass figure 2 on it, as though it was the number of some stateroom on a steamer. Included among other wreckage were several pieces of hardwood in maple and walnut, which also look like the cabin fittings from a steamer. Possibly considerable of that came from the lost Mattewan and the cruiser Corvair, as both these ships must have gone down somewhere off the entrance to the Straits. The derelict Laura Pike has gone ashore, and is nine miles west of Carmanah, where the Indians are getting the lumber out of her.

At the opposition meeting this evening a resolution was passed condemning the government, and particularly Premier Dunsmuir, for acting in the negotiations in a manner subversive of clean and honest government. The charge is made that the Premier was selling a part of his own railway system to the contractors, that the agent for the government is also the agent for MacKenzie and Mann, and the result will close by asking the governor to dismiss the government. Copies were also sent to Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

VICTORIA'S CONTEST

MR. GREENSHIELDS COMING TO THE GOVERNMENT'S ASSISTANCE.

REPORTS FROM THE YUKON TELL OF FINDS ON THE CREEKS.

(Special to the Miner.)

VICTORIA, March 7.—Mr. Greenshield arrived from the east tonight, and is expected to take the platform for the government tomorrow night.

A winding-up order was granted the Nelson Tribune association by Judge Walkem on the petition of John Houston, a creditor of the company. Chas. H. Ink was appointed provisional liquidator.

Arrivals by the steamer Amur from Skagway report that there is a rush on from Dawson and other points in the Yukon to the old Pelly river district, about twenty miles from Selkirk. Good finds have been made on Scroggie, Thistle and Henderson creeks, in the Stewart river district, and a strike is also reported from Lost Chicken creek, in the Forty Mile district.

Walter Wilson was ticketed to Des Moines, Iowa, over the Spokane Falls & Northern road yesterday.

Palatable as cream—"The D. & L." Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil, for those suffering from severe coughs and hemorrhages, is used with great benefit. Manufactured by the Davis & Lawrence Co. Ltd.

THE TORIA

Slow to Bargain

st the Pre-ns Un-ed.

Miner.)

March 6.—The night sitting to the instance of the event the opposing Mr. Bodwell's Victoria theatre. Motion before government to programs and other alleged contract Mann.

A motion made by the government for the district was for the party vote of the opposition demands for tele-Canadian North-

If Mr. Greening the scheme, he was described making hundreds of railway deals in the city, meaning the deal.

At this up with a premier that he at with MacKenzie he sold them the Scott charter. He denied that the move that the government, and this election from the government, and the contention of the government with adjoining the of the govern-

RANBROOK

A B. C. MEMBER STABULARY

ENTARY ESTI-RENT YEAR

TTED.

the Miner.)

6.—The Governor-nadvice from that Francis M. Anthe Africa Constaid Heidelberg. The son of W. D. Anbrook, British Co-

estimates for the submitted to the total \$1,358,683. The with the Duke of the country amount in addition to the purpose last

LEVIATHANS.

Will Sail Under the Flag.

March 6.—It is reported, according to the ce, that it is the In-tern Steamship com-Northern Railroad under a foreign flag are now being built. Much interest is caused by the re-steamers, when come the largest vessels in displacement and car-the world. They will register and \$5,000 sent to the deep load

ews, says the paper while the report may ntirely correct, there all basis for it. The petition in the orient constantly becoming Hill and his friends during every advance-ference leans appar- German flag, owing antagoneous navigation

ions to the American to be based off the or high wages, but ction to shipowners. are more stringent trol of the crew.



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