

# How Can the Lead Industry Be Stimulated?

At the regular meeting of the Rossland Liberal Association in the board of trade rooms tonight the question of action in regard to making representations to the government regarding the lead question will probably come up. Smith Curtis, M. L. A., has stated that he will introduce the topic either in the form of a notice of motion or of a resolution dealing with the subject.

What the Liberal association members desire at this juncture is information on the lead question, and it is noticeable that of all the mine managers in charge of properties producing silver-lead ores the only individual who has in the past taken any prominent part in the discussion is James Cronin of the St. Eugene mine. Now S. S. Fowler, of the Whitewater, has given an opinion on the points at issue. The mine managers of the Slovan and Kaslo districts should rise to the occasion and make a pronouncement which will act as a guide to organizations in other districts where there is a desire to assist the lead industry without the technical information in hand that is necessary to arrive at an intelligent conclusion.

Mr. Fowler's conclusions are in favor of enhanced duties and he reasons out as follows:

"Unless we get much greater protection than is accorded us at the present time, it will be only the matter of a very short time when all the white lead mines in British Columbia will be closed down. At the present time, in fact, there is practically no protection whatsoever. If lead mining is to be one of the industries of Canada, we must get protection."

This was the statement made to a Montreal Star representative by S. S. Fowler.

"As a matter of fact," Mr. Fowler went on to say, "as manager of the Whitewater Mining company, which is interested in the development of lead, I would say that we have been unable to operate the mines since June last, owing to the impossibility existing to dispose of our products in Canada with any profit whatsoever. Such a statement I do not make as one who is interested

in some particular company, but as one who would like to see the lead industry in Canada prosper, would like to see it made possible to see the output of the mines in the western provinces the same as in the eastern ones. Now that there is some question of a revision of the tariff, I would like to present the facts just as they are.

"The chief reason why we are unable to secure the trade of Canada is that the big American companies are at present able to bring an almost unlimited amount of Mexican lead in bond to New York, and after having had it passed through a slight process of refining brought into Canada under the pretence that it is still raw material.

"As it is impossible for us to get our lead into the United States, without paying the regular thirty-five per cent duty there is not any reason in the world why the American mining companies should be allowed to secure control of the Canadian trade.

"Then comes the cry that the eastern manufacturer would protest against a high tariff being granted on the ground that he would then be obliged to pay a good deal more for his lead than at present. My answer to any such protest would be that at the present time all the manufacturers of various kinds of machinery are protected by a thirty-five per cent tariff and yet the mining companies of the west have never protested against coming to the east and securing their machinery at a much higher figure than it could be purchased for in the United States if the present tariff did not exist.

"What we need most of all, if the lead industry is to prosper in Canada, is not so much a further bounty, as a substantial increase in the present tariff. We are not so particularly anxious that it should be as great as the American one, as we are that it should be sufficiently high to allow us to make a bid for the trade of Canada. We are unable to compete against other countries in foreign markets and we feel that we should be given a fair chance to get at least our share of the Canadian trade."

# Rossland Scotchmen Organize For Season

The annual meeting of St. Andrew's society last night was largely attended and the interest manifested in the proceedings augurs well for a successful season. A departure was made in respect to the program for the approaching winter. It was decided to hold a series of smoking concerts as a means of bringing Scotchmen together from time to time.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

- Lorne A. Campbell—President.
- Dr. Kerr—Vice-President.
- J. Anderson—Secretary-Treasurer.
- Directors—J. A. Macdonald, R. W. Grigor, A. B. Mackenzie, J. S. C. Fraser and A. M. Stewart.
- Dr. Campbell—Physician.
- Rev. Mr. Gunn—Chaplain.
- J. A. Macdonald—Solicitor.
- A. B. Barker—Bard.
- T. S. Gilmour—Standard bearer.
- George Urquhart—Piper.
- J. B. Johnson—Piper.
- K. E. Mackenzie and J. H. Watson—Auditors.

