

Rossland Weekly Miner.

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A CHANCE FOR \$5 ORE.

One enterprise always leads to another in mining as well as in other ventures. This thought is suggested by the speech of Mr. S. H. C. Miner, of the Miner-Graves syndicate, at the banquet tendered him and the members of his staff at Grand Forks a few nights since, in which he said he proposed to mine, ship and treat at a profit ore which ran from \$5 up to the ton.

Where these sentences uttered by a man who was not given to measure his words, or who was not mature in years, or by a man who had not had a long and successful business career, they would attract but little attention, but coming from an individual of the calibre of Mr. Miner, who has tried by experiment and secured in a small way the results which he is accomplishing now on a large scale, they are worthy of the utmost consideration, and we are certain that he will carry out all he has projected to a successful issue.

The report that the refinery is to be added to the smelter at Grand Forks so that copper may be separated from the gold and silver in the matte is an important one. Sooner or later this would have to be done. The profit on refining the matte had better remain in British Columbia than to send it to New York to go through a similar process there and to pay tribute to every hand through which it passes.

With a possible profit on \$5 ore, a copper matte refining plant at Grand Forks and a possibility of a factory where lead is to be manufactured into the several commercial products of that metal at Trail, there opens up a vista of profit for the miners of this section which was totally lacking a few years since. These conditions will be brought about by a few men of the enterprising and thoughtful type of Mr. Miner. They are the pioneers of enterprise, and the entire community in which they are in share in the results of what they do.

A MARRIED CAREER.

Some time ago Hon. Edward Blake, as one time leader of the Liberal party in the Dominion, abandoned politics in Canada, and at the request of the Irish Nationalists, went over to the Mother Country to assist the cause of home rule for Ireland.

of Commons. He was deservedly regarded as one of the ablest men in Canada, and as a clear and able thinker, an eloquent speaker and possessor of strong individuality, great expectations were formed of his career in the British parliament. Not long after his association with the Nationalist party, the deposition of Parnell occurred, and some time after that great leader's death Mr. Blake's name was suggested as that of one who might reconcile the warring elements of the party and lead them to victory. It is very doubtful if it was ever seriously contemplated placing him in this position, but if it was the proposal seems to have been made only to be dropped, as since that time Mr. Blake has gradually dropped out of sight until what remains of him is a rapidly disappearing name as a former Canadian politician. It is singular that a man of such real force and ability should so suffer political extinction simply for adopting an expiring cause when he is a member of the great council of the nation and is privileged to voice his views on any public question which may come before parliament. And yet his simple affiliation with home rule has made what might otherwise have been a splendid career a complete failure. Men of greatly inferior ability who have gone to England from Canada have won for themselves almost distinction, while Mr. Blake has had to remain in the background. Writing about him from England recently Mr. Alec Pirie of Dundas, a prominent Ontario journalist, has this to say: "He has a law practice here, and his son is associated with him, but it seems a pity that he should be wasting his time here when he could be so much better appreciated in his own country. For there is no disguising the fact that he is not appreciated here. I have always felt that Mr. Blake was one of the ablest, if not the ablest, man that Canada has produced, but in politics over here he is wasting himself. I was in the house of commons the other day, and heard a discussion over a bill affecting Irish affairs, in which two Irish members, Swift MacNeil and T. P. O'Connell, were taking part. Well, Tay Pay and Swift MacNeil were hammering away at this bill, finding all the faults they could, as it was a government bill, and their duty was to pick holes in it.

