

Rossland Weekly Miner.

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MINING IN ONTARIO.

The report of the Ontario Bureau of Mines has just been issued and shows that that province produced minerals to the value of \$11,831,086, of which \$5,016,734, or 42 per cent, represented the metallic output. The report is extremely interesting, from the fact that it shows the wonderful expansion of mining during the past four or five years. The pig iron and nickel-copper industries of course show the greatest increases, consequent upon the big development of the Clergue Syndicate at the Helen mine in the Michipicoten district, north of Sault Ste. Marie, and also on account of the more aggressive work last year in the nickel mines near Sudbury, and to some extent the reviving of the copper industry on the north shore of Lake Huron.

The nickel output is represented by 441 tons, valued at \$1,859,970, which is an increase of 145 per cent in value and 25 per cent in quantity over the year 1900. The quarterly statement of the bureau also shows that the progressive development of this industry continues and that the value of the nickel output this year is \$354,498 in excess of the corresponding period of 1901. As Ontario possesses the largest deposits of nickel in the world and practically controls the market we may expect that province to steadily increase her production of this useful metal. The copper product of 1901 amounted to \$589,080, and the value of the output for the first quarter of 1902 over that of 1901 amounts to the respectable figure of \$121,545. The wages of the 2234 men employed in the nickel-copper industry for the year 1901 amounted to \$1,045,839.

Closely approaching the nickel-copper industry in value is that of iron. There were 273,532 tons mined, most of which is the output of the Helen mine. There were 116,370 tons of pig iron produced, valued at \$1,701,703. This shows an increase of \$765,637 in value and \$3,984 tons in quantity over the previous year.

Another steady advancement is shown in the steel industry, which, records 44,471 tons, worth \$347,280 for 1901, as against 2319 tons for the previous year, valued at \$46,380. In this connection it might be noted that the Ontario government in order to encourage the industry granted \$25,000 in the shape of bounties. The old farmer province evidently considers that mining is an industry which requires its fostering care rather than the iron hand of the tax-gatherer. Ontario realizes that every dollar spent in encouraging an industry of this kind is returned many times in the shape of increased business to the other parts of the province, and in increasing the value of her real estate in the wilds of Algoma.

Further large increases in the iron output may be looked for during the present year, as the Clergue syndicates are now developing another promising iron mine, which they expect will be fully the equal of the Helen.

An American company has also been formed, and has secured several of the old silver mines in the Thunder Bay district and which they promise to develop the coming year. Two decades ago silver was the leading mineral product of Ontario, but on account of the drop in the price of the article mining was discontinued on all but one or two properties. The old Silver Islet mine, situated on a small island in Lake Superior, was one of the bonanza properties of that time, and produced several millions of dollars. It is now filled with water, and the waves of Lake Superior have demolished the once extensive works.

The report shows another decline in the gold mining industry of western Ontario, the output for the year 1901 being \$244,443, as compared with \$297,861 for 1900 and about \$400,000 for 1899. This was largely due to the fact that a number of mines were closed down last year from various causes, such as lack of capital and amateur management. The report mentions other causes which have militated against the successful exploitation of Ontario's gold properties, and points out especially the folly of companies investing in costly plants before establishing the value and permanency of the ore bodies. The bright beacon light shown in the report as regards the gold industry is the fact that the first three months of 1902 show a gain in production over 1901 of \$22,548. The Foley mine in the Selkirk district is to be reopened, and along with continued pro-

duction from the Mikado and Black Eagle in the Lake of the Woods section and several new producers in the Manitou district, Ontario may show a decided increase in gold production this year over any previous year.

It is not from the precious metals, however, that Ontario hopes to gain pre-eminence in the production of minerals, but rather from her iron, nickel and copper properties. They are not only sources of wealth in themselves, but are even now the parents of other industries, and the number of these industries, dependent upon them must continue to increase and give lucrative employment to large numbers of men.

ANOTHER SMELTER TALKED OF.

