#### R. F. SHAUBUT ON TRAIL CREEK.

B. F. Shaubut, who is familiar with mining in Montana and South Africa, and well posted in the mining business in the city of London is interviewed as follows in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

"With the amount of development work at the same age the advantage is decidedly with the Slocan Trail, over Butte. No mine in Butte, which claims to be the greatest mining camp in the world, showed up as well as the Le Roi at the same stage of development. The mines and the districts have every indication of permanency, and it is my honest epinion that within the next five years. Rossland will surpass Butte in all that goes to make a live and progressive mining center.

The fame of Rossland has spread wonderfully and is still spreading, and there is an immense amount of wealth ready to step in and take hold of the mines and open them up. The fact is that British Bolumbia is becoming so well known that London capitalists have no hesitency in investing millions in the mines of that province. A short time ago a patent on a bicycle tire was offered in London and was immediately snapped up, the sum of £5,000,000 being subscrib-In fact, there was four times as much stock subscribed for as there was for sale. Eighty per cent. of the stock was subscribed for in Ireland, which is presumed to be an impoverished country. There are times in London when certain investments are what they call in favor. For two or three months the industrials, such as bievele and brewery stock, will be all the rage with speculators and investors. Then the trend of speculation will be toward the South African diamond and gold mines, or the Western Australian gold fields. I merely instance the bicycle tire investment in order to convey the idea of the abundance of money in London for what is in favor.

The attention of the speculative people in London has been directed to British Columbie, and the tide is now flowing strongly in that direction. Mining experts and engineers have been sent over to examine and report on mining properties that have been represented, and they are in the field by scores. While the developed properties are receiving the greater amount of attention, those that give promise of becoming mainediate producers are by no means overlooked.

The War Eagle has been sold to a man who never heard of the mines of British Columbia until last December. I have reference to Mr. Fredrick W. North, who is now in Rossland, and who has been accorded every opportunity of examining the mines and he expresses himself in the stronges terms regarding the developed and undelyeloped properties. He thinks that while the district has a number of big producers at present, the number will be greatly any mented before many months.

The first time that Mr. North ever heard of British Columnia noves happened in this wise: You remember L. W. S. Tingle, who formerly conducted the Morning Journal in this city. At present he is the American counsul at Brunswick, Germany. In De-cember last Consul Tingle, accompanied by several German friends, paid me a visit in London and we had several pleasant days together talking about Seattle and Washington generally. It was like an oasis in a desert to see a Scattle man, you know. Shortly after Mr. Lingle returned to Brunswick he wrote me a letter, enviosing another from H. L. Frank, one of the principal owners of the War Eagle mine. In this latter epistle Mr. Frank asked Mr. Lingle if he could place the War Lagle mine in Germany for \$1,000,000. It was not possible to do anything in Germany, and Mr. Tingle wanted to know if I could handle the property in London, I took Mr. Frank's letter and showed it to Mr. North, who at once became interested and asked me if I had an option on the property. He said he would purchase it. I told him I did not, but would at once endeavor to secure one. I at once cabled Consul Tingle and informed him that I could place the property at the price named upon the receipt of a guarantee that the property would be delivered, providing the expert sent from London would verify the statement as to the value, etc., of the propcrty made by Mr. Frank in his letter. It seems, how-

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ever, that before Mr. Frank could meet his partners in the mine and secure the necessary bond a deal had been entered into with D. C. Corbin, president of the Spokane & Northern railway, whereby he obtained as three months option at the same price that I had the property for. Mr, Corbin succeeded later in selling the property in London to the same people that I had been negotiating with in December. I was the pioneer in introducing British Columbia property to the London investor. I had infinite trouble in getting articles published concerning British Columbia mines and finally succeeded in doing so through the London Mining Journal.

"The option on the War Eagle and Iron Mask was \$1,500,000, and a company has been organized in London with a capital of £2,500,000 for the purchase of these and any other properties that may suit the company.

"At Rossland there are from fifteen to twenty mines that are shipping ore, while they are scores of properties that are passing the prospective stage into the productive period—in brief, they are mines that will soon be producing and shipping ore on a large scale.

"At Lookout mountain, in the east end of Trail Creek district, a number of prospects have been developed to such an extent that they may almost be called mines. The first one of these that attracted the attention of the public was the G. R. Sovereign. The mine was bonded three months ago to General Charles S. Warren, of Butte, and several of his friends for \$25,000. They immediately began the work of developing the property by sinking shafts and running a tunnel to strike the ore body. In the shaft at a depth of 30 feet they struck a body of pay ore which assayed from \$24.80 to \$50 per ton. The owners of the bond were so elated with the find that they went down the hill below the vein and started a tunnel to cross-cut the vein at a distance of 200 feet. When I was there on Phursday last the miners struck a blind lead in which there is pay ore at a distance of seventy-five feet from the mouth of the tunnel. The owners of the bond have had numerous offers for the property and among them was one from a syndicate of Toronto bankers.

Adjoining and lying to the north of the Sovereign lies the Prince of Wales group of mines. It is composed of the Prince of Wales, E. V. Debs and Emma R. mines. There has been considerable development work upon the Prince of Wales, which is located on the same lead or vein as the Sovereign mine. That the Prince of Wales group sampled and experted upon by six different mining experts, two of whom were from London. The assays ranged from \$15.20 to \$115 in gold. There are 10,000 tons of paying ore in sight, and all that is necessary to market it is the mining and the building of a wire rope tramway a distance of 4,000 feect to the smelter. This will make the cost of transportation only to cents per ton. I purchased the property for my London people from the original locators for \$50,000, paying cash down."

"Will you return to London, Mr. Shaubut?"

In answer to this Mr. Shaubut showed a piece of white quartz which was streaked and lumped with yellow virgin gold and said: "I have been directed to go to Nova Scotta, where the mine from this ore came is located, for the purpose of examining and reporting on the property. From there I proceed to London. I expect upon making my report upon the Prince of Wales' group that a mining manager will at once be appointed to proceed to Lookout mountain and begin the work of developing the property. This I feel sure will be done in such a manner that in a very short time this group will be known as one of the great gold producers of America."

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