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NEXT TOWN TO BOOM

Quartz Creek and Its Wonderful Mineral Resources.

FOUR TRIBUTARY VALLEYS

Some of the Mines and Prospects Which Will Make It An Important Centre—Now Has Over 800 Population—Rossland People There.

The town of Quartz Creek, on the Nelson and Fort Sheppard railroad, will probably become famous before the close of the year, as an important mining center and as a place of great activity and thrif...

Had No Use For Jumpers.

The story of the jumping of the town-site by J. N. Blake and others is already pretty well known. They have been enjoined from further operations, and Quartz Creek has probably seen the last of them in the capacity of townsite owners and boomers.

Why the Town Started.

Quartz Creek is a town because it can't help it. The town has grown there from the very nature of the existing conditions in that part of the country. It is on Salmon river at the mouth of Quartz Creek, which flows in from the west. It is about midway between Waneta and Nelson—probably nearer Nelson than Waneta.

Four Tributary Creeks.

There are three other tributary streams coming into Salmon river within two miles of the mouth of Quartz Creek—Wild Horse, Bear Creek and Porcupine Creek. Of the four creeks coming in, the largest, and has on it a very large area of mining country.

The Elise Mine.

The leading properties now under development, tributary to Quartz Creek, are mentioned below. First is the famous Elise, under management of E. L. Clark of Rossland. It is situated on Wild Horse, five or six miles from Quartz Creek. Thirty or forty sacks of ore have been packed down from the mine to the town and now await shipment. It is a beautiful ore and tells its own story.

Mr. Clark is now arranging to have machinery packed into the mine and will soon have it in fine working condition. The shaft is down 51 feet with the best showing in the bottom the mine has ever had, and a crosscut tunnel is being run to cut the vein at a depth of 125 feet and connect with the shaft. There is but one opinion among miners at Quartz Creek concerning the Elise, that is, it will be a very rich mine. A good deal of native silver is found in the ore recently taken from the shaft.

Ymir, Blackcock and Dundee.

Near the Elise are the Blackcock and Ymir. Both these have an abundance of rich ore in sight. More than 1,000 feet of development work have been done on the Ymir and there are several hundred tons of beautiful ore on the dump. A strong company owns the Ymir and they are working a large force.

This property has passed, like the Elise, the problematical stage. The Blackcock has a magnificent showing of high grade ore. The ore in both the Ymir and Blackcock carries galena, but the predominant values are in gold.

The Dundee, of the Parker group, is two and a half miles east of the town. It carries some galena, but the chief value of it is in gold. The Dundee has five feet of ore at the 100-foot level and is pretty sure to be a famous mine. Arrangements are now being made to put in machinery.

Blue Eyed Nellie and Porcupine. The Blue Eyed Nellie is one mile and a half southeast of the town, on Porcu-

pine creek. Development has commenced but has not yet gone very far. However, some excellent ore, showing some galena, has been found, and the assays are high. The surface showing is very strong.

Near this is the Porcupine, bonded the other day by E. L. Clark of Rossland, for \$30,000. The showing on the surface is very fine, there being both sulphide and galena ores.

Tamarack and Ivanhoe. The Tamarack group is two and a half miles northeast of Quartz Creek. The surface showing is excellent and some fine ore has been found. The Ajax, adjoining the Tamarack group, also looks well.

The Ivanhoe, two and a half miles southwest of town, looks well; so does the Belle, both properties belonging to the Rossland Development company, of which E. L. Clark is manager.

Tennessee and Its Neighbors.

The Tennessee, one mile and a half northwest of town, has developed a fine body of sulphide ore of low grade. It has shown values in gold and silver running up to \$27, but the average value is not so high. The ore has a lively appearance and it is quite probable that good values will be found with greater depth or more extensive drifting.

Other properties being worked are the Blue Jay, the Mollie F. and the Last Chance. These are all near town and all look well.

Outlook For the Camp.

I have never seen a camp look so well with so little development work. Unless all signs fail there will be an immense amount of pay ore in sight, within a radius of six miles of Quartz Creek, before the snows of next winter come. It is a very busy camp now and will soon be busier. Much ground high up on the mountains remains to be prospected, but I do not think much can be done on the higher ranges before June 1.

Many Rosslanders There.

The town of Quartz Creek is made up largely of Rossland people. I saw familiar faces there at every turn. Among them was that of N. Jerry, of Paris Belle fame. He keeps a little lodging house and shop, all as neat as a pin, and always keeps his guests in good humor. Dave Keefe, who formerly kept the Iron Horse boarding house, has the leading hotel in town, and keeps it well. He sometimes feeds as many as 60 people. Space will not permit me to mention all the Rossland people I met at Quartz Creek. The relations between Rossland and Quartz Creek are destined to be very close, for Rossland people have not only gone there to build up the town, but to buy and develop most of the mines.