Our dispatch from Grand Forks yesterday morning announcing that a syndicate of American capitalists had decided to put up a thousand-ton custom smelting plant at some point in the Kettle River Valley bears all the earmarks of Jim Hill. If such a plant is erected he will undoubtedly be the chief promoter of the enterprise. He has not built a railway up the Kettle River Valley into the Boundary country just for the fun of the thing. It is in keeping with everything he has done in the past in matters pertaining to his railway lines. Grand Forks seems destined to be a great smelting and refining center. The different roads will thus increase their business by hauling the ores from the great mines near by as well as from Republic, the Similkameen and other new mining districts now provided by rail communication, but which will be tapped by the extension to the coast of the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern Railway. This road will undoubtedly be built by Mr. Hill in the near future. If it is decided to make Grand Forks a smelting center it can readily be seen that an extensive tributary mining country is at hand to supply the ores. All it needs is cheap transportation.

THE COAST-AWAKENING.

Some of the Coast papers are at last becoming reasonable in their treatment of the mines taxation question and have awakened to the fact that the mining interests of this section have reasonable grounds for the claim of unjust taxation. That the tax is inequitable and bears heavily upon the ores of low grade is granted. The press of the Coast, along with the thinking and reasonable men of the province, are conceding that not only do the mine owners and miners suffer through the present method of taxation, but also that the province as a whole suffers through the present unsatisfactory method. Development is being retarded, men are not employed to the extent they ought to be, and consequently there is no extension of business, but rather a depression. With this view of the question it will take but little time to convince the electors of the Coast that the people of the interior are not trying to subvert their interests, but rather to conserve them. If the mining sections of the province are prosperous, and large numbers of men being employed, it cannot help but be of substantial benefit to the business men and others situated in the Coast cities, and incidentally, to the farmers who supply the increasing market of those places. It is a well known fact that whereas a high-grade mine is usually of short life, a low-grade property is almost as permanent as an old established manufacturing industry. The high-grade property pays the owners immense dividends, but is not of so much benefit to the community as a whole, from the fact that it is in many cases uncertain and employs comparatively few men. The low-grade properties of necessity employ hundreds of men in order to ship sufficient ore to make them profitable. The logic of this argument is shown conclusively in the case of the Homestake of South Dakota, where several hundreds of men are employed and who are the main support of a flourishing city. The State of South Dakota as a whole benefits largely through this activity in the Black Hills, and so would the Coast cities of British Columbia benefit through a large mining industry in the interior. It is the duty, then, even if it be a selfish one, of the influential press of Vancouver and Victoria to impress upon the people of the Coast the advantages that would accrue to them through the exploitation of the low-grade properties of the Kootenays. They are already beginning to see that the main obstacle to this desirable end is the unfair operation of the mineral tax. If they look into the question they will find that though the receipts from this tax do not increase the revenue of the province to a great extent, yet its present operation retards the shipment of the low-grade ores, and ultimately is a hindrance to the increasing of the revenue of the province.

The Helena Record says that the Gaylor-Greene decision is looked upon by Canadian hotelkeepers as a good advertisement for them and they feel confident of full houses from now on.

SUNDAY LECTURE.

Probably nothing will do more to form correct habits and stability of character than the reading of good books.

"Books are the windows through which the soul looks out," said Henry Ward Beecher, and probably the great divine never uttered a nobler sentiment. Much of the frivolity of our time can be traced to light and trashy literature. So much of printing matter is going through the press all over the world that it would seem to cause a flood beyond human intellect to absorb. That most of it is cheap and trashy goes without saying, and must pass with all things transient. While many great minds are engaged in writing prose and poetry of high merit, some of it, probably, that will pass down through the centuries, the men whose works have passed through the crucible—are always valuable to read, and their works should ever be kept in mind. The keen business man, the professional man, the student and the laborer should always keep abreast of the times by reading the news found in the daily press, but for correct food for the mind standard authors should never be lost sight of. We do not mean by this that present-day writers should be ignored. We can all find time to give them attention, and the magazines are full of interesting matter on live subjects. But most of this is evanescent and is lost forever. Not so with the Bible, with Shakespeare, with Scott and Byron, and Milton, and Burns, the philosophy of Bacon, the history of Gibbon, or the treatise on common English law of Blackstone. These are but a few of the names of authors that could be mentioned whose works have stood the test of time, and out of the long list the young man or woman should always have some author of known standing—whether it be of philosophy, history or poetry—which they should daily study and from which they could derive inspiration.

