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British Columbia Mining Critic.

"I am Nothing, if Not Critical."—Shakespeare.

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NOTICES.

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EDITORIAL.

VANCOUVER'S YUKON OPPORTUNITIES.

It is already quite clear that as a natural result of Vancouver's all-world direct connections, by means of the C. P. R. and its associated rail and steamship services, our Terminal City must next spring and summer become the point of departure par excellence so too in a host of instances the place of outfitting for Yukon gold seekers and other far northern travellers.

Not only is it now certain that the Canadian Pacific Railway will about March next put on the Vancouver-Stickine route two excellent steamships, recently bought from the noted Union Steamship Company of London and South Africa, but it is also stated on good authority that Mr. Lipton, the famous millionaire provision dealer of the United Kingdom, will also next spring place on the route between Vancouver, Victoria and the Stickine River two fine ex-Cunarders, the steamships Scythia and Bothnia, each of more than 4,000 tons register. Other vessels, British and American, will make for the far north either from or via Vancouver, and there will clearly be no lack of steamship accommodation for travellers who will doubtless, despite all warnings, make for the frozen Yukon coast next year, via the Terminal City, in tens of thousands.

It is also certain that good wagon-road staging will in spring be provided for such part of the favored Vancouver-Yukon route as lies between Tele-

graph Creek or Glenora and Teslin Lake, with connecting steamboat services plying beyond; whilst it is now known that ere early summer, perhaps even before, the great Canadian railroad will be running a regular train service from the Stickine River to Teslin Lake.

We learn too, on apparently good authority, that Mr. Lipton will shortly open a large provision supply store in Vancouver, with a view to cater specially for the food requirements of the Yukon inrush. If so, his venture, backed by exceptionally big resources in energy and capital, will add largely to the potentialities of Vancouver as an outfitting point, whilst there should, notwithstanding his entry upon part of the trade, be ample Yukon provisioning demanded "to go the round" and give all present capable local outfitters a chance, with others no doubt to boot.

In another respect, however, a great need of Vancouver in its expected Yukon connection remains to be supplied, as doubtless it will be ere the big rush begins, it being very clear that the boarding and residential accommodation of the city is, like that also of Victoria, inadequate to meet the coming influx. In Victoria it would appear that more preparations to meet, by further house accommodation, the spring demand for board and lodging are about to be made to a larger extent than in Vancouver, but there are signs that our own city is awakening to the need of further efforts in this direction, as to which, if it be possible soon to substitute for several fourth-rate saloons two or three respectable and well managed travellers' hotels, by means it may be of license transfers arranged on equitable terms, the general local community will prove a genuine gainer.

We have hitherto strongly deprecated a largely unfounded Yukon boom and see no reason to change our views in this respect. It is, however, impossible not to recognise that a big volume of travel will depart for the Yukon within the next three or four months via Vancouver however loud and persistent our and others' warnings. Hence the necessity of an early provision of far more ample board and lodging accommodation for travellers than is at present available within Vancouver's limits.

The close and careful attention of the licensing board, the city council and the board of trade might

well now be directed to this, amongst other circumstances of the Yukon rush. It is far more important than the music hall, on providing which the thoughts of several at least of Vancouver's leading commercial men and Board of Trade members seem for the nonce to be largely concentrated.

IMPERFECT ADVICE.

The British Columbia Review, of London, Eng., says, in an answer to a correspondent: "Both Victoria and Vancouver have a Board of Trade, who are endeavoring to capture the bulk of the Klondike outfitting trade, but prices on the Pacific coast are not as low as in Eastern cities." This would seem to suggest the greater advisability of Yukon outfitting in Eastern Canada—certainly mistaken counsel—for when the cost and trouble of conveying freight west are considered, so, too, the fact that Eastern outfitters have no such special experience in packing and putting up perishable wares for far northern prospecting, as have the traders of this coast. The balance of advantage assuredly lies with British Columbia points as centers of outfitting.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. William Ogilvie, the noted Yukon surveyor, seems to be growing more conservative in his estimate of the immediate possibilities of the Yukon, if, as stated, he has recently publicly declared at Ottawa, that if 100,000 people make next spring for the Klondike, 85,000 will be disappointed. His Victoria lecture seems to imply a belief that the Yukon would find scope for 200,000. However the context of Mr. Ogilvie's remarks thereabout gave perhaps an opening to harmonise, in large part, his former and more recent opinions, as in a portion of the Victoria lecture he spoke of the possible getting of \$100,000,000 of Yukon gold in the course of ten years and he very likely meant to suggest that in the same period 200,000 people might be employed in mining it and in providing for the various wants of a gold mining community. And as few voluntarily remain more than a year or two in the inclement Yukon, it might well take nearly 200,000 people to get it out—including of course the usual number of "returned empties."

Lieut.-Col. Domville, M. P., it seems—not being desirous of losing his seat and parliamentary salary—is intending to live in New Brunswick, attend long parliamentary sessions, visit the Klondike, and generally supervise mining and trading operations, certainly in the Yukon, perhaps also in West Kootenay. Altogether too large an order even for the gallant Colonel, who is evidently a "bit of a pluralist." Cecil Rhodes himself couldn't simultaneously command a militia regiment, attend parliament and live at distances of nearly 3,000 and 6,000 miles,

respectively, from centers at which he would be required to supervise the management of operations involving many thousands of pounds of English capital, proposed to be expended on exceptionally difficult and hazardous mining, transport and trading operations.

New Westminster should this spring find profitable opportunity in temporarily accommodating the travel overflow, which, making northward via Vancouver, will fail to find complete provision in the Terminal City. Then, too, there will in many cases be families of Yukon gold seekers needing residential accommodation on this Coast, and some of these New Westminster with its usually low rentals and cheap living facilities, should assuredly attract, if the people of the Royal City will only make known their advantages. Their city lies sufficiently near to Vancouver and there should be ample opportunity for both places in catering for the Yukon travelers.