QUARTZ CREEK TOWNSITE.

J. N. Blake Tells His Side of the Story—A Question of Law.

J. N. Blake says he feels aggrieved because THE MINER has never given his side of the Quartz Creek townsite matter in its columns. THE MINER always desires to be fair and is willing to give Mr. Blake's version.

He says he was consulted by several persons interested in acquiring land. That upon the statements made to him he advised that the land be staked for purchase, and thus the question as to the title of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway company was raised, and that the government be advised of the action contemplated.

At this stage the various persons interested requested him to act on their behalf and agreed to give him an inter-vention in the land so as to enable him to appear on argument of the legal ques-tion involved. He states that he re-luctantly accepted, and afterwards he became chairman of the Quartz Creek Land Firm, a partnership organized for the purpose of acquiring the land.

The government was advised and steps were taken at Quartz Creek to bring the matter to an issue. It is now before the courts. The members of the Quartz Creek Land Firm are, of course, at liberty to move to dissolve the injunc-tion obtained by the railway company.

Mr. Blake would therefore appear to have taken the proper steps to decide whether his contention is right or not, namely, that the railway company has forfeited its right to the land in ques-tion should never have been dragged into it.

HAS THREE FEET OF ORE.

Pay Struck on the East St. Louis Pay Struck Considerably. The clean ore body in the East St. Louis has widened to almost three feet. In a notice made of this property two or three weeks ago the clean ore was said to be not over a foot wide. This ore lies on the hanging wall, and it is on the hanging wall that the sinking has since been done. The showing has grown stronger every day and it is now one of the best in the south belt. The grade of the ore is above the shipping limit, and a considerable quantity is now on the dump.

Royal Gold Company.

D. D. Birks, secretary, and John G. McMillan, president, returned today from Spokane, where they have been attending the first annual meeting of the stockholders of the Royal Gold Mining company. The same directors were re-elected, and the stockholders were highly pleased with the reports submitted, which show several thousands of dollars in the treasury.

At present two contracts are let on the property; one to sink a shaft 50 feet further, which is now down about 75 feet, with five feet of ore in the bottom, averaging about \$30 per ton; the other for the driving a tunnel to crosscut a 40 foot quartz ledge which shows two well defined slate walls on the surface. The defined slate intends to push development on the two claims now being developed and to spend considerable money in opening up others of the sixteen owned by the company.

TRAIL NEWS NOTES

Lillegren Has Started Work on the Ferndale Group.

JOKER TO RESUME SOON

Fire Department Will Purchase Another 600 Feet of Hose—Arlington Hotel Trouble Results in a Fight Between Two Employes.

TRAIL, April 28.—[Special.]—E. W. Lillegren has sent four men out to commence work on his property, the Ferndale group of six claims, on Lake mountain. The group is located about a mile and a half southeast of the Crown Point. Work will be begun on the Ferndale itself.

The ore is mixed with quartz and lime so that it will form an admirable ore for smelting and can be treated cheaply by that account. Assays have been received which show 26 per cent copper, 11 ounces in silver and \$3.20 in gold, which gives a value of \$41.68.

For the present a 50-foot shaft will be started, and then a tunnel will probably be commenced. The slope of the hill will allow a depth of 90 feet and the length of a tunnel of less length than that.

In about three weeks work on the Joker will be actively resumed. The old force will be doubled, which will give a crew of 12 men. The manager has decided to sink the shaft to a depth of 200 feet and they will also start a tunnel in line with the shaft. There is an admirable tunnel site on the ground, and the 200-foot level of the shaft will be met at the 200-foot level of the tunnel. The mine will be equipped with a considerable quantity of machinery.

Ready to Fight Fire.

The fire department made a test of its hose to-day, and found everything satisfactory. The department now has 300 feet of hose at its disposal. At the request of Tom C. Gray, the fire boys ran the hose from the plug at the Hanna block to the smelter sawmill. The experiment showed that there is ample hose now on hand to run one stream to the sawmill, but the sawmill people want another stream advanced and are asking for \$200 more of hose to be added to the present supply, which would be sufficient for the purpose. The treasury now has enough funds on hand to pay all outstanding debts and has a small surplus on hand.

Arlington Hotel Dispute.

