

Mines and Mining.

NEWS OF THE MINES.

Vancouver, August 20.—From West Kootenay so far this year ore, to the approximate value of \$3,562,000 has been sent to the smelters. Last year West Kootenay produced ore of the market value of \$6,042,975. The present output is of the approximate value of \$150,000 a week, which, if continued, for the remainder of the year, would make the output for 1899 worth \$6,500,000. This is a fairly good record with all the big producers in the Slokan closed down.

The Hall Mine smelter is at work again with a large stock of ore on hand. There is enough in the bins and in the ground lately opened up to keep the big furnace running for three months. The company is opening up the surface croppings on the Kootenay-Bonanza, a claim adjoining the Silver King. This is being opened by work in the nature of a quarry, they are able to employ men for ten hours at the old rate of wages.

Mr. M. S. Davis, superintendent of the Silver King mine, has received news of the death of an uncle, who has bequeathed him a large sum of money. Mr. Davis will resign his position with the Hall Mines' Company, and proceed to England.

The Fire Mountain gold mine, situated near Harrison Lake, has changed hands, the purchasers being a syndicate composed of Vancouverites. The sale price was \$150,000.

A Mr. Woods, of London, England, is reported to have made the final payment on bond on Glengarry group, in the Lardegu The Glengarry was the property of Messrs. Arthur, Victoria; G. D. Scott, Vancouver; and J. D. Sibbald, of Revelstoke. It is understood that the amount of the bond was over \$20,000, and this final payment has been made two months before maturity of the bond.

Mr. Geo. H. Maurer, president of the Dominion Consolidated Mines Company, Limited, operating the Flora, Western Hill and Virginia, at Fairview, is in the city, together with Mr. L. W. Shatford, of Fairview, secretary-treasurer of the company, and Mr. G. A. Forbes, of Montreal, the company's official broker. Development work is going on rapidly, and it is intended shortly to install a six-drill compressor plant, which is coming out from Montreal.

G. R. Naden, managing director of the Bealey Investment and Trust Company, and Ceperley, well known financial men in Vancouver, made a flying trip to Camp McKinley, Fairview and Kruger Mountain properties of promise. The bond was drawn up and signed under peculiar circumstances. The properties were visited and the showing being satisfactory. Messrs. Naden and Ceperley made an effort to find the owners. They proceeded and found their men. While the funeral of the late Mr. Kruger. Thither they proceeded and found their man. While the funeral service was proceeding in the residence, Mr. Ceperley turned his valise into a temporary writing desk for the use of Mr. Naden, who drew up the bond. The signatures were then and there secured, and the deal was made. The properties bonded are the Anaconda Dividend and the Gold Dust.

ROSSLAND MINES.

Velvet—Work is progressing in a very satisfactory manner. The main tunnel is now in for a distance of 338 feet. On the 250-foot level drifting along the vein is in progress. The white iron has given way to copper on this level and the richest assays yet found in the mine have been received from the ore here. The copper values run

up as high as 21 per cent. and the gold values are very high. The work being done on the 100-foot level is giving satisfactory results. A contract for 100 cords of wood is being filled and the wood is being stacked up so that it will be good and dry when the time comes to use it. A new and commodious boarding house is being erected and other buildings are being started and, in short, the management reports that everything in and about the mine is in a satisfactory condition.

Evening Star.—Two shifts are at work in the shaft, which is being sunk from the lower tunnel. The water has been coming into the shaft, and this has interfered with the progress of the sinking. The bottom of the shaft is in ore of a shipping grade. From the lower tunnel the drift is being run to the east, and continues in ore of a shipping grade. The vein in the face of the drift is four feet in width. The ore that is being taken comes from the workings and from the vein above the upper tunnel. The shipments were continuous all the week. This week Superintendent Wilson Piper says he expects to ship a carload a day. There are 14 men at work and the mine never looked better.

Sunset No. 2.—Everything is progressing in good shape at the Sunset No. 2. The new shaft is down 100 feet and a station has been cut out and drifting to the northeast and southwest has commenced. A new tunnel is being run on the Gold Hunter claim, and in this the vein has been drifted on for a distance of 16 feet. A ledge seven feet in width has been met. The ore is nice looking and it is believed will average about \$12 to the ton.

Mascot.—Tunnel No. 2 is now in for a distance of 800 feet. The crosscut, which was started from a point near the face, tapped the ledge after it had been driven for a distance of 100 feet. A drift is now being driven along the hanging wall on the ledge. The ore encountered is of a fair grade. The winze has reached a depth of 235 feet. The winze will be connected with a rise from the lower workings during the coming week.

