BUSINESS IS GOOD

The Increase Has Been Large During the Present Year.

BETTER THAN IN 1897

The Increase Runs From 25 to 300 Per Cent—All Predict That 1899 Will Be a Phenomenally Prosperous Year for This Camp.

Numerous interviews with the merchants and business men of this year are printed below. These reveal that the year 1898 was the most prosperous in the history of the camp. The volume of business transacted was even larger than in the boom days of 1896, and was much greater in volume than in 1897. The prediction is freely made that the year 1889 will be much better for all lines of business than even the present year has been. Appended are the interviews:

J. W. Spring, jeweler, reports that business this year was fully 40 per cent better than it was 1897. The holiday trade was even more than 40 per cent larger than it was the year previous. Mr. Spring expects that the increase during the next year will be larger, if anything, than it was during the year that is just passing away.

"The holiday business for the present year has been 40 per cent better than for the same time last season," was the terse way that O. O. Lalonde, shoe dealer, summarized the situation. "Taking the year as a whole, the increase has been from 25 to 30 per cent over 1897. Business has shown a general increase in all classes of our good. As I do almost entirely a cash business, the increase in business indicates a vital increase in the financial prosperity of the town."

William Rolls, druggist. — Business during the year showed a considerable increase over that of last year and the Christmas business was exceeding satisfactory. Saturday's business was quite double that of the corresponding day of last year.

"The White House's business," said R. C. Waterson, "during the past year has increased month by month and we have had especial cause to congratulate ourselves in not only the quantity but the quality of the goods demanded. Christmas week was very good, and, indeed, was by far the best in the history of the company."

H. H. Smith, merchant tailor.—I have every reason to be satisfied with the business this year and my holiday trade has been exceptionally large, and many of the orders have been taken far ahead.

Rosslander Printing Office. — Our business has been 50 per cent better this year than during the previous year. We expect to do even better than this in 1899.

Dickinson & Orde, stock brokers.—Our business has shown an increase of 100 per cent. A number of factors of a favorable nature have conspired to make the stock business lively. With the development of Boundary, Republic, Cariboo Creek and other camps there will be an increase all along the line. This together with the local improvement in the mines will make the year 1899 a good one for the stock broker.

A. J. Fry, family grocer.—Mine is almost exclusive a family trade, and in the ordinary course should continue steady month by month with, of course, some increase, but this year the increase has been pronounced and I have many more customers than ever before, and they are buying better, too. The sales for December were exceptionally large, while Friday's and Saturday's business were double those of any other two days.

S. A. Hartman, clothing, gents' furnishings, etc.—Business was never better than during the past year, and I have had to duplicate orders time after time. The holiday trade was double that of last year, and the year's business on the whole was at least 50 per cent greater.

C. O. D. Grocery.—While the business for the year was better than we had anticipated and has been steadily increasing during the whole time, the holiday trade was hardly up to our expectations though it was on the whole satisfactory.

Dabney & Parker.—Our business during 1898 has been the best we ever enjoyed. We look for the best year that Rossland has yet seen in 1899.

P. Burns, wholesale, and Thos. Haley, retail butcher.—An improvement of at least 40 per cent was shown in the general business of the year both here and at other points. The holiday trade was exceptionally good and exceeded that of last year by a large percentage.

"We have been in business here since March, 1896," said T. R. Morrow of McLean & Morrow, druggists, "but our trade for the past 12 months is the most satisfactory that we have yet enjoyed. The present holiday trade has been 40 per cent better than the Christmas business of last year, and our customers are demanding a better class of goods than ever before."

"Our business has trebled in volume during the past year," said A. C. Campbell of the Pacific Tea company. "We have done a splendid holiday trade, and a feature of it has been that people showed every inclination to pay good prices for good goods, without any tendency to haggle over a cent or two. We are more than pleased with the year's business, and we have every confidence in the future of the city."

"While we do not pay any particular attention to the holiday trade," said James Hunter of Hunter Bros., general merchants, "yet our holiday business has been very satisfactory. We have added new departments during the past year, and are in better shape than ever to accomodate our customers. The stock which we are now carrying amounts in value to $100,000. Business generally has increased and a pleasant point for the public is the fact that the margins of profit have steadily decreased and we are now selling goods at lower prices than ever before."