At least one mining recorder declares himself to be largely interested in the ownership and management of mine properties in his own district, perhaps, however, acquired before his assumption of office. Obviously, if afterwards, such an official is permitted to engage largely in mining speculations in the territory over which he has registration powers, the way is open to the perpetration of gross abuses. There are many official positions, which in return for either salaries or honors conferred necessarily limit private opportunities, and a mining recordership should surely be out of these.

It is rather hard on Mr. S. Hunter, M. P. P., that the story of the Chinamen's requisition asking him to stand for Cariboo at the next election should be taken seriously. The Chinese are non-voters, and don't usually sign "round robins" in English. However, the story is a penalty which Mr. Hunter has of necessity to pay for his persistent advocacy of Chinese cheap labor, which would assuredly in any case cost him the loss of most of the white labor vote of Cariboo were he there to stand at the next election.

ANOTHER YUKON "FAKE" PROPOSAL.

An enterprising New Yorker hopes, it is said, by the aid of British Columbian capital to establish a bicycle tram line between the coast and Dawson City. The cars would, it is said, run along a single track built along the top of stumps with an overhead rail to steady the car. An amusing scheme certainly and fortunately, if dependent on British Columbia capitalists, not likely even to make a beginning of losing investors their money. The Province has far too little capital for legitimate venturing and few of its people are fools enough to go in for a tree-stump railroad proposition.

DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT.

A certain London-Yukon company—the Yukon Goldfields, Limited—is assuredly in the hands of men who have much yet to learn about the country which they are attempting to exploit with, considering the expensive nature of operations there conducted on a considerable scale—the petty called up capitalization of £6,000. The MINING CRITIC says that they don't know much about the country, the fact being self-evident from the remark of Mr. A. Fell, who recently presided at the first meeting of the company, for that gentleman told those present that the "first news from Dawson City would probably be received in England about July next," although "two experienced men some time since set out for Dawson City with ten horses, two boats and fifteen months' provisions. If Mr. Fell meant that the first general news from Dawson will arrive in England in July, he is evidently unaware that government arrangements are being made by which information will thence reach civilization in general much earlier. If, however, he means that the men of the Yukon Goldfields, Limited, will not "send word home" before July, he may likely be right, as it will take them all their time to get through before late spring, and they won't, when they arrive, accomplish anything very great, pro bono publico, if they have then but a meager remnant of an original £6,000 on which to draw for claim purchases. Anything really proven good will by then have reached a big value, but they may, of course, hunt up and secure the materials for "wild cat" creations, which are likely enough, all that a company of this speculative type requires. "Wild cats" are, of course, good enough for English "gull catching," and the flocks of the latter are, alas! still large. To speak plainly, the Yukon Goldfields, Limited, certainly doesn't look much of a concern in itself, nor does its chairman put a very brilliant complexion on it.

OF DOUBTFUL OMEN.

There has just been registered in London, Eng., each in a very small capital of £100, the Detroit Mine, Limited; the Oldham Mine, Limited; the Montague Mine, Limited; and the Burlington Mine, Limited, each dealing with a different claim situate in the Illicilliwaet River and Downie Creek district and evidently "bought for a song." These registrations almost certainly imply the early stages of processes by which the claims in question will be submitted to a confiding British public on terms involving big promotion profits. There is no other adequate explanation for the small capitalization of what may be termed a group of "chick" companies. Another even more remarkable company of like type, recently registered in London, Eng., is

the United Gold Mines of British Columbia, Limited, which, with a capital of £100, equal to say \$485, proposes to "carry on business in manner suggested by the title." The interesting query here suggests itself: How many British Columbia gold mines for £100. The MINING CRITIC is, of course, aware that specious explanations may be given for the small capitalizations of these undertakings, but sooner or later there will assuredly be disclosed somewhere about them or their offspring, the "cloven hoof" of a promoter of a doubtful type.

A CHANGE OF LAW NEEDED.

Mr. White, M.E., of Fort Steele, says, according to the *Wardner International*: "Another unfortunate condition is the mining regulations of this Province that permit a man to stake untold numbers of claims and hold them for a year without work. Take, for instance, the Perry Creek District. Everything is staked out there, and it will be a year before the claims are invalidated by failure to do assessment work. This will prevent men going in there next season who will be ready to stake a claim that gave promise and investigate its merits by legitimate work. The law should be changed in this respect. It would be far better if a prospector was compelled to do a certain amount of work before he could record a claim. This would make each claim a legitimate one."

Mr. White's opinion coincides with that of Mr. W. A. Carlyle, the Provincial Mineralogist, the weight of whose official authority should tend next session to induce the needed Provincial legislation. The same trouble that afflicts Perry Creek injures a score of other good districts.

NEW USE FOR RETIRED GOVERNORS.

Sir Charles Tupper is wise in his day and generation as a company promoter, and, therefore, knows that at present and for the time being it is a good thing to place on the board of a Western Canadian or Klondike company, appealing to the British public, a retiring lieutenant-governor of any Canadian Province. Hence largely, no doubt, the addition of Ex-Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney to the directing strength of the Klondike Mining, Trading & Transport Company, Limited, of which Sir Charles Tupper is the leading spirit. The Hon. Mr. Dewdney is not, however—to do him justice—to be a merely ornamental aide, for Sir Charles states that Mr. Dewdney will, despite his years, lead the first party that goes to the Klondike on behalf of the company with which he has now associated himself. Such work, will, however, prove infinitely harder than the "soft snap" of Government House, Victoria.

Current Mining News.

Contributions from any part of British Columbia and the mining districts of a reliable nature will be published in these columns, and we request that mining men write us about the progress of the mines of their district. We desire to publish all mining news.

A TEXADA ISLAND SALE.

The Raven Mine, on Texada Island, which is already making a large weekly output, is reported as sold for \$40,000 to J. H. Adams, of Rossland, that gentleman having taken up his bond.

A BIG ROSSLAND SALE.

The No. 1, an undeveloped Rossland property, near the War Eagle and Josie mines, is reported sold to an English syndicate for \$200,000, of which \$50,000 are to be paid down. A big price for what is but a very promising prospect with some little surface working thereon.

