

IN THE SIMILKAMEN

CAMP HEDLEY DISTRICT THE SCENE OF CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITY.

PROGRESS OF WORK ON THE NICKEL PLATE MINE AND MILL.

PHOENIX, April 17.—Frank Bailey, the Similkamen mining man, has just returned from an extended trip through the district, going as far as Princeton, and gives some interesting news of that section. Notwithstanding the delay in building the long needed and long expected railway, Mr. Bailey reports that there is considerable activity in mining circles in the Similkamen, it being chiefly centered around Camp Hedley, where the Nickel Plate group of mines is located, recently acquired by the Yale Mining Company, Limited, organized to take the group over from the Marcus Daly syndicate of Butte. There are about ten claims in the group, and the have been systematically developed for a number of years, with results that have astonished those not familiar with the Similkamen.

Last fall the syndicate, which is managed by M. K. Rogers, had work started on the foundation for a 40-stamp mill at Hedley City, the contractor being J. A. Munson, well known in the Boundary. This work has continued nearly all winter; most substantial foundations have now been completed, and the work of framing the timbers for the large building required to house the stamp mill is now well under way. Altogether, in mine work, wagon work, flume work and carpenter work, the Yale Mining company has nearly 100 men on its payroll at present, and the plans for getting the new mill at work on the ore are being carried out as fast as possible. It is now expected that some time in July the stamps will be ready to drop on Nickel Plate ore, of which there is an immense quantity already blocked out in the mine.

Machinery for the mill, ordered last year, is already on the ground, having been hauled in from Penticton, at the foot of Lake Okanagan, on the snow, and the mill is being assembled in several carloads and being manufactured by the Jencks Machine company of Sherbrooke, Quebec. The plans for the mill provide for its enlargement to a capacity of 300 stamps, which will make it the largest stamp mill on the coast, with the exception of that at the Treadwell mine on Douglas Island, Alaska.

The company is also making some 75,000 bricks to be used in its various buildings. Active work is at the same time being prosecuted on the tramway which will connect the mill with the mines, a distance of about two and one-half miles up on Nickel Plate mountain. It will be a surface tramway, made in the latest improved style. The little burg of Hedley City is a scene of no little activity at present, owing to the extensive work being conducted in the immediate vicinity, there being several business places located there. The residents, however, are fearing a flood with the melting of the heavy snows—the heaviest in twenty years—as Hedley City is located almost in the bed of Twenty-Mile creek the results may be serious.

THE PHOENIX MINES.

Indications of a Change in Regard to Brooklyn and Stenwinder.

PHOENIX, April 18.—It is understood in this camp that preparations are being made to ship the ore on the dumps of the Brooklyn and Stenwinder mines here, of which there is a considerable quantity, taken out in the course of the development of those properties in the past. It is said that between 5000 and 10,000 tons will be shipped to the B. C. Copper company's Mother Lode smelter at Greenwood. Yesterday H. L. Johnson, roadmaster of the C. P. R. in the Boundary, was here, and went over the spur to the Brooklyn and Stenwinder mines to ascertain how much iron would be needed to get the cars to the dumps of those mines. The grading on these spurs was done over three years ago, but the steel was laid only to the bridge, which was installed just before work was discontinued on the group under the Breen regime. It is figured that the metals will have to be laid for a distance of over 4000 feet to get at both mines, and this is expected to be undertaken at an early date.

About the time that James Breen gave up the management of the Brooklyn group, nearly two years ago, W. H. Thomas, consulting engineer for the B. C. Copper company, made a thorough examination of the Dominion Copper company's mines—the Brooklyn and Stenwinder—with a view to their acquisition by the B. C. Copper company. The ore of these two mines is said to be quite desirable for smelting purposes, and being of a satisfactory grade could be used to advantage by any of the local smelters. It was finally understood, however, that the Dominion Copper company asked too large a cash payment, and the deal fell through. It is now said that a deal has been made for the sale of the ore on the dumps of the two properties, which will be loaded and shipped quite inexpensively when the steel is laid.

PASSENGERS BURNED.

