

feet. The Mother Lode will soon be stoping ore, but development work will be continued in this mine to the 500-foot level. Much work was done last month at the 300-foot level, with good results, some of the best ore yet encountered in the mine having been opened up. New machinery is arriving and being installed at this mine. Other properties at work are the Snowshoe and War Eagle, in Greenwood camp; Athelstan and Golden Crown, in Wellington camp; Morrison, Crown Silver and three or four others employing each a few men, in Deadwood camp, and the R. Bell, in Summit camp. Altogether the mining outlook is increasingly promising, especially now that the output of ore is large enough to convince the outside public that there are in the district several mines that have already earned the right to be classed as producers to an extent that is compelling attention to their fast-growing importance.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, newspapers report Mr. Wm. Whyte, manager of all Canadian Pacific Railway lines west of Fort William, to have said respecting the smelters of the Boundary district: "At Grand Forks a new smelter has just commenced operations and 600 tons of ore besides coke are being turned out daily. Another new smelter is

ready to start work and when this has begun twenty cars per day will be shipped from the place. The smelter at Greenwood, taking the ore from the mother lode, run by an American company, is kept very busy. A smelter at Boundary Falls, west of Greenwood, is doing some interesting work." Now either Manager Whyte went away from the Boundary country after his recent visit with very hazy notions as to the conditions of the smelting works in the district—which is not customary among prominent C. P. R. officials, to whose utterances importance is usually attached—or else the *Free Press* reporter was out of his depth when Mr. Whyte told him about the smelters. Perhaps it is only to be expected that in an agricultural country such as surrounds Winnipeg the newspaper men know little or nothing about mining and smelting, so the references to a smelter which "turns out ore besides coke" and to shipping ore from a smelter, are, under the circumstances, excusable. It will perhaps be as well though to unravel the tangle the Prairie City reporter got into. The simple facts which he mixed up until they were scarcely recognizable are as follows: The Granby Company's smelter at Grand Forks, in the Boundary district, started to reduce ore in August 21st last, on which date one 250-ton furnace was "blown in." Owing to the ore being practically self-fluxing this furnace is able to treat up to nearly 320 tons per diem. On October 13 a second furnace was blown in and a few days later the Old Ironsides group of mines, which had previously been sending 300 tons of ore per day to the smelter, doubled their output, sending down 20 cars or 600 tons daily. As the shipping capacity of these mines, from which this smelter obtains its main supply, is considerably larger than the treatment capacity of the smelter, it is anticipated that more furnaces will soon be added to the smelter so as to provide for its being in a position to reduce a much larger quantity of ore than is practicable under existing circumstances. The other smelters to which the *Free Press* makes reference are not yet ready

to treat ore. The smelter at Greenwood has been erected and is now being equipped for reduction work by the British Columbia Copper Company, of New York, which company also owns the neighbouring Mother Lode mine. It is expected that the mine will be sending down to the latter smelter about 300 tons of ore daily early in the new year, by which time the smelter should be ready for continuous operation. The third smelter referred to is one now in course of erection on a site about three miles south of Greenwood, and near to the Boundary Falls town-site. The Standard Pyritic Smelting Company, an offshoot of the Standard Mining Company, of Quebec, which some time ago acquired the Standard and Marguerite mineral claims, in Deadwood camp, is erecting these reduction works. It is stated that the plant for this pyritic smelter is now on its way in from Denver, Colorado, and that by the time it shall arrive here the preliminary excavations and much of the necessary mason work will be well advanced. It is the intention of the company to complete this establishment by the end of the current year and it is probable this intention will be carried out. The experiment of pyritic smelting will be watched with more than ordinary interest. It is claimed that the process has proved a distinct success in Colorado and the promoters of the local enterprise have had tests made of Boundary ores that have satisfied them that here too, the industry will give equally satisfactory results. The foregoing information relative to the smelters of the district is given both as news of interest and with the object of correcting any erroneous ideas that the publication of statements imputed to Mr. Whyte may have conveyed to those who read both the *RECORD* and the *Winnipeg Free Press*.

The expected has at length come to pass, and circulars have been addressed to shareholders convening an extraordinary general meeting of the Winnipeg Mining and Smelting Company for the 16th of November next, with the object of placing the present concern in liquidation and re-constructing by incorporating a new company to be known as the Winnipeg Mines, Limited, non-personal liability, "with a nominal capital of \$1,250,000, divided into shares of the par value of \$1 each, fully paid up to the extent of 95 cents per share, and to allot to the shareholders of the old company share for share, and place the balance of the said shares in the treasury of the new company." This appears to me to be as good an arrangement under the circumstances as could be effected. These circumstances are meanwhile reasonably fairly set out in a general letter to shareholders, signed by Mr. Richard Plewman, the company's secretary. Mr. Plewman writes:

"The board of directors of the Winnipeg Mining and Smelting Company, Limited, regret to inform the stockholders that their efforts to make the mine a self-sustaining property without re-organization have failed. In February of this year the mine was shut down by the old management and remained in that condition for about three months. About the middle of May, some large blocks of stock having changed hands, all the old directors but two resigned and new ones were elected to fill the vacancies. The new management found the affairs of the company in a very discouraging condition. The mine was by