MOMENTOUS DECISION FOR ROSSLAND

Will Great Northern Meet Le Roi Fairly in Regard to Freight Rates--What Decision Means to the Golden City---Week's Mining Operations.

The shipments from the Rossland camp for the week ending last night are close to the 5000 ton mark, but as yet the marked advances in tonnage expected have not materialized. Existing conditions are such that matters may take a turn for the better within a few days, although it is impossible for obvious reasons to predict with any measure the exact date when this expected improvement will be realized.

To substantially increase the present output of ore from the Golden City necessitates that the Le Roi mine should raise its present output to the tonnage which the mine is capable of producing under favorable cirmustances, and the adoption of this policy by the company depends upon the action of the Great Northern railroad system in regard to the negotiations under way for some time towards securing more favorable rates.

All reports to the contrary notwithstanding, the Great Northern has not yet made a single concession to the Le Roi mine or smelter, and the statements to this effect have been, merely wild speculation. The railroad people have the matter under advisement, and until they arrive at a conclusion the Le Roi's policy will be in statu quo. In the meantime only the higher grade ore bodies are being stoped at the mine and the crew has been reduced, as is well known locally, to about 300 men.

In the event of the Great Northern refusing to rearrange its tariff, which is now so great as to wipe out the margin of profit on a considerable portion of Le Roi ores, there seems to be no doubt that the recommendation of General Manager Mackenzie as to closing down the Northport smelter will be put into effect. Just how seriously this would aeffct Rossland is yet to be established, but there is no doubt on the point as to how much Rossland stands to gain in the event of the railroad rates being reduced to a parity with the concessions desired by the Le Roi management. The special concessions requested refer to a reduction in the price of coke, which now costs the smelter about $3 per ton more than the same commodity is laid down for at the Trail smelter by the Canadian Pacific; the charges on matte between the smelter and the eastern refineries, the switching charge on the limerock at Northport, and the rates on ore between Northport and Rossland. The completion of the Crow's Nest Southern road into the East Kootenay coal fields will strengthen the hands of the railroad in conceding reduced prices on coke.

On the other hand the granting of reasonable reductions by the Great Northern means much to Rossland and its largest employer of labor—the Le Roi mine. The crew at the mine will be immediately doubled, and the output raised to a thousand tons daily or thereabouts. The prospect thus opened up is bright, indeed, entailing, as it does, a complete and happy solution to the troubles that have beset the camp during the past few weeks.

In looking over the situation from a business standpoint, it would seem as though the railroad company would gain by increased output equally with the city of Rossland. The Le Roi now pays tribute to the Great Northern to the tune of $80,000 and more monthly in various channels. The closing of the smelter would practically cut off this enormous revenue, while the decrease in other traffic receipts would undoubtedly be considerable. Much hangs upon the decision arrived at ultimately by the railroad company, and the conclusion of the negotiations will be awaited with keen interest in Rossland and Northport.

THE OUTPUT.

The output of ore for the week ending June 7th and for the year to date is as follows:

Le Roi	3232	105,044
Le Roi No. 2	1300	27,805
War Eagle	30	240
Centre Star	120	3,530
Rossland G. W.		2,400
Giant	60	220
Cascade		300
Bonanza		90
Velvet		250
Spitzee		20
Total	4742	144,264

ABOUT THE CAMP.

The shipments for last week from the Le Roi No. 2 are considerable, despite the fact that the Josie mine was partially closed down for two days to permit of certain work in the shaft preparatory to the commencement of operations under the contract let during the previous week for 200 feet of sinking in the main shaft. The inauguration of the work in question will bring the crew of the Le Roi No. 2 well up to the 300 mark.

In the various working mines of the camp steady progress is being made. The Centre Star and War Eagle, the Kootenay, Nickel Plate, Spitzee, White Bear, Abe Lincoln, New St. Elmo and Velvet are all working ahead as usual with excellent results. The next item of importance on the local calendar will be the resumption at the Homestake, now understod to be a matter of days only.

CONCENTRATION FOR ROSSLAND ORE

The Question Discussed on Every Hand--Its Vital Importance to Future of Camp--Satisfactory Solution

Referring briefly yesterday morning to the speeches delivered on the previous evening by Bernard Mcdonald, general manager of the Le Roi No. 2, Rossland Great Western and Kootenay mines, and of John H. Mackenzie, general manager of the Le Roi mine, The Miner predicted that the sentiments expressed by both gentlemen would be read with keen interest by all Rosslanders and that the addresses would be regarded as historical. That interest was awakened is clearly demonstrated when it is stated that before noon yesterday the entire regular issue of The Miner, together with several hundred additional copies, were entirely sold out and the demand was then only half met. The entire report of the banquet, including the two addresses specified, will be carried over to the Weekly Miner, published on Thursday next. Readers desiring copies may secure them on that day and may, as has already been done in a number of instances, place an order in advance for such copies as are desired.