In this connection there is no more useful book for the young man to read than Blackstone's Commentaries. At first glance the young man may say that he does not intend to be a lawyer and he would like to study something else. Blackstone is a useful book to read whether one wishes to engage in the practice of the law or not. It is, in fact, an interesting history of our common English law, written in a style clear and perfect, and more interesting than a majority of the histories written. It was he who gave new life to the study of the law in England, and it was he who surrounded it with a light that has made it clear to the understanding ever since. No one can read the four books comprising the two volumes without having a better understanding of our institutions, and knowing more of his duties as a citizen. As a writer of pure English no one has ever excelled Blackstone. We are told that Judge Esack Cowen of New York, for many years before his death one of the justices of the supreme court of the Empire State, distinguished as a jurist and an author of several law works, read Blackstone's Commentaries through every year. It seemed to be to him an inspiration.

Whatever we do, a standard author of some kind should always be on our table and read daily. And above all things the trashy stuff that is offered at every news stand should be let severely alone.

INTERNATIONAL MINING CONGRESS.

The fifth annual session of the International Mining Congress begins its meetings in Butte tomorrow. We have reason to believe that several hundred of the most prominent mining men in Canada and the United States will be present, and it is not only possible, but is quite probable, that much good will flow from their deliberations. It is entirely an involuntary gathering, without authority to dictate anything, but the discussion of important subjects relating to mining and recommendations coming from so high an authority cannot but exert great influence to uphold the industry. We shall probably hear that the weight of its influence has been given for uniform national mining legislation.

The first "International Gold Convention" met in Denver, Colorado, July 7, 1897. Nearly 800 delegates, representing the United States, British Columbia, Mexico and Venezuela were present. The convention committee recommended that "all discussions be confined to mines, mining and kindred subjects." At the first meeting the name was changed to "Mining Congress."

The second annual session convened in Salt Lake City, July 6, 1898. There were 200 delegates present.

September 7, 1899, was the date set for the Milwaukee meeting, but none was held. In that city, however, June 19 to 23, 1900, was held the third session of the Congress, which was not rated a success, the attendance being meager.

The fourth annual convention began at Boise, Idaho, July 20, 1901. There was a fair attendance.

The session to be opened at Butte

tomorrow gives promise of not only a large attendance, but of being run on lines of giving the west encouragement.

For the next, or sixth, meeting of the Congress several places have been mentioned. Chicago and Lead City, South Dakota, being among the number. We beg to suggest that Rossland would be a good place for the Congress to assemble. The Congress being international, the meeting places should not be confined to one country or section, but should occasionally take a dip outside of the big country to the south of us. Such will probably be the case.

Anything relating to mining is of paramount importance to our people, and we shall watch the proceedings of the present Congress with interest. Butte is in holiday attire for the event.

OUR TONNAGE.

This from the Victoria Colonist of Thursday: "If we put the wheat crop of Manitoba at 60,000,000 bushels, they represent a tonnage of 1,800,000 tons. One million eight hundred thousand tons will require 90,000 20-ton cars to remove, the freight, or 2250 trains of 20 cars each, or 10 trains per day for 225 days. This looks remarkable, but two little towns in British Columbia, Rossland and Phoenix, move per annum equal in weight to very nearly one-half of the weight of the entire Manitoba wheat crop."

This, with the increase of 12,000 tons of ore per month from the Centre Star and War Eagle mines to the Trail smelter, as told by T. G. Blackstock in our dispatches from Toronto yesterday, to say nothing of the treatment of \$5 ore which is likely to occur, ought to place this camp on the high road to prosperity. The above figures will give readers a correct idea of the tonnage in the past, and what it is almost sure to be in the future.