Morrison & Morrison, grocers, report that their business has been very good during the eight months since they embarked in business. They look for an increase during the coming year.

Mrs. M. Heard, millinery and dry goods.—Business has been 75 per cent better than last year. Mrs. Heard expects a corresponding increase in the coming year.

Rolt & Grogan, stock brokers, report an increase of 60 per cent in their business for this year over that of last year. The trade has been steady and the local and eastern business has been supplemented by that of Great Britain. The firm anticipates an increased business during the coming year.

M. J. O'Hearn, clothier, tailor and gent's furnishing goods.—"We had 50 per cent more trade this year than last. There were no losses though giving credit. My store rooms have been enlarged and the stock increased and I intend to add another department soon, boots and shoes. I feel satisfied that there will be a large increase in business in this city in 1899."

Whitney & Dunlop, brokers, report that the increase in their business this year over last was 300 per cent. The firm anticipates a large increase in the coming 12 months.

J. H. Robinson, clothing and furnishings.—"Business has been a good deal better than it was last year or for any year since 1895, when I started in business. The city is on a solider basis than ever and the mines are in excellent shape. There promises to be large amounts of capital spent here in the next year in both the purchase of mining properties and in development. The outlook for the coming year is therefore phenomenally bright."

Goodeve Bros., "whom it pays to deal with," say that their business showed an increase of 125 per cent this year over the previous 12 months. Business was more satisfactory as people bought freer and the losses on credits extended were very small compared with those experienced in the earlier history of the camp. By reason of this increase the stock of the firm had to be doubled and even now an increase will shortly have to be made. The outlook for the coming year is exceedingly bright.

J. B. Johnson & Co.—Our business has increased fully 200 per cent in the last year. In fact it was even better than it was during the boom year, 1896. Expect a marked increase in the next year.

Crow & Morris.—Business was 75 per cent better than it was last year. Cigar smokers seem to be able to afford a better grade of cigars than was formerly the case. This indicates that they have more fun money than they used to have. The firm expects to transact a much enlarged business next year.

C. W. Mount & Co., furnishing goods.—Business has been very good during the two months of the firm's existence, and a material improvement is looked for during the coming year.

Kennedy Brothers & Purgold, brokers.—We are well satisfied with the business of 1898. It was an improvement on that of 1897, and we feel confident that our business will show a marked augmentation in the year that is coming.

Reddin-Jackson Co.—Our business was 75 per cent better this year than it was last and the volume was even greater than it was in 1896. We look for an increase of 100 per cent during the coming year.

"Business has been good during the past year," said G. M. Stunden of the firm of Stunden & Perine. "In fact it was 50 per cent better than last year. It was steady and not spasmodic as in the previous year."

Lockhart & Jordan.—Our business was 30 per cent better than last year. We are now selling a better class of furniture than formerly, and we find that there is a growing demand for it. With the growth of the camp we anticipate a still larger trade.

W. H. Paul & Co., stock brokers.—Our firm has only been doing business for two months and we have done well. In the coming year we expect to do still better.

O. M. Fox & Co., grocers.—Our business in this year shows an increase of 40 per cent over the previous 12 months. We feel confident that there will be at least a corresponding increase in the coming year.

W. J. Lougheed, merchant tailors and ladies' drapers.—We have only been in business for three months and have done well. We will be in better shape to please customers during the coming year and expect a marked increase in 1899.

"Business was never so satisfactory as during the present holidays," said H. S. Wallace, stationer and dealer in fancy goods. "People have bought munificently in all classes of goods. It was also very good during the year and in 1899 it will be still better."

E. N. Ouimette, broker.—Business was considerably better than last year and we have made arrangements that will ensure a much larger business next year.

Lion Brewery.—Business this year—good? Well, I should think so. It was good the year through, much better than ever before, and the holiday business was exceptionally good.

