

TWO STRIKES MADE

Important Ore Leads on the Okanagan Free Gold Mines.

FREE GOLD IN THE I. X. L. MINE

The Foreman Declares That He Picked \$1,000 Worth of Specimens Yesterday From a Shoot Hit in the Upper Drift—The Boundary C. U. Y.

A letter was received yesterday from Mr. A. S. Edgcombe, superintendent of the Okanagan Free Gold Mines, near Osoyoos, stating that two very important strikes had been made on the property at the east and west vein. At the time of writing the entire face of the cut was in good grade. The other strike was made in the tunnel which is being run down the shaft at a depth of 50 feet to the north and south vein. At the time of writing the entire face of the tunnel was in high grade ore. This proves that the ore veins go down and that the deposits are of a permanent character. The intention is to sink on this find. In the meanwhile the ore will be stoped from point to the surface, and the ore will keep the mill running for several months. The management is highly gratified over the find, as this proves beyond a peradventure that the mine is permanent, and the affairs of the company on a firm and more lasting basis than ever before.

Picked \$1,000 Worth of Specimens.

Mr. Roy H. Clarke returned yesterday from the Northport smelter, which he visited for the purpose of sampling the carload of ore sent from the I. X. L. last night. These he will assay today in order to keep a check on the smelter assays. Another shoot of very rich free gold was encountered in the upper drift of the I. X. L. yesterday. It fills up the entire face of the drift, and Foreman Watson, who was in from the mine last night, reports that it is the richest strike yet made in the mine. In proof of this he stated that he picked specimens worth at least \$1,000 yesterday and the rich shoot of ore has just been passed through. The face, says, fairly glistens with gold.

THE BOUNDARY COUNTRY.

Couple of Editors Give a Resume of the Situation.

Mr. W. S. Keith of the Greenwood, and Mr. E. Jacobs, of the Midway, are in the city. The former is associate for the Spokane Industrial Exchange, and the latter is a delegate to the Liberal-Conservative convention which meets in New Westminster on the 5th inst. From these gentlemen the following resume of the mining situation in the Boundary Creek country was obtained: The Boundary Creek section has received quite an impetus in consequence of the decision of the British Columbia Company, limited, of New York, to proceed with the erection of a smelter near Greenwood. Work on the site has already been commenced under the direction of Mr. Paul Johnson, formerly of the Hall Mines smelter at Nelson. The smelter will be ready for operation late in the spring or early in the summer, by which time there will be a large amount of ore from the adjoining mines to be in operation. The British Columbia Company owns the well known Boundary Lode group, situated in Deadwood within three miles of the smelter. The Mother Lode has an enormous amount of copper ore, and will furnish a supply to the smelter. The main shaft of the Mother Lode is now down to a depth of 200 feet, at which depth, this shaft, they opened up a deposit of ore which runs 30 per cent in copper. The other mines in the district which are now preparing to ship are the Old Iron, the Knob Hill and the Victoria, all of which are owned by companies organized by Mr. Jay P. Graves. On this group a very large amount of development work has been done, and an enormous quantity of ore is now being shipped from the Brooklyn and Stenwinder, Greenwood camp, which are owned by the Dominion Copper Company, while the shippers after the railway is opened.

MR. JAY P. GRAVES.

General Manager of the Miner-Graves Syndicate in Town.

Mr. Jay P. Graves, the general manager of the Miner-Graves syndicate, operating and controlling the Knob Hill, Old Ironsides and other properties in the Boundary country and the Masco, and other Big Three properties and the California of Rossland camp, came in last evening direct from Grand Forks. Mr. Graves is still suffering from a severe cold caught early in the season, and which he finds great difficulty in getting rid of. He is as enthusiastic as ever about all the properties he and his friends are connected with. All the buildings connected with the new Granby Smelter works at Grand Forks, are well under way and will be roofed in before the snow comes. Mr. Graves said they needed men over in the Boundary country and were somewhat delayed in their building plans for this reason. Work in the mines was progressing very rapidly. Mr. Graves said, and there will be plenty of ore for the smelter when completed. While in Rossland Mr. Graves will inspect the work in progress on the Masco, Snooshoe, Southern Belle and the California. All the machinery for the latter has been ordered for some time and the ground is being prepared for the buildings.