The question of maintaining the bond of fellowship between Scotchmen during the winter was taken up and debated at some length. Finally it was decided that a series of smoking concerts, not less than four in number, should be

held during the winter and that a special committee should be formed to take charge of these. The committee was named as follows: A. B. Mackenzie, Dr. Kerr, T. S. Gilmour, R. W. Grigor, J. H. Macdonald and W. Brown. St. Andrew's Day—November 30—will be observed by a divine service at St. Andrew's church, the chaplain having already been approached on the subject. On December 1 a dance will be given at Masonic hall by the society. The dance committee was named as follows: J. S. C. Fraser, J. M. Macdonald, T. S. Gilmour, E. Paul Renwick, Dr. Kerr, T. Urquhart, J. B. Johnson, A. B. Mackenzie, J. H. Watson and J. Anderson.

The annual statement of the treasurer as submitted by J. Anderson showed a balance in hand of \$98.14. Prior to vacating the chair ex-President Mackenzie made a neat speech, and in taking the chair as president for the current year Mr. Campbell thanked the society for the honor conferred upon him and expressed the hope that all Scotchmen would assist in the laudable object of making the society a successful and useful institution during the incoming year.

The dance committee meets at the office of T. S. Gilmour on Friday evening at 8 o'clock.

# Winter Sports Are Now to the Fore

For several days there has been a hard frost in Rossland, and scrutiny of the weather annals seem to indicate that the present season is likely to witness a repetition of what has occurred once or more times in the past—steady winter up to the first January thaw, at least. The possibility of this brings Rosslanders to the consideration of the subject of winter sports, and it is probable that the initiative in connection with the various pastimes peculiar to cold weather will be proceeded with in the course of the next few days.

The shareholders of the skating rink will meet at an early date to go into the question of the program for the winter. One of the first duties of the rink company will be to elect a secretary-treasurer in succession to W. W. Johnson, whose efficient and valuable services will not be available this winter by reason of his removal from the city. Then the subject of flooding the rink will be taken up. In fact, existing conditions with respect to frost are such that there is no reason why the rink tender should not start immediately to prepare the subsell for its winter coat.

The curling club had an eminently successful season in '01-'02, and it is probable that this record will be passed during the approaching season. The feature of the season with respect to "staple and season" will be the annual bonspiel of the Kootenay Curling Association, which takes place in Rossland this year.

The event will bring together the crack rinks of the entire country, and as on-slip competitors are proverbially the best of fellows, the event is naturally awaited with keen interest. The curlers are to get together for organization purposes shortly. No date has been named for the annual meeting, but with the frost in their nostrils the curlers are like the chargers that scent the battle from afar, and little time will be lost in rearranging the preliminaries for the season.

But little has been heard with regard to hockey as yet, and it is probable that the hockey men will not take the initiative until the rink company has taken action in the direction of flooding the skating rink.

Incidentally, it may be said that the question of the annual winter carnival is again to the fore. Last year a serious error was made in postponing action until a late date, and the sports were only pulled through by a fraction and by the magnificent work of the men in charge of the program. The opinion was very generally expressed at that time that the carnival question should be brought up early in December and a date selected in January, provided it was deemed advisable to continue the attraction. January weather is regarded as much more reliable than February weather, and in different weather conditions have militated substantially against the success of the winter carnival for several years past.

**NOVEL TEA AND MUSICAL**—The advertising tea and musicale held at the residence of Mrs. Kinnear yesterday afternoon proved to be quite a successful affair. Despite the unfavorable condition of the weather a goodly number of ladies and gentlemen availed themselves of the opportunity to be present, and all expressed themselves as having enjoyed to the fullest the good things provided. During the

the young ladies assisting the hostess, and at intervals some excellent selections of music were rendered by the Misses Kinnear and O'Reilly. The principal feature of the afternoon was the advertising contest, the prize for which, an elegant little red morocco volume of Aurora Leigh, was won by Mr. Carl Davis. We understand that the financial side of the entertainment was also quite to the satisfaction of the ladies. Afternoon tea and cake were served by

# 'TIS TIME TO STOP AND CONSIDER

The juncture has arrived when the ratepayers should SERIOUSLY CONSIDER the situation as developed between citizens and the municipal council and the War Eagle and Centre Star Mining companies in respect to water records.

The issue is of VITAL IMPORTANCE to the future history of the Golden City and a FALSE STEP at this stage may SERIOUSLY AFFECT the prospects of the camp and district.