WHAT IT MEANS TO CANADA.

Toronto News: It is a difficult matter to give any adequate idea of the value in money to the country generally of a harvest like that garnered last year in Western Canada, and the still larger crops which promise this. Thanks to the useful statistics gotten together by the Manitoba government since last year's crop was marketed, we are able to indulge in approximate estimates, based upon official information which is more or less accurate, and which reveals some startling figures in values.

According to figures carefully prepared by the department of agriculture, the thirty-five thousand farmers of Manitoba last year disposed of all the produce of their farms for some \$40,000,000. The trade returns show us that last year the Territories produced about one-third the amount of all grains for export as was produced in Manitoba, so that it is approximately accurate to calculate the amount of money realized by the farmers of the Territories at one-third of the amount realized by the farmers in Manitoba from all the products of their farms, which, roughly speaking, would be about \$13,300,000. This would make the total value of the output from the farms of the Canadian West last year in actual money about \$53,300,000.

It is estimated that the standing crops this year are about one-third larger than last year's yield, due to the increased acreage under cultivation, and a small average increase in the yield per acre. This, on the basis of the approximate value of farm products last year, would make this year's production of all farm produce in the west worth in actual money \$71,000,000. These figures are only approximately correct, of course, but they give some idea of the amount of actual money this year's splendid harvest is likely to put into circulation.

It is easy to see the effect on the country generally of the bringing into circulation of this enormous amount of money from a single source. It means general prosperity, not only in the west, but in the east as well. It means that the banks of the country, which will handle all this additional wealth, will greatly increase their volume of business and their lending resources. Money will be easier and all classes of industrial securities and bank stocks will increase in value. Capital for investment in new industries will be available from the enormously increased holdings of the banks, and business generally will receive the impetus which an abundance of money always gives.

The vast sum of \$71,000,000 added to our national bank account, for that is what it means, will bring general prosperity and expansion in all lines of industrial activity in the country.

The Miner received a copy of the Mining Review printed at Sandon yesterday, the first one in nearly two months, and that was eight days coming to hand. The Paystreak reaches this office semi-occasionally, and the Nelson News comes to hand about every other day. If these places were located in Africa it would not perhaps be so surprising, but being near neighbors, within a few hours by rail, we would like to know, you know.

A CHICAGO OPINION.

The grain and milling papers of the Northwestern States are taking a great interest in the Manitoba wheat crop this year, says the Winnipeg Commercial, and the probable effect on the market of its hurried sale.

Almost every one of the papers on the southern side of the line are discussing this question editorially, and it is quite evident from the tone of the remarks made that Canada has found a vulnerable spot in Uncle Sam's tariff armor at last. The American Elevator and Grain Trade of Chicago, published the following editorial on this subject last week:

"Another bumper wheat crop is expected from Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, and the problem what to do with it will shortly become pressing. The elevator system of Canada has been materially enlarged this season, both in the country and at the terminals, but it is still unequal to a natural demand for storage. The Canadian Pacific and Northern Roads have also increased their equipment of grain cars; but this latter fact is likely to count as a bear factor in the market, for in the absence of storage capacity at the farms and inadequate elevator room at the towns, the aim of farmers will be to get this stuff off their hands at the earliest possible moment after harvest.

"It certainly is unfortunate that the American tariff is still in force, driving this grain, as it will, away from our elevators and mills and forcing it into Liverpool at 'any old' price. It is perhaps too much to hope that congress will soon consider the situation on its merits; but if the rush of farmers to Manitoba and the Northwest Territories continues for a few years more at the rate they have been going there the present summer, the effect on American wheat prices may open the eyes of our farmers to a situation that may be anything but pleasant.

"A repeal of the tariff would at least tend to steady prices, which would be a greater benefit to the Americans than to the Canadians, since the former have more wheat to suffer loss on."

MR. PRIOR'S INTERVIEW.

