ROSSLAND WEEKLY MINER

THURSDAY November 14,

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stock on hand, its gross value and net MINING COMPARED WITH COMMERCIAL AND MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES.

output is the main requirement.

posed of his money.

By Fred C. Semmic, in Western Mining World.

It is not my intention at present to ushes mining from any other busigive anything but a generalized state- ness. In nearly every line, competiment in comparing mining with commercial and manufacturing enterprises. The field is so wide that it would er the probability of profitable investtake considerable time and the services of a statistician to compile "data" were we to consider the sub- of ore has made possible the profitject from a point of figures. I will, however, endeavor to show that mining is and can be carried on as legitimately as commerce or manufacturing. At the same time there is likely to be no field of operation so productive of worthless and fraudulent as that of mining.

There is no section of the country where some people are not holding worthless mining stocks, bought under this or that scheme, under promise of making a bonanza investment, and not one in a thousand of these schemes ever get beyond the beautiful pictures which are painted to those who buy stock. Yet, this fact does not impair the possibilities of legitimate mining distinguished from mining stocks when carried on under proper safeguards and on lines of actual and systematic development.

Mines are made by putting labor and means into the property itself and not into the pockets of the promoters. Few mining properties, indeed, which show any possibilities of becoming mines with development and which in fact justify exploitation, disappoint the miner upon his outlay.

There is today a greater demand for good developed mines than heretofore in the history of the great mining states and larger developing projects are constantly being undertaken. no more a gamble than is any other mining, but in the main success is at-Brought down to a true economic basis, mining not speculating in mines, offers greater returns upon the capital invested, and is upon the whole no an element of nearly gambling in min- profit. With the advent of railroads more hazardous than an ordinary mercantile. venture.

To develop any kind of a mine, cap-Ital is necessary. There are those who have the means to individually accomplish this, but such instances are few. It more often requires the united capital of several to accomplish anything in this line.

How to associate a number of people into an enterprise to raise the necessary amount required for a developed proposition has been a stumbling block in the way of many ventures. Stock propositions have been resorted purchaser has much to learn of his pect when a sale is being considered to, and are the means by which it is intended purchase. It does not make to endeavor to obtain all he may, but usually accomplished. They are safe a particle of difference whether a man he of all others appreciates his inabiland convenient means to the end, if is engaged in the manufacture of any ity to develop his prospect into a mine lawfully and judiciously employed. The article or in the sale of a commodity although he is thoroughly imbued provisions of statutes, however, are in or in mining, the questions arising in with the belief that with development the most cases evaded, rather than conducting any of these undertakings it will become a mine. He may there followed, and the stockholder left are identical. without protection from liability on The claim is often made that the in-

vestor in mining property is dependent take his stock or recourse from his losses. solely upon the judgment of some one pect Again, the stock is too often manipulated in the interest of the few, to ulated in the interest of the few, to the prejudice of the many. The proper-his own power to thoroughly investi-bis own power to thoroughly investity of the company, if ofany value, ofgate the subject. While this objection tentimes runs in debt, is sold out and is valid to a certain extent, but to not bought up in the interest of the few, nearly the extent taken for granted. but these methods are perhaps less to As to the technicalities arising and debe condemned than the more vicious practice of floating large stock schemnecessarily have to depend upon exes upon worthless property, merely to market the stock for what it will market the stock for what it will erable that he can learn for himself. bring, or speculate in it on the boards. It is advisable that the district in

The capital is fixed at a figure to give ample paper for the transactions and while it represents in the ave of and while it represents in the eye of the law the amount which is actually n appreciate be studied at close put into the corporation in money. Then it much possible to the studied at close of the studied at close vestment. Those who follow mining Reaver Line Lake Simcole Nov. 15 the law the amount which is actually

value, and value of plant as a whole The difference between these minations by the engineer and the price asked for the mine by the owner may be termed the price asked for the good will of the business. Fewer investments are safer than those judiciously made in developed mines. For this reason holders of large -capital only seek mining investments of this character. The successful mining man, however, is constantly in the field for more mines or holes in the ground or prospects having promise He does not anticipate that all of his enterprises in mining will prove remuconditions do not tend to make greatnerative, but by exercising care and judgment does expect that the final ment of capital, great or small. But balance between the producers and in the mining business closer study non-producers will show a good profit. He does not pay a big price for able treatment of much that was forprospect, however promising. Its val merly rejected and modern methods ue cannot be accurately determined successfully develop good properties until developed. Development costs in districts once thought to be worked money, and he absolutely refuses to out. No matter how thoroughly a pay out cash for the privilege of excountry may appear to have been prospected or developed it is now dewhether or not he may have invested sirable for present exploitation. Some of the best strikes are being made in wisely. old camps, and no miner or prospec-