"One of the important features of the past year has beed the increasing easiness in the matter of collections," said F. E. Empey of Empey Bros. "We find people growing more and more ready either to pay cash or to settle their accounts on presentation. The moral, of course, is that financially the city is in better shape than ever before. Business for the past year generally has shown general improvement."

The Crescent.—Business was fully as good with us this year as it was last. It would have been better, but we were closed down for a portion of the year and started up in premises which were not sufficiently roomy. I think the coming year will show an improvement.

Carpenter & Co.—Our business showed an increase of 50 per cent during the year over the one previous. Look for a good steady increase during the coming year.

G. W. McBride, hardware.—Business has been improving during this year, and this improvement has been steady one month after another, until during the holiday time more seasonable goods were sold than ever before.

Morrison, McKenzie & Co.—We have but little to say except that the business has been very satisfactory, and that we hope it will continue to improve at the same rate. Holiday trade was good.

Thomas & Greiger, wholesale wines and spirits.—Business during the year was good and we have had every reason to be satisfied not only with the business we have done, but with the outlook for the future. Our holiday business was nearly double that of last year.

Steen & Co., wholesale liquors.—Business has been exceedingly good during the holidays and has more than exceeded our most sanguine expectations.

Parson's Produce Company.—The year has been very favorable and a large business has been transacted. Of course this is purely a wholesale house and it is impossible to say much of the holiday trade except as we find it from our dealings with retailers, but sales of poultry have been all we could desire.

B. C. Meat company report that the volume of trade enjoyed by them during the past year was 100 per cent greater than in 1897. They anticipate an increase in 1899.

John Dean said: "Without a doubt business during 1898 as a whole, and especially during the declining months, was away ahead of 1897. In the early part of this year we were yet suffering from the relapse begun in 1897, which is always incident to injudicious investment by inexperienced investors, both in stocks and mining property, and I may also say in real estate to some extent. Shortly after midsummer we had every sign of improving business. The faith evidenced on every hand by Governor Mackintosh on behalf of the British America corporation, exemplified by the numerous and heavy investments made, had much to do with this, together with the increasing ore shipments from the Le Roi and the ever encouraging development of the War Eagle and the Iron Mask and the properties acquired by the B. A. C.; and to further stimulate and encourage the faith of our people as well as outsiders, we had the sale of the Centre Star, at a price indicative of the value of our mines, and since then the final and complete purchase of the Le Roi. As far as mining stocks are concerned, I may say I do not think there is quite as much local trading, but the demand from outside points is greater, and there are more dealings in the better and higher priced stocks. This is due in a large measure to investors becoming better informed with regard to our mines, and better posted on mining business generally, together with the fact that our brokers are better established, and perhaps more reliable than was the case at first. Though our business with Europe is not so extensive as on this continent, it is growing and I anticipate great expansion in that direction, before very long. Referring to the real estate market, though dealings have not been so large this year, they have been fair and values in the business part of town have certainly increased. Another good sign is that English capital is investing in busines lots and blocks. I have sold them some very valuable property bringing in exceptionally good revenue, and I must say they are clever in picking it out. There is more inquiry than ever for decent residences. Everything points to the building of many dwelling houses next year, as at present there is not a decent vacant house to be had."

Le Roi Brewery.—Business was so good during the whole year that we are now trebling our plant for the coming year. We cannot say anything better than that the holiday trade was exceptionally good.

GLAD CHRISTMAS TIME.

It Seems to Be the Season for Weddings in Rossland.

Two well known young people were married on Wednesday evening, when Rev. D. McG. Gandier united in marriage Arthur G. Sharp and Miss Nellie Whiting. Mr. Sharp in connected with the Le Roi furnishing house, and his bride was formerly a resident of Rossland, but for the past year had made her home on the coast. The wedding took place at the home of one of the friends of the bride's family, Mrs. A. W. Naughton, in the Velvet. Only a few of the most intimate friends of the couple were present. The decorations, which were unusually attractive, included a charming combination of evergreens, carnations and roses.

Immediately after the informal reception which followed the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Sharp left for their new home on Thompson avenue, which had been completely furnished in preparation for them. They will be at home to their friends after the 18th of January. Mr. and Mrs. Sharp received a number of fine wedding presents.