A NEW ISLAND CAMP.

Promising copper-gold deposits, containing also some silver, are reported from Mt. Sicker, near Somenos and Duncan's, Vancouver Island. It is stated that the Provincial Mineralogist is favorably impressed by first observations made on the spot, and thinks the district well worth closer investigation and preliminary development. Early assays of samples from the district are stated to show nineteen per cent. copper plus about \$10 a ton in gold and silver.

BAD FOR DONALD.

The little railway town and mining center of Donald is likely soon to be reduced temporarily to very small proportions by the transfer of its machine shops to Revelstoke, which will become a new divisional point. Field will become a minor divisional point, further sheds and stables being there built for the big mountain engines which will there be changed. Donald's future will in the event of these C. P. R. changes depend mainly on local mining development, of which it is not without promise.

NEW OMINECA PLACERS.

Mr. J. D. Wells reports that he and associates are interested in valuable gold gravel deposits in Tom Creek, a Skeena River tributary and district, about 125 miles from Hazelton. A man on his placers can, he says, get out about \$20 in gold per day, and there are also, he believes, good placer opportunities on Nation and other creeks in the same district of the Omineca, which he believes destined in the early future to become the scene of busy placer and hydraulic gravel working with probably some placer mining in addition.

VANCOUVER ISLAND MINING.

Mr. Leslie Jones, who has been for eight months engaged in the west coast mining belt of Vancouver Island, states, as regards that district, that all the way from Sidney Arm to Hesquoit, a distance of six miles, is staked out. Mr. Jones is associated with Messrs. Morris and C. E. Cooper, of Victoria, in the ownership of a number of claims on Bear River, besides six at Hesquoit and three more, which are a continuation of the Jones and Kincaid group on Sidney Arm. On the Jones and Kincaid properties on Sidney Arm 11 men are at work. They have put up a blacksmith shop and cabins, and are now driving in a tunnel on the mine where the lead shows 40 feet wide. On the Grey Mare mine on Bear River, owned by Mr. Jones and his partners, a tunnel 50 feet long has been run in ore with high assay results in gold and copper. The ore is erubescite and copper pyrites, as indeed is most of the ore in the district. Mr. Jones, too, intends to put in a tunnel on the Satanita, another claim of his on Bear River, in the spring. A good deal of interest is being taken in the West Coast mines, as witness the bonding not long ago of two groups of claims on Bear River owned by Mr. Chris. Frank and Mr. Jacobson for \$40,000 and \$25,000, respectively. The lead on the Black Cap, which shipped a ton of ore by the Tees on her last trip, is three feet wide and assays \$67 a ton.

ACETYLENE GOES.

The Nelson Miner states that Mr. J. T. Richardson has introduced the automatic acetylene gas process in Nelson and the light may be seen at Vanstone's drug store. The gas is generated from carbide and water and gives a clear white light equal to about 30 candle power, and is produced at a minimum of cost. It is said to be thoroughly safe and very easily attended. The carbide is made from lime and coke, fused by electricity.

This is probably the first introduction of the brilliant new illuminant into British Columbia. If half what is claimed for it proves true, acetylene gas may yet become a formidable rival of coal gas as an illuminant.

TEXADA SHIPMENTS TO SWANSEA.

Two shipments of Texada Island ore from the Blewett properties have lately been made to the Vivian Company smelters at Swansea, South Wales. Four hundred tons in all were shipped.

It is stated that better prices are realizable on copper shipments sent to Swansea than on like consignments to American smelters, and hoped that, at any rate, until there shall be copper smelting facilities on Burrard Inlet, or at some convenient coast point, coast and gulf island shipments to Swansea will soon be made regularly on a considerable and steadily increasing scale.

RELATION OF LODES AND PLACERS.

It happens sometimes that placers are found where there are no lodes, and vice versa. And regarding this matter a recent mining authority says we hear it now frequently with reference to the new deposits of the Yukon. In this case it is almost entirely a matter of surmise, because there has not been yet any general exploration of lodes there, attention having been concentrated naturally upon the easily worked placers, and prospecting in the hills being difficult for various reasons. There may be workable veins of gold quartz above the placers and there may not. There are vague reports as to the existence of some, but it does not follow necessarily, either in the Yukon or elsewhere, that where there are placers there are workable lodes.

A placer deposit of gold or tin is a natural concentrator of mineral that existed in solid rock. The erosion of wind and water acting through immeasurable time has worn down the earth's surface in many places to a marvellous extent. In this kind of disintegration stable minerals like gold and cassiterite, which are of much greater specific gravity than their original matrix, were concentrated in water courses, just as they are now concentrated by men in sluicing. But nature has concentrated millions and millions of tons of material where man has to concentrate comparatively few.

The discovery of such a natural concentration in alluvial deposits, does not, however, imply that its source will be found, or if found, that it will be workable, because the original lode may have been eroded entirely, and therefore no longer in existence: the placer gold or tin may have come from a dissemination in a great mass of rock which it would never pay to mine, or from innumerable veinlets which were never exploitable; or the auriferous debris may have been carried far from its original source by glacial action, so that no connection between placer and lode can be established. It is not to be inferred from these suggestions, however, that there are not cases where placers have led directly to mother lodes. Numerous instances can be cited where they have done so, and vice versa. The conclusion is simply that no general rule can be laid down, and the existence of rich placers does not in itself imply the existence of rich, or even workable veins.

The placers of Breckenridge, Col., were discovered at the time of the Pike's Peak excitement (1859) and have been worked more or less ever since, producing a good many millions of gold. Their origin from lodes near by can be traced with reasonable certainty, and some of these lodes have been worked profitably, but the production of the lodes has not yet been a tithe of that of the placers. The same may be said of Alder and Last Chance gulches in Montana.—Western Mining World.

A CANADIAN CHAMBER OF MINES.

