

A transfer of considerable magnitude was effected a short time since when Frank Woods, manager of the Last Chance sold his tenth interest in that property to Dr. Hendryx, another heavy shareholder, for something approximating \$100,000, the exact figure being unobtainable. It will thus be seen that despite the present small output of the mine its cash value is estimated at a round million.

In the neighborhood of New Denver everything is progressing satisfactorily, operations have been resumed at the California, the second payment has been made on the Hartney bond, and the Bosun has commenced to drive a fifth tunnel nearer the Fidelity ground which it incorporated last year. From Silverton we are glad to hear that the Wakefield mill, unlike some others, is proving its thorough adaptability to the ore which it is required to treat, a result of careful and systematic preliminary investigation on the part of those responsible for its success or failure. The Vancouver too has lately been added to the list of working properties on Four Mile and as a mark of confidence, the first payment has been made on the Hewett, a mine which gives excellent promise for the future. Talk of again starting the Galena mines is once more current, a 20 ton trial shipment having recently been made for purposes of experiment it is believed. Extremely favourable reports are being received from the Arlington of late, and this coupled with the knowledge that 300 tons of ore from this property has reached the smelter this year ought to put a better complexion upon matters in that vicinity.

REVELSTOKE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

More interest seems to be shown over the forthcoming election than in mining matters, and indeed between the South African war and the British Columbia elections mining men seem to have been relegated to a back place. In any case, however, there are very few properties working full strength, as just now nearly every mine is so wet from melted snow soaking in from the surface that it is very difficult indeed to keep things going as they should be.

There is very little to report from the Big Bend; but none of the properties are altogether idle. Some little steady work is being performed on all of them though not much more than has been done throughout the winter, and it is satisfactory to know

that none of them show any deterioration but quite the reverse. The rather notorious Boston and B. C. Copper Co. has been resurrected as the Prince Mining and Development Co., and on very high authority it is said that the original promoters are out of it altogether. There are good grounds for hoping that the coming season's work will show up a body of ore that certainly exists, unless all indications and experience are to count for nothing. If all goes well there, it will be a great help to the neighbourhood, as there are other very promising claims near to the Standard Basin group.

The same quietness that exists in the Big Bend district occurs also to a less extent in the Lardeau, though on the whole that locality is busy enough. The Nettie L. is working with a less staff than usual on account of the workings being so very wet, and also because the long lower tunnel is practically completed, but it is the intention of the manager to ship ore as

fast as it can be hauled to convenient transportation. The Silver Cup reports striking their vein at the lowest level, which shows its continuity, and the innumerable other claims and groups of claims in that district will all be duly attended to during the coming season. Fish Creek, also, will be the scene of much activity, some very remarkably rich veins having been uncovered, not only in galena and gray copper but in free-milling gold (notably the Pontiac group), which should cause still further attention to be paid to the locality by capitalists. But after, all, the supreme need is good roads, and while the Trout Lake waggon road is at last receiving the very necessary repairs, yet there are others equally important as outlets for the mineral in their respective vicinity which also require to have money spent on them to keep them always in decent condition; and considering the amount of revenue derived from West Kootenay by the government, it seem hard that we should have to put up with such wretched apologies for roadways as we have. Most sincerely is it to be hoped that the new government, whatever it may be, will try and improve the country that pays them so well and not hamper the mining industry with unconsidered and mischievous legislation.

QUESNELLE FORKS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The men working on the Gold-flat claim took out very good pay as a result of the winter's work. This company drifted into the old workings of the Dead-broke which paid well in the "sixties." The ground joins the upper end of Sebastopol Point, noted in early days for the amount of gold found there. Its locator, a Russian Fin, known as "Sebastopol," was also a noted character in those days. Keithley Creek has been worked for over forty years, during which time a large quantity of gold has been extracted from its placers. On this creek was formerly a large white population, but most of the paying claims have now got into the hands of Chinamen who still earn very fair pay every season.

Spanish Creek.—On this creek the Moore Company drifting in the hill have been doing very well for some time, taking out from three to eight ounces per set of timbers. This ground has been bonded to an English syndicate for \$25,000.

Dancing Bill Gulch.—The Consolidated Cariboo Hydraulic Mining Company have resumed work for the season with a large force of men and everything promising a prosperous season, provided there is no shortage of water, which, however, is possible, as the snowfall last winter was very light.

A NEW ASSAY FURNACE.

THE "L. & C." patent combination furnace, owned and manufactured by F. W. Braun & Co., Los Angeles, Cal., (The B. C. Assay and Chemical Supply Co., Vancouver, agents) is the result of a close study of the requirements of the practical assayer, and, with the patent muffle ventilator attachment—one of its special features—is the most efficient and satisfactory furnace ever placed on the market.

By reference to the accompanying illustration it will be seen that it has the novel feature of a muffle lying transversely to the melting compartment, which arrangement is adapted to the application of the patent ventilating flue to a furnace performing simultane-