Ledge Found on the Ethel.

Judge W. B. Townsend yesterday received some pleasing information from the Ethel group, which is being operated by the Pavo Mining Company. The old workings were cleaned out and in the process of sinking towards the 100-foot level. Superintendent Chambers encountered the ledge, which is very promising. Two shifts are at work and the intention is to sink to the 100-foot level before crosscutting will be commenced.

FROM OTHER CAMPS

News of Mining Properties in Kootenay and Yale Districts.

BIG STRIKES IN THE BOUNDARY

Points of Interest From Ymir, the Sloan, East Kootenay, the Boundary Creek Country and Trout Lake—The Payne Shut Down—Contract Work in Other Places.

There is little or no change in other camps in the labor situation. Men are being brought from the east and south to the Slovan country, but the managers do not appear to have been successful in getting the new comers to work. The Payne mine is closed down, but in some of the other mines contract work is in progress. Even at union wages there appears to be difficulty in obtaining competent miners and the experience extends all over South Eastern British Columbia. Appended will be found items of interest from many of the camps.

YMIER CAMP.

Big Horn Assay—Ore From the Flossie K.—Fair Exhibit.

At the Wilcox group the water right is being put into good shape already for a flume 3,000 feet long, and when finished will be the finest water power in British Columbia. Tenders are called for transporting 20,000 pounds of ore from the Flossie K. on Round Mountain at Ymir to Spokane, Wash. The Ymir exhibit for the Spokane fair consisted of 15 bags and eight boxes of ore, weighing about 3,000 pounds. An assay of a sample of ore from the bottom of the new shaft on the Big Horn returned \$220 in gold and almost 11 per cent in copper. This will enhance the value of the Crested Butte property. On the Copperopolis a crosscut has been driven showing the ledge five feet wide, which assays regular and satisfactorily. The property will be worked this winter. It is a gold and copper proposition and a Spokane company are waiting for it.

THE HEATHER BELL A MINE.

Mr. Samuel Fortesath arrived in the city Monday from the Heather Bell property on Sullivan creek, which he has been developing with a force of seven men during the past six weeks. He has made a magnificent strike in the property, and he is correspondingly elated. Last evening in speaking to a representative of the Miner Mr. Fortesath said: "The Heather Bell will be one of the big mines of the camp—in fact it is so now. The discovery which we have just made and exposed for such a distance justifies us in saying that it is a continuous and lasting one and enables us to make this statement beyond all peradventure. The ledge is crosscut 40 feet and carries values clear across the property. The pay chute at 14 feet depth is 10 feet wide and carries values of shipping ore throughout its width. The dip of the lead is 80 (eighty) degrees and the formation is perfect, with four chutes of ore running clear to the surface. The average value of this ore is \$14 in gold and two per cent copper. The picked assays formerly taken from this property went to \$44 and \$32 in gold. All the mine needs now is to work on shipping ore, which it possesses in abundance, and it will pay for its own development and give a return to the owners. The ore can be rawhided from the mine at no great expense to the railway at the mouth of Sullivan creek, where there is a spur of the railway on which it can be loaded and transported to the smelter, eight miles distant."

TROUT LAKE.

Towser Bonded For \$40,000—Work on the Virginia and Lucky Jim.

Alec Brown has taken over the management of the Silver Cup mine. Some fine samples of ore have been taken from L. O'Brien's property at Ten Mile City. A deal has been consummated whereby the Towser, an adjoining property to the Silver Cup, passed into the hands of J. M. Sheaff, who is representing the French Creek Mining Company of the Big Bend. The amount of the bond was \$40,000, three thousand of which was paid down, the balance in six and twelve months.