A meeting was held in London, England, last month, with the object of establishing a Canadian Chamber of Mines. Amongst those present were the Hon. Forbes G. Vernon, Agent-General for British Columbia; Mr. J. Howard, Agent-General for Nova Scotia; Mr. William Thompson, C.E.; Mr. Byron Johnstone, Chairman of the British Columbia Development Association; Mr. W. A. Townsend, Manager of the same Company; Mr. F. E. Harmon, Director of the Klondike Mining Transport and Trading Company; Mr. Robertson, Director of the Quesnelle Gold River Company; Col. J. Harris, Chairman of the proposed Chartered Hudson's Bay and Pacific Railway Company; Mr. F. A. Gillam, of the British Columbia Agency, and others. Letters of approval were received from Mr. J. H. Lukech, General Manager of the British Columbia Exploration, Limited; Colonel Cradock Hartopp, Mr. John McDonald, Mr. Cecil Hartridge, Major Flood Page, and others.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Jerome Dyer, reported that the resolutions framed at the last meeting of the Committee of the Canadian Chamber of Mines had been carried out. A representative board was in process of formation, and steps were being taken to incorporate the Chamber under license of the Board of Trade. The Canadian Government had been communicated with, as had also the Provincial Governments.

It was resolved that the Canadian Chamber should co-operate with the Australian Chamber of Mines in regard to the proposed Mining, Metallurgical and Machinery Exhibition, which it is proposed to hold in London in 1899. Mr. Seton Karr, M. P., was, it was stated, now in Canada, and would see the governments on the matter; and Mr. J. Lowles, M. P., and Sir Somers Vine were now in Australia representing the Australasian Chamber in interviewing the Australasian Governments regarding their support to the Exhibition.

NEW PROVINCIAL RESERVES.

The following are the particulars of the Glenora, Bennett Lake and Teslin Lake reserves, recently made by the Provincial Government, on the tardy setting out of which the CRITIC comments elsewhere:

1. A belt of land, five miles in width, extending back from the shore line of the whole of that portion of Bennett lake which lies within the Province.
2. A belt of land, five miles in width, extending back from the shore line of the whole of that portion of Teslin lake which lies within the Province.
3. A belt of land commencing at a point five miles below Glenora, on the Stickine river; thence up the said river to a point five miles above Telegraph creek, and having a width of five miles on each side of said river.

RICH FINDS AT CLAYOQUOT.

Some splendidly rich specimens of copper-gold ores have lately been brought in from this promising district on the west coast of Vancouver Island, now in the first stage of prospecting effort. It would hence appear that there may well be in the district very valuable mineral deposits indeed. In this connection, it may with some pertinence be asked if it would not be just as well for the capable Provincial Mineralogist to investigate and report disinterestedly upon the merits of new ground, such as that about Clayoquot, as an occasional change from visits of inspection to well beaten "older" mine districts. It is regrettable to note, by the bye, though for this the Provincial Mineralogist cannot be held responsible, that promoters of more than half "fake" companies in England are now perverting Mr. Carlyle's general observations in a district, to cover doubtful cases of outlying "boom" claims in the same localities. This probably is almost unavoidable, unless the Provincial Mineralogist's reports be confined unduly to generalities. And even the best and most correct specialist observations can be deliberately strained and misinterpreted by the unscrupulous promoter of the type of which the City of London affords a superabundant stock of examples. But might not the Provincial Mineralogist—the MINING CRITIC ventures to repeat its query—rather more frequently take an early look at "new country?" Some, of course, will say "better not," else friends of the Provincial administration will promptly "get in" with the aid of every information and secure everything in sight worth having. This is the only objection to be adduced and it is regrettable that there should even be thought to be scope for the suggestion, the force of which is largely due to Lands and Works Department methods under successive B.C. ministries. The case is, however, much the same in this respect in all new mining countries, and the result their peoples usually have to endure from lack of political foresight and failure to keep an ever watchful eye fixed upon the action of state departments and their ministerial controllers.

GRAND FORKS SHIPPERS.

The Surprise, on Lone Rancho creek, near Grand Forks, is about to begin shipping, and, it is hoped, realize good returns from high-grade ore. Another claim, the Copper Bullion, near the Surprise, the ore of which is stated to assay richly in gold, silver and lead, will also ship very shortly.

ANOTHER SLOCAN DIVIDEND.

The Reco Mine Company is about to declare another dividend of ten cents a share and then distribute profits to the extent of \$100,000.

THE GOLDEN CACHE.

A very condemnatory cable message is stated to have been sent recently to London, England, concerning this mine by a person or persons interested "in bearing" the stock, and as a result there appeared in the British Columbia Review of that city a very savage onslaught upon the Golden Cache Company and its undertaking. More will be learned very shortly as a result of further crushings of the future possibilities of the property. Meanwhile so far as can be ascertained it would appear that, whilst there is no reason to doubt the gold-productive capacity of the undertaking, it is being made clear that its profitable and systematic working will call for a very considerable further outlay of capital, the employment of very capable men, and the use of the best modern appliances known to modern free-milling gold mining.

In reference to a recent application to the court made by Dr. Carroll, as trustee of a considerable amount of treasury stock in the Golden Cache Co., it is stated on good authority that a paragraph which appeared in the last issue of the Mining Record conveys a somewhat mistaken idea of Dr. Carroll's position in the matter. The fact is that he applied, as we notice, for a directory order of the court with a view to act by its decision with perfect impartiality as regards all interested, as of course under the circumstances incumbent upon him. The application was therefore no one-sided request.

THE QUEEN BESS GROUP.

Reports have recently reached London, England, of remarkably rich developments on this property, upon the flotation of the company owning which the MINING CRITIC commented strongly last week. We would, however, urge a more than average amount of skepticism as to all reports sent to England or the coast concerning this group, in view of the gross misrepresentation and misstatements of the recent past.

Only when there shall be large and continuously good shipments from the Queen Bess properties will the MINING CRITIC place full credence in directoral statements concerning it. Till then the estimates and assertions may just as well be taken "cum grano salis."