"Then Edward Blake took a hand and gave his Irish colleagues a lift. It sounded odd to hear his voice in the Imperial parliament, as I had often heard it in our own house of commons, but here it carried no such weight as it did in Canada. He made his protest against some clause of the bill, but no notice was taken of it, and the clause was adopted just as if he had never said a word. The truth seems to be this, that Mr. Blake, having tied himself up to the Irish Nationalists, cut himself off from the great British parties, and no matter what he says, his utterances are looked upon as being merely those of one whose first thought is to help a little faction which is working for something against the interests of the United Kingdom and in the interests of a little band of irrequiescibles in Ireland alone. It is doing no injustice to Mr. Blake to say that Mr. Blake is engaged in a wild goose chase and that home rule for Ireland is really further off now than it was when he left Canada and came over to England to help it along. Even among the Irish members themselves they speak of him as being too cold and distant to be a leader of men, especially of men of the impulsive blood of the Irish race. Physically he looks well, mentally he is as vigorous as ever."

GLARING IRREGULARITIES.

In its issue of Thursday the Nelson Miner, in pointing out the necessity for a redistribution of the provincial seats, very concisely sums up the conditions as they at present exist. It says: "They (the actual votes cast) show, as everybody would expect, a rather shocking inequality in the distribution of seats as represented in the legislature. The total of used ballots was 27,172, which would give the 38 members an average of 715. If all the constituencies were over 600 and under 900 there would be no crying necessity for a redistribution. There are a few of that character—Delta 729, Dewdney 634, Revelstoke 899, Victoria City (4) 3,062, Nanaimo City 872, and Comox 643. These are near enough to the average, which may be taken as our unit of representation, to escape the aspersion of being scandalous. But against these we have Alberni 222 and Rossland 2,631. That is, one elector in Alberni counts as much in the house as 13 in Rossland. That is too much of a discrepancy, and of course a redistribution is necessary. No one is in the least disposed to question this, and as a matter of fact no one does question it. The only subject of difference in connection with the matter is in regard to the time at which this should be done. As the census in April next will give us additional information, and as there is no present prospect of an early dissolution, the legislature is in a position to take its time and proceed leisurely."

THERE IS ROOM AT THE TOP.

It is gravely mentioned in a London paper as something out of the ordinary that there were working on a Surrey farm the other day as common laborers a couple of clerks, a compositor, a solicitor, who could not raise sufficient money to take out his certificate, a medical man out of luck, a pawnbroker's assistant and a journalist. The journalist explained in an apologetic manner that he was there for the purpose of obtaining material for an article which he was to write entitled, "Haymaking by Eminent Hands." It is no more than probable that the fact of the matter was that he was hard up and went to haymaking so that he could get his meals regularly. There is nothing remarkable in this for a great London paper to make a fuss about. There is nothing much out of the ordinary to find that clerks, printers, young lawyers, unfortunate doctors, newspaper men out of luck and pawnbroker's assistants should take up haymaking when nothing in their own line was offered.

In this camp there have been seen even stranger sights than this. For instance, the descendant of a proud old English family, whose father was an admiral, was glad to get an opportunity to cook for a mining crew. The son of another distinguished family, between whom and a title there stands only one life, is a mucker in one of the mines. Another mucker in the camp is the descendant of the founder of one of the oldest schools in England, and he has relatives who are eminent soldiers and churchmen. There are one or two ex-secretaries of mining companies and a journalist or two who are mucking in the mines, and there are mining engineers and assayers. The army and navy have furnished a quota. Among these were two ex-captains of the regular army, an ex-lieutenant of marines, and ex-lieutenant of artillery, a half score of Sandhurst graduates and an ex-commander of H. B. M. navy. The sons of lords, to the number of about half a dozen, have labored with pick and shovel in the mines here, and one is at present a laborer in the Le Roi. There have been barristers to the number of half a dozen, college graduates by the dozen, several physicians, and men of almost every known trade, profession and degree in life have been compelled to get down to first principles, viz., pick and shovel, in order to obtain a living, and they were a really very glad of the opportunity.