In authorizing the city solicitor to take an appeal against the JUDGMENT OF CHIEF JUSTICE HUNTER in favor of the War Eagle and Centre Star applications certain water records essential to the completion of their plans for the ESTABLISHMENT OF A MILLING PLANT the municipality has, in the opinion of many citizens, taken a HASTY AND UNWISE STEP, and one that is certain to at least postpone the inauguration of concentrating in the camp. More, this extremely hostile attitude toward the establishment of a new industry MAY ABORT THE PLAN ALTOGETHER.

With a view to silencing the protests of the strong element in the community that will not countenance the erection of obstacles to the plans for the introduction of concentrating into the Rossland camp, the municipal council has DRAWN A RED HERRING ACROSS THE TRACK in the form of "A proposition by the City of Rossland to the War Eagle and Centre Star Mining Companies." The document smacks of the work of hostile legal minds—apparently no capable milling engineer had a voice in its preparation. Some of the stipulations contained in the "proposition" are SO IMPRACTICABLE AS TO BE RIDICULOUS. Other terms outlined are so ONEROUS AS TO BE PROHIBITIVE. In its entirety the "PROPOSITION" IS FARCICAL for the reason that to carry any force it must be based on the assumption that the corporation is in a position to supply the mining companies with the water necessary to operate their proposed plant. SUCH IS NOT THE CASE. THE CITY HAS NOT ENOUGH WATER AVAILABLE TO RUN A MILLING PLANT OF MODERATE CAPACITY.

Even if the mines were to accept the corporation's proposition—although this is an impossible condition—the companies would still be under the necessity of constructing a flume sixteen and a half miles in length, over a rough and unbroken country, across several deep gulches, to Murphy creek, and even then it is DOUBTFUL IF THE WATER SUPPLY WOULD BE ADEQUATE.

Without mincing matters it may be stated candidly that the War Eagle and Centre Star companies are UNDER NO COMPULSION TO ERECT THEIR MILLING PLANT IN OR NEAR THE CITY OF ROSSLAND. They have the CHOICE OF SEVERAL LOCATIONS, and at present the inducements to ABANDON THE ROSSLAND IDEA AND LOCATE ELSEWHERE are increasing. In that case the COMMUNITY WOULD PROFIT NOTHING from the construction or permanent payrolls.

By accepting other offers the War Eagle and Centre Star companies avoid further trouble with the corporation of the City of Rossland, BUT WHERE DO THE BUSINESS MEN AND CITIZENS GENERALLY GET OFF AT?

Of course there are advantages to be gained by locating the milling plant at a competitive shipping point, and this is the principal reason the question of location has not been decided long since, and to Rossland's disadvantage. IT MAY PROVE, HOWEVER, THAT ROSSLAND IS ABSOLUTELY IMPRACTICABLE AS A CONCENTRATING CENTRE BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY, and this will settle the question conclusively.

Meantime the companies desire to retain their water records which are essential to the maintenance of the milling plant, should it be ultimately decided to locate the works here. IF DEPRIVED OF THESE THEY ARE CERTAIN TO GO ELSEWHERE. The water covered by these records must be augmented by Murphy creek water brought to the mill site at an outlay AGGREGATING MANY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS, yet the municipal council is FLUNGING THE CORPORATION INTO COSTLY AND TEDIOUS LITIGATION with a view to wresting these water rights from the mining companies.

Moreover all this and past litigation has been WHOLLY UNNECESSARY from a legal or any other viewpoint. The attempt of the companies to secure secondary rights to those of the city DOES NOT IMPAIR THE PRIOR RIGHT OF THE CITY. The city's rights are guaranteed in the strongest way by special statute, which any citizen may read and understand without the aid of a lawyer, and which are FULLY RECOGNIZED BY THE COMPANIES. The War Eagle and Centre Star companies want nothing but the right clearly given by the Water Clauses Act and upheld by the courts to use the water now flowing to waste. THE SENSELESS AND EXPENSIVE FIGHT which the city has been making to defeat this end for the past two years IS PERSECUTION WITHOUT EXCUSE.

Is this the proper course to adopt to encourage the establishment of a new and important industry, or is it a policy that will effectually drive the only milling plant in sight out of the community altogether?

The Miner has endeavored to demonstrate to the community at large that in connection with the water records question the city SHOULD BE OFFERING INDUCEMENTS INSTEAD OF INSISTING ON EXACTION, THAT ARE PROHIBITIVE AND PALPABLY OPPOSED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY. Should the present policy be maintained, with the outcome foreshadowed in the foregoing, citizens will not be in a position to say they were taken by surprise.