The principal topic of interest on the streets yesterday was that of the questions broached by Messrs. Mackenzie and Macdonald. It is somewhat of a coincidence that both gentlemen went into the question of ore concentration on the occasion, but this coincidence is significant of the importance attached to the subject by the principal mine managers. The natural inference is that the consideration of the Elmore process of concentration by oil has been taken up with the idea of applying it to the practical working of Rossland mines, and no one would be particularly surprised, in view of the public statements of the mine managers, to learn that working plans for concentrators to be constructed in Rossland were already in preparation, for it is reasonable to suppose that having made a study of the system the managers would have prepared for their further information the details of construction and operation.

A feature of the Elmore process as explained on Friday night that appeals to those unfamiliar with the technical side of the question as being particularly fortunate for Rossland, is that the consumption of water is comparatively small as compared to that when the ordinary water concentration is practiced. The Golden City is none too well supplied with water and a large concentrator or two operating on the water concentration system would easily exhaust the available supply unless great sums were expended in bringing in streams from a distance, an undesirable feature at all times. By conserving the water in tailing ponds and using it over again, the loss is reduced to a comparatively small percentage, and the oil which does the real work in the Elmore process is by no means expensive.

The introduction of a concentrating system, whether it be the Elmore or another, may become a live issue at no late date. If the Le Roi company fails to convince the Great Northern railroad that existing excessive tariff on ore and ore prducts must be reduced if the mine is to ship on an extensive basis, the Northport smelter will undoubtedly suspend operations pending the development of the Le Roi's future policy. That this policy would include the installation of a concentrating plant whereby the bulk to be shipped to Northport would be reduced many times, seems reasonable in view of the statements of the manager. With such a plant in successful operation, other mines would follow the example thus set in pursuance of ordinary business foresight, and the enterprise would work a revolution in the method of utilizing the resources of the Golden City. The bodies of low grade ore coming within the radius of the limit established by Manager Mackenzie as capable of being profitably treated with concentration to be found within the radius of the Rossland camp are enormous, almost inexhaustible. That these will eventually be utilized goes without saying, and it would seem as though the period when the utilization of Rossland's low grade ore deposits was, comparatively speaking, within sight.

The events of the next few weeks or months with respect to the development of the concentration scheme will be awaited with the keenest interest. From the standpoint of citizens generally it may be said that the issue is vital, inasmuch as on its outcome depends the immediate prosperity of the camp. With such a proposition in course of being placed on a practical working basis, the Golden City would certainly witness a period of development such as is difficult to forecast by reason of its unprecedented magnitude.

BOARDS OF TRADE

OPENED AT TORONTO YESTERDAY—EVERY IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL BODY THERE.

PREFERENTIAL TRADE BETWEEN CANADA AND GREAT BRITAIN DISCUSSED.

TORONTO, Ont., June 4.—The boards of trade congress opened here this morning with delegates present from every important commercial body in the country. A. E. Ames presided, and after a brief speech was appointed permanent chairman.

Resolution expressing unbounded satisfaction at the return of peace was adopted.

Captain Gaskin of Kingston moved that the rate of postage on newspapers betwen Canada and the motherland be reduced to same figure as the domestic rate. The resolution was adopted without debate.

Next in order was a resolution from the Montreal board that Great Britain can best serve the interests of the Empire by giving the products of her colonies preference in her markets as against the products of foreign countries. The motion was amended to incorporate the suggestion contained in the Toronto board's resolution that the premier of Canada urge at the Imperial conference the securing of a royal commission representing Great Britain and the colonies to investigate conditions and sugest such preferential treatment of imports from the various parts of the Empire as shall be calculated to insure the fullest benefits.

A resolution was also adopted that a preferential duty on British goods coming to Canada and Canadian goods going to Great Britain under the proposed arrangement be given out on goods imported and exported through British and Canadian ports.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

TORONTO, June 4.—At the afternoon session McLagan of Stratford offered an amendment that preferences between the motherland and the colonies should be entirely voluntary, rather than the result of bargaining, and each independent government should consider the interest of its own people first. That it is possible to continue the Canadian tariff preference in its present form or modified, if need be, so that no interest in Canada need suffer thereby, and, in the opinion of this conference, Great Britain would be serving the interest of the Empire by adjusting the present tax in foodstuffs and levying any other duties which may be imposed in such a manner that the imports from Canada and other colonies shall have preference over those from other nations when this can be done without the sacrifice of British interests.