In this section men do not lose caste doing this, for the reason that they are admired for their pluck in taking the first thing that came along that gave them bread and butter, rather than living on their friends until the opportunity came for them to secure the sort of employment which their talents, their energy or their training best fitted them for. It would be different in the Old Country, for there a man would lose the respect of the community in which he resided if he engaged in a lower class of employment than that which he was trained for and followed. In a new country, like this, there is little chance for the professional man or the skilled mechanic. What is wanted most are men of brawn and muscle, who can handle a shovel, hammer or pick. Here this sort of labor is paid fairly well. Men of all sorts of professions and occupations and of all classes are here hoping to make their fortunes. It is often the case that they are unable to secure the sort of employment which they would like, and when their money runs out they are compelled to take whatever they can get.

They fall into the ranks of the muckers as naturally as ducks take to water. There they remain, if they have pluck enough to stand the hard work and are able to do a day's work, until they have secured money enough to go elsewhere or some change in fortune's wheel puts them in a better position.

Still, with energy and a desire to better oneself, there are prizes to be won with a mucker's position as a start. The man who is receiving the highest salary paid to any individual in the Kootenais began his career with a miner's kit for his capital. Mr. John W. Mackay, who is one of the very rich men of the United States, began life as a boy in a mine. Mr. Marcus Daly, the Montana copper magnate, worked as a miner for years. These instances could be multiplied indefinitely, but there is one fact that must not be lost sight of. These men did not rise to the top of the mining world without hard work and harder study. They resolved early in their careers to make of themselves the very best sort of miners. They studied, they observed, they worked untiringly, and it was only after years of hard toil and application that they climbed out of the mine and into the office, from which they have directed the efforts of thousands who have had the same start in life that they did. Like effort on the part of those who are now at the foot of the ladder will bring forth a similar result to that which has been attained by these now big men of the mining world. There is always more room at the top than there is at the bottom.

The eastern press has lately been exercising its ingenuity in framing excuses for the crack lacrosse teams of Quebec and Ontario, who have, one after the other, succumbed to the superior play of the New Westminster, now on a visit to the older provinces. Every reason save the right one, has been advanced for the easy defeat of the champion teams of Quebec city, Montreal and Ottawa. One paper in Montreal enters into an elaborate and highly amusing analysis of the different styles of play adopted by the western and eastern teams, and credits the victory of the British Columbia men to their skillful team-play which, according to it, has gone out of vogue in the older portion of the Dominion. It urges the superior individual skill of the Eastern players in dodging, in throwing and catching but it has to admit that all these qualifications were valueless when it came to returning games. The fact that the visitors from British Columbia play the

game in a thoroughly scientific manner and sink the individual in the team. Every man knows his own work and ability and thoroughly understands those of every other player. With the ball in the possession of any single member of the team every one of them understands just what is going to be done with it for not one but a succession of moves, and it passes from one to the other in a manner which bewilders the old-time individual player of the east. In short, the team plays lacrosse and does not depend for a chance of victory on the skill of one or two individual players. After the quick and decisive defeat of the Capitals, regarded as the best team in Eastern Canada, it is a matter for surprise that a tie should have been the result in the match with the Torontos, and this result must be imputed to weariness after the hard work of the week and the tinsome journey on the train the night before the game, or some similar cause.

The visit of Lord and Lady Minto and party to Rossland and the enthusiastic reception accorded them shows that loyalty and hospitality are among the dominant characteristics of our people. The word "welcome" was conspicuous among the decorations, and is symbolic of the feeling which the people here have for the honored guests who are within our gates. In honoring Lord and Lady Minto we simply show the loyalty to the Queen of which the former is the chief representative in Canada. This was done right heartily, as was evidenced by the demonstration of last evening. At the same time Lord Minto and his consort are worthy of great honor for their individual merits. Lord Minto performed faithful service for Canada in assisting in putting down the Kiel rebellion in 1885, when he was chief of staff. Besides that he saw service in the Afghan campaign and in the Egyptian campaign of 1882. Therefore he is worthy of honor as a brave soldier who has faithfully served the Queen on many fields. Lady Minto is the daughter of General Charles Gray, and is a lady who possesses many admirable qualities of mind and heart, and aside from the lofty station which she occupies, is worthy of all the honor that the people of this city can pay her.