NOW IS THE TIME TO AMEND THE MUNICIPALITY'S POLICY so that it will accord with the policies of communities the world over when the establishment of new industries is in prospect.

# Wants Bonus and Duty For Lead Industry

The Rossland Liberal Association will take up the question of stimulating the lead mining industry at its next meeting. The association met last night, but transacted no business beyond the reception of a notice of motion by Smith Curtis, M. L. A., to the effect that he proposes to bring a resolution at the next meeting—the 20th inst.—which will broach the lead question in earnest.

Mr. Curtis' resolution will be couched in such a manner as to convey in detail the following points: That in place of the resolution passed by the association in May last, wherein enhanced duties on lead and lead products was dealt with solely, the organization favors the Dominion paying a bounty of \$7.50 per ton of lead and zinc contained in Canadian ores mined and shipped for treatment and that such bounty be paid direct to the party mining the ore; also that revenue duties on a party with other revenue duties levied on products manufactured in Canada be placed upon lead, zinc, copper and their products whenever parties are ready to undertake to carry on the manufacture of commodities from any of these

metals, and in case there is any enhancement of the price in Canada of any of these metals resulting from these duties that regulations be made that will give the parties mining the ores of these metals a fair share of the increase in price.

The foregoing are roughly the points which Mr. Curtis will work up into his resolution, and the effect of which will stop a topic which is regarded as among the most important now vexing the Kootenay country as a whole.

It has been suggested that the meeting of the association at which the question comes up should be thrown open to the public generally and that this action would secure a wider range of information, besides affording an excellent opportunity for all persons interested in the topic to acquire such information thereon as is available.

It is now understood that His Honor Judge Forin will hold county court here on Tuesday next and thereafter until the docket of business is exhausted. The cases on the list up to the present time are of slight interest, involving mere disputes on account.

# THE VIEW MUCH BRIGHTER

Community Now Disposed to View Rossland's Future in Bright Light—Glance at Possible Future of Golden City—"New Boom."

The published statements of gentlemen connected with the management of Rossland's biggest mines has had a decidedly stimulating effect on the spirits of Rosslanders. For various reasons there was a disposition manifested throughout the city to look at the situation through blue spectacles. There was, of course, no foundation in fact for the pessimistic attitude adopted by many, and the announcements regarding the two Le Rols, together with the known facts respecting the War Eagle and Centre Star mines, have reassured citizens in a manner that was strikingly demonstrated throughout the city yesterday.

Manager Mackenzie reiterated just what has been said previously on half a dozen different occasions, but his statement was exceedingly opportune. The remarks by Mr. LeBouchere, secretary of the Le Rols, together with the most careful investigation by the most expert engineers available and the funds will be disbursed along lines laid down by capable mining men rather than the haphazard manner characteristic of a boom camp and always fatal to its future. Moreover, there will be comparatively few attempts to develop properties with inadequate funds, resulting in the monuments to depleted treasures such as are in evidence throughout the Kootenay country—there will be no "sheering" mining—experience will have demonstrated accurately the amount of funds requisite to the development of a property in this camp, and mining companies being in possession of this information there will be few of the shipwrecks that have been a feature of the past and which have injured the standing of this and every other new mining camp.

The future, and the immediate future at that, has bright things in store for Rossland. The present complacent attitude of the community is perfectly justified and should be maintained, despite all temporary setbacks.

Thus it is that matters in connection with the big mines have moved slowly, and a disposition has been evidenced on the part of those who look merely for immediate results to rivet their attention to the present instead of looking ahead and endeavoring to estimate the chances for the future. Rossland's best days are ahead of the city, and the future has brighter things in store than have ever been realized in the past. This is evidenced by actual conditions at the War Eagle and Centre Star mines and by the prognostications, based on accurate, practical and technical information, of the Le Rol and Le Rol No. 2 managements.