The trouble over the possession of the Arlington hotel has led to a fight between Abe N. Johnson and Harry Main. Mr. Johnson represents the hotel company and Mr. Main was acting for Frank Hanna, the trustee of the bar. A dispute arose as to their rights in the hotel, and the two were arranged this morning before Magistrate McMillan, who dismissed the case after considerable testimony on both sides had been produced.

Notes About Town.

W. T. Kake, of Kaching, and Williams, the contractor, have left for Fort Steele, to spend some time in looking over the district. He has been working hard of late, and the trip is in the nature of a vacation.

At the great hotel of the Kaiser hotel, went to Spokane yesterday on business.

O. B. Williams was satisfied that Trail is the best town in the Kootenays. He has a contract for an addition to his hotel, the Monte Christo, on the Bowersy. The addition will be in the rear of the hotel, and will just double the capacity of the hotel. The building will be 100 feet in size, which will cost about \$500.

A small placer excitement among some of the boys around here is the old McGinniss claim being staked out on the old McGinniss bar, just across the river from Stone.

The government has advised and steps were taken at Quartz Creek to bring the matter to an issue. It is now before the courts.

THE PROSPECTORS' EXCHANGE.

Annual Meeting Held and Officers Elected—Now Ready for Business. The Miners' and Prospectors' Exchange and Development company, limited liability, met at the offices of its solicitors yesterday morning. The following officers were elected for the ensuing term: President, Ross Thompson; first vice-president, Gen. Charles S. Warren; second vice-president, George Owens; secretary, Thomas J. Corrigan; treasurer, George Owens; solicitor, W. A. Gallaher, Dan McDermid, George Owens, Joseph Howson and Thos. J. Corrigan.

The exchange starts out with a membership of 100. The objects are to open and operate a mining and stock exchange. All those having properties to list can call on the secretary at the Harrison Springs ground, between No. 1 and No. 2 levels, in reality one solid ore body.

If this is so the War Eagle has a much greater ore reserve than it was believed to have had when it was staked. Indeed, it is now certain the mine is all that its warmest admirers ever pictured it to be. We shall hear great things of the War Eagle within the next three months.

SPOKANE'S NEW EXCHANGE.

Finally Organized Yesterday—Officers Elected and a Name Chosen. SPOKANE, Wash., April 28.—[Special.]—The board of directors of the new mining exchange today held a meeting, organized the exchange and adopted plans for conducting it. The new exchange is to be modeled after the Colorado Springs, and is to be a business exchange, which is one of the most successful exchanges in the United States. The board of directors elected by the members. The present board is composed of the following members: S. T. Arthur, president; C. M. Bell, J. M. Rex, R. N. McLean, E. E. Chase, C. H. Wickes, J. H. Whitcomb, L. E. Goldstein and J. H. Griffiths. The officers elected for the new exchange were: President, S. T. Arthur; vice president, Charles Kitzbuhler; secretary, J. H. Griffiths; treasurer, C. H. Wickes. The name selected for the exchange is "The Spokane Board of Trade and Stock Exchange." The membership now numbers 60 persons.

The plan of organization adopted contemplates a special advisory committee or board to consider and report upon matters coming up for the consideration of the organization. There will also be a listing committee, and all mine owners and prospectors having property listed upon the exchange must hand in a statement, sworn to by the secretary of the organization, directors, officers, proprietors, financial condition of the company, amount of ore shipped, and dividends declared. The listing committee will consist of three members. Those who are shipping ore will be termed "shipping companies," those which are partly developed will be listed as "prospective mines," and those on which no work has been done will be termed "prospects."

TWO MEN ARRESTED.

Thought to Be the Pair That Robbed Challoner, Mitchell & Spring.

A dispatch from Spokane last night conveyed the information that the two men who are supposed to have robbed Challoner, Mitchell & Spring's jewelry store in February last are under arrest in that city. They give their names as Johnson and Black respectively, and are thought to be from San Francisco. Detective Joe Warren, who has been very active in his efforts to run down the jewelry thieves, arrested the men. Mr. Mitchell, of Challoner, Mitchell & Spring, went to Spokane yesterday morning to prove ownership of the \$1,200 worth of jewelry recovered by Detective Warren, and which is now in the custody of the United States marshal as contraband.

Particulars concerning the arrest of the two men could not be obtained last night. Neither could their first names be learned. However, it is expected that a full report of the capture of the men will be received here today.

THOMPSON AVE. IMPROVEMENTS.

Street to Be Graded and Sidewalks for Several Blocks.