JAMESTOWN, N. Y., April 20.—The vestibule limited express on the Erie railroad ran into a freight train at Red House, N. Y. Three passengers were burned to death and a brakeman killed. Several were injured.

PACKING HOUSE BURNED.

TACOMA, April 20.—The immense packing house of the Pacific Meat company, of this city, was destroyed by fire. Loss \$200,000.

A GREENWOOD BANQUET.

Sergeant Nicholson Honored on Return From Africa.

GREENWOOD, April 16.—Tuesday night at the Imperial hotel a banquet was tendered to Sergeant Ernest Nicholson, who recently returned from South Africa. Before leaving this province with one of the Canadian contingents Mr. Nicholson had for some time been employed at the B. C. Copper company's Mother Lode mine, near Greenwood, and his departure was so hurried that "the boys" had not time to give him the "send-off" they would have liked to, so they decided to give him a cordial welcome back to his old haunts. Frederic Keffer, M. E., general manager of the B. C. Copper company, presided, and around the table were gathered numbers of men from the Mother Lode mine, together with other friends from the Sunset mine, Greenwood, Phoenix and Elloit. After the good things provided had been done justice to a number of toasts were honored, songs sung and stories told, until the time came for breaking up what had been a very pleasant and sociable gathering. Several of the speakers paid willing tribute to the sterling worth and good qualities of the guest, contrasting the time when, four or five years since, he came into the neighborhood a stranger, with the present, when a numerous company had assembled to do him honor and welcome him back again. W. S. Keith, who also saw service in South Africa, made a felicitous reference to the worth of Mr. Nicholson, who he said went to South Africa as a third class trooper and afterwards received successive promotions through the ranks to the position of sergeant. It was past midnight when the company dispersed. Five local men have the Barbara mineral claim under a working agreement and are sinking a shaft on a ledge within a stone's throw of a part of the residence portion of Greenwood. The mineral showing at the surface was in which there was a deal of lead, but as depth is gained galena, carrying good values in gold and silver, has largely taken the place of the lead. At 40 feet down the vein is disturbed, but bunches of good looking ore occur in it, and it is confidently expected that an improvement will take place a few feet deeper down. The men who are working this property are Fred Heaslop, Gus, Morrison, Dan Gillis, Tom Jean and Bob Wood, and they are sanguine they will come out right on it. The Barbara is owned by George R. Naden and Sydney M. Johnson, both of Greenwood.

GREENWOOD AFFAIRS.

Several Matters Considered by the Board of Trade.

GREENWOOD, April 16.—The ordinary weekly meeting of the Greenwood board of trade was held yesterday afternoon. There was a good attendance of members, and President H. P. Mytton was in the chair. Five new members were elected, viz., Sydney M. Johnson, R. Liden, C. W. H. Swanson, W. O. Wright and the firm of McDonald, A. D. and Pickhart. The committee on advertising reported recommending (1) that an illustrated descriptive booklet be prepared and issued by the board and that 5000 copies be distributed, and (2) that the board offer a substantial cash prize for the best article on and for Greenwood for use in the booklet. The report also contained an expression of the committee's opinion that advertising the district in outside newspapers is not at present feasible. The report was received and a committee appointed to devise ways and means and to report whether sufficient money can be obtained to carry out the foregoing recommendations. The vice-president, Dr. Spankie, offered to contribute \$25 towards a sum to be offered as a prize under recommendation No. 2. A committee was appointed to draft a resolution to be forwarded to the government and the member for the district re-advocating but delinquent co-owning taxpayers on crown granted mineral claims, for the protection of co-owners prepared to pay taxes when due. Another committee had referred to it the matter of requesting the proper authorities to put fish ladders where necessary in the Kettle river and Boundary creek, Cascade and Boundary Falls being mentioned as where these are particularly necessary to enable the fish to get up-stream; also to bring up anew the question of stocking lakes in the district with certain kinds of fish. A small special committee was appointed to confer with Provincial Government Agent McMynn of Greenwood, recommending an appropriation for a wagon road to several high grade mineral claims in the vicinity of Greenwood not now having road connection with the railway to enable them to ship ore. The secretary was instructed to write to the Greenwood Miners' Union with the object of inducing that body to have some of its members join the board of trade. Several other matters were dealt with before the board adjourned. The extending interest in the proceedings of the board and its increasing membership stamp it as a live organization whose efforts must result in substantial benefit to the town and district. The roll now contains nearly 70 names, and it is confidently anticipated that during the ensuing three or four months the 100 mark will be reached.

