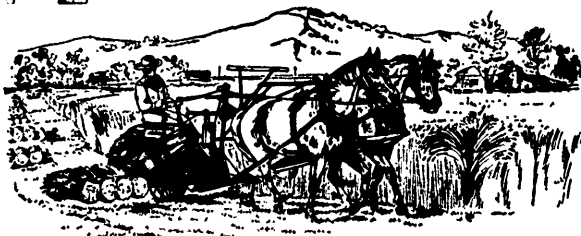


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THE IMPLEMENT TRADE.

THE TWINE MARKETS.

Several of the leading concerns announce that, beginning to-morrow, they will ask 1/2 cent advance on the manila grades, says Farm Implement News, including 600-foot pure and the standard manila (550-foot) made by some mills. Though not so announced or admitted, it is probable that this action is taken with a view to discouraging sales of manila grades, for as stated some weeks ago, only a small quantity of manila twine will be available for the season of 1900. Few manufacturers are prepared to furnish any grade of manila twine. A firmer tendency in the manila hemp market may have exerted an influence, but with fiber prices considered an advance in sisal and standard would be more plausible. It is undoubtedly the scarcity rather than the cost of material that causes the advance.

Another change that takes effect Feb. 1 interests the northwestern trade only. On account of the withdrawal of the low freight rate, Chicago to Minneapolis, a difference of 1/2 cent on sisal and standard and 1/4 cent on manila and pure manila, between Chicago and Minneapolis prices, will hereafter be maintained. Here again is shown a tendency to discourage the sale of manila grades, the advance on those grades being double that on sisal.

The revised scale appears below. There is some question as to whether this is being universally maintained. It is persistently rumored that some of the houses have made slight concessions, but whether these have any basis in fact or arise merely from salesmen's gossip cannot at this time be determined.

Prices f.o.b. Chicago and other central points are:—
Sisal 7 1/2
Standard 7 1/2
Manila (600-foot) 9 1/4
Pure manila 10 1/2
Car loads 1/2 cent less. Five ton lots 1/2 cent less. Fall terms.

IMPLEMENT TRADE NOTES.

T. M. Bryce has been appointed agent for the Cockshutt Plow Co. at

Yellow Grass, Assn. The Massey-Harris Co. propose building a large warehouse at the same point this year.

Sisal hemp has declined 1/4c at primary points. Manila hemp is 1/4c higher at producing points.

The annual meeting of the Western Retail Implement Dealers Association will be held in Winnipeg on Feb. 19th.

British Columbia Mining.

Excellent progress is being made in developing the properties of the Dominion Copper Co. near Nelson, and over 100 men are now employed.

The Slough Creek Mining Co. is being wound up and the interests transferred to a new company to be known as the Slough Creek Limited.

The Ottawa group on Springer creek has been bonded for \$25,000. A great deal of work has already been done on this property and values of upwards of \$200 have been encountered.

The Mabel May group on Crawford creek has been bonded for \$100,000. This is a copper-gold proposition comprising 400 acres and having eight veins. It is 1000 feet by 15 inches to 30 feet, values running from \$15 to \$72.

At the Poorman mine, near Nelson, an interesting experiment was made with the Rand baby drill, operated by one man. It was demonstrated that the drill did excellent work and it is stated that the company will put in several more of these at an early date.

At the annual meeting of the Majestic Mining Company it was decided that as the cost of shipping the ore from the Majestic by wagon is 45 a ton, and 75 cents by rail, shipping would be discontinued for the present, as the railway will probably be built to the camp in the near future.

At the annual meeting of shareholders of the Knob Hill held in Montreal a unanimous resolution was passed providing for the taking over of the Knob Hill by the proposed Gribby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Co. It was explained that the proposed amalgamated company would consist of 1,500,000 shares at \$10 per share, making a capital of \$15,000,000. The sum of \$500,000 will be devoted to the Knob Hill, \$2,500,000 to the Old Iron-

sides, \$2,225,000 to the Grey Eagle, and \$1,800,000 to the Granby smelter, and town sites. It was deemed advisable to place the shares at \$10, so that they might be dealt in by the New York Stock Exchange, where it is understood the new stock will be listed.

The St. Eugene mine laid off 175 men on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. This represents practically the entire force employed in taking out ore and it is not known whether or not the development crew will be affected. The management gives the unsettled smelter conditions as the reason for the shut down.—Nelson Miner.

A report reached here yesterday from Spokane to the effect that the control of the Iron Mask has been bonded by Corbin and Roberts to Ernest D. Leverson, a London mining promoter. It is understood that the bond is on a basis of \$400,000 for the entire capital stock of 500,000 shares, or 80 cents per share.—Rossland Miner.

T. G. Blackstock yesterday confirmed the announcement that the Gooderham-Blackstock syndicate had bonded the coal lands of the Nicola valley, where it is estimated that 100,000,000 tons of coal are in sight. The probability of beginning operations on a large scale depends on the railway rates levied. The Nicola Valley is between the Semlikameen and Kamloops, and a line from there would pass close to the projected line from Boundary Creek to Vancouver, for which both the C. P. R. and Mackenzie & Mann have a charter.

At the annual meeting held in Toronto of the White Bear Mining Company the treasurer's report showed that the receipts for the year amounted to \$116,000, and the disbursements to \$14,000. The amount on hand on February 1 was \$4,000, with \$2,000 to \$3,000 additional available. If necessary, to prosecute development. The report from the mine was satisfactory, showing that the ore body found by the diamond drill would be reached in about two weeks, and would be fully opened up by about March 1. The directors were all unanimously re-elected.

Northwestern Ontario Mining.

The mill on the Glass Reef mine in the Upper Manitow district has been closed down for the winter and the en-

tire force is being devoted to development work.

A contract has been let by the Niagara & Sturgeon Lake Co. for the erection of a mill on their property.

New buildings have been erected on the Mikado property, including living quarters for the men and many improvements have been made to the plant, new machinery being added, with the result that the capacity of the stamp mill and cyanide department has been largely increased.

The reorganization of the Golden Star Company has been arranged and letters patent granted, empowering an increase in the capitalization of 300,000 shares, making the authorized capital now \$1,300,000. The name of the company is changed from the Golden Star Mining and Exploration Co. of Ontario, to the Golden Star Mining Co. The shares in the new company are to be paid up to 95 cents. The result of this will practically mean that the company will be placed on an assessable basis up to 5 cents per share. The action on the part of the executive is not approved by some of the shareholders and some friction is expected.

Business on the Toronto Mining Exchange has fallen off to such an extent that the exchange has practically ceased to exist and there is talk of dissolving it. The mining exchange is a section of the board of trade and members must first join the board.

The immigration arrivals at Winnipeg for the month of January numbered 474. Of these 124 were from across the ocean, 125 from the United States and 225 from other parts of Canada. The female arrivals number 233, males 137, male children 61 and female children 43. The nationalities were: Returned Canadian, 7; Canadians, 22; French, 4; Finnish, 18; German, 9; English, 25; Scotch, 15; Irish, 6; Hebrew, 15; Hungarian, 2; Italian, 3; Polish, 1; Roumanian, 4; Rutenian, 3; Icelandic, 5; Swedish, 7; United States, 11. The declared destinations were: Western Ontario, 11; Manitoba, 14; N. W. Territories, 171; British Columbia, 145; Yukon, 3. The occupations were: Farmers, 91; general laborers, 43; mechanics, 28; clerks, trades people, 10; miners, 45; not classified, 248.