A MINER representative called on W. S. Weeks, of the Thompson Avenue syndicate, yesterday, to ascertain what

were the projected improvements for which permission had been sought of the city council at its last meeting.

"We intend to grade all along Thompson avenue," said Mr. Weeks, "and to put in sidewalks on both sides of the street from Davis street east to the Trail wagon road, which Thompson avenue intersects just below the powder houses. We also intend to improve Davis and Spokane streets between Columbia and Thompson avenues. When this is done we expect the wagon traffic to and from Trail will go by Davis street and Thompson avenue in preference to the present route. For pedestrians and riders Spokane street will furnish a shorter cut and it is proposed to open Washington street by a flying bridge across the Columbia & Western tracks."

GREAT WESTERN RESUMES

New Machinery Plant Now On the Way From Spokane.

It Is Expected to Have It Installed at the East Shaft, and in Working Order in a Week.

The Great Western resume work Monday. The first thing to be soon will be to grade a site for the new machinery plant now on the way from Spokane, which will be installed at the mouth of the new working shaft immediately on its arrival. The plant consists of a 130-horse power boiler, a 6 x 8 friction hoist, a No. 6 Cameron rinking pump and two steam drills, with all attachments complete, including piping.

It is hoped to have this plant in working order in a week, when the sinking of the shaft will be begun and continued until the 300-foot level is reached. At present the shaft is down 51 feet and in all ore, the last assays from the bottom averaging about \$19 in gold.

Bank houses and boarding houses for the miners will also be erected at once. The Great Western one of the shipping companies this season. The mine is owned principally by J. B. Jones and C. E. Barr, of Spokane. It is right in the heart of town and is on the main ore belt. Its surface showings are immense, and every shaft sunk on the property has proved that the vein is not only enormous but is filled with ore of good grade, which everywhere improves with depth.

THE WAR EAGLE'S GOOD LUCK.

Fine Ore Bodies Found by Crosscuts on the 385-Foot Level.

There is more good news about the War Eagle. The ore has also been found to the east of the winze on the 385-foot level. The mine on Sunday had an account of the finding of the ore on the west of the winze. This winze, as was remembered, was put down 125 feet from the level of the No. 2 tunnel, giving the mine a total depth of 385 feet. For 85 feet the winze went down in ore, the body being 10 feet wide in places. At the 85-foot level the ore seemed to go out and it was supposed to have been cut off by a fault. It was this that gave ground for the rumors that the mine was played out.

As a matter of fact, the winze went into the hanging wall and continued there for 40 feet, its total depth being 125 feet. When Mr. Hastings took charge of the company now owning it, he started drifts from the bottom and the east drift was sunk 70 feet when a crosscut was started south and the ledge was cut almost immediately. It was found to be 12 feet wide with five or six feet of good ore. The drift on the west was run 65 feet and a crosscut run south about the same width as on the east side. The solid ore is five feet wide and of good grade.

Mr. Hastings will now run a crosscut south from the bottom of the winze, and will not doubt find the ledge. It will then be proved for a distance of 135 feet. It is now certain that the War Eagle has an ore body below the No. 2 level, 125 feet high and probably from five to 10 feet thick.

Some very important discoveries have also been made above the No. 2 level. Mr. Hastings has been running some drifts between ore chutes No. 2 and No. 3, and he is now satisfied that they are one and the same ore body, and that what was formerly believed to be a barren piece of ground between No. 1 and No. 2 levels is in reality one solid ore body.

If this is so the War Eagle has a much greater ore reserve than it was believed to have had when it was staked. Indeed, it is now certain the mine is all that its warmest admirers ever pictured it to be. We shall hear great things of the War Eagle within the next three months.

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A GROWING CONCERN

The Hall Mines Smelter at Nelson Being Enlarged.

TO TREAT 380 TONS DAILY

Besides Copper the Silver-Lead Ores of Slokan Will Be Reduced. The New Refinery—Smelting as Opposed to Milling and Concentration.

While at Nelson last week I had the opportunity of visiting the Hall Mines smelter. This, like the Trail smelter, is playing an important part in the development of the mineral wealth of West Kootenay. I spent a whole forenoon at the plant in company with Paul Johnson, the superintendent. Mr. Johnson is one of the ablest smelter men in the country and is building up a great plant at Nelson.

He is just now completing a new blast furnace, which will have a capacity of about 250 tons of ore per day. The old furnace treats 130 tons a day, so that the united capacity of the two furnaces will be about 380 tons a day. There are no reverberatory furnaces in the Nelson smelter. Mr. Johnson is a strong believer in the blast furnace. He thinks it is the simplest and most economical.