Every facility should be given the party today to see the mines so that the members can carry away with them some conception of the possibilities of the hidden treasure in the rock-ribbed hills that environ our city situated amid the mountain tops. If they can be made to realize that there is enough wealth to ransom an empire within the mines it will be of benefit, for when they go to other places they will aid in bringing Rossland to the attention of those who have capital to bring our undeveloped properties to the condition of producing mines. They will be pleased to know that Canada has such great sources of wealth within her confines as they will realize that from these mines and other mines in Canada will lay the foundation of a prosperity that will last for many centuries. While we do not appear mercenary or to be accused of being vainglorious over the millions that we have in our mines, still we think they would because of the great interest which they must have in all that concerns the well or woe of the Dominion of Canada and the British empire, like to know what a great source of wealth our mines are going to be and already are. They are interested in this matter just as much as we are, as they are, like us, subjects of the Queen and citizens of the Empire.

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THE VICE REGAL VISIT.

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Lord Minto is essentially a soldier, however, and perhaps, is not as much interested in mining matters as some of us would like him to be. It was noticed last evening that he could hardly keep his eyes off the stalwart forms of the Rocky Mountain Rangers, 30 strong, that made part of his escort from the railway station. He complimented their captain upon the soldierly appearance of his command. Later in the evening he gave another evidence that his mind runs in the direction of the defenders of the flag when he feelingly spoke of the men from Rossland who volunteered to go to South Africa, and whom he said would soon return to Rossland covered with the glory of having bravely served the Empire. While he may take considerable interest in our mines it will be less absorbing than that which he takes in the army. That has heart is with the soldiers serving in South Africa was shown when he said he would like to have gone with them when they started off for the war.

Our duty as hosts has only just commenced, and today and tonight let us all unite to make the stay of the vice regal party so pleasant that they will not have one dull moment. Other cities have done well their duty as hosts for them. Let us, if we can, do better than any of them. This is the spirit that should animate us today and until we bid goodbye to our departing visitors.

A DISPLAY OF LOYALTY.

The loyalty of the Canadian people to British connections could not be more truly displayed than by the reception given to Lord Minto in his visit to Rossland. This is a camp, which, at its inception, owned practically nothing to Canadian enterprise and courage. After its real worth had been demonstrated by the investment of American capital and railway and smelting facilities provided the Canadian and British capitalists came in, and have secured nearly all the properties known to be valuable here. The Americans made our investors pay good stiff prices for their purchases, but in the light of recent developments the price paid was really small when compared with the value of the mines. There is a good reason for the way matters have transpired here. The Americans have been mining ever since the country was settled in one portion or the other of the United States. Lode mining may be said to be scarcely a decade old in Canada, and it was something new and was scarcely to be expected that our country people would invest in a new industry about which they knew but little until, at least, it had been demonstrated that there was a profit to be made in it. Hence it was that the Americans at first secured the lion's share of the properties here. These explanations are intended for the benefit of the visitors, who should advise the capitalists of Eastern Canada to have more faith in their mines, and not let people come here from other countries and pick the richest prizes. Lord Minto remarked at the banquet last night that he would like to see Canadians developing their own mines with their own capital. So would we, but our people must show more courage and faith in their mines. They must develop them from the start instead of allowing others to come here and develop promising prospects, which Canadians purchase for large sums when they are shown to be mines. They are imitating the Americans to a considerable extent now, but they must do so still more.

THE COMING ELECTIONS.

Concluding an article on the political situation in Canada, the New York Sun says: "It looks as if the coming election in Canada, like that which will take place next November in the United States, will turn largely if not mainly on the issue of prosperity. The Canadian, like the American, may probably be trusted to know when he is well off."

DREDGING LEASES.