On this amendment the discussion continued all the afternoon, the principal objection to the main motion was that it savored of almsseeking.

TORONTO, June 5.—At today's sessions of the Boards of Trade the first resolution dealt with was one favoring the appointment of commercial agents in the chief cities of the old and new worlds sent in by the Chambre de Commerce of Montreal. The resolution was adopted unanimously after the hope had been expressed that these agents should be good men and paid decent salaries.

The next resolution came from the Halifax board, in favor of the establishment of a fast Atlantic steamship service. After some discussion this resolution was withdrawn in favor of the Montreal board's proposal that at the coming Imperial conference the Canadian representatives should impress upon the gathering the importance of the mother country and colonies securing by subsidy, or otherwise, a fast line of steamships between the United Kingdom and the colonies, and between the colonies themselves, and making the Australian service from Vancouver tri-weekly, and the establishment of a freight line from Eastern Canada to Australia, via Capetown, one of the lines suggested.

ACCOUNT FROM MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, June 5.—At this morning's session of the Board of Trade the conference resolution favoring the appointment of Canadian Consular agents in all the leading cities of the old and new worlds was adopted after some discussion. The necessity of a fast Atlantic steamship service was also discussed by the Halifax and Montreal boards.

James D. Allen of Toronto moved resolutions in favor of a government cargo service from Montreal in the summer and the maritime provinces in the winter to Capetown, South Africa, in view of the enormous trade following the settlement of the war, the South African service to extend as far as the ports in Australia; also the government to provide tri-weekly instead of monthly service from Vancouver.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

MONTREAL, June 5.—At the afternoon session the big subject of Canada's contribution to the Imperial defence was reached. French Canadian commercial bodies had unanimously entered objections, contending that Canada had contributed sufficiently in the building of the Intercolonial and Canadian Pacific railways, etc. It was considered that Canada had done her share.

Robert said he did not believe the resolutions of the Quebec boards expressed the real opinion of the gentlemen representing them. He believed they were in favor of Canada setting up a system of defence.

The Peterboro board fell into line with the Quebec boards.

Mr. Dumble moved an amendment to this end, that Canada required all her resources for her own development.

TORONTO, June 6.—At the board of trade conference this morning the debate continued. McFarlanem of Ottawa presented a substitute motion in favor of a special tax on foreign importations, the proceeds to go to the naval defence.

Captain Saskin of Kingston started an impassionate loyalty speech, but was called to order by the chairman, who reminded him that all present were loyal and that they were there simply to discuss business propositions in a business way.

F. X. Perrault of Gaspe contended that Canada could stand having its own army and navy.

Hathaway of St. John, N. B., wanted the subject left over till next year, and the idea met with some support.

After further debate the Montreal resolution, declaring that it is the duty of Canada to participate in the cost of the general defence of the Empire, and that an appropriation should be made in the budget for this purpose, to be expended directly by the Dominion government, was adopted by a vote of 40 to 32. Several amendments were voted down.

(Special to the Miner.)

TORONTO, June 6.—At the afternoon session yesterday at the conference of the Boards of Trade, A. S. Goodeve of Rossland moved that the government be urged upon to readjust the tariff on imported lead products, so as to encourage the development of mining, smelting and refining of lead and the establishment of various manufactories of lead within the Dominion.

Mr. Goodeve referred to the great possibilities of British Columbia, especially as a mineral country, as the product last year amounted to $20,000,000 in value, while last year the production of gold in that province had increased 40 per cent, copper 10 per cent. The product of the lead mines had decreased 20 per cent. This had been largely due to the tariff arrangements of the Dominion. The Americans had attempted a freeze-out game, and would neither purchase nor manufacture Canadian lead. The American duty was eight times greater than that of Canada, the former being about $42.50 per ton, and the Canadian duty about $50 per ton. The Canadians were absolutely prohibited from entering the United States with lead, and compelled to sell on the open markets. They hoped in the course of a few days to have a refinery in operation in British Columbia and thus be in a position to manufacture and complete the raw material, and to bring this about a readjustment of the tariff was necessary. He did not think such an adjustment would necessarily raise the price to the consumers.