RICH PROVIDENCE ORE.

Satisfactory Returns Expected from the Last Shipment.

GREENWOOD, April 17.—The smelter returns from the 21 tons of ore from the Providence mine shipped last week are expected to yield higher values than any previous shipment. It is generally understood that this carload assays about 4 1-2 ounces gold and 250 ounces of silver, giving together about \$240 per ton. After making the customary smelter deductions and paying freight and treatment charges, the net returns should be not less than \$4500 for the carload.

GREENWOOD SMELTER.

J. E. McAllister Succeeds Paul Johnson as Superintendent.

GREENWOOD, April 18.—It is announced that J. E. McAllister, C. E., for some time past assistant superintendent at the Tennessee Copper company's smelter at Copperhill, Tennessee, has been appointed superintendent of the British Columbia Copper company's smelter at Greenwood, B. C., in succession to Paul Johnson, C. E., whose official connection with the company came to an end on February 25th last. Mr. McAllister is not an entire stranger at Greenwood, he having visited the Boundary district at times about four years ago whilst the construction of the Boundary section of the Columbia and Western railway was in progress.

Mr. McAllister graduated as a civil and mining engineer at the Ontario School of Practical Science, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, in 1890. Following this he gave special attention to structural steel, first with the Dominion Bridge company and afterwards with the New Jersey Steel and Iron company. Returning to Toronto he took a post graduate course in Applied Sciences at the Toronto University, graduating in 1895 and receiving his B. A. Sc. degree. In the autumn of 1896 and spring of 1897 he took a special course in mining and metallurgy at the Michigan College of Mines, Houghton, Mich., soon afterwards joining Mr. Sydney M. Johnson, C. E. (now of Greenwood, B. C.) the firm practicing at Trail, B. C., as civil and mining engineers. In the fall of that year he joined the staff of the Trail smelter under H. C. Bellinger, then superintendent of F. August Heine's smelter, known as the works of the British Columbia Smelting and Refining Co., Ltd. When these works were sold to the Canadian Pacific Railway company Mr. McAllister became confidential secretary to Mr. Heine's chief engineer, W. F. Tyre, C. E., who joined the C. P. R. company's staff when that company acquired the Rossland and Robson section of the Columbia and Western railway, and continued with Mr. Tyre until the completion of the railway through the Boundary to Midway. Next Mr. McAllister was with the Hamilton Steel company, with works at Hamilton, Ontario. About 1900 he entered the employ of the Tennessee Copper Co., soon advancing to the position of assistant superintendent, which post he now relinquished to come to the smelter which it is claimed holds the record for copper smelting, both as regards quantity treated per day and low cost of smelting.

Mr. McAllister has the reputation of being enterprising, energetic, progressive and fully competent to maintain the credit of the B. C. Copper company's works have gained for doing good work. He is a Scottish-Canadian, about 36 years of age, and comes well recommended. His wife was Miss Gray of Montreal, a niece of Mr. R. White, of the Montreal Gazette and now collector of customs in that city. Mrs. McAllister is very musical, having taken a degree in music at Lenoxville, Quebec. She is a charming woman and will doubtless have pleasure in dispensing hospitality as freely as did Mrs. Paul Johnson, who will shortly leave Greenwood.

NEWS OF GREENWOOD.

Resumption of Work Makes People Feel Hopeful.

GREENWOOD, April 20.—Blanchard M. Snyder, of Anaheim, California, is expected to arrive in Greenwood shortly, to fill the position of assayer and chemist at the B. C. Copper company's smelter, Greenwood, in place of Gustav Sundberg, who is now at Sand Point, Idaho. Mr. Snyder has had about six years' experience in assaying and chemistry since he completed his four years' technical course, first for three years as chemist in industrial establishments and afterwards as assayer. For a year and a half, until February 1st of the current year, he was chemist and assistant assayer at the Granby company's works, Grand Forks, but when the shortage of coke compelled the company to reduce the quantity of ore and matte to be treated, Mr. Snyder, being in point of time that summer, the youngest member of the staff, had to seek a fresh field for his labors, consequently he went to California.

