

Rossland Weekly Miner.

Published Every Thursday by the ROSSLAND MINER PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO. LIMITED LIABILITY.

LONDON OFFICE: E. J. WALKER, 24 Coleridge Street London. TORONTO OFFICE: CENTRAL PRESS AGENCY, LTD., 53 Yonge St. SPOKANE OFFICE: ALEXANDER & Co., Advertising Agents, Room First National Bank Building. EASTERN AGENT: MAURICE KATZ, 20 Temple Court, New York

THE SUBSCRIPTION PRICE OF THE WEEKLY ROSSLAND MINER for all points in the United States and Canada is Two and one-half Dollars a year or One Dollar and fifty cents for six months or for other countries Three and one-half Dollars a year—invariably in advance.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. Daily, per month, by carrier..... 75c Daily, per month, by mail..... 60c Daily, per year, by carrier..... \$ 8.25 Daily, per year, by mail..... 6.50 Daily, per year, foreign..... 10.25 WEEKLY MINER. Weekly, per half year..... \$ 1.50 Weekly, per year..... 2.50 Weekly, per year, foreign..... 3.50 Subscriptions invariably in advance.

A STRIKING CONTRAST.

The Conservative party of British Columbia seems determined to free itself of any possible domination by the Victoria "ring" that has controlled B. C. politics for many years. The "ring" may be partly composed of Conservatives, but not one of them will have a voice in the McBride-Wilson policy that is surely destined to place the province on the highroad to prosperity. Dunsmuir and the railways will have to bear their fair share of the cost of government from now on. Because the Conservatives are determined upon this course they will be able to show a surplus instead of a deficit. It is absolutely necessary for the welfare of the country that this be done, and the Conservative party is to be congratulated for being sufficiently independent, honest and courageous to undertake the task.

Joseph Martin is hand in glove with Dunsmuir and the railways, but he still controls the Liberals of this province. The next two most influential Liberals are E. P. Davis and E. V. Bodwell, solicitors respectively for the C. P. R. and the Great Northern railway. It is therefore impossible for the Liberal party to escape the domination of the very factors from which the Conservatives have freed themselves.

The general public will remember this at the next elections and vote accordingly.

THE ENEMY OF ORGANIZED LABOR.

The Secretary of State in the Laurier government has styled the demand for recognition by the Typographical Union an "impertinence."

This is but another illustration of the way the Grits regard organized labor. The Liberal nominees at the forthcoming general elections will have a hard time reconciling this last slap in their hysterical appeals for the support of organized labor in British Columbia; although it is a foregone conclusion that they will come forward with the same old "gag" about being the "workingman's friend."

There is today a remarkably high standard of intelligence in the ranks of organized labor, and nowhere is it more apparent than in the Typographical Union. It is safe to say that Canadian printers will deeply resent the hostile attitude of the Liberal party towards their trade organization, and that they will receive the hearty support of all trade unionists in their attempt to destroy the political influence of the Liberal party.

SOUTHERN B. C. COPPER OUTPUT.

The great smelting works at Anaconda, Montana, made a world's record for May for copper production. The end of the month showed that the copper output was 13,570,000 pounds—about 3,000,000 pounds greater than any month since the works were completed. This record is certainly a refutation of the rumors that this huge plant was not constructed on the best lines known to the metallurgical world, and was a rank failure. Even this great output was not accomplished by any strenuous efforts, but was the result of good, careful work. It takes about 2000 men in the many different departments of the plant to keep the works in operation.

The Rossland-Boundary copper mines are only in their first stages of development. But they already have more ore in sight than the Anaconda properties. The chief reason for this is the enormous size of the British Columbia ledges. With adequate smelting facilities the copper output of Rossland-Boundary should greatly exceed what that of Anaconda could ever be. It is, however, hopeless for the copper miners of this district to expect to attain this much desired condition until there is an

ample and cheap supply of fuel. This cannot take place until the provincial government allows the coal of the Flathead and Lodge Pole districts in East Kootenay to come into the market in active competition with the product of the Crow's Nest collieries.