Robert Munro of Montreal, in seconding the resolution, referred to the anomaly of the position. All the lead consumed in Canada was imported, while all the lead produced in Canada was shipped out. They were thus paying directly at both ends. As a large consumer of lead he felt that the tariff was sadly in need of adjustment.

Mr. Hathaway and Mr. McFarlane of Ottawa spoke in favor of the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

THE REICHLANDERS

COUNT VON BUELOW INTRODUCED BILL ABOLISHING DICTATORSHIP.

IT HAS BEEN FOUND POSSIBLE TO RECONCILE INHABITANTS TO NEW ORDER.

BERLIN, June 7.—The imperial chancellor, Count von Buelow, introduced a bill in the reichstag today abolishing the dictatorship paragraph in the Reichland (Alsace-Lorraine) fundamental laws. After speaking of the necessity of the paragraph in the past, in consequence of the expressed hope of the Reichlanders that France would conquer the provinces, the chancellor said that Emperor William and the government, after mature consideration, were now convinced that the extraordinary powers conferred by the paragraph could be easily dispensed with. Its abolition constituted a recognition of the fact, thanks to the strong position of the Empire among the powers, and thanks to the careful work of the provincial government of the Reichland, it had been found possible to reconcile the inhabitants of Alsace-Lorraine to the new order of things, and to inspire them with full confidence in their connection with the Empire. The efforts of the older generation to effect a separation would find no adherents in the mass of the population, and the imperial government wished to requite confidence with confidence. Germany never, of her own free will, would acquiesce to a fresh concession of the Reichsland, and he (the chancellor) was convinced that Alsace-Lorraine will accept the gift now tendered with the same feeling of German loyalty that animated the rest of Germany.

The chancellor's speech was cheered on both sides of the house.

RAPID TRANSIT SUBWAY.

Will Cost Several Millions More Than First Estimates.

NEW YORK, June 7.—John B. McDonald, the contractor who is building the Rapid Transit subway in this city, said today that the electrical equipment of the underground railway system would cost $11,000,000 more than the estimate made three years ago, which was $7,000,000. He said the conditions, which could not have been foreseen, have shown that the cost will be increased to $18,000,000.

THREE MEN KILLED.

Were in a Buggy and Attempted to Cross on the Track.

LOGANSPORT, Ind., June 7.—Three men were almost instantly killed this evening by the Pan Handle passenger train due here at 7:30 p. m. The accident happened at Jewell station, near Galveston, and the remains were taken to that place. The men were in a buggy and attempted to cross the track in front of the fast approaching train.

Mrs. Fred Kummer has returned from a visit to Nelson.

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LATE NEWS FROM THE SMELTER CITY

(Special to The Miner.)

TRAIL, B. C., June 4.—About 35 members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows came down from Rossland last evening to visit Trail lodge and to confer the second degree on two candidates. Enterprise lodge of Trail was especially pleased with the excellent work of the Rossland members, and profited by their visit. Graham's orchestra accompanied the delegation, and after lodge closed a banquet was given in the Arlington hotel. Seventy-five covers were laid. The dancing room was appropriately decorated and the menu was all that could be desired.

The address of welcome was by F. W. Warren, and was followed with a selection by the orchestra. The program for the evening consisted of toasts, speeches and solos, and was as follows:

Toast, "The King"..Thomas Embleton
Address and song.....Thomas Long
Address .....Thomas Embleton
Vocal solo .....G. Northey
Address .....Joseph Goldworthy
Selection .....Orchestra
Song .....B. N. Collings
Address .....T. Chambers
Toast, "The Ladies" ..... Peter Ryan
Solo .....F. Coffin
Address.....George Weir
Selection .....Orchestra
Quartette .....Rossland Members
Address .....W. S. Murphy
Song.....Thomas Long
Address .....J. S. Brandon
Harmonica solo.....C Grill

The program concluded with an address by George Morin, N. G., and the singing of "God Save the King."

The Rossland visitors were: Thomas A. Long, Joseph Goldworthy, Thomas Embleton, T. R. Evans, Henry Busch, Frank Woodside, Cranus Graham, J. F. Cummings, E. Johnson, E. Percy, W. McKay, A Pendray, J. P. Harper, C. Grill, B. N. Collings, W. Prest, W. Shaw, G. Northey, W. Elley, A. Dempsie, F. W. Pretty, W. S. Murphy, A. L. Watson, G. Keefe, F. Coffin, W. Aldridge, J. Chambers, W. Argue, K. Martin, W. Brokenshire, P. B. Woodside.

PROCEEDS OF DANCE.