During the past fortnight the force of men at the Mother Lode mine has been steadily increased in numbers, until now about 75 are employed. One is being sent down freely to the B. C. Copper company's smelter, the storage bins of which will be pretty well filled by the time the coke supply shall be sufficient and regular enough to warrant the blowing in of the furnaces. As there is room at the smelter for about 15,000 tons of ore, there will not be any need to ease off shipping ore from the mine during this month. With work resumed on a comparatively large scale at the Mother Lode and the sample mill running at the smelter, besides a similar forward move by the Montreal & Boston Copper company, the outlook for an improvement in general business in Greenwood is encouraging.

John A. Crawford, an engineer well known in the Boundary, having for years been connected with one or other of the large mines in the district, has returned from a visit to the old country. He left Greenwood last June and spent the greater part of the time since then with friends and relations in England and Scotland.

King Rees, manager at Phoenix for P. Burns & Co., is ill in Greenwood. He is subject to heart trouble, to which is attributed his present inability to attend to his business duties.

The ladies of St. Jude's church of England entertained Mrs. Atwood, who for several years has been a very zealous worker for the church, at a farewell tea on Saturday afternoon. An engrossed address, expressing appreciation of the unselfish devotion of the recipient to the work of the church, and of her many social and other good qualities, and voicing the general regret at her departure from Greenwood, was presented to Mrs. Atwood. It was accompanied by some silverware, as a small token to

of the esteem in which Mrs. Atwood is held. The family will in future reside at Grand Forks, where C. A. S. Atwood will be in charge of the Hunter-Kendrick Co.'s general merchandise business.

A. W. Irish, for two years in the mechanical department of the Granby smelter, has been appointed master mechanic at the B. C. Copper company's smelter, in succession to C. P. Sorenson, who left for Salt Lake City when the smelter was closed down at the time of the Crow's Nest Pass coal miner's strike in February. Mr. Irish will assume his new duties shortly.

Work was resumed at the sample mill of the Greenwood smelter this morning. The furnaces will be blown in as soon as coke and coal arrive at the works in sufficient quantity to ensure continuous operation of the smelter. Meanwhile one-cruising will be proceeded with, so as to have plenty of ore ready for the furnaces when they are blown in. It is not unlikely that the blowing in will be delayed until after the arrival at Greenwood of the new superintendent, Mr. McAllister, who is expected to come in about the 1st prox.

W. J. Snodgrass, of Okanagan Falls, has been here for a day or two on his return trip to Washington and Oregon points. At several places he visited he found much interest being taken in Greenwood's high grade mining properties.

ACTIVITY AT ERIE.

Prospects Good for Energetic Season's Work.

ERIE, April 16.—The outlook for an active season in the Erie district is particularly bright, and the next few weeks will see marked advances made in connection with the local mining industry.

The Second Relief mine, one of the few British Columbia properties owned and operated by Finch & Campbell, is arranging to start work at the mill on the north fork of Salmon river as soon as men can get in. The property is regarded as most promising and is expected to become a substantial profit-maker during the ensuing summer.

The Lucky Boy company will also resume work on the Waffer mine, adjoining the Relief, about the end of April. The Lucky Boy people recently bonded the Good Hope group of claims south of the Waffer. Last year the Lucky Boy company did 400 feet of underground work with very satisfactory results. One ledge crosscut in the main workings carried over 16 per cent copper, \$6.25 gold and about \$2 in silver. Two crosscuts were run into Good Hope ground.

The North Fork placer workings are likely to attract many placer miners; in fact, something like a rush is expected in view of the good results accomplished last year. The metalliferous propositions carry ore about half milling and high grade.

AT GRANBY WORKS.

Smelter and Mines will Soon See Greater Activity.