Ottawa, Sept. 7.—(Special.)—The regulations governing the issue of leases to dredge for minerals in the beds of the rivers in the Yukon territory, made by the order in council of the 18th of January, 1898, are rescinded, and the following are substituted in lieu thereof: The leases shall within two years from the date of the lease, have at least one dredge of the operation upon the portion of the river leased to him, not exceeding 30 miles, and shall, within six years from the date of such lease have one dredge in operation upon each five miles of the river under lease to him, and if during any one season where operations can be carried on he fails to efficiently work the same to the satisfaction of the minister, the interior lease shall become null and void unless the minister of the interior shall otherwise decide. His Excellency is further pleased to direct that the provisions contained in the above regulations shall apply to persons who have already acquired dredging leases under provisions of the regulations.

A NEW SENATOR.

Ottawa, Sept. 7.—(Special.)—J. V. Ellis of St. John, will be gazetted tomorrow, vice Charles Burpee, resigned. An order in council has been passed making provision that hydraulic mining will not interfere with placer, quartz or other work on free miner's claims. PERSONAL.

Mr. J. B. McArthur is in the city on a visit from Columbia. Mr. H. F. Myton, manager of the Bank of British Columbia, left yesterday for Victoria.

Dr. A. W. Kenning returned yesterday from Christina lake, where he has been on a fishing trip.

Dr. Bowes said in reply to a question he had been asked that he would have a full portrait of Lord Minto, for he was the speaker who made the sailor, who he said, spoke for the history, whose immaterials, who dollar, nor to be left secure in compared the Randolph Murray den. Let there be Scotch, Irish, W blood together. A few months ago. Now there's deburg and our chivalry was no Ladyship and those brave garr simply for the Doctor, in c

VISIT TO THE PACIFIC ISLANDS.

United States if we were the Pacific islands, within its portals for and Scotland, and it to give Irishmen and of Rome. France and and Holland, Portugal and Sweden, Denmark, and still have to away to farm out to and his Siberian exile.

Were its lands of among its inhabitants and child would be of 400 acres of land lakes are great many of the kingdom, pean monarch's rule, sider the majestic as the St. Lawrence boundaries, with its miles long, or the ploughs our prairies of 1,700 miles, or the ping into the Arctic a distance of 2,500 man territory, a slight ed of the extent of.

We have mountain Alps or the Appennian can look down from upon the eternal snow. Were all the classic Olympians, Ossa, Pello of the other, they compared with the butness our Western.

But all this, it's available but little, it's in natural resources. In this regard we have abundant eyes of not yet seen. We sources such as no, been able to deter- tural wealth is only mands of humanity. In the Canadian N have 200,000,000 acre for wheat. We can- cence of this when whole area sown to, States last year did 000 acres.

Canada is Destined to the Y

Our "harvests of late Darcy McGee fisheries, are only in and industry of grazing lands are equal in richness of Australia. In our great pastures there is little or no goes to make up a not found within it.

Mr. Nelson stated the population was per cent of British predominating em- tractor, but 7 per stock, while the r was made up of In- ese and Dukobors, of the vastness, of great resources, and prided upon her rec- of the British had no sympathy was, he declared, a perial federation, which will accrue f the different parts, plus loud and lo.

At the conclusion speech of Mr. Nel- mons played a coup tolo, "Salon Stue- urd Lied."

Army, Navy

The Hon. C. H. M proud to propose the Army and Volun- led, returned very at the front."

splendid adminis- previous sojourn h- much as chief of down. The army had a long history Waterloo, there w- was the splendid c- rca, all within the navy deeds were w- ters were no ar- been proved by t- the present war. done splendid deed to come back after- would be accorded their arrival here. Spokane had been Roberts, in mem- son by that valian- had great pleasure coupled with the Benson and D. E. chorus, "The Soldie as an encore. "In

Lieut.-Col. Benson loudly applauded, a surprise that he t- erply to this t- lard much of com- he begged to say Jack Tar and Tom of this could rot- sers in special h- comparison. They ves equal to all.

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