A BAR TO PROSPERITY.

With the smelters of Southern B. C. running at half of their capacity the output of the mines is curtailed to the extent of many thousand tons. This is going to have a very bad effect on the mineral production for the current year. The whole trouble lies in the fuel supply. There is not sufficient coke at reasonable cost until other collieries than the Crow's Nest are available. It is therefore absolutely essential that the Flathead and Lodge Pole coal areas be opened to development without further delay.

With the opening of these new areas, it is not to be expected that fuel from that source would become immediately available, but it would be sufficient guarantee to the mines, and plans for development on a large scale—now delayed solely because of the fuel situation—would be put into operation forthwith. This is all that stands between the Kootenays and the greatest possible prosperity.

A CORRECTION OF SENTIMENT.

All loyal and liberty-loving Britons will deplore and deeply resent certain despicable utterances of a local contemporary with regard to the intention of a number of United States citizens resident in Rossland to arrange an innocent and modest little celebration of the Fourth of July. Aside from the fact that these gentlemen desire to appropriately observe the anniversary of their country's natal day, they see an opportunity to assist in putting a little extra money in circulation and thus help to advance the general prosperity of the community. It is to be hoped that no American resident in Rossland will accept the disgraceful expressions as being a reflection of the true sentiment that prevails here concerning Americans and American institutions. The people of this country, and particularly of Rossland, are much too broad-minded to object to any little event like a Fourth of July celebration on this side of the international boundary. The abuse is all the more objectionable because it endeavors to disparage the board of trade also, simply because some of the originators of the celebration are British subjects as well as members of that body. This is the first time that The Miner has deigned to recognize local gutter journalism, and would not do so now but for the fact that some British subjects who are celebrating with their American cousins, directed attention to the article in question and requested that this journal contradict it and so preclude the possibility of a false and disgraceful impression of Rossland being gained abroad.

THE SUBSIDY CURSE.

If enormous subsidies be given to the railway companies applying for them, in elections hereafter it will be a question, "How is the C. P. R. likely to go?" "How will the G. T. R. influence be exerted in this contest?" "Is the Canadian Northern for or against the Government?" We have seen what the C. P. R. can do in an election; we know how enormously the Grand Trunk, with much less influence than it is proposed to give it, can affect elections. In the Northwest the Canadian Northern is becoming every year more masterful in its control of the Manitoba situation. Rivet these three bonds around the ankles of Young Canada, and this trinity of corporations will be able to pick the pockets of the prostrate country at their leisure.

DEPARTMENTAL INEFFICIENCY.

The new government at Victoria has been too busy straightening out the tangle left by Prior, McInnes and Wells to give much consideration to the way provincial departmental business is conducted. The inefficient and neglectful manner in which the various departments are operated is a scandal of long standing, and it is high time that the old order of things were changed for the better.

The Department of Lands and Works comes in for the largest number of protests and complaints. The way this department is conducted has become so notorious that it is a wonder the legislature did not long ago appoint an investigating committee to hear complaints and report upon a plan of complete reorganization. The staff of this department needs careful overhauling. Particular attention should be paid to the record that the Deputy Commissioner has made for himself. If evidence is wanted as to how he has run the department it is obtainable from every district in the province. Collected, we venture to say, it would make a truly startling story of annoying neglect and appalling incompetency—if nothing else of a worse nature.

The Attorney-General's office during D. M. Eberts' time was also a freak institution, but under the con-

trol of a hard-working and conscientious man like Mr. McPhillips, the present head of the department, it is likely to become as efficient as circumstances will permit.

The Department of Mines is in fairly good shape, with the exception of the office of the Provincial Mineralogist. We have yet to learn why a man like its present incumbent was ever appointed and why he has the hardihood to continue to draw his salary. The right man in this office could be largely instrumental in creating the liveliest interest in our mineral resources. With monthly bulletins prepared and written in a style that would make them popular, incalculable good would be accomplished. The technical, financial and general press the world over would be glad to publish these bulletins free of cost and a splendid advertisement would thus be obtained. But instead of doing this and much other beneficial work, he grinds out a colorless, valueless and decidedly pessimistic report six months to a year old. It is small wonder that branches of the Provincial Mining Association have found it necessary to call attention to the inefficiency of the Provincial Mineralogist.

