

Work is being resumed on many claims that have been idle during the winter. A number of bonds and leases are also being sought on various high grade properties, incited, as the seekers thereof have been by the results obtained from the Providence, the Elkhorn, the Gold Bug, the E. P. U., the Goldfinch and the Helen.

The Volcanic Mining & Development Company of Marquette, Mich., has secured an extension of two months from May 1st to July 1st, on the bond on the Volcanic mine group.

A syndicate has acquired a bond from the Bank of Montreal on a group of twelve high grade properties formerly owned by the Boundary Creek Mining and Milling Co., Ltd., near Greenwood.

The Providence Mining Company in the Boundary district last month declared a third dividend of ten cents per share.

The B. C. Copper Company has acquired a bond on the Roderick Dhu claim in Long Lake camp, and is developing the property.

Work is about to commence on the construction of a branch of the Great Northern Railway from Grand Forks to Phoenix.

CAMP MCKINNEY.

It is announced that the Kamloops, Minnehaha and Sailor Mining Companies, Camp McKinney, have been consolidated. The properties have been closed down for some two or three years.

CAMP HEDLEY.

The Federal Government lately acceded to the request of the Daly Reduction Company for permission to purchase a smelter site on the Indian reserve, near Hedley in the Similkameen district. The company had threatened to build the proposed smelter in the United States should the Government have refused this application.

MOYIE, E. KOOTENAY.

Another silver-lead property to resume work, production having been suspended since July, 1901, nearly three years ago, is the St. Eugene, at Moyie, E. Kootenay, where a force of 275 men is now employed. Shipments were begun from this mine last month, when eight carloads of ore were sent to the Trail smelter. Should the St. Eugene, as is anticipated, remain in steady operation, it is reasonably certain that this year's silver-lead production will at least equal the record achievement of 1901. For the present the company has only contracts to output 4,000 tons, but should the concession sought by exporters of low grade ore in respect to the extension to them of the Government bounty on lead, the output will be increased to 18,000 tons.

NOTES FROM THE DRY ORE BELT OF THE SLOCAN.

By W. D. MCGREGOR.

AN exceedingly dry spring has let the working prospectors in the lower section of this camp earlier than usual, and the general success of leaseholders is having a marked effect on the development work planned for the coming season. On Ten Mile Creek the Enterprise continues its satisfactory output. The leasers of the Neepawa have just received returns of \$116 per ton for their initial car of ore. Griffith is taking good ore out of the Westmount. Twelve Mile Creek shows two or three cars of high grade ore in the new work on the Happy Medium, and there has been a sensational strike made on the Coronado group, near the head of the creek. Along this line from near the head of Twelve Mile to Springer Creek there is a string of most promising properties that warrant anyone's careful investigation. These include the Myrtle, which shows a vein 30 feet wide carrying streaks of 200 oz. ore (smelter returns) at 80 feet depth. The owners are running a 450-foot crosscut tunnel to handle the surface water, which has always been bad and are now in 370 feet below this on Robinson Creek. Work on the Club has de-

veloped a shute of quite \$200.00 ore, including over 1 oz. of gold. Adjoining this is the I. X. L., on which a crosscut is being driven to tap the vein at some depth below the surface ore shutes, and below this and Springer the Cripple Stick group seems to have fallen into unfortunate hands, though the sorted ore gave smelter returns of \$90 with over 2 oz. gold. Just west of this the Port Hope has been developed under lease and the leasers are now bucking down and sorting ore that should return them about 200 ozs. silver and 107 oz. or better in gold. All these are working and all are showing a considerable amount of second class ore that would make first class profits if handled to advantage.

On Springer Creek proper: The Ottawa should have a paper to itself. This mine has shipped 215 tons of 200 to 500 oz. ore. So far this season's systematic development has shown the main ore shute, say 50 feet on the upper level, 135 feet on No. 3 and 365 at least on No. 4, as the grade of ore has improved; at the same time it can easily be understood that the position is an interesting one for the owners. At present a waggon road from the trunk road on Springer Creek is under construction, also necessary buildings for the enlarged force at the mine. The Black Prince is still in the best of shape at the hands of the leasers, who have still a couple of carloads to get out when the roads permit.

Lemon Creek promises great things if certain titles can be cleared. The leaseholders on the Chapleau profess themselves satisfied with the outlook and have run some 100 tons through the old mill. The Alberta has a choice shipment waiting the disappearance of the snow. Generally things promise well.

PROVINCIAL MINING ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee of the Provincial Mining Association was held at Nelson on May 18 and 19. Besides disposing of a lot of correspondence and routine business the following important matters were dealt with, as stated:—Re bounty on surplus lead ores shipped to foreign smelters:

Resolved: "That the Executive of the Provincial Mining Association heartily endorses the appeal made to the Dominion Government by the Associated Silver-Lead Mines, which has been agreed to by the Canadian smelters, and endorsed by the Provincial Boards of Trade, viz., that the bounty on lead ore be paid for one year on any lead ore shipped out of Canada after the lead smelters have been supplied with all the ore they require, and the Executive respectfully urges the Government to grant the concession, believing that it will greatly stimulate lead mining, which has been in a most depressed condition for the last three years, and tend to place it on a more permanent and prosperous footing. At the end of the period for which the concession is asked, it is confidently expected that the local smelters will have increased their capacity sufficiently to enable them to treat all lead ores mined in British Columbia, and that a copy hereof be sent to Mr. W. A. Galliher, hon. member for the district, and the Hon. W. S. Fielding, Minister of Finance, Ottawa."

Re location of placer claims over lode claims:

Resolved: "Whereas the judgment recently rendered by the Hon. Mr. Justice Martin in the case of Tanghe vs. Morgan, decides that whenever a free miner makes the statutory affidavit (Form G) required by the Placer Mining Act, and pays or tenders the requisite fee to the Gold Commissioner, such free miner becomes entitled to a record of his location, notwithstanding the fact that the ground is already occupied as a lode location, and the Gold Commissioner, after personally inspecting the ground, is of the opinion that the application for a placer location is not bona fide, and

"Whereas, the said judgment also affirms that in an action brought by the placer locator against the earlier lode locator, the placer locator is entitled to the judgment of the court, notwithstanding the fact that the evidence establishes that the so called placer location, was not a placer claim at all, because there was no placer ground in it, and