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Mining Claims for sale near Rossland, Trail and in the whole Columbia basin.

WILL EXAMINE AND REPORT ON MINES.

MINING NOTES.

The average assay of \$230 obtained by the Deer Park people is a fitting reward for their faith in the property and perseverance through doubt and discouragement. Deer Park will be an early dividend payer.

A Toronto correspondent, one, by the way, who is in a position to judge, says: "Though mining business is booming here now we do not only have a foretaste of what is coming next spring. It only requires a few additions to the list of dividend-paying mines to set this town wild, and before May of next year there will be a regular exodus to Trail Creek."

The Waneta and Trail Creek Gold Mining Company has been successfully organized. At a general meeting of shareholders on Thursday these gentlemen were elected provisional directors: C. O. Lalonde, W. C. Archer, A. S. Goodeve, Charles Bates, D. D. Birks, A. H. McTeil, Robert Dixon and J. Dean. With such men at the head of affairs and a valuable property, Waneta and Trail Creek should be a go. Promoters' stock was pooled and sufficient treasury stock was guaranteed to carry on work throughout the winter.

Preliminary development work is being done on scores of claims in the camp and in many cases this will be continued during the winter season.

The Monte Cristo compressor started operations last night. The machine is a model one and runs to perfection. Drills are at work on both levels. The showing on the east end's fine. Ore near the pay limit.

The commencement of development work on the Annie, which is the property of the West Le Roi and Josie company is commendable. Messrs. Warren, Jones and Burke, who hold the contracts are now on the right track. There was no money in the company's treasury and it was generally supposed that the property would be sold. There was an offer of \$125,000 in cash, but this, THE REVIEW has been informed, was refused.

The Southern Belle, at a depth of 20 feet, has two feet of ore which assays \$34.85 in gold and silver.

Rufus H. Pope, M. P., of the Big Three company, has deeded to the company all the Mascot ground. As this claim comprises over 40 acres, the loss of the Eldorado, which the Mascot covered, is more than compensated for.

The owners of the Nickel Plate are putting in two new hoists, one on the main shaft and one on the east shaft and also two Knolles sinking pumps.

The Blackhawk Company, operating on Champion is meeting with some encouragement. At a depth of about 80 feet the ore has changed into a fine quartz mixed with iron. It carries \$22 per ton in gold.

There is one company in Rossland in which not a single share of stock has been sold although the company has been incorporated for months, that is the Southern Cross and Wolverine Consolidated, the owners of which have an obstinate conviction that they have one of the biggest mines in Trail Creek. They are making preparations to take up enough treasury stock among themselves to start work and to keep at work all winter.

Remarkably good ore has been struck in the shaft on the Eric.

There are rumors that a strike has been made on the lower level of the Jumbo. Perhaps they have found the hanging wall but it is more likely that the streak of high grade silicious ore they had above has been struck.

H. L. Martin, superintendent of bridges of the Great Northern Railway, is in the city.

M. D. Ballard, president National Bank of Commerce, Seattle, was in Rossland yesterday. Mr. Ballard is president of the Mugwump Gold Mining Company. He expressed great satisfaction at the fine ore body disclosed in the Mugwump, saying that while he had always felt great confidence in the property, he

could now for the first time say to his friends in Seattle that the Mugwump is a mine.

Work on the contract taken last week by Lof & Co. to enlarge, re-timber and sink the Butte shaft to the hundred-foot level has been started.

The steam hoist on the Mugwump will be in place to-day on the prospect shaft where it is to be used in raising the material broken in the up-raise until the latter reaches the surface, when it will be placed permanently on the sinking shaft. The entire breast of the raise is in excellent very rich in copper. The raise is now ten feet above the bottom and at present rate of progress should reach the surface within the next fortnight, when sinking of the shaft will be pushed vigorously.

THEY DO NOT LIKE IT.

Charles G. Griffith, of Helena, well-known and heavily interested in Kootenay, writes as follows to the Northwest Mining Association about the proposed sampling of ores imported into the United States:

G. B. DENNIS, Esq., City.—Dear Sir: I have not yet seen a copy of the bill for the establishment of sampling works at Bonner's Ferry and Northport, but I am told by Mr. Brown, collector of customs at Fort Benton, that the bill has been passed and signed and now only waits the pleasure of the secretary of treasury to make it operative. I understand also that the decision as to the advisability of the erection of sampling works at these two places is left with the secretary of treasury. It is, therefore, not too late to use the influence of your association in the matter, provided, after considering the subject, it is decided to take any action.

"As I understand it, under the terms of the bill no ore can come into this country from British Columbia except through Northport and Bonner's Ferry, where sampling works are to be erected. The result of this will be that all ores which now go via the Canadian Pacific road to Everett and Tacoma and the eastern smelters will be obliged to come through Northport or Bonner's Ferry. In many cases this requirement will work a great hardship upon the shippers. The mines lying between Three Forks and the Arrow lakes, including the Slocan lake country, which now go via the Naskup railway and thence north to the Canadian Pacific, will have to stand a largely increased freight rate in order to come via the sampling works. The competition between the Canadian Pacific branch from Sandon to Naskup and the Slocan railway, the benefits of which the mine owners now enjoy, will be entirely destroyed. This is a serious injury, but not the only one. It is more than likely that the proposed works will be managed by political appointees who are unfamiliar with the business of sampling and therefore incompetent. The results obtained will be highly unsatisfactory and the delay occasioned by this work in the additional time necessary to secure smelter returns will be a serious inconvenience to many of the shippers.

"Whether the cost of sampling will be paid for by the government or charged up to the shipper I am not able to say. The principal argument that was used by Senator Dubois in the senate to secure the passage of this bill was that the government was being defrauded out of duties on lead. This, from my own experience in smelting, I know is not and cannot be true. Under the present order of things, a duplicate pulp sample is furnished by the smelting companies to the nearest United States assay office, where the assay is made by a government employe and duly collected on his result. CHARLES D. GRIFFITH."

That district which is embraced in the Big Bend of the Columbia north of Revelstoke may yet become a great gold producing section of British Columbia. The district is so far away from a railway at present that its development must be slow until better communication is established, but it had a great history in the old placer days and discoveries of quartz and sulphide ores are being made there now which promise to give it a greater future. Some of the most enterprising mining men in Rossland are already looking to that section with an eye of intelligent appreciation.