The MINING CRITIC learns on good authority that a value of \$20,000, rather than \$220,000, as stated by the directors, really represented ore "in sight" on the Queen Bess properties.

A BIG CONCERN'S BEGINNING.

It is stated that the big enterprise of the West Kootenay Power and Light Company will begin its active and productive existence about February next, and at that time deliver and distribute electric power in vast amount to and among mining and other undertakings in and about Rossland.

BIGGEST YET ON CANADIAN RECORD.

The British American Corporation, Limited, capitalized in £1,500,000 of which £1,000,000 in shares are now being offered to the British public, is by far the largest mining, trading and development company formed to operate in Canada with the aid of British capital. It has, moreover, very strong directors in the Marquis of Dufferin, ex-Governor-General of Canada, Lord Loch, an expert financier and general administrator, Mr. Edward Hoare, a member of a famous English banking family, and Mr. Whittaker Wright, a well-known London financier, in addition to the Hon. C. H. Mackintosh, Lieut.-Gov. of the Territories, whose local knowledge may prove of some service if carefully checked at headquarters, though he has certainly made no very striking success in connection with the Territorial administration.

The Corporation is, it is understood, likely to secure the West Le Roi and Josie mines, with the claims of the Algonquin group and probably other Rossland interests also, in addition to town lots at Dawson—these last of doubtful permanent value, but probably capable of immediate exploitation with profit to vendors, and claims on various Klondike creeks. It is hinted that some of the Yukon rights of the Alaska Commercial Company may also be secured. The Corporation has the great advantage of exceptionally large capital and commanding commercial influence, but its administration will call for the exercise of the utmost managerial skill and constantly require the exercise of the highest powers of discriminating judgement. If it buys mainly at boom values, profits cannot be large. The Corporation, has however, one big advantage. Its capital will be contributed by shareholders, who are as a rule well satisfied with an average profit return of ten per cent., which ought to be possible of realization in a country where mining ownership and management, more largely individualised and closely concentrated, has often chances of realising very much larger dividends than ten per cent.

THE WAVERLEY MINE.

A hundred sacks of ore are about to be rawhided down the wagon road from this mine in the Albert Canyon, en route for shipment to the smelter. The world should accordingly soon begin to know how much of Mr. Grant Govan's forecast of the mine's production is likely to be realized. If a moderate part only happens so to be, it will be good enough for the shareholders, and indeed few if any well-informed British Columbians expect a total fulfilment, Mr. Grant Govan's figuring being ever on a large scale. Certainly there will be no such very big shipments from the Waverley before the end of the year, as he so confidently predicted.

THE COST OF TRAIL CREEK MINING.

There has been much said concerning the cost of mining in the Trail Creek district, says the Rossland Miner. The following figures are obtained direct from the managers of the mines, and may be considered reliable.

The first mine from which a statement was procured was a Red Mountain property that is being developed entirely by hand. Five men are employed, including the foreman, working two ten-hour shifts. The nature of the work in hand is a cross-cut tunnel, driven through a very hard syenite formation. The tunnel itself is $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $6\frac{1}{2}$ in size, and is now in over 250 feet. Working by hand under the above circumstances, the tunnel is being driven at the rate of .42 feet per month, or 17 inches per day. The average cost of this development is \$15 a foot, which comprises \$13.50 for labor and superintendence, and \$1.50 for explosives.

The second example is a fully developed mine on Red Mountain, which is being worked with power furnished by its own compressor. In this case the cost of sinking a double compartment shaft, including breaking, timbering, explosives and lights, exclusive of hoisting, is set at \$50 per foot. The estimated speed, including stations, is set at one foot per day. The item of hoisting is not included in this case, as the engineer, besides attending to the hoisting plant, also looks after several other departments. In this property the cost of tunneling is set at \$12 per foot, including all expenses of drilling, tramming explosives and lights. This item remains about the same whether or not operations are being carried on in the country rock or along the vein. The cost of breaking or delivering ore is set at \$2.50 per ton. This includes drilling, lights, tramming, sorting, timbering and delivering on the cars direct, without use of teams.

ROSSLAND SHIPMENTS.

Pending the provision of further and cheaper transport and ore-treatment facilities, Rossland shipments continue to be very moderate, with the usual exception of the Le Roi output. The total of last week was 1,275 tons, to which the Le Roi contributed 1,080. The Lily May, which recently joined the local ranks of shippers, furnished a modest total of 30 tons.

WEST KOOTENAY'S SHIPMENTS

It is estimated that up to the end of the first week of the present month West Kootenay shipped via Nelson to Revelstoke ore to a total value of \$3,463,405, while from the Trail and Nelson smelters metal worth \$4,146,655 was shipped, making West Kootenay's total shipments for 1897 up to the date stated reach the goodly value of \$7,610,060.

THE VIEWS OF AN INFLUENTIAL ORGAN.

The London, (Eng.) Statist, perhaps the best, and certainly one of the most conservative financial issues in England, speaks as follows in a recent issue concerning British Columbia and its mining prospects:

"The War Eagle Company, with the Le Roi, are the two Rossland mines best known in this country. The former is believed by those on the spot to be the most developed mine in the camp, and to have the largest reserves in sight. The Company proposes to put in its own reduction works. About 5,760 feet of tunnelling, shaft, etc., have been driven and the vein is now being developed at the 625-foot level. Both in the case of the War Eagle and of the Le Roi—indeed, we may go further and say of all the leading companies—ore gets richer at depth. Toronto capitalists are understood to be gradually picking up all the War Eagle shares they can in a quiet way. The Josie, though considered locally to have fine prospects as