Colonel Prior, the minister of mines, who has been "swinging around the circle," has returned to his home in Victoria, and has submitted to an interview which was printed in the Colonist of Sunday morning. The interview was undoubtedly carefully prepared and revised. He says many kind things regarding the mining industry and the royal manner in which he was entertained in the different mining centers, Rossland among the number, but altogether the gallant colonel is diplomatic and non-committal.

"The 2 per cent tax is what I heard most about in the way of complaints," says Mr. Prior. "I have taken down many valuable remarks in regard to this tax, and I hope in a short time to give them the consideration which they undoubtedly deserve. To complain is one thing; but to suggest an efficacious remedy is another, and a harder matter." At this point the minister answers a direct question put by the reporter as to what the country needs to encourage mining development, by saying that it can all be summed up in one word—"Stability." No one will question that assertion. The shuttlecock system of legislation in the province that has prevailed on so many occasions in the past has had the effect to produce unrest and doubt, but that is not the only cause for complaint. The idea is firmly rooted that the two per cent tax hangs like a millstone around the neck of the industry, and that it should be amended to conform to an equitable share of the burdens of taxation.

"I'll admit that it would be well to alter the 2 per cent tax if possible, whilst at the same time getting a fair revenue for the government, but the great wish of mining men is to know that no changes are going to be made in the laws, so that they can plan ahead and know the conditions under which they must work." This is an admission the government will do well to heed in the future; they have not acted upon it in the past, and what guarantee have we that they intend to in the future?

There is little in the interview published to give those living in this part of the province the impression that they can expect from the present government from what they have had in the past unless we except the remark about "stability." It is hard to believe that the government will see its way clear to amend the two per cent tax, as the subject is handled very gingerly and diplomatically.

Colonel Prior closes his interview by patting the government on the head in the remark: "Oh, well, I found that there were some, of course, who thought there should be a change, but I think the large majority feel that any change might be for the worse instead of for the better." The minister of mines can hardly believe that. The proceedings of the last legislature are too fresh in the minds of our people, and the opinion was too openly expressed in opposition,

to cause any intelligent person to believe that the present government is founded on the rock of confidence and stability.

The time is not far off when the government must say yes or no on the two per cent tax question.

A YEAR OF PLENTY.

The first car of new wheat reached Winnipeg on Friday last, and is said to grade No. 1 hard. It is gratifying to the whole Dominion to learn that the crucial period of Manitoba's harvest has been passed, and that no damage has been done to the crops through frost or excessive rain. The grain is nearly all cut and it is confidently hoped that with average fair weather the crops will all be stacked and threshed within the next three weeks. This will mean unbounded prosperity for the whole country. It has always been felt in Manitoba that if they could have two successive years of bumper crops, it would create such a favorable impression that there would be an influx of population which would soon fill up the vacant lands of the province. This has been secured, and we may now rest assured that settlers and capital in abundance will be attracted to the wide stretching prairies to the east of us. The effect of such activity will undoubtedly be felt also in British Columbia, and the people of this, the richest mineral and timber province of the Dominion, may confidently look forward to the coming year with full assurance that the tide of prosperity will be with them. It will not come without some effort, however, and both the people and the government must make an effort to remove all restrictions in the road of the profitable employment of capital.

THE MINING CONGRESS.

The announcement that 2000 delegates are in attendance at the International Mining Congress in Butte, and that the representation is expected to be swelled to 5000 by subsequent arrivals, shows the interest that is being taken in the work. An assemblage that numbers 5000 is a great body, and considering that they have one object in view, namely, the upbuilding of the mining industry, shows the wide-spread interest that is taken in the work of the Congress. The largest attendance at any previous meeting of the Congress was 800, so it can be seen that this is a record breaker so far as numbers are concerned. We beg to suggest that Rossland would be a suitable place for the next meeting of the Congress.

A splendid opportunity for a centennial exhibition has been missed, for it has been discovered that this year is the one hundredth anniversary of trousers. George IV. is given the credit for the general adoption of trousers as wearing apparel. He was then Prince of Wales and was, of course, leading the fashion in England. It may have been that the prince's extremities were not noted for their beauty or symmetry, and that he decided to veil them; or perhaps he was tired of the manner in which many of his advisers had resorted to artificial means to give their supports a more substantial appearance, and he therefore decided to set an example by covering his own substantial calves.