Under present conditions old or aban tor is perforce compelled to go to new doned properties are being made proor almost inaccessible localities to ductive. Old dumps that were worthfind a good prospect. Intelligent de- less at the time they were made, owvelopment and proper treatment of ing to economic conditions, are now being worked over at a profit. Ener-There are risks in mining invest- getic miners are procuring working nents as in any other form of investleases in all sections of the country, It is, however, the business of and are adding their production to the intelligent investor who under- help swell the grand total. It may be stands his business, to see that those confidently stated that the mining in risks are reduced to a minimum. But dustry of the country is in better conas against the risks common to all com- dition today than at any period since mercial ventures may be set the fact its inception. While alleged mines that the mining investment is relieved are being sold and always will be for of many onerous elements of risks at- fabulous sums, based upon ridiculous tendant on mercantile investments. expectations, the generally accepted Buying goods to sell again, notwith- value of mining property today is basstanding competition, taking chances ed upon the knowledge of what it may of bad debts, etc., are things that do pay, and a fair allowance for future not concern the mine operator, but possibilities. Modern appliances, inare among the many attendant risks telligence and business management

that must be taken by the merchant. are gradually displacing the happy The contention is made that mining go-lucky methods of the past. is a gamble. A mining investment is There is still some so-called luck in investment, excepting when the inves- tained by careful attention to mining tor is a gambler who attempts to get business and only the rich veins could something for nothing. While there is be drawn upon with any possibility of ing it is not nearly so often with country roads, reduction works and

the investment as with the investor, mills, ores valueless only a short time who in very many cases has only him- in the past are today valuable and self to blame for the foolish and unyield a profit when managed with the businesslike way in which he has dis- same prudence and intelligence granted other industries. There are a great It is also true that many investors number of prospects or undeveloped are not competent to look into and de- lodees throughout our entire mining

cide the technical questions arising in country. They are mainly owned by connection with a mining investment the original locators, who, for lack of or venture, any more than he is able means, are unable to develop them. to cope with the problems of any com- The possibilities for capital in this dimercial or manufacturing enterprise rection are practically unlimited. It is he puts his money into. The intending but natural for the owner of a prosfore be easily induced to give capital an opportunity to develop it and his chances of the prosaccordance developing in with his convictions. All Prossubject to great posibilities. All mines were at one time prospects. Comparatively small investments may change a prospect into a mine. The percenttails as to mining the investor will age is so great when backed by judgment, ability and persistence, as pert opinion, but there is still consid-Every dollar injudiciously invested in

lay on the whole.

Allan Line-Tunisian Nox. 7 Those who eaver L







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put into the corporation in money, range. Then if such personal investiproperty or services at a fair or reagation is satisfactory have a closer sonable valuation, it is found in the technical examination of the ground hands of the promoters, fully paid up made by a professional mining man. and non-assessable, and offered in most cases at a fraction of a cent of its par value.

While such propositions in most cases bear the stamp of fraud upon their face, too many have been unwittingly entrapped into dealing with them hoping for large gains on so small an outlay, or to gain something for nothing, failing in which, they condemn all mining ventures.

Notwithstanding all this, there have been many great mines, gold, silver connection their influence upon the and semi-precious metal, which have produced many millions of dollars in wealth for their owners, many of which are today swelling the world's Investigation has disclosed many misstock of metals and many more dis- guided investments in so-called mines covered yearly and made to produce great wealth. All had to be first developed, for mines are 'made, not found. They are the result of expensive exploitation and economic engineering, not the result of stock speculations.

As to the development of a mine through the sale of stock. I believe the following quoted from the Mining Reporter of Denver in the issue of May 31st., 1901, covers the subject to the fullest extent: "In fact, we be- enterprises of manufacturing or merlieve, that through small holdings in cantile pursuits. All men cannot be honestly conducted mining enterprises all things. In manufacturing the adthe greatest amount of development can be accomplished. It is against consideration is sought. In real es stock propositions in which, through tate transactions the advice of a lawmisrepresentation, an effort is made to yer is sought, and in mining the adsell stock in a reducing mine for an vice of a mining engineer should be amount largely in excess of any reasonable conception of its value or in a be able to see further into the ground simple fever, constipation, all bowel prospect and use the money for other than the miner or promoter, but he purpose than the development of the will see all there is to see, state what prospect. The sale of prospect stocks for any other purpose than develop- the value of ore exposed, detail the ment is a swindle. The sale of pros- surrounding economic conditions and pect stocks for the purpose of devel- demonstrate what a ton so located opment is the most sensible and prac-If the examination of thep roperty in. tical means for mine making."

