

Current Mining News.

Contributions from any part of British Columbia and the mining districts of a reliable nature will be published in these columns, and we request that mining men write us about the progress of the mines of their district. We desire to publish all mining news.

AT VERNON.

The Blue Jay ledge, reported struck by tunneling 166 feet, and the Ruby Company also, claim now to have reached the main ledge on the Sunbeam claim.

SLOCAN DIVIDEND PAYERS.

The following mines, within five miles of Sandon, are dividend payers: Ruth, Payne, Washington, Goodenough, Monitor, Surprise, Reco, Almo, Idaho, Wonderful, Slocan Boy, Slocan Star, Last Chance, Rambler Cariboo, Freddie Lee, Antoine, Jackson, and Wellington.

THE MOUNTAIN TREASURE.

Mr. Barclay Bonthron, of the British Columbia Gold Trust, Limited, has returned from Uchucklesett harbor, on the north coast, where he has been inspecting operations at the Mountain Treasure property on behalf of the company, of which he is the managing director. The ore veins are now being bared. Mr. Bonthron also inspected the Scollet group of mines at Sydney Arm, which the Gold Trust, Limited, also owns.

THE SILVER BELL.

The managers of this mine at Kaslo, South Fork, state that as a result of a recent shipment to the Kaslo sampler of 60 tons of exceptionally rich silver and galena ore, a gross value has accrued of \$8,600, and a net profit of over \$5,000. With this the management will run 400 feet of tunnel to tap the ledge at 150 feet. It is then expected that as a result the mine will prove one of those that develop themselves from the very grass roots.

A NELSON SALE.

The Canadian Pacific Exploration Syndicate, which last week purchased the Big Four, near Nelson, for \$50,000, is now reported to have secured the Apex group of claims, situate at the head of Clearwater creek on the Salmon river. The group consists of the Apex, Silver Reef, Curfew, and Acme fractions, which are free milling, running about \$28 in gold. Not a little money has already been spent on development work. The owners were Messrs. Malone, Roy and Stimley, of Nelson. The terms of the sale are withheld.

THE COLUMBIA AND KOOTENAY SOLD

The Columbia and Kootenay has been sold to the Mackintosh syndicate for the sum of \$275,000. The deal carries with it the Columbia, Kootenay, Copper Jack, Tip-Top, and the Kootenay Fraction. This property covers the summit and north and east slopes of Columbia mountain. This property was sold by Phil Aspinwall for \$85,000 to Chicago capitalists, who installed machinery and did considerable work. Mr. Heinze took a bond on it for \$500,000, and September last threw it up. If the Heinze deal was declared off it was understood that the Mackintosh syndicate had made an offer which would be accepted. At this juncture, for reasons but little better known to the editor of the Miner than to a great many other persons, that sheet stated that Mr. Heinze had thrown up the land because even with his railroad and smelting facilities he could not make it pay. It was generally understood that this statement by a local paper had "knocked" the sale. The Columbia and Kootenay has long been regarded as among the best mining properties in this camp, and it is the general impression that it is well worth the price paid.—Record.

THE PRIMROSE GOLD MINING COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Primrose Gold Mining Company has been held in Rossland. The president, Mr. J. M. Miller, who has had charge of the development work on the company's properties, the Seattle and Denmark claims, on the North fork of Salmon river, sent in a report, and it was decided to postpone further work until the surface could be thoroughly examined by an expert. There is a shaft down 35 feet on a strong quartz lead, a good cabin, and several surface cuts on a heavy iron capping, which carries strong stringers of galena and carbonates, giving good values in gold, silver and lead, and it is on this showing that the company proposes to do further exploration as soon as it can be economically done. The following directors were elected for the ensuing year: Messrs. J. M. Miller, M. F. Chestnut, and John Harris; the two former were afterwards chosen as president and secretary, respectively, with Mr. Graham Kennedy as treasurer, and Mr. Thomas Anderson as auditor of the company.

THE WILLOW RIVER GRAVELS.

Mr. F. C. Laird has for a time been compelled to suspend work, as a result of a too large inflow of water on to his gold gravels at Willow creek, Cariboo, where he has been for years at work. He expects, however, shortly to resume work with the aid of a sufficient force of machinery, whereby to keep under the water.