... does not appear to have good management, and wants more working capital. It is represented that an English syndicate has made an offer to take up the property, giving the old shareholders the equivalent of five cents in cash per share, forty per cent. in stock of the new company, and handing over \$200,000 in cash for development. The Monte Cristo is in the hands of Montreal capitalists who are said to have good faith in the property, and continue to buy. The Centre Star, adjoining the Le Roi and War Eagle, is believed to have the lodes of both entering into it. All the stock is held by six parties, and there is none in the market. Here, however, the owners contemplate building reduction works, not only for their own mine, but for taking custom work from other mines. If this is carried out more capital will have to be issued. It is asserted that an offer was made by an English syndicate of \$500,000 for development, and \$750,000 cash to the present holders, for one half the interest in this mine, and that this offer was refused. The mine is capitalised at \$500,000 nominal, so the offer was a high one. The estimated ore in sight is 350,000 tons, and the property contains through its entire length, the main vein of the Le Roi. This vein on the Le Roi proper is down to the 600-foot level. The Centre Star also contains the lodes of the Iron Mask and Josie, as well as other veins. In all, about 4,500 feet of development work has been done. The cost of mining, transport and treatment at the Trail smelter amounts to about \$14 per ton; but the Canadian Pacific Railroad promises cheaper transport, and economies in treatment can be effected if the Company carries out the erection of a smelter at Robson. The high cost of coke will be got over when the Canadian Pacific Crow's Nest Pass section is com-

pleted. Cheap electric power is expected to be delivered to mines in the Trail Creek, Nelson and Slocan districts by the utilization of the falls on Kootenay river. English capitalists are very much in evidence in seeking to secure options on approved properties; but we learn they are making the mistake of seeking to secure the options without consideration, and tying up offers for too extended a period. Those who have good properties to offer seek to effect immediate business. In the Nelson district, besides the Hall mines, which are showing up well, the Fern is spoken of as good. North of Nelson, the Ainsworth and Slocan districts, (chiefly silver lead with a small percentage of gold and copper) are described as rich from the grass roots, averaging sixty per cent. lead, leaving silver as profit. The registered offices of most of the Rossland mines are at Spokane, about seventy miles south in the State of Washington."

The Statist article above quoted is on the whole a generally accurate description of things as they are, though many will be surprised to note the exceptionally favorable view taken of the War Eagle and its development, as compared with the Le Roi. Vancouver and other Coast investors interested in the Fern Mine will, however, be glad to note that the Statist correspondent regards with favor the possibilities of that undertaking. The good word of the Statist counts for much, as it is a very honest as well as a very cautious financial adviser of the British investor, and, therefore, ready to pounce down upon such semi-fraudulent flotations as certain of the Klondike development companies, which men high in position in British Columbia seem to favor,—the Galena Mine bubble, the Queen Bess promotion, and others that might be named.

COPPER CLAIM SALES ON JERVIS INLET.

Mr. Edward Blewett, the well-known copper mine owner of Texada Island, reports as follows concerning an important recent sale of Jervis Inlet copper properties, in which he himself is largely interested:

"Judge Shoup, of Chicago, and myself have bonded the Fitzsimmons group of six claims on Jervis Inlet. The mines are situated across from Texada Island. They were located a year ago by a prospector named Fitzsimmons. The price is \$50,000. The money is available for development work on the claims, and a force of nine men has been ordered to work on the property. The claims lie on tide water, and the property can be reached by an ocean-going steamship. Work on three of the claims will be begun at once and pushed. From a number of samples, taken at random, assays were obtained running from 13 to 26 per cent. copper, 8 to 16 ounces of silver, and from \$1 to \$5.80 per ton in gold. The vein, running from 6 to 150 feet in width, is continuous throughout the six claims."

THE GOLDEN CACHE LITIGATION.

The chief ground for the decision given by Mr. Justice McColl on Saturday in re the application of Dr. Carroll as trustee of 100,000 shares of the company, was the following resolution of the company's directorate, passed on July 23, 1896, which created or declared the trust needing interpretation.

Moved by William Munsie, seconded by R. Hamilton, and carried; That the secretary write to Mr. Robertson, agent, offering to purchase the group of five mineral claims owned by his syndicate for \$500,000, if Mr. Robertson, agent, would apply for and accept 500,000 in the shares stock of the company, as follows: 400,000 fully paid up and non-assessable shares to be handed to Mr. Robertson on behalf of the members of his syndicate; the balance, viz: 100,000 fully paid up and non-assessable shares to be handed to J. T. Carroll, as trustee as between the members of the Golden Eagle syndicate and this company. The trustee to apply the proceeds of the sale of such shares as may be sold to the credit of the company, to be used by the directors of said company as they may see fit. And the said trustee shall receive his instructions regarding the sale of said shares, only from the board of directors of this company.

The judgment itself runs as follows:

Now upon hearing counsel for all parties, and reading the affidavit of the plaintiff sworn herein, dated the 20th day of November, 1897, and the affidavit of Alexander Grant, sworn herein the 26th day of November, 1897, and the several exhibits referred to in the said affidavits, and the plaintiff, by his counsel and being personally present in court, having himself undertaken to abide by the order, unless and until the same be varied in appeal, this court doth declare that the plaintiff is a trustee of the shares standing in his name in the books of the company upon the following trusts, namely:

To hold the said shares for the benefit of the defendants, the Golden Cache Mines Company, Limited Liability, and the other defendants, being all the members of the Golden Eagle Syndicate, and to sell and dispose of the same and the proceeds thereof subject to the terms of the resolution of the 23d day of July, 1896, in the plaintiff's said affidavit set forth.

And the court doth further order that a certificate representing the number of shares now standing in the books of the company be issued to the plaintiff.

And this court doth further order that the company do not dispose of the said shares except in accordance with the terms of the said resolution.

And the court doth further order that in the event of the neglect or failure of the plaintiff to carry out the terms of this order so far as he is required to do, or refrain from doing anything, that

the defendants, the Golden Cache Mines Company, Limited Liability, or other of the defendants herein, be at liberty to move in this action in a summary way for an order to remove the plaintiff as trustee.

And this court doth order lastly that the costs of this action, up to and including the hearing, be paid out of the trust estate.

The decision accordingly seems to concede practically the position taken by the Golden Cache directorate, that the trustee shares, held by Dr. Carroll, may be sold at the direction of the company, and the proceeds applied as its board of directors think fit. The court also clearly recognizes the propriety of Dr. Carroll's application on behalf of all parties, by allowing him the full costs of the case.