EAST KOOTENAY.

Suit by the Mackintosh Syndicate—Work on the North Star—Other Notes.

Manager Bonomite of the Swansea ingers shipping 500 tons of ore from the mine during the coming winter, the ore will be hauled to Windermere and shipped in the spring via Columbia river to Golden, B. C., to the Trail or Hall Mines smelters. The Pay Roll group is attracting considerable attention just now, and a large block of stock will be disposed of in this immediate vicinity. W. R. Ross has purchased the Fay Templeton property, located on North Star hill, from William Thompson. E. H. Thurston has an option for a bond on the Estella group. The conditions are that a bond shall be given by October 19, and is to be for \$150,000, the payments to be distributed over three years. Work is to be resumed on the Copper Crown some four miles east of Cranbrook. The new owners intend spending the winter in sinking to a depth of a hundred feet and crosscutting the ledge so as to determine its width. The property should be worked without delay as there is a probability of a permanent copper producing mine being created in close proximity to Cranbrook. An immense strike of high grade galena ore has been made on the White Cat group, situated on Boulder Creek. The Sittling Hill will be worked throughout the winter under the foremanship of John Ferraday of West Kootenay. Development work has been resumed on the Pretty Girl mine by the New Golden syndicate of London, England. The Mackintosh syndicate has brought action against Starbird, Collett and Robinson, through the Supreme Court of British Columbia, for breach of contract and to recover \$5,000, amount of first payment made on the Red Line group, situated on McDonald creek, Windermere district. It appears that the defendants agreed with C. P. Smith, the Mackintosh representative, to sell or bond one undivided whole interest in the Red Line group, consisting of three claims, namely: Red Line No. 1, Red Line No. 2, and Iron Cap, for \$100,000, and that they can only give a title to four-fifths interest. Pete Larson, who owns the other one-fifth, refused to sign either the original bond to Starbird, Collett and Robinson or to the bond given to the Mackintosh syndicate by defendants. The new diamond drill for the North Star mine is now at Cranbrook awaiting transportation to the mine. The drill is known as the "Beauty". The core is 1 3/8 inch and it is available for at least 2,000 feet; there is 800 feet of piping with the drill. The company has sent to Colorado for an experienced diamond drill man, and as soon as he arrives the drill will be set up and the property thoroughly exploited at deep levels. It is the intention to install a tramway to carry the ore from the mine to the railroad. The tramway will be about 6,000 feet long. This is the same system as is employed by the Bunker Hill & Sullivan mines in the Coeur d'Alene. The company have now about 1,000 tons of ore in the sheds, and shipments will commence as soon as the railway is completed.

THE SLOVAN.

The Payne Mine Practically Closed Down—Properties Bonded—Ore Shipments.