On Monday evening at the Baptist church the Rev. J. H. Best performed for the last time in Rossland the ceremonies of matrimony. He united in marriage Miss Lily Gow and John Schmidt. The church was well filled when the wedding party arrived at 8:15. The bride was prettily attired in a traveling gown of brown serge trimmed with braid and fur, with a Gainsborough hat to match. She was attended by Miss Ferrier as bridesmaid, whilst S. Croft supported the groom.

After the hymns had been sang Mr. Best addressed a few words of earnest advice and encouragement to the young couple, and then united them in marriage. The happy couple drove off in a sleigh amidst the good wishes of their many friends. Miss Lily Gow has only been a resident of Rossland for seven months, having coming here with her parents from Walla Walla, whilst John Schmidt is well and favorably known as a valued employe of O. M. Fox & Co. They will soon return from Spokane and will make their home in Rossland.

John C. Murphy, the foreman of the Iron Horse, and Miss Mary Mitchell were married Thursday at the home of Charles E. Clarke, on Davis street. The ceremony was performed by Rev. George H. Morden, the pastor of the Methodist church. The groom was supported by his brother, while Miss Maggie Mitchell, a sister of the bride, acted as the maid of honor. The ceremony was witnessed by a number of immediate friends of the couple. The esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are held by their acquaintances was attested by a number of handsome wedding presents. Mr. Murphy, as shift boss of the Monte Christo and foreman of the Iron Horse, has made a first class record for himself as a mining man, and has any number of friends among the mining men of the city. In his bride he has one of the most charming of the many charming girls who make Rossland their home.

Invitations have been mailed for the marriage of Nancy Elnorah Scales Tuttle, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Jay Tuttle, and Walter Hull Aldridge. The ceremony will take place at St. George's church at noon on Wednesday, January 11.

At the Methodist parsonage Thursday Frederick W. Bonner was married to Catherine Rogan by Rev. G. H. Morden.

That Libel Case.

In the police court Friday the police magistrate rendered a decision in the case of the Queen vs. Eber C. Smith, charged with criminal libel, on the motion to dismiss all eight counts in the complaint. His worship dismissed three of the counts, but decided that the other five must be answered. The case was adjourned to Wednesday next, January 4, at 2 p. m., when the defense will put in its testimony.

COPPER MOUNTAIN

A Mineral Country That Has a Future Before It.

TWO THINGS ARE NEEDED

One Is Transportation Facilities and the Other Smelters—Plenty of High Grade Copper Propositions—A Great Place for Cattle.

J. L. Parker, M. E., of the firm of Dabney & Parker, who recently paid a visit to Copper mountain, in speaking about his trip Friday said:

"There is a great country in the vicinity of Copper mountain, and it certainly will be heard of as a producer of copper. Notwithstanding the fact that for a portion of the time that I was in the Nicola valley the thermometer registered 30 degrees below zero I greatly enjoyed the trip, which I made by sleigh from Kamloops. The distance to Princeton, on the Similkameen river, is 130 miles. Copper mountain is located some 10 miles from Princeton. Emil Voight and Dave Morgan are operating on Copper mountain. Whilst inspecting their properties I saw the Sunset and the Helen H. Gardner properties. The Sunset, it is claimed, is virtually in the hands of the B. A. C. The Sunset, Helen H. Gardner, Copper Farm and the Vancouver are the best properties, of those I inspected. I did not have the opportunity of seeing the other claims nearer the river. I am informed that there is more bornite in these claims, but still those I have mentioned contain quite a large proportion of this mineral. I believe thet this section will be one of the best copper producing regions ia British Columbia when railway and smelting facilities have been provided. There is lignite coal at Princeton, but this is not suitable for the making of coke for smelting purposes. The coal measures there have not yet been explored to any depth and there may be bituminous deposits suitable for smeting underlying the lignite seams. The section will have an excellent future as soon as it is opened by a railway. It seems to me that the country is of sufficient importance to justify railway connection and the erection of smelters. I only inspected about 12 claims on Copper mountain, but I was informed that there are numerous important claims that I did not see, but judging from those seen, it seems a promising mining section. The ore from the Helen-Gardner assays 11 per cent copper, while the Anaconda at Butte averages six per cent and is worked at a large profit.