COMPRESSED AIR POWER FOR ROSSLAND.

The Rossland Miner says of a big scheme for supplying a new motor power to the Trail Creek mining district:

A project is now under consideration for supplying the mines of the camp with compressed air from pipe lines radiating out of a big central compressor. The promoters propose doing away with the local compressing plants now in operation at the various mines, so that the only machinery required would be the drills, the pumps and the hoists, each of which would be supplied with power direct from the company's pipes. No announcement is as yet made of the price at which the company would furnish air, but it would evidently be at a very considerable reduction upon the present cost, since the plant, if installed, would be in direct competition with the West Kootenay Electric Power and Light Company, which contemplates furnishing motive force at fifty per cent. of the present rates. With the two rival companies in the field against each other a big reduction on present cost would be assured.

The proposed new plant would be erected under the Taylor system of air compression, which has received practical tests in the east and has proven highly satisfactory and exceedingly economical. The patents are controlled by a Montreal company headed by the inventor, G. H. Taylor, and a subsidiary company composed of Spokane people has recently been formed for the purpose of instituting plants in this country. The company is now putting up a plant at Ainsworth, similar except in capacity to the one which it may erect here. The Ainsworth plant has a capacity of 500 horse-power, and air will be distributed from it by pipe lines to the neighboring mines.

The company has not disclosed the location of its plant, further than to say that it will be on one of the streams within nine miles of Rossland. It is conjectured that the site will be at the junction of Big Sheep and Little Sheep Creeks.

A KLONDIKE COMPANY'S DIVIDEND.

The directors of the Klondike & Columbian Goldfields Company have declared a first dividend of 20 per cent. on their stock, as to which £50,000 represents capital either paid or ranking as fully paid. This dividend with a surplus sufficient to pay—so the directors state—one or two more, results from the flotation of two juvenile companies, of which the K. & C. G. Co., Ltd., is the parent, viz., the New Golden Twins & the Dawson City Trading Co., Ltd. The dividend is not unlikely, therefore, earned at the expense of the very confiding shareholders of the two latter, at which well-informed men of finance in the city look very much askance, not liking at all the manner of their promotion. However, be this as it may, the Klondike & Columbian Goldfields Company, Limited, is the first Klondike company to declare a dividend. It is, as may here be noted, the company in which the Hon. Messrs. Turner and Pooley, with Mr. Joseph Boscowitz of Victoria, are interested, as an advisory board in British Columbia.

BETTER FAR THAN KLONDIKE.

The Sloean's silver will in the aggregate yield far better than the hardly gotten gold of Klondike, and in the end the Kootenay silver district will—as, indeed, it now does—far surpass the productive value of the Yukon. Already amongst other mines of this great silver country there are the Payne, yielding dividends of nearly \$100,000 a month, and the Ruth, reported to be paying out profits of nearly \$50,000 a month, whilst the Reco has just declared a dividend of \$100,000; and the Idaho another of \$30,000. In addition to which there are the Whitewater and other paying mines. Even in 1897 the Sloean shipments will considerably exceed the output of the Yukon—which can not be reckoned at more than \$3,500,000 to date, whilst in 1898 the Sloean's production will again advance by leaps and bounds. Now, too, it is being found that there is considerable gold as well as silver in certain Sloean districts, notably those about Lemon creek.

CRIPPLE CREEK, 2.

The northern boundary of the Cripple Creek gold district has been extended three miles by the discovery in Copper Mountain of an immense blanket vein of ore running from \$10 to \$1,500 per ton in gold.

D. G. McNeil was down from the Silver Cup for a few days this week. He says that property is still continuing to fulfil its promise. The work of raw-hiding is still being industriously carried on.

BRITISH COLUMBIA STOCKS IN LONDON.

Latest reports are to the effect that—as is by no means surprising, under existing circumstances of about five doubtful to one solid and good British Columbia flotation in England—the stocks of British Columbia undertakings are in general “decidedly dull.”

The Hall Mines shares are quoted at £1 15s waiting for a dividend, which, if distributed at the rate predicted, should raise the price of the stock considerably. River dredging properties continue dull, and have few friends, so it is stated; and Klondike stocks are in the same position, despite the efforts of the Klondike-Columbian crowd, which has recently benefited by two dubious promotions, to hoist these shares. The successful Recordia (Woodhouse) rig has, after efforts which raised the syndicate's shares to a big premium, begun to flag—a thing also not surprising, if there be borne in mind the strangely exaggerated statements made at the recent general meeting of the company. The Dundee Mine shares vary between one shilling and threepence and one shilling and sixpence. Vancouver Syndicates are flat, but the stock of the recently formed British free-milling gold venture in Fairview continues to be firm, so, too, the Poor-man stock. B. C. Developments are quiet, whilst no one in his senses wants Galena stock, save almost at a gift. As a whole, the prices of British Columbia mine stocks were, at latest London advices, distinctly in favor of the buyer, the market being a falling one.

LATE IN THE DAY.

The Provincial Lands and Works Department has placed in reserve, out of the reach—so it is asserted—of the mere town lot and townsite speculator, modest areas of government land in and about certain reaches along and near the Stikine river and about Bennett and Teslin lakes. Care has, however, been taken not “to lock the stable” early, and large numbers of possible good things for cheaply buying but dearly selling purchasers from the state, have long since been acquired by the speculator. The decree comes late in the day, as usual in this Western Canada of ours.

CHINESE TO GO.

Mr. E. Blewett, of the Van Anda mine, Texada Island, states that the Chinese workers at the mine are now being replaced by white men. This is good news in every way, and of specially good omen for the mine itself, which, according to many reports, has been very intensively worked and developed with the aid of unskilled Mongol labor.

KLONDIKE GOLD.

