THE MINING REVIEW.

Vol. I.

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WILL ENAMINE AND REPORT ON MINES

ROSSLAND, B. C., DECEMBER 2, 1896.

MINING NOTES.

The directors of the Kootenay-London company have decided to place machinery on the Annie Fraction. Stock in this company is now 1212 cents.

Silver Bell is selling well at the advanced price. The appearance of the workings improves from day to day.

Manager Clark has begun the sinking of a new shaft on the Phœnix.

Delacola is looking even better than formerly.

Mr. Robert Hedley, an English engineer, is in the camp, looking over the ground on hehalf of an American syndicate which proposes to establish a smelter here.

Mr. W. Hamilton Merritt, the well-known castern mining engineer, spent a day in the camp this week. His only regret was that he could not stay in Rossland for a month.

The final payment for the Iron Colt has been made. Rawhiding has began early in the season in the Slocan and a heavy output should be the result.

It is reported from the north that the Horne-Payne company have shut down work on all their properties. This may benefit the company's interests or it may not. It would certainly be beneficial if Mr. Horne-Payne himself could be induced to shut up.

Robert Hamilto., of the W. Hamilton company, of Peterboro and Vancouver, is in town. This company is about to open a branch office in Rossland, Mr. Hanson in charge.

The control of the stock of the Elise has passed into the hands of the B. C. Exploration company, Jas. B. Owens secretary.

The Ibes mining company have een incorporated to work the Ibex, a claim adjoining the Silver Bell. G. A. Pounder is president, W. J. Green, vice-president; J. A. Scaman, secretary; D. L. Fibbits, treasurer. Development work has been begun.

The Bank of British Columbia has opened a branch in Kaslo. The Bank of British North America has opened a branch in Sandon.

The Sunset No. 2 is justifying the long held faith of its owners. The bottom of the shaft nory shows four feet and a halt of paying ore.

Mr. G. H. Campbell is the chief organiz-r of the Atlantic-Pacific Exploration company, one of the strongest syndicates of the kind yet formed in Canada. The same gentleman is organizing chief of the St. Andrews society in Rossland.

Lieutenant-Governor Charles Macintosh is organizing two companies, one the Golden Wedge to work the Spotted Tail group on Lake, and the other the Sultana to work the Sultana on Lookout Mountain.

It is reported that Hirschel Cohen, of London and Johannesburg, has closed a deal for the purchase of the Cliff mine. So far there is no confirmation of the report.

A coast syndicate has purchased seven claims in the Greenwood and Long Lake camps. This is understood in Boundary Creek as showing a certain amount of faith in the coast people that railroad communication with the Pacific will be opened up.

Quite a number of new mining corporations appear in the Gazette.

A representative of the REVIEW yesterday visited the Red Eagle in the South Belt, and saw a marvelous surface showing of rich ore.

The Mayflower is being equipped with a complete plant.

A great deal of development work is being done on properties in the South Belt.

Development on the Colville reservation has been slow in starting, but one or two companies seem at last to have taken firm hold there. . · .

Nest Egg showing is good.

Palo Alto is coming to the front.

An English offer of \$600,000 for the Josie has been refused. It is not improbable that a New York pool will secure this mine for \$700,000, on a busis of \$1 a share.

Final payment for the Colonna was made this week and the property is now in the hands of the Montrkal syndicate.

Poorman stock now snows an upward tendency.

The Butte shaft is now down 66 feet and the bottom looks well.

The Colonna will be a shipping mine within ninety days. Work is being pushed on this property at racing spee... It has the dynamic energy of Jim Wardner behind it.

W. A. Jowett, of the Nelson Miner, is in town attending a .neeting of the C. & C. company, of which he is a director.

The Minneapolis Times has taken hold of Trail Creek and is bringing out a detailed description of the camp. This action has been brought about by the many enquiries in St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth about this country and the desire expressed in these places to invest if only something was known about the ountry.

Mr. maraman, the author of the spiteful interview in the Montreal Gazette, was consulting engineer for Mr. Hammond. Mr. Hammond is heavily interested in East Kootenay, which explains the animus of Mr. Hardman's remarks. Both these gentlemen visited Rossland, but neither took the trouble to investigate Trail Creek's resources. It is not necessary that Trail Creek should be ana juo nake Last Kootenay great. It is probably because the men interested in East Kootenay are men of the calibre to try to glorify their own country by decrying their neighbors that East Kootenay has been so slow of development. It needs some of the liberal, whole-souled mining men who have made Southwest Kootenay and it will probably get there in time.

A proposal is on foot to erect a smelter close to the mines. Mr. Hedley, for some time manager at Pilot Bay, is examining the camp for a smelter company.

Hamilton Merritt gives it as his opinion that the Trail Creek deposits are true fissure veins.

UNLUCKY TRANSVAAL.

For many reasons mining operators in this country should thank their lucky stars that they are allowed to carry on their business under such favorable conditions, compared with those existing in South Africa and elsewhere. There should not be the slightest feeling of envy for all the wealth being extracted in the Transvaal, or for the fabulously rich veins being worked in West Australia, where in one case the tailings, owing to lack of water for proper treatment, average four ounces in gold.

A correspondent of our London contemporary. The Statist, has prepared a statement showing to what extent the Transvaal government could help the mining industry without hurting itself. In the first place, by direct and indirect taxation, by far the greater portion of which is borne by the mining community, the normal surplus of the government is about \$7,500.000 upon a total revenue of less than \$20,000,000. Then comes the dynamite monopoly, which imposes an unnecessary tax on the mine owners of about \$2,405.000 a year; and the exorbitant charges of the Netherlands railway, amounting to about \$4,750,000 a year in excess of 10 per cent. dividend on the share capital of the company. Altogether a good case is made out that were the miners treated in a fair spirit, they would be in position to earn a satisfactory dividend on the issued capital of the Witwatersrand mines, in addition to the dividends they are now paying.

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