There may be inefficiency in the other departments, but no complaint about them has reached us. We are only dealing with those that we have been asked repeatedly to expose. It is far from pleasant to have to do this. The fault lies with those who have allowed men who are incompetent or worse to enter the government service.

BRITAIN NEEDS A WEAPON.

In proposing his new imperial trade policy Mr. Chamberlain is influenced by two motives. One is the desire to add the element of interest to that of sentiment as an imperial bond. The other is his desire to strengthen the hands of the United Kingdom in its fight for the defence of its own markets and for the preservation and extension of its commerce in foreign markets.

The latter motive is not emphasized so much as the former; but perhaps it is not less strong. Even if it be decided that Britain cannot grant a preference to the colonies, it is likely to become necessary for her, before long, to resort to taxation for other than revenue purposes in order to gain a national weapon of defence. In the commercial warfare waged against her by rival nations. They close their markets to British goods, but pour their surplus products into the free British market, which is becoming more and more the dumping ground for the world's surplus goods. So long as this state of things meant cheap food and raw material only, it was viewed with complacency by the British people, for although it has brought British agriculture to the verge of ruin, it has been upon the whole favorable to British commerce.

Now, however, conditions are rapidly changing. Britain's protected rivals are enabled to slaughter their surplus manufactures in the free British market; and as the manufacturing industries of these countries are being developed at an enormous rate, the surplus increases year by year until now the volume poured annually into Britain has begun to threaten the prosperity of many British industries, and is causing a feeling of uneasiness and anxiety for the future.

And Britain is absolutely defenceless. She has no lever with which to bring pressure upon her rivals and compel them to give her fairer commercial treatment. British industry after industry may go down, smothered by the torrent of surplus foreign goods, but with the present system in force nothing can be done to help them. They feel the pressure even now, during a period of general prosperity; but public men and manufacturers are asking, what will it be when the next period of depression comes round and the protected countries will have double or treble the quantity of surplus product to dispose of that they have now.

Three years ago Lord Salisbury sounded the note of warning and pointed out the danger of Britain's defenceless condition. In the recent speeches of Premier Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain on the trade question this element of weakness was pointedly and candidly discussed. It is a realization of the danger and anxiety for the future which, we believe, have caused the premier and Mr. Chamberlain to force the question of a change in the national trade policy upon the attention of the British people.

Armed with the power to tax foreign products, the British government would be in a position to force better terms from foreign countries. What immense tariff concessions the United States would be willing to make to save American food products from being taxed! How ready Germany would be to grant better terms in return for the freedom of the British market!

In the "campaign of education" which is about to begin in Britain, Mr. Chamberlain and his numerous lieutenants will have much to say about these things, and probably with great effect.

WHITAKER WRIGHT NOT YET FREE.

It is a general principle of international law that in order to afford a basis for extradition the offense must be made criminal by the laws of the country upon whose authorities the demand is made as well as by those of the country making the demand. This principle is embodied in the extradition treaty between Great Britain and the United States. It was lately invoked in the case of Whitaker Wright, the English financial operator, who was taken into custody in New York upon a complaint charging him with having committed fraud in England. His counsel sought to have him discharged from custody on the ground that the offense was not made criminal by the laws of both countries. The United States circuit court for the southern district of New York refused to order his discharge, and the United States supreme court has this week dismissed a writ of habeas corpus taken out by Wright, on the ground that the offense charged is made criminal both by a British statute and by the penal code of the state of New York, and that, therefore, the commissioner who held Wright for extradition had jurisdiction and had right to refuse to accept bail for his appearance. It looks as though Wright will yet have to answer the charge of having wrecked the B. A. C.

PREFERENTIAL TRADE.

