

Ore-bodies in the Standard have always been erratic in spite of their enormous yields, a fine stope being succeeded often by a short barren section and it in turn by a zone of solid lead. These characteristics have not occurred in any marked degree at the scene of current development. There have been few extremities of impoverishment and riches. Values have been distributed on a basis that approached evenness.

Silversmith Mines, Ltd.

The Silversmith Mines, Ltd., is now the name of the property situated at Sandon, B.C., and previously known as the Slocan Star. A certificate of incorporation has been issued to the Silversmith Mines, Ltd. (non-personal liability) for \$750,000. Some time ago the shareholders decided upon a re-organization and Mr. R. H. Stewart, formerly general manager of the Canadian Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co., has been appointed manager of the new company. It is announced that the mine will commence operations at an early date.

Cork-Province.

The Cork-Province near Kaslo B.C., has added a ball mill and a flotation unit to its concentrator at a cost of \$15,000. The flotation unit will be used for dressing the silver zinc tailings that have been thrown away in the past. The zinc concentrates are shipped to Kansas U.S.A., and the lead goes to the Trail smelter.

St. Keverne.

The St. Keverne group on Payne Mountain in the Slocan will be worked this summer. Oscar White, formerly of the Slocan Star, will be manager.

Cariboo.

Mining men and the public generally in some sections of the British Columbia interior are agitating for some celebration of the 60th anniversary of the discovery of gold in the Cariboo district and the building of the famous Cariboo Road. The movement started at Clinton, B.C., and is being met with favor, it being felt that something should be done to mark and commemorate an event of so much importance and interest as to merit a few pages in Canadian history, particularly in the mining history of Western Canada.

Platinum in B.C.

Owing to the importance of platinum for war purposes and its consequent augmentation in value, the former point being emphasized by the fact that both the United States and Canada have prohibited its export, general interest in the mineral has been roused among British Columbia prospectors. In this connection it has been recalled that platinum occurs, associated with placer gold, in the vicinity of Quesnel Forks, B.C., in the Cariboo district. Mr. John Hobson, when operating the Bullion Hydraulic Gold Mining Co. in that section, recovering a small quantity each year. The discovery of its sources is one of the matters which, it is believed, will be investigated by a party consisting of Messrs. J. B. Tyrrell, the well-known Canadian mineralogist and geologist, representing the Anglo-French Corporation of London; Robert A. Bryce, M.E., representing Porcupine and Cobalt mining interests, and Mr. Gordon Taylor, representing Toronto, Ont., mining interests.

With regard to the matter of platinum in Cariboo, it is interesting to quote Mr. Fleet Robertson, Provincial Mineralogist, in his annual report of the year 1902, when he said: "I found that there were very small quantities of platinum in the Fraser River bars. I traced this up to Quesnel, where the Quesnel river enters the Fraser, above which point I could find but

little in the Fraser river, as it chiefly seemed to be brought in by the Quesnel, which was traced up to Horsefly." He adds that he knows of no platinum occurring in a place in Cariboo, but that British Columbia has platinum also occurring with placer gold in Dease Lake, Cassiar, in considerable quantities and also in the Tulameen District, in which latter district it also has been found in place.

This, however, is not the only object of the visit of the party referred to, it being understood that they will inspect several propositions in the Cariboo District with a view to their development.

Convention at Revelstoke.

The international mining convention of the Pacific Northwest will be held in July of this year at Revelstoke, B.C. The convention is to be held in the open air, the scene being a beautiful park situated a short distance outside the town. If weather permits, the banquet, which is a feature of the assembly, will take place on the same grounds, the menu being wholesome, but strictly within the limits of the Canadian Food Board and cooked over open fires in typical prospector fashion. It will be attended by representatives of the mining Provinces and States of the Northwest.

Will Develop Fiddler Claims.

At least \$150,000 will be spent on the development of the Fiddler group of mineral claims situated near Dorreen, B.C., in the Skeena Mining Division, Northern British Columbia, a considerable proportion of which will be expended this year. It is understood that the Oppenheimer interests of Butte, Mont., are advancing the capital for this purpose and it is confidently expected that the property will be placed on the shipping list soon. It is situated in the neighborhood of the Rocher de Boule. The ore contents are chiefly gold.

Exhibits of Rare Minerals.

For the further encouragement and instruction of the prospectors of British Columbia, and also in order to induce the location and development of the rarer minerals in the Province, Hon. Wm. Sloan, Minister of Mines, has authorized the Mining Engineers of the Department of Mines to secure complete exhibits of these rarer metals and arrange for their display in the centres of the six mineral survey districts into which British Columbia has been divided. It is the Minister's opinion that one of the reasons that comparatively little is known of the resources of Western Canada in respect of the rare minerals, the usefulness and value of which have been emphasized by the demands of the war, is that the prospectors are not fully conversant with their characteristics. Therefore he believes that with specimens on public exhibit, and engineers competent to give visitors the knowledge which, perhaps, they lack, it will be found that the Province possesses mineral riches which, up to the present, have not been brought to light. The first of these exhibitions has been opened by Mr. R. W. Thomson, M.E., at Kamloops, B.C., There will be others at Nanaimo, Prince Rupert, Hazelton, Revelstoke, and Grand Forks.

Will Use Powdered Coal.

The use of powdered coal to replace fuel oil is the subject of experiment in British Columbia at the present time. In Vancouver City the B.C. Sugar Refining Co., one of the largest of the Provincial industries, has installed a plant to provide for the change and, it is understood, is getting satisfactory results. The Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir) Ltd., anticipating a demand for the new fuel, is making tests of waste from its washery which has been accumulating for years in the harbor