He is now treating 100 tons of Silver King ore and 30 tons of War Eagle ore because it mixes well with the Silver King ore. The latter ore is very silicious—much more so than I expected to see—and the War Eagle ore has the necessary per centage of iron.

Mr. Johnson gets a very good quality of matte from the combination of the two ores. He now ships the matte away to be refined, but he, like Mr. Heinz at the Trail smelter, is putting in a refinery, able to refine the entire product of the establishment. This refinery will take the matte as it comes from the furnaces and make it into blister copper. This will be sent to Swansea, England, and will never go into the United States at all. At present all the copper made at both the Nelson and Trail smelters goes to United States refineries.

SILVER-LEAD SMELTER.

But it is not Mr. Johnson's purpose to confine himself to copper smelting. Mr. Crossdale, manager of the Hall Mines, limited, has obtained the consent of his people in London to smelt silver-lead ores, and when the new furnace is complete this department will be made. Mr. Johnson said silver-lead smelting would be gone into gradually, and that the capacity for this work will be increased as it is needed. It will be seen, therefore, that a very comprehensive scheme of operations is laid out for the Nelson smelter. It is not to be confined to the limitations of the Silver King mine, but is to reach out all over West Kootenay and take care of all classes.

Low Grade Rossland Ores.

Mr. Johnson believes most of the low grade ore of the Rossland camp can be treated more economically by smelting than by any other process. With oxide cheap fuel can be obtained. It costs about \$5 a ton he thinks even the low grade silicious ores of Rossland can be treated at less cost than by milling and concentration. He thinks the cost of smelting will be greatly reduced. He naturally believes Nelson will become an important smelting center, owing to the fact that a good start has already been successfully made in this business, and that in two years the cost of smelting will be greatly reduced. Fully operations is laid out for the Nelson smelter. It is not to be confined to the limitations of the Silver King mine, but is to reach out all over West Kootenay and take care of all classes.

IN LONDON'S MARKET.

Company to Acquire the Jumbo Being Underwritten—Doings of Promoters.

LONDON, April 28.—[Special Cable.]—I hear that a company to acquire the Jumbo and other mines is being underwritten. A finance company is in process of formation with £200,000 capital. Parker is said to be associated with it. The prospectus of the Fairview company is being printed. The Corinth Mines, limited, has just been formed privately with £100,000 capital in £1 shares. Eighty-five thousand shares were issued at par to acquire the properties of the company, which are in the Slokan adjoining the Alamo and Idaho. The directors include A. C. Mitchell-Innes, R. Delabere, J. Oakley-Maund. The provincial directors are McVior Campbell and E. Evans of Vancouver. The company is associated with the Galena Mines, limited.

Captain Adams' company, of which

particulars have been published today, was registered and cableed today.

The Vancouver Group.

A new company is the Prospecting Syndicate of British Columbia with a paid up capital of £14,500 and a nominal capital of £100,000. The manager is Gilbert Mahon and the engineer Leslie Hill. Sir Bartle Freere is looking after the London interests of the company.

There is considerable inquiry about the Dundee company in the city, several good people here being largely interested.

Mines are dull all round and British Columbia properties are quiet and featureless.

R. H. Pope leaves next week for Kootenay.

Glass Jars for Salmon. I hear that experiments are going forward at Washington for superdrying tins for canning salmon with strong glass jars. This is in view of the late talk about people being poisoned from eating canned salmon from your province.

I have just had a peep at Ogilvie's report on the Yukon. It is not encouraging.

The British Columbia Review has a long article criticizing the pretensions of the Yukon country.

The existing steamer lines do not appreciate the reported new subsidy to Peterson and Tait for a line of turret steamers—the long talked of fast Atlantic line to Canada.

Coates & Co. are offering the balance of the capital stock of the Montreal Royal Electric company, consisting of 2,500 shares of \$100 each, at \$140.

Quebec three per cent insured loan is offered at 93½ for consolidation and conversion of the existing loans.

CHAMBERLAIN IS ON TO US.

Tells Scotch Machinery Manufacturers to Watch British Columbia.

LONDON OFFICE OF THE MINER, 108 Bishopsgate Street, Within, E. C. LONDON, April 24.—[Special Cable.]—The Right Honorable Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, is reported to have communicated a letter to the chamber of commerce of Glasgow, Scotland, pointing out that the Scotch machinery manufacturers are apparently losing favorable opportunities in British Columbia.

The Gunnis-Neame syndicate has asked for an extension of its option on the Commander, and I understand it is likely to be granted.

BRITISH COLUMB