PHOENIX, April 18.—As foreshadowed last week the Granby smelter, which has had two of its blast furnaces in operation since the 6th inst., has blown in a third furnace, and in a few days will probably blow in the fourth, which will give it the full present battery of furnaces in operation. This has been made possible by the continued receipt of increased coke shipments from the Crow's Nest Pass Coal company's collieries. At the company's mines in Phoenix, the blowing in of another furnace calls for an increase of ore shipments. As a result, in place of 24 cars of ore daily, the output is now 36 cars per day, or about 1200 tons, which will shortly be increased to the old quota of 1600 tons each 24 hours, as soon as the fourth furnace is placed in blast. The immediate result is the increase of the number of men employed at the Old Ironsides and Knob Hill mines.

EAST KOOTENAY COAL.

Great Interest Manifested in the Outcome of the "Reserve" Scandal.

FORT STEELE, B. C., April 18.—Interest is being shown here concerning the probable action of the provincial government in relation to the question of the Flathead valley reserve on coal and oil lands. The government has shown that it does not intend giving it to the Columbia & Western Railway company, i. e., the C. P. R., by introducing a bill to confirm the order in council which cancelled the crown grants of this reserve to the company, and the question is now "What will the government do with it?" The consensus of opinion is that it should throw the reserve open to the public after granting those applications which have already been made.

THE KING AT MALTA.

Review and Festivities Attendant on the Visit.

VALETTA, Island of Malta, April 20.—King Edward today reviewed 8000 bluejackets and marines, and later, with elaborate ceremony, his majesty laid the foundation stone of the breakwater which is to protect the entrance of the grand harbor. Many distinguished persons were present. This evening there was a water carnival in the harbor, the feature of which was floating models of 13 types of vessels of various periods, from Noah's ark to the battleship Edward VII. The royal yacht Victoria and Albert leaves here tomorrow morning.

FASTED FORTY DAYS.

SALT LAKE, Utah, April 20.—Arthur Vanmeter, a prominent merchant, has just broken a self-imposed fast of forty days to cure dyspepsia. He suffered from it after the first three days, and the drooping conditions have disappeared. His weight was reduced from 250 pounds to 127 pounds.

FOR DUTY ON LEAD

STRONG RESOLUTION PASSED BY A MASS MEETING AT NELSON.

THE GOVERNMENT CONDEMNED FOR FAILING TO IMPOSE ONE.

NELSON, April 18.—At a crowded mass meeting hastily called at the opera house this afternoon a resolution on the refusal of the Dominion government to grant protection to the silver-lead industry of this province was unanimously and enthusiastically carried.

The feeling here on the tariff question is pronounced and bitter. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, W. A. Gallihier, M. P., was elected for Yale and Cariboo on a platform the principal plank of which was an advocacy of increased duties on lead and lead products imported into Canada; and

Whereas, his constituents have been led to believe that a revision of the tariff would be made this session of parliament on the lines so advocated by Mr. Gallihier; and

Whereas, no provision has been made in the budget speech providing a remedy for the gross anomaly that exists in Canada as to the duty on lead imports or in any way assisting the depressed silver-lead industry, therefore—

Be it resolved, that this mass meeting of the citizens of Nelson condemn in the strongest manner possible the action of the government in this matter and its indifference to the pressing needs of this portion of the Dominion.

TRAIL'S PROTEST.

Public Meeting at Trail Passes Lead Tariff Resolution.

(Special to The Miner.)

TRAIL, B. C., April 20.—A public meeting held here unanimously passed the following resolution, which was moved by Noble Blinn, president of the Liberal association, and seconded by J. S. Brandon, vice-president:

"Whereas, Ottawa dispatches announce that it is not the intention of the Dominion government to offer any relief to the lead industry by way of an adjustment of duties, and

"Whereas, there is danger of the commercial and industrial affairs of the Kootenay country remaining in the present unsettled and critical condition by reason of the existing competition with the foreign product of cheap labor countries, and the lack of a home market which precludes the operation of our lead mines on a profitable basis, and

"Whereas, every avenue of trade in British Columbia is directly and indirectly affected to the general detriment of this province;

"Therefore, be it resolved that the citizens of Trail, in mass meeting assembled, as part of a large community of consumers who pay tribute to the protected agricultural and manufacturing industries of Eastern Canada, strongly and emphatically resent the action of the Dominion government in failing to provide such remedies as a sufficient duty on lead and its manufactured products would insure."