Canadian papers have been furnished by the Chamberlain incident with another illustration of the necessity of securing British news through some other channel than the Associated Press. That agency deems it wise to color British events to suit readers of the United States, and there is evidence at hand to show that in this case it has succeeded too well in its endeavor. The London Chronicle has taken the trouble to give a collection of British editorial opinions on the subject of Mr. Chamberlain's suggestion, and so sturdy an American paper as the San Francisco Chronicle upon perusing the extracts given is moved to remark: "A glance at these expressions discloses the fact that the Associated Press reports of the state of British opinion were misleading. The solidarity exhibited by the house of commons by no means mirrors the condition of outside sentiment. That, on the whole, seems to be uncertain, but the uncertainty is marked by a strong disposition to investigate and to not be diverted from the purpose of inquiring into the merits of the proposal of Chamberlain by the clamorous charge of the free traders that preferential treatment of the colonies would inevitably result in the starvation of British workmen."

The Unionist papers stand by Chamberlain with remarkable unanimity. They do not all endorse his proposal outright, but they insist that it shall receive proper consideration. The London Times, for instance, remarks: "One thing clear is that a very large issue is about to be placed before the constituencies of this country, which, if threshed out in the scientific spirit for which Mr. Balfour pleads, will in any case be a powerful instrument of political education." The Morning Post says: "There are strong arguments for, as there are strong arguments against, the policy of tariffs and preferences." The Daily Telegraph declares that the British people will not be deterred from forming their own conclusions by the pusillanimous warning against giving offense to Germany or any other power." The Express says: "It is a scheme which deserves the most encouraging response." The Pall Mall Gazette observes that "the gist of the policy described by the leaders of the ministry will not be obscured, as their opponents are pleased to hope, by any bandying of the terms 'free trade' and 'protection.'" The St. James Gazette tells its readers that "Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain have told the truth which had to be told, if they and their supporters have to wander in the wilderness for telling it." The Globe asserts that there must be "a widening of the basis of taxation," and concludes that "the government have an unparalleled opportunity before them." The Saturday Review is sure that "it would be impossible to start a free trade regime in England at this moment," because there is now "a quite different state of things from what existed in the days of Cobden and Bright."

FAIR TAXATION.

The general prosperity that is assured by the advent of the McBride government will make more Liberals Conservatives than all the platforms that were ever written.

Mr. McBride and his colleagues have a comprehensive idea of the real wants of the country and are prepared to do what is necessary as rapidly as possible what is necessary as rapidly as circumstances will permit. But first of all it is absolutely necessary that a fiscal policy be established that will bring a surplus instead of the deficit that has for many years appeared in the financial condition of the province. All that is required to accomplish this much-desired end is a fair and equitable system of taxation that will force the big dividend-paying corporations to contribute in the same proportion as the ordinary business man. A fair system of taxation would lessen the present burden on the younger industries like mining and still provide a surplus on the present basis of expenditure.

No one can object to the inauguration of such a policy, but it will require no little courage to tell the "big guns" that in the payment of taxes in the same proportion as their neighbors, they would have to disgorge something over a quarter of a million dollars more annually than they have in the past.

IN FAVOR AGAIN.

It was not to be expected that the house of commons would long continue cold to Mr. Chamberlain, who knows its moods, and has long been accustomed to play upon them. Recently, we are told, his remarks drew the warmest applause from the government benches. And we may rest assured that it will not be very long before he has found a method of presenting his new policy which will appeal strongly to certain

power. Meanwhile, however, the Unionists are getting ready for the fray and they seem to think that the ground to which they have shifted the discussion is a much safer one for them than the ticklish quagmire created by the educational act which threatened to swallow up the party.

THE FORTHCOMING CAMPAIGN IN ROSSLAND.

Only four days have elapsed since the new voters' list was opened for the provincial general elections, but in that short space of time about 300 people have registered in the Rossland division. Of this number more than two-thirds are pledged to the Conservative party. The remaining third is divided between Independents and Liberals, the latter somewhat in the lead. It will thus be seen that the Conservatives to date are fairly entitled to claim more than two votes to the Liberals' one. This may be accepted as a reasonable indication of what the proportion will be on election day.