The contract on the United Empire, Ten-Mile, has been finished. A small force of men was put to work on the Bosun-Fidelity this week. Five men are working on contract at the Palmita. Six men are employed on tunnel work at the Idaho. The Queen Bess now has 20 men on the payroll. Half the force is on surface work. A. A. Blumenthauer has bonded the Hartney group. The Lucky Jim ships well on to a car a day of zinc ore. The Torpedo group is having a 165-foot tunnel driven on that property. One hundred and twenty-four tons of ore was shipped from Whitewater last week. The buildings at the Surprise have been put in shape to withstand the snows of the coming winter. Owing to recent developments regarding the proposed site for the Ivanhoe concentrator, the mill will not be built this year, and may not be built in Sandon at all. Contract work has been started on the Sloan Star, being confined to the No. 5 tunnel. Four men are employed. D. W. King has been appointed representative in Idaho and Washington for the American Refining & Smelting Company, New York, with headquarters in Spokane. He will take up his abode in that city next month. Work will be commenced in a few days on the Alice Murphy and Dooley, two claims on Silver Mountain, just above New Denver. A. R. Dockstader last week struck six inches of clean galena in an open cut on the Monarch, (The Monarch is on Oddy creek and was staked last fall. The contract for the Wakefield concentrator has been let and Four-Mile is very busy in consequence. Several Sandon mechanics have been employed to work on its construction. A five-sixths interest in the Slovan Chief No. 10 and the Kootenay Queen claims, situated on South Kaslo creek was bonded last week by Percy Dickenson of Slovan City. Acting for Senator Warner Miller and other prominent American capitalists. The bond is for \$18,000, covering one year, with 10 per cent paid down. The Skylark and Ranger claim, near Slovan City, is under development, proving to be the most valuable property. Both the No. 1 and 2 tunnels are being driven ahead and both have shipping ore in the face. The paystreak in this vein varies from 12 to 30 inches in width, and the ore runs from \$60 to \$80 in gold and silver. The gold value being about \$24. The Ajax Fraction development Syndicate, London, England, capital \$20,000, local office, Sandon, Maurice Gintzberger, attorney, has been registered as an extra-provincial company. A meeting of the shareholders of the Noble Five was held in Spokane on October 3. At this meeting a resolution authorizing the trustees to incorporate the company under the laws of British Columbia, with an equal number of shares, was introduced. The Payne shipped 60 tons of ore via the C. P. R. this week. The Rambler-Caribou shipped 40 tons and the Red Fox 14 tons from McGuigan during the month of September. The Whitewater shipped 80 tons and the Jackson 35 tons from Whitewater last week. Jas. Moran, Chas. Greenlee, W. Glynn and C. Faas are interested in a deal made to Mr. Percy Dickenson last week. It was on the Smuggler claim, close to the Molly Gibson on Kokanee creek. The sum involved is \$10,000, with 10 per cent down, the payments coming in six and 12 months. An option on the celebrated Blue Bell mine, opposite Ainsworth, has been secured by A. R. Browne of Kaslo, who is representing the Smelting Corporation of Manchester, England. The deal includes the works at the mine and the smelter at Pilot Bay. The high percentage of zinc in the ore prompted the deal. As per instructions received from headquarters in Montreal, all mining operations have been suspended in the Payne mine. There were 17 miners and four men working underground, running the No. 5 tunnel east, the No. 4 tunnel east and west and driving an upraise from No. 4 to No. 3. These men were all laid off and only a few men on surface work remain at the mine. When spoken to Superintendent Hand stated that he did not know the intention of the company regarding future operations, but he gave it as his opinion that the layoff was on account of the action of the miners' union in including the mine recently imported from Montreal to come down the hill. The Emily Edith has commenced the erection of fine buildings at the mine for the employees. The bunkhouse proper is to be fitted up with bedrooms, drying rooms, smoking and card rooms, reading and sitting rooms. There are to be accommodations for 70 men, with wire mattresses in each bed. The messhouse is to be fitted up in good style, with quarters for the cook and help in addition to the kitchen and dining room. A third building will be occupied as an assay and general offices. Superintendent Rammelmeier will also have private quarters erected for himself and family.

RETURNED FROM THE EAST.

Richard Plewman Talks About the Eastern Markets. Mr. Richard Plewman has returned from a flying visit to New York, Montreal and Toronto. He says these cities are becoming more and more interested in British Columbia mines and stocks. Reliable information is eagerly sought for and more especially respecting the Boundary country. Investors, however, were continually hampered by the disturbed condition of the London mining markets. Dear money, followed by heavy failures in the Chicago and New York stock exchanges had a depressing effect. Mr. Plewman was present when War Eagle sold at \$3.28 on the Montreal stock exchange. The following day, however, War Eagle sold at \$3.28 on the same exchange.

MINES AND MINING

Smelter Returns From I. X. L. Ore are Satisfactory.

ST. ELMO COMPRESSOR IS HERE

A New Mining Company Has Been Formed at Chatham, Ont., to Operate in This Section—Good News From the Jim Blaine and Other Notes.