FIRE AT NELSON.

The Factory of the Kootenay River Lumber Company Burned.

NELSON, B. C., April 18.—Fire this afternoon destroyed the factory of the Kootenay River Lumber company, Messrs. Genelle and Billings. The actual loss will be about \$6000, which is fully covered by insurance. The flames spread with such rapidity that within ten minutes of the start the whole building was on fire, and the workmen had barely time to get out. The cause of the fire was sparks falling on the roof from the smokestack. The mill is to be rebuilt, with an increased capacity.

Contracts were let here today for the building of tramways at the Silver Cup and Eva mines in the Lardeau. Work will be started immediately.

LET TO MR. CREELEMAN.

The Contract for the New C. P. R. Shops at Nelson.

NELSON, April 17.—The contract for the erection of new C. P. R. machine shops at Nelson has been let to A. G. Creelman of Rossland. The building is to cost \$10,000, and the work is to be started immediately.

NEW YORK ROBBERS.

A Bank Messenger Held Up on Harlem Bridge.

NEW YORK, April 20.—Joseph Kayler, a messenger for the Bronx Borough bank, was held up by four men on the Harlem bridge today and robbed of \$159 in cash and \$2000 in checks and bonds. Kayler says two of the men held him while the others searched his pockets. He pursued them, but they escaped. Michael McCarthy, a driver, and Larry Murphy, longshoreman, were arrested and identified by Kayler. In Murphy's pockets was found \$150 of denominations taken from the messenger.

FOUR MILLS RESUME.

MINNEAPOLIS, April 20.—The shutdown of the Minneapolis flour mills undertaken as a protest against discriminatory freight rates on flour, as compared with wheat, has come to an end. While no formal concessions have been made by the railroads, assurances have been received which justify the millers in resuming work.

YMR NOTES.

Assistance for Strikers—Mining Developments.

YMR, April 18.—Last night a well attended meeting listened to H. Wallace, of the C. P. R. strikers from Nelson. On behalf of the U. B. R. E. Mr. Wallace asked the citizens of Ymir for assistance. The Miners' union will give a dance on the 23rd, the proceeds to be devoted to the cause of the U. B. R. E. The committee for arrangements are W. B. McIsaac, M. Tate, Finley McLeod, Pat Daly and Robert Elliott.

The Ymir Liberal association held a meeting last night, which was well attended. The circular sent out by the Rossland association calling a convention at Nelson on the 6th May for the object of forming an interior association, was adopted, and Ymir will send three delegates. A large number of new members were enrolled, and Ymir now has an association that cannot be beaten anywhere in the interior.

The Broken Hill Mining and Development company (Wilcox group) is preparing to open up its mill next week. This mill had to be closed down owing to the wagon road being blocked with snow. It is now on the tapis that this property may be taken over by the Ymir Gold Mines.

Superintendent Cameron, of the Active Gold Mining company, has a large force of men at work on his property. He reports that his electric drills are a decided success. This company has ordered machinery for a sawmill with a capacity of 20,000 feet per day, and they also intend to manufacture shingles. Their market will be the Northwest.

A VANDERBILT RUMOR.

PARIS, April 20.—It is impossible to secure anything authoritative relative to the reports that William K. Vanderbilt is to be married quietly on Wednesday to a young American widow here. It is necessary before the marriage of an American can occur here that the United States consulate certify to the residence of one of the parties for six months, and United States Consul General Gowdy says no application to that effect has been made by any of the parties mentioned. Mr. Vanderbilt is attending the races at St. Cloud.

Queen's colleges trustees have on hand a scheme to provide students with meals in the basement of the Grant Memorial Hall.

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Silver steel is no longer a guarantee of quality, as some of the poorest steel made is now branded silver steel. We have the sole right for the "Razor Steel Brand."

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