Two hundred and eighty-three dollars and twenty-five cents were the net proceeds of the dance given in the opera house last evening for the Fernie relief fund, and the amount has been forwarded by Mayor Binns to the stricken city. That the effort proved successful this sum bears every evidence. The spacious hall was packed, and the greatest credit is due the committee having the matter in charge. Everything was donated, and when the program concluded there were some 30 cakes and five freezers of cream left. The committee having the matter in charge consisted of Mayor Binns and Messrs. Hoyes, Coleman, Schofield, Stevens, Weir, McDougall, LaBarthe, Morin, Bingay, Blaylock, Viets, Kamm, Tower, Petroni, Isley, Budinich, Merry, Topping, Lewis, Byers, Perdue, Devitt, Steele, Lyons, McCarthy, Weaver, Brown, Petersen, Dawson and Esling.

The ladies looked after the refreshments, and added much to the financial success of the occasion. They were Mrs. O'Brien, Miss Berg, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Binns, Mrs. Westcott, Mrs. McCurdy, Mrs. Strong, Mrs. Stevens, Mrs. Schofield and Mrs. Strachan.

TRAIL, B. C., June 7.—Cedar avenue has been cleared of stones to allow for the hose reel practice, in anticipation of the Dominion Day sports. A big purse has been raised for this, as one of the chief attractions of the day, and the boys are in training under direction of J. E. McCarthy, chief of the fire department. Trail's best record thus far, on a run of 100 yards, laying five lengths of hose and getting water, is 29 seconds, but with an improved road on which to make the run it is felt that this time will be reduced materially. The contest will be in charge of a committee consisting of J. E. McCarthy, J. R. Widman, George Weir, Al Ingle and Frank McCaslin.

The executive committee is getting the day's program in shape. It will consist of the usual hose racing, athletic, aquatic and children's sports, and will conclude with a ball at the opera house. The latter is under the auspices of the city band, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the purchase of instruments and music.

One of the latest contributions is a sack of about 100 pounds of the "Best Griffin Brand" of hams, from J. Y. Griffin & Co. at Nelson.

ENTERS ENGLISH MINISTRY.

The Rev. Ackroyd Stoney, pastor of the Methodist church of this city, is a candidate for the ministry of the Church of England of Canada. He will prepare for his ordination at Nelson and will do missionary work under the direction of the Rev. F. H. Graham of that city, and after ordination will be given missionary work in one of the other diocese under the charge of Bishop Dart.

Mr. Stoney is a Yorkshire man, and a graduate of the Mount Allison university at Sackville, N. B. He was stationed at Newfoundland and Labrador until the past four years, during which time he has been doing Methodist church work in British Columbia.

SENT THE PROCEEDS.

Mayor Binns has forwarded by express to the secretary of the relief committee at Fernie the proceeds of the relief ball, which amounted to $283.25. The money is forwarded by the express company free of charge.

GRADUATED AT SPOKANE.

John Eichner, brother-in-law of John Hintz, who conducts an extensive milk ranch near this city, is home from Spokane, where he graduated at the head of his class. He will remain in Trail this summer and prepare himself for professional studies.

THE C. P. R. LANDS.

It is announced that a new departure will be made in the control of C. P. R. lands by the organization of a separate company, bringing the lands under a totally new department. The capital will be $100,000,000, and William Whyte, assistant to Mr. Shaughnessy, is to be the president of the company.

TRAIL NEWS NOTES.

Mrs. O. P. Brigham of Havre, Mont., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Julius Petersen. Mr. Brigham accompanied her to Trail and is en route to San Francisco to attend the Imperial Council, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

R. T. Lowrey, editor of the New Denver Ledge, was a Trail visitor today.

Mr. and Mrs. E. S. H. Winn rode down from Rossland this evening.

W. Stevens, a smelter employe, had his thumb almost cut off a few days since. It was caught in an overturned ore car.

Many residents of Trail have indicated an intention to be present at the Rossland celebration on Coronation Day.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Knox Presbyterian church will give an afternoon tea at the home of Mrs. Clark next Thursday and a strawberry festival on the evening of Coronation Day.

Contractor Powley has commenced work on the residence of Martin Lyons. It will be a pretty cottage, hard finished and provided with every convenience.

The city team has been employed this week in grading Bay avenue and Victoria street.

Dr. Perdue, who has been quite ill, is recovering.

Rev. A. E. Stephenson, the new pastor of the Methodist church, has arrived from Vancouver and will conduct services tomorrow.

Mrs. Hoyes and Miss Anderson were visitors to Rossland today.

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