The politicians of Ontario are collecting funds and preparing ammunition for the struggle in North Renfrew. If the conservatives win they will obliterate the present liberal majority of one, and thus force the government to resign. Should another general election be brought on the conservatives would have a decided advantage over the government party and probably secure the reins of power. It will be seen what immense results depend upon the election in North Renfrew. The constituency is fairly evenly divided upon party lines, having been alternately represented by a conservative and a liberal since confederation.

ANOTHER SMELTER.

Mr. Charles Cumings returned yesterday from a three months' trip to the coast. While away Mr. Cumings visited St. Paul, Chicago, Cleveland, Niagara Falls and Hamilton and Toronto, Ont., and everywhere he found the people eager for information regarding the wonderful resources of the Boundary country.

While in St. Paul recently Mr. Cumings had an interview with President J. J. Hill, who expressed himself as well pleased with his recent visit to Grand Forks, and predicted a great future for the city. Mr. Hill also expressed the opinion that the railway troubles would be settled within the next two months and that construction work on the spur to the smelter would be commenced.

Mr. Cumings says that another smelter for this city of even greater capacity than the Granby is being projected, and the work of building it will probably be commenced within six months.

The Great Northern, says Mr. Cumings, has issued an attractive booklet setting forth the picturesqueness and bountiful resources of this section. The booklet is being freely distributed in the east, and he predicts a great influx of settlers to the Boundary country this fall.—Grand Forks Sun, August 27.

THE

BOUNDARY ORE

Granby mines, Phoenix Mother Lode, Deadwood Emma, Summit...

Total for week...—Phoenix

ORE SHIP

The shipments of for the past week

Rambler to Everett
Mother Lode to Frisco
American Boy to Ev
Ruth to Nelson...
Sunset to Nelson...
Slocan Star to Ever
Whitewater to Nel
Antoine to Nelson...
Last Chance to Tra

Total...—Kootenai

THE LUCK OF

The native of Quebec of France are wide and the abuse which is heaping upon Sir simply illustrates difference between Frenchmen and the Good fortune has been Wilfrid Laurier in the fates are dealing now.

Abuse from the Paris will be a cry Wilfrid Laurier in the Quebec Ultramarine Sir Wilfrid Laurier disloyalty to Britain sible when his loyal ples the boulevard text for their attack A politician who because he is too abused in Ontario French. Sir Wilfrid wish for better, ca than the contributio the enemy in the journalism.—Toronto

BACK TO T

For years the flocked to the towns with the idea that could so readily and was wasted in the life was not looked upon carious and arduous ture. But the condit is the lawyer, the clerical pursuit wh carious calling. Th a reaper of the we helped to produce f house. It is well the saying that he v in making two bla where only one gre the world so much states the economi question in a nutsh advanced by leas political and social the laborer is comi labor.—Toronto Wor

TO RESUME O

(Special to) EHOLT, B. C. A that mining operat aumed next week o situate about a m EHolt. This mine is C. Chartered Comp Quebec. It was wor intermission from o ant last January, s to the low price of down. During 1900, year ore was sent quantity from the B. C. shipped about of excellent grade for 1901 was about comparatively small the current year output of the mine tons. The precise, to December 31st giving an average a gold, 2.45 ounces sil copper (wet assay) tenths of this ore melted and the ren ish Columbia Corp er at Greenwood, rite, pyrrhotite and small quantities of 7000 lineal feet of w done underground mine, the deepest a feet in depth.

The mine is equip power plant to br than 200 tons of ore present main shaft four boilers, toget power; a straight compressor; half o roll air compressor one large and two ghine; two No. 5 pumps, etc. An elec dynamo have elec diamond drill was for some time last ings are substantial and as many as 11 played at one time

The company own claims, these form ing the B. C. mi two months severa played in surface claims, on some o valuable shoots o

PROVIDENCE N

Satisfactory Retu or Sh

The Providence that has recently