While it is extremely unlikely that Rossland will ever witness a boom similar in nature to that which marked its earlier days, it is equally likely that the mining industry will progress in the future as has never been the case in the past. The records which the big mines may safely be expected to make will attract the attention of the investing world to such an extent that capital in abundance will be available to develop the latent resources of the camp. The history of this revival will differ from Rossland's first boom, inasmuch as investments will only be made after careful investigation by the most expert engineers available and the funds will be disbursed along lines laid down by capable mining men rather than the haphazard manner characteristic of a boom camp and always fatal to its future. Moreover, there will be comparatively few attempts to develop properties with inadequate funds, resulting in the monuments to depleted treasures such as are in evidence throughout the Kootenay country—there will be no "sheering" mining—experience will have demonstrated accurately the amount of funds requisite to the development of a property in this camp, and mining companies being in possession of this information there will be few of the shipwrecks that have been a feature of the past and which have injured the standing of this and every other new mining camp.

# Look After the New Drill Hall

The matter of a drill hall for Rossland has been in abeyance for some months, but it should not be overlooked. Steps should be taken to bring the question to the attention of the federal authorities, lest it should be overlooked at the forthcoming session of parliament and the Golden City once more passed over, while Nelson, Kaslo and other points already are provided with premises for their militia companies.

Rossland would have had a drill hall this year had the matter of securing a site been attended to at the proper time. The militia department makes it a hard and fast rule that where drill halls are built in municipalities free sites must be provided. This was not done here in time, and the appropriation made for a Rossland drill hall have details attended to before the question is once more brought to the attention of the militia department.

The provincial authorities will turn over the land specified in trust to be held so long as they are used for military purposes.

Nelson's drill hall is about complete, and the same may be said of armories for other companies of the Rocky Mountain Rangers. If any appropriation of parliament there is no reason why the Rossland building should not be commenced in the early spring. The experience gained in the construction of the other armories in the district will be of value locally, inasmuch as architects will be in a position to learn from the plans adopted in the case of other premises. For instance, it is claimed that the Nelson building should have been constructed right to the rear of the lot, and that arrangements should have been made for a Morris tube shooting gallery in the basement, instead of which a solid stone wall has been built across the centre of the basement.

Meantime the question should not be allowed to drop. Before it can be successfully urged before the Ottawa authorities there are various features to be put in shape, and the present, when there is an abundance of time available, is the juncture to move in connection with the preliminaries.

# Farewell to a Popular Rosslander

Robert A. C. McNally, local representative of the James Cooper Manufacturing company for the past three years, leaves in the course of a day or two for Montreal, where he will be attached to the head office staff of the company. During his residence in the Golden City Mr. McNally has made numerous friends, an indication of which fact was the enthusiastic send-off accorded him on Saturday evening.

Among those gathered about the festive board on the occasion of the hospitality extended to Mr. McNally were the following: Judge Frederick Schofield, W. Gilbert, H. G. Oliver, Charles Vernon Jenkins, Lorne A. Campbell, Archibald B. Mackenzie, J. H. Watson, W. S. Rugh, Neville F. Townsend, Harold M. Ellis, J. K. Cram,

Dr. Coulthard, A. B. Barker and J. Stephen Deschamps.

The evening was spent pleasantly in the effort to impress upon the guest of the evening the fact that his departure was sincerely regretted by his Rossland friends, and that the friendships formed in the Golden City were not of the ephemeral nature that time and space sever readily. The sentiment thus expressed was conveyed in various ways.

The feature of the evening was the presentation to Mr. McNally of a particularly handsome clock as an evidence of his friends esteem. The gift was turned over to the recipient by Judge Schofield in neatly chosen terms that elicited a felicitous response. The proceedings were of a jovial and cordial nature throughout.

**'TIS WINTER INDEED**—If the sharp frosts of the past few days was not ample evidence that winter is at hand the spectacle of the first ski runner of the season out for practice on Washington street was sufficient to clinch the conclusion. Ski running is about the only feature of the usual winter carnival program that is worth preserving.

**LEAVES SHORTLY**—Robert A. C. McNally, who has been the representative of the Jencks Ma-

chine company in Rossland and district for the past three years, leaves early next week for Montreal, where he will be permanently attached to the head office staff. Mr. McNally's forthcoming departure is viewed with keen regret by numerous Rossland friends.

**DEATH OF MRS. OPIE**—The friends of Mrs. Arthur Pendray will be sorry to learn of the death of her sister, Mrs. Carrie Opie, at Butte, Mont., on Wednesday, Nov. 5. The funeral takes place this afternoon at Butte.

# SECRET

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