It is highly gratifying to the friends of good government to know that the electors of Rossland are evincing so satisfactorily their willingness to support the McBride government. It is a guarantee that the Conservatives will control the next legislature.

The opponents of McBride realize this and are utterly demoralized. The Grits see that their case is hopeless, for they know that the people of Rossland are determined not to have an Oppositionist again as their representative. Besides, there is no little strife in the Liberal camp. There are dozens of patriotic Liberals who will not work with the unregenerate Grits. This better element of the Liberal party think more of good government than party politics, especially when party politics with them unquestionably means Martinism with all its attendant evils.

There is, however, much to be done by the Conservatives before election day. The party must enter the campaign so strongly fortified with regard to a general policy and vitally important local issues that it shall sweep everything before it. To use a western colloquialism, "hot air don't go" in this fight. The electorate must be offered a Conservative candidate who is right on every one of the many important issues. There must be no equivocation. So essential is this that The Miner would favor the preparation of a carefully compiled list of questions bearing upon every condition from labor to a fiscal policy for submittal to all aspirants for the nomination. This, taken in connection with the candidate's past record, will make the nomination of the right man a comparatively easy task and his election a foregone conclusion. The party cannot afford to take any chances. Its candidate must be a man who will do his whole duty without fear or favor.

HOPE FOR SILVER MINERS.

The improvement in the price of silver gives encouragement to silver miners all over the world, especially since there is good reason to believe that in the near future the price will advance to about 65 cents, which is practically the rate fixed by the coinage of Philippine dollars.

The pending negotiations will probably result in establishing a gold-silver ratio at which a market price for the white metal of something like 65 cents can be maintained. Commerce between gold and silver countries calls for a stable ratio, because it is the fluctuation in the rate of exchange which at times subjects importers into silver countries to great loss by reason of a fall in the price of silver after their goods have been ordered. Great Britain, the United States and Germany are as deeply interested in this as Mexico and China because they are heavy exporters to the latter. They should, therefore, use their influence to fix a ratio that would be stable.

Improvements in the cost of production have made it profitable to mine silver ore of a so much lower grade than it was practicable to mine twenty-five years ago, that with silver at 65 cents, silver mining would be almost if not quite as profitable as when silver was worth \$1.29.

Hence the outlook for silver producing districts is brightened by the rise in the price, and if the advance continues until 65 cents is reached every silver camp will become as active as it was in the early eighties.

hereditary emotions of Englishmen. His political success has been largely due to his thorough knowledge of national peculiarities, and his ability to present his case in a way to identify it with the ordinary Englishman's point of view. His undertaking in the present case is no light matter, for the Englishman has sworn during fifty years that his bread shall not more be taxed. Mr. Chamberlain will not, if he can help it, run straight against the public sentiment that has thus been matured; he will rather, if he can, find something to talk about on which he and the Briton with a good conceit of himself can agree. Germany's attitude toward Canada and Canada's attitude toward Great Britain have between them provided him with his opportunity. He may thunder against the malevolent design of the ambitious German to disrupt the British Empire, and British opinion will go a long road with him. He may appeal for a response to Canada's tentatives, may point a glowing picture of a reconstructed empire, whose physical and material greatness will overshadow that of Rome, and there will be plenty to listen. He has gone into this enterprise with the full knowledge that nearly all the men who count in British politics are strongly opposed to him, and the rest critical or timid. He is not the tribune that Mr. Gladstone was, yet he goes into the fight with not a tithe of the support from public men that Mr. Gladstone had when he declared for Home Rule. His action reveals the possession of magnificent courage, and while that is not everything, as Mr. Gladstone's case conclusively indicated, it is a great deal, and has at one time and another done much to raise the standard of British political achievement to the high level it has attained.

THE TOY PISTOL BUSINESS.