Mr. Roy H. Clarke, in charge of the I. X. L., paid a visit to that mine yesterday to inspect the progress that has been made in the past day or two. Work on the drifts continues with satisfactory results. Upraising to the surface for the purpose of ventilating the mine is in progress. The intention is to explore for the ledge 100 feet further down the hill. When this is done and the ledge located it will give about 200 feet of back stoping ground. Mr. Clarke was asked as to the result of the recent shipments to the Northport smelter. Mr. Clarke said the assays were not public property yet and he had not received permission to give them out. It was stated on the street yesterday that the shipment would average \$80 to the ton. This, however, did not come from the management of the mine. The St. Elmo Plant Has Arrived. The compressor plant for the New St. Elmo company, which is operating the St. Elmo property on Red Mountain, arrived at the railway depot here yesterday. The plant was ordered at the beginning of June, but owing to the press of previous orders for machinery it could not be delivered till now. The foundations and buildings at the St. Elmo are ready for the reception of the plant, and it will take about a month to install it. The plant consists of half of a 10-drill compressor, that is, it is so arranged that plant can be added to, so that the capacity can be increased from a five to a 10-drill compressor, because it is specially built so that the other half can be easily added. On the St. Elmo drifting continues and the showing of ore is encouraging.

A New Mining Company.

At Chatham, Ont., the Chatham & Ymir Consolidated Gold Mining Company has been formed with a capital stock of \$1,500,000 divided into \$1 shares. The company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring and developing the Monitor group of mineral claims in the Ymir district, of Nelson division of West Kootenay, British Columbia, and the Centre Star and Trilby mineral claims on Green Mountain in the Trail Creek mining division of West Kootenay. The Monitor group consists of three claims on Porto Rico mountain in the immediate neighborhood of some of the rich mines in British Columbia, notably the Porto Rico mine, which is only a short distance away on the same mountain and having the same formation. The assays taken from the surface of the ledge show values in copper, silver and gold of \$21 to the ton. The Centre Star and Trilby claim (104 acres) are about seven miles from Rossland on Green Mountain, the divide between Murphy and Stony creeks, containing two distinct leads of ore, carrying values in gold and copper of from \$15 to \$40 per ton. There is one shaft on the property 21 feet in depth and in nearly solid mineral throughout. The officers and board of directors are: Robert Gray, president, Chatham; W. E. McKee, vice-president, Chatham; J. G. Kerr, secretary-treasurer, Chatham; W. H. Jackson, Roseland; H. H. Shaver, Tilbury E.; W. R. Hickey, Bothwell.

Good News From the Blaine.

The news from Republic camp as to the Jim Blaine is of an encouraging nature. The Jim Blaine has an agreement with the Republic Mining company by which it is allowed to use the 400-foot level of the Republic company to reach its ore bodies. Through this tunnel the Jim Blaine company is now operating, and its miners are now drifting on the ledge on the 400-foot level. The long tunnel of the Republic on the 600-foot level is in for a distance of 2,200 feet and should meet the ledge when it has been run to a further distance of 140 feet. When the ledge is reached in the Republic ground it will be of benefit to the Jim Blaine management, as it can sink a winze from the 400-foot level to the 600-foot level and locate its ledge at that depth. In other words the property can be thoroughly explored from the 400-foot level. Mountain Trail Concentrator. At a depth of 62 feet in the shaft of the Mountain Trail a showing of ore of a pay grade has been met and this class of ore continues down the shaft to the present depth, which is about 90 feet. It is now anticipated that a trial run of the Mountain Trail concentrator will be made in about 30 days. Will Tap the Main Ledge. The crosscut from No. 2 winze in the Iron Mask will soon, it is anticipated, cut the main ledge. This will open the mine up to a depth of 400 feet, which will be the greatest yet reached on the Iron Mask. The Bond Will Be Taken Up. The final payment on the Yellowstone bond falls due on Saturday next. The payment is for \$22,000 and completes a purchase price of \$50,000. The final payment is as safe as if it were in hand, as the holders of the bond attempted some time ago to discount the payment and complete the purchase.