"The Nicola valley is a great cattle country. The Douglas Lake syndicate there has 100,000 head of as fine beef cattle as I ever saw. The Triangle Ranch syndicate, I am informed, has about the same number. So far this winter it has not been necessary to feed these cattle. It is the custom in midwinter, however, to give them one feed of hay a day and they come out in the spring looking well and in splendid condition. The country is noted for its bunch grass, which makes excellent food for the herds.

"To show you how good a pastoral country this is I will tell you of a family that went in there 11 years ago. Its sole capital was one old cow, two calves and an old mare. Now the family has 640 acres of land, 100 acres cleared, 300 head of cattle, 10 horses, commodious farm buildings and sells $3,000 worth of cattle every year. The land which they cleared costs $15 per acre to clear, and the hay crop raised the first year after clearing pays for the clearing. It is a fine country and will be of benefit to Rossland as soon as railway communication is established, for the reason that all sorts of farm products will then be obtained by us from there."

CHIEF SQUIRES GETS A BADGE.

Presented to Him by the Fire Laddies Last Night.

The fire laddies of Rossland held a special meeting in the fire hall Thursday when resolutions were passed thanking the people of Rossland for the many generous gifts presented to the boys at this holiday season, all of which were much appreciated; also for the handsome manner in which they helped along their late well attended and successful ball.

Then Assistant Chief Collins took the floor, and calling on Chief Squires, addressed him on behalf of the boys in a speech in which he stated how much the boys appreciated his merits, and then in their behalf presented him with a very handsome gold badge bearing the inscription around it: "J. Squires, Chief Rossland Fire Department." The chief, in thanking them, expressed the pleasure he had in being chief of so excellent a body of men.

Strike on the Swansea.

THE MINER of Thursday contained a report of a strike on the Swansea at Windmere, East Kootenay, of very great importance. It has since been learned that W. Mulholland is the owner of the claim and that it was under option at a large figure. A MINER reporter called on Mr. Mulholland to get some details of the discovery but he refused politely but firmly to say anything about the property. THE MINER, however, learns from reliable sources that the property gives promise of being a great copper producer at no distant date.

Visited East Kootenay and Slocan.

Percy F. Godenrath, the traveling correspondent of the Spokesman-Review, returned to the city Thursday after spending four weeks in East Kootenay and the Slocan. He reports things lively at Sandon now that a number of the properties have started rawhiding. "The Ruth Mines," he said, "are preparing plans for a 100-ton concentrator and for the construction of a tramway 1,200 feet in length from the mine to Sandon townsite. In East Kootenay there is considerable talk of the Windermere district, which lies to the north of the Fort Steele district, and I anticipate seeing a rush into that section early next spring."

D. A. Young is in the city. Mr. Young is considering the advisability of moving his paper, the Kootenay Mining Standard, from Nelson to Rossland.

Burlington Route

TO CHICAGO OMAHA

NEW SHORT LINE FROM MONTANA, IDAHO AND PUGET SOUND

A. C. SHELDON, General Agent, 250 Washington St., PORTLAND, ORE.

Satisfaction or Your Money Back.

There is a difference in Guarantees.

Some are only vague promises made by salesmen with nothing back of them. We put a guarantee card in the pocket of each garment, which is as strong and binding as a Notarial Contract. Here it is:

This card is a Guarantee that the cloth in this garment has been thoroughly SPONGED and SHRUNK and the workmanship is fully guaranteed.
H. SHOREY & CO.
Montreal.

Shorey's Ready-to-Wear Clothing

can be purchased from at least one reputable dealer in every town and village in Canada.

Ask for **Shorey's Ready-to-Wear Clothing** and insist on seeing the **Guarantee Ticket.**

IN THE SUPREME COURT, IN THE MATTER OF

O. K. GOLD MINING COMPANY

Limited Liability, (Foreign). In Liquidation.