Not every business venture in any clude consideration and advice relaline wili ull,xss f afta zmzmfz,fidliflyn tive to the purchase price and propoline will succeed, no bank will loan all sition made by the owner to prospec its money to one individual, no insurance company will risk its whole will pass upon same and advise accordcapital on the burning of one build- ing to his convictions, having no ining, no prudent investor will stake his terest in the transaction beyond his whole capital on the development of professional standing and the fee one prospect unless he is perhaps a agreed upon for his services. Good practical miner himself. There is a advice may seem expensive, but it is risk in every line of business. The far better and wiser to start right or risk in legitimate mining is no greater not start at all. than in any other line of business.

Again as a legitimate business min- sense of the word, or a prospect, is their minor ailments, which we will ing has the peculiarity of affording an entirely different proposition. A send free of charge to any mother who better present opportunities than ever mine is an established business. The asks for it. The Dr. Williams' Medibefore. It is this that now disting- engineer determines the amount of cine Co., Brockville, Ont.

There are two classes of person through whose influence money is constantly being lost in mining investments. First, the uninformed, well meaning, honest man, who induces his friends to invest money in properties solely upon his judgment upon a subject of which he is perfectly ignorant. Second, the informed dis nest man who is a shark or sharpen

Although it seems unfair to place these two classes of men in such close good name of mining is the same, and if anything the influence of the former is much worse than that of the latter Such investments are the result of over-enthusiasm on the part of the promoter and the weakness or cupid ity of capital in its almost ungovern-

nothing. In the present day there is no excus for investors entering the mining field noticeable, the remedy should be blindly. The same careful business consideration should be given an en terprise in mining that is extended to he has seen and no more, determine

tablets for her little ones praises them which is the best evidence of their great worth. Mrs. David Duffield, Ponsonby, Ont., says: "Baby's Own Tablets are a wonderful medicine. think they saved my baby's life, and I gratefully recommend them to other mothers." Ask your druggist for Baby's own Tablets. If he does not Keep them, send 25 cents direct to us

and we will forward a box prepaid. We have a valuable little booklet on The purchase of a mine in the full the care of children and how to treat

troubles, and gently but effectively remove the cause and bring back the

condition of perfect, hearty health

as a business expect, when taking Beaver Line-Lake Ontario Nov 22 hold of a promising prospect, to sys-(From St. John.) tematically exploit it so as to enable Allan Line-Parisian Nov 23 them to determine whether or not the Allan Line-Ionian Nov. 30 property may be developed into a (From Portland) mine by the expenditure of more money. With several such propositions Dominion Line-Cambroman some develop into mines, and the profits accruing if only one mine is ob-(From New York.) Cunard Line-Umbria Cunard Line-Lucania tained, generally far exceed the out Junard Line-Etruria Nearly all mining sections have good Cunard Line-Campania transportation facilities, or with other White Star Line-OceanicNov 13 easy means of access, and many fac tors that were in the past unfavorable

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points.

Leave.

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9:40 a.m.

White Star Line-Teutonic Nov. 20 White Star Line-Celtic Nov. 26 to successful mining have been elimi nated. The opportunity for judiciou investment is almost unlimited. American Line-Friesland Nov. American Line-Philadelphia... FRAIL LTTLE ONES. American Line-St. Paul Nov 20 American Line-Haverford ..

Their Hold Upon Life is Slight, and Red Star Line-Southwark. Nov. 13 Mothers Have a Great Responsibil- Red Star Line-Vaderland Nov. Red Star Line-Zeeland ity. Anchor Line-Furnessia Nov.

Hamburg-American Line-Auguste Vic-Every baby-every little one-re quires constant care and watchfulness, and when a trace of illness in

toria......Nov. 7 Hamburg-American Line-Deutschland-Allan State Line-Mongolian ... Nov. 13 Allan State Line-Numidian ... Nov. 20 Allan State Line-Laurentian ... Dec. 4 North German Lloyd-Kaiser Wilhelm der Grossa promptly applied. The little ones are frail. Their hold upon life is slight. The slightest symptom of trouble should be met by the proper correct. ive medicines. Baby's Own Tablets

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