It is impossible to conceive why the authorities do not put an end to the toy pistol business in this country at once and forever. To permit the irresponsible children of silly and reckless parents to endanger the lives of all about them is to become personally responsible for the consequences. Where the power is there is and must rest the responsibility. The city and provincial authorities can prevent the use of these deadly toys, and they do not. Therefore they must bear the blame for all accidents. It is unfortunate that they cannot receive the missiles in their own persons instead of their finding judgment in innocent bystanders. It is less than two weeks to Dominion Day, and the hospitals are already receiving their harvest. Two boys in one day at the hospital at Victoria is a fine beginning for our annual "celebration."

Why, in this twentieth century, we should continue these barbaric methods of "celebrating" is beyond comprehension. We know in advance that a certain number of persons will be killed in this country on or about the Twenty-Fourth of May and Dominion Day, and that thousands of dollars' worth of property will be burned, entirely as the result of using fireworks in large cities. If the people know this and permit the performance to go on, are we not all participants in the crimes of murder and arson? If we knew just by these means, and precisely whose property was destined to the flames, we should unquestionably surround the endangered persons and property and forbid the shooting of firecrackers and pistols anywhere in the vicinity. Why, since we cannot in advance pick out the victims, should we not protect everybody? We laugh at the tom-toms and firecrackers of the Chinese as evidence of their stupid barbarity. But it is as stupid and barbarous to shoot off firecrackers in dangerous places in honor of a Christian national holiday as it is to shoot them in honor of a heathen joss.

ANOTHER OF

There is something of a rumor back of the province of a large smelter plant and concentrates at Alene, Idaho, lead movements of late of Spokane, in connection with conferences held at J. Hill, of the Great would indicate that would soon act in the tain that Mr. Sweet have for years endeav- pendent of the smel- been compelled to demands, owing to tions. It is said that able to Mr. Sweeney a smelter at or near ington, will be the plant would draw its Republic camp as d'Alene, and man that are now shipp- Sound smelters. Such a necessity and one- ible, as there is no quantity of ore nee- huge plant in const- of sufficient quality- requirements as to fit- Such an undertak- feasible and would start, and it would to the Kootenays in one. Aside from the lead smelter at Spo- the competition for in this district and it would be a large fuel. It would be, for the proprietors rely upon Kootenay vncial government. Nest monopoly by areas of coal lands East Kootenay.

It is nothing short of the government of the have been so stupi- development of the- the only thing tha- this country and gr- it is, however, we- fuel for the existin- alone for export- country so cursed b- ernment as B. C.? that the new adm- keep us out of our- much longer.

KING PETER

Peter Karageorgovich recognized as the Emperor of Austria, the King of Montenegro, and other potentates following their example. Britain is showing some interest about doing the Emperor of Germany. It red of the old Emperor that he coupled with an expression of horror at the man georgevitch's access throne was brought has corrected the of ence to the crime in message by the s- tion of an official Petersburg Gazette the assassination of mands the punish- were responsible fo congratulations of temoro overstep t- mon decency.

The civilized wor- sentiments of the c- emperor and join wi- ing the punishment If Peter condone- himself and his c- pale of civilized fe- he will be practic- revolutionary meth- applied to himself b- if his course shou- approval. Moreove- effect of encouragin- method for the cor- grievances not on- tions but in every c- thus put the lives- positive jeopardy.

ANOTHER OF

There is something of a rumor back of the province of a large smelter plant and concentrates at Alene, Idaho, lead movements of late of Spokane, in connection with conferences held at J. Hill, of the Great would indicate that would soon act in the tain that Mr. Sweet have for years endeav- pendent of the smel- been compelled to demands, owing to tions. It is said that able to Mr. Sweeney a smelter at or near ington, will be the plant would draw its Republic camp as d'Alene, and man that are now shipp- Sound smelters. Such a necessity and one- ible, as there is no quantity of ore nee- huge plant in const- of sufficient quality- requirements as to fit- Such an undertak- feasible and would start, and it would to the Kootenays in one. Aside from the lead smelter at Spo- the competition for in this district and it would be a large fuel. It would be, for the proprietors rely upon Kootenay vncial government. Nest monopoly by areas of coal lands East Kootenay.