The Undersigned Official Liquidator Will Sell by Private Treaty Subject to Ratification by the Court

IN ONE LOT

The property known as the O. K. Mine and the buildings belonging to the said company. Also the entire mining and milling plant of said company, the whole situated on the south slope of O. K. mountain, in the Trail Creek Mining Division of West Kootenay, Province of British Columbia. The claim is surveyed and crown granted and known as the O. K. mineral claim, official number 678. The property is about two and one-half miles west of the City of Rossland and close to the main wagon road and Red Mountain railroad, both leading from the City of Rossland to Northport, in the State of Washington.

BUILDINGS.—The principal buildings include the following: The new mill building containing 10-stamp mill, but designed and built to accommodate 25 stamps; engine and boiler house, office building, mess room, cook house. store room and manager's residence.

The development consists of three main tunnels, with one winze and numerous drifts, together aggregating over 1,500 feet of work.

The property is open to inspection, but an order for that purpose must be obtained at the office of the liquidator, 3 Imperial block Rossland, B. C., where price, terms and further information can be obtained.

Under an order of the court heretofore issued the undersigned is authorized give a short option or working bond on the mine

Telgraphic and cable address, Piewman Rossland

Bedford McNeill's Code.

RICHARD PLEWMAN
Official Liquidator

Charles Dangerfield
STOCK BROKER
IMPERIAL BLOCK ROSSLAND, B. C.

Weekly Market Report with Quotations on Rossland, Slocan and Republic Stocks Furnished on Application.

SALE OF THE B. C.

It Is Claimed That This Famous Property Has Been Sold.

THE PRICE IS A BIG ONE

Major R. G. Edwards Leckie Was the Successful Negotiator for a Montreal Syndicate—The Price Close to $400,000.

Negotiations have been quietly carried on for some months by Major Leckie for the acquisition of the well known B. C. mine in Summit camp, near Greenwood. The property is conceded to be the best in Boundary, as there are large reserves of shipping ore blocked out ready for shipment, and the amount of development may be guessed when it is stated that there are now several thousand tons of shipping ore on the dump taken out in the course of development alone. The railway now in process of building through Boundary will pass through the B. C. group.

This deal is a matter of such importance to the Boundary country that a MINER reporter called on Mr. Harrison, the owner, and Major Leckie, but they refused to give any information. The price is not made known, but it is stated by some who are in a good position to know to be between three and four hundred thousand dollars.

Elected Officers.

The East St. Louis Gold Mining company held its annual meeting Saturday afternoon in the offices of MacNeill & Deacon in THE MINER building. The following directors were elected: W. N. Dunn, Ross Thompson, Thos. R. Morrow, A. Wilson and W. S. Deacon. Mr. Dunn was subsequently made president; Mr. Thompson, vice-president; and Mr. Deacon, secretary-treasurer. The representation at the meeting numbered 722,000 shares.

THE OLD BOARD PASSED AWAY.

Le Roi Mining & Smelting Company's Annual Election.

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 31.—[Special]—At the regular meeting of the Le Roi Mining & Smelting company, held at the offices here today, the balance of the old board representing the interests recently sold out, resigned. The following new trustees were elected to fill the vacancies, viz.:—E. M. Heyburn, Albert Allan, D. J. Macdonald and L. A. Doherty, leaving one vacancy to be filled later on.

TARTAN
CUT SMOKING
TOBACCO
J. RATTRAY & Co.
MONTREAL, CAN.

E. J. MacKAY, Winnipeg, Agnte

J. B. Johnson & Co.

16 COLUMBIA AVENUE.

Bargains for Today:

Choice business property on Columbia avenue; well rented; $4,500.

House and lot on Cook avenue, $700. House alone cost the money.

Twelve-room house and lot, furnished close in, $1,200.

Choice corner on Columbia avenue at a bargain.

Where the New Postage Applies.

In order to prevent any misunderstanding on the matter, the postmaster here desires it to be understood that the new two-cent letter postage rate applies to the following countries, and these only:

Dominion of Canada, Great Britain and Ireland, United States of America (not including new possessions), British India, Newfoundland, British East Africa, Uganda, British Central Africa, The Niger Coast Protectorate, The North Company's Territory, Jamaica and the Bahama Islands.