Josie.—Sinking is in progress on this property, and the shaft is now 475 feet deep. Development work is soon to be begun on the 300, 400 and 500-foot levels. The management is preparing to erect a new galloos frame for the electric hoist and a new shaft house will also be built.

Nickel Plate.—The shaft on this property is now 300 feet deep and the hoist has nearly been completed.

Le Roi.—There are 27 machine drills at work, and the mine is now shipping 300 tons per day steadily. The shipments are from the 500, 600, 700 and 800-foot levels. The ore body on the 700-foot level is now being mined to a width of 50 feet. The main shaft is 900 feet deep. The mine is improving rapidly from week to week and values are increasing. The compressor is running smoothly and is in excellent order.

Portland.—Two shifts are at work on the tunnel, which has been driven in for a distance of 50 feet. Three shifts will be put to work as soon as the mouth of the tunnel is timbered. The tunnel is being driven in an easterly direction in order to tap the ledges, which run through the property in a northerly and southerly direction.

New St. Lamo.—The compressor ordered some time since is supposed to be en route for this city. The foundation for the plant is also being made ready. The crosscut from the face of the tunnel is now in for a distance of 30 feet. There was no developments of note during the past week.

Mountain Trail.—The Pennsylvania Mining company is rapidly developing the Deer Trail. Work continues on the two double compartment shafts and on the tramways and the ore bins. The work on the 50-ton concentrator is also being pushed as fast as men and money can do the work.

Ethel Group (Pavo Company).—The properties in this group are located on Murphy creek. Surveys of the claims in this

group have just been completed as a preliminary to applying for a crown grant. The intention of the company is to soon commence active development work on its holdings.

Wallingford.—Drifting is in progress toward the shaft from the tunnel. The showing continues to be of an encouraging character. The shifts are at work and good progress is being made.

White Bear.—The shaft is down to a depth of 290 feet and in a few days the 300-foot level will be reached. Then the explorations on that level will be commenced. The outlook is encouraging.

Homestake.—The main drift is being pushed to the west in order to get under and tap the ledge which crops out so prominently on the west side of the property.

Coxey.—Prospecting on the surface continues. Two shafts of some 30 feet each have been sunk and open cuts are being made in order to locate the ledge and its dip.

Great Western.—The new shaft house is being erected, and during the coming week the shaft will be unwatered and sinking will be begun to the 400-foot level.

Deer Park.—The work of crosscutting the ledge on the 300-foot level continues. The ore met in the last few days shows some little improvement.

Green Mountain.—The shaft has reached a the past week.

depth of 225 feet and is still in ore. There were no developments of moment during the past week.

Southern Belle and Snowshoe.—The crosscut from the main tunnel of the Southern Belle has been driven for a distance of 200 feet.

I. X. Ll.—The showing of ore in the lower drift continues to be of an encouraging character. Considerable of a promising grade is in sight.

Mabel.—The tunnel has been driven for a distance of 275 feet and it is anticipated that the ledge will be met in the next 40 feet.

No. 1.—In this mine work on the 400-foot level has just been started. The upraise from the 200-foot level is in ore for 12 feet.

Gertrude.—Work continues on the lower levels. There are no new developments of moment to chronicle.

Columbia-Kootenay.—Work in tunnels No. 3, 4, 5 and 6 is being pushed along vigorously.

Royal George.—The work of sinking the shaft continues.

Copper Belle Group.—Work on the shaft continues.

REPUBLIC CAMP.

The news that Republic's high grade ores are to find speedy access to smelters not so far away as to leave no margin for the mine owners has caused a stir about town. The interest in the better class of Republic stocks is increasing and there is a prospect of the camp enjoying an early season of greater prosperity than it has ever seen. Summer dullness is ending earlier than usual and the reason is that the good things which Republic camp has to offer are appealing too strongly to judicious investors to permit of their being longer overlooked. Toronto and Montreal are pouring their money into the camp and with one of the strong Canadian banks doing business there, the prospect for larger investments is still more encouraging.

There are deals afoot which will shortly place several more Republic properties in strong Canadian hands. None of these are beyond the talking stage as yet, but there is fair prospect that some of them will go through. Meantime Spokane owners of properties in the camp are preparing to resume development. The indications are that development funds which have been lacking will be more readily obtained since the prospects of the camp have so suddenly brightened.