The quantity of gold that has come out of the Klondyke region since the first discoveries were made there in August, 1896, is a subject of speculation and of considerable guesswork. When one begins to calculate on the amount he is at once met with facts and conditions that render his work uncertain. Men come from the mines and go to the four corners of the earth carrying more or less dust and nuggets with them. Others go direct to the mint in San Francisco, and still others go to various points from which they send the gold to other mints by express.

Of the gold that has come from Alaska since July last all has passed through Seattle and San Francisco, but, as stated, there is no data at either place that will lead to a conclusion as to the total amount brought from the mines.

As a possible index to the total product of the Klondyke region, a representative of the Times made a circuit of Seattle and ascertained that since the arrival of the Portland, early in July, there has been shipped by the banks and jewellers of Seattle about \$750,000 of placer gold. Information given by the express companies pretty accurately confirms this statement. In addition to this anyone can estimate for himself how much was carried through Seattle by individual miners.

One banker told of a neighbor who returned with about \$4,000 worth of dust and who took it himself to the San Francisco mint. In time, of course, the actual gold product of the Yukon will find its way to the statistical reports of the mints, but for the present reliance must be had upon the calculations of probabilities. And it is safe to say that since July \$1,000,000 has passed through Seattle. But great as is the aggregate brought out, it is a mere bagatelle when compared with the quantities in store rooms at Dawson.—Ashcroft Mining Journal.

ENCOURAGE PROSPECTING.

Upon the vocation of the prospector the prosperity of the mining industry must primarily depend. It is a pursuit of large expectations and small rewards and is maintained chiefly by the inactivity of the organ of hope that constantly enlivens the imagination of the prospector with visionary bonanzas of high degree. In proportion to their numbers, few professional prospectors ever realize their hopes and attain wealth, although dozens of paying properties may have been discovered by them. To the man who is proud of his attainments the discovery of a vein that subsequently, and in other hands, becomes a paying mine brings a great deal of satisfaction. His abilities are demonstrated, even if he realizes small profit from the investment of time and effort.

Any law that will tend to discourage prospecting for minerals by destroying the vocation of the pros-

pector will seriously cripple the mining industry. The legislation proposed by the Denver committee will have no other effect. It proposes to load down the prospector with financial obligations, in order to hold the claims discovered, that will drive him out of the field. The mining industry as such can be encouraged in no better way than to lighten the burdens of its pioneers. Not only the advance guard discovering new districts, but the small investors who follow in their footsteps, should receive all the encouragement that can be afforded by liberal legislation. To these two classes every mining district owes a debt of gratitude, for they make possible the advent of capital and the development of great mining enterprises.—Western Mining World.

GOLDEN AND THE KICKING HORSE.

A channel about a mile long has now been cut up the Kicking Horse through the solid ice, and this, it is expected, will in a short time give relief to the pent-up waters and avert all danger of Golden being flooded. The water is now running with considerable rapidity, and men are busy keeping this channel clear and removing slush from the bottom, so that the flow of water may be increased. As yet there is not much change. The rivulets still continue to run in front of the Kootenay House, and instead of being diminished, have increased. The water is now in several of the cellars of the houses in the old town. Over in the new town the new river which came into existence and appeared last week has now dwindled down into a rivulet, its headwaters having been diverted into the ice-cut channel, and all danger to Mr. Parson's store is for the present over. A thaw has been in existence for the last two days, and, if it continues, there is the serious danger of a big flood coming.—East Kootenay Miner.

THE BROMINE PROCESS OF EXTRACTION.

The Mining and Scientific Press says: "Considerable is being claimed at present for the bromine process of extraction, in contrast or competition with the cyanide and chlorination process, and recent experiments in Colorado go far towards establishing the correctness of those claims so far as high percentage of extraction is concerned. But, so far, the increased expense of the process militates against its use. That calcined gold ore treated with bromide and caustic soda will give up a very high percentage of its assay value is an undoubted fact, but the present high price of bromide bars any claim to economy in the process, and it is the most economic method where suited to the ore that is in special demand. Mr. Cassell, the manager, says the process 'in a majority of cases is bound to supersede all others,' which under the circumstances is a most sanguine view."—Golden Era.

Mining Stock Quotations

Corrected Weekly by Percy W. Charleson, Mining Broker,
117 Hastings Street, Vancouver.

| COMPANY | CAPITAL | PAR VALUE | PRICE |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------|
| TRAIL CREEK | | | |
| B. C. Gold Fields | \$2,500,000 | \$ 2 00 | \$ 11 |
| Beaver | 750,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Big Three | 1,500,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Bruce | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Battle | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 11 |
| Caladonian Con | 500,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| California | 2,500,000 | 1 00 | 8 |
| Celtic Queen | 750,000 | 1 00 | 5 |
| Centre Star | 500,000 | 1 00 | |
| Commander | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 20 |
| Crown Point | 500,000 | 1 00 | 18 |
| Deer Park | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 11 |
| Delaware | 1,500,000 | 1 00 | 12 |
| Eastern Star | 500,000 | 1 00 | 20 |
| Enterprise | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 20 |
| Eric | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 04 |
| Giving Star | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 7 |
| Georgia | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 15 |
| Gertrude | 500,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Golden Drip | 500,000 | 1 00 | |
| Great Western | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 8 |
| Hattie Brown | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 4 |
| High Ore | 500,000 | 1 00 | |
| Imperial | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| Independent | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 06 |
| Iron Horse | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 15 |
| Iron Mask | 500,000 | 1 00 | 31 |
| I. A. | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Josko | 700,000 | 1 00 | 27 |
| Jumbo | 500,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| Koona-London | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Le Sol | 500,000 | 5 00 | 7 20 |
| Lilly May | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 18 |
| Mayflower | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Monita | 750,000 | 1 00 | 19 |
| Monte Cristo | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 21 |
| Morning Star | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 07 |
| Nest Egg | 500,000 | 1 00 | 3 |
| Northern Belle | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| O. K. | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 5 |
| Pala Ato | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 5 |
| Phoenix | 500,000 | 1 00 | 8 |
| Porcupine | 700,000 | 1 00 | 11 |
| Red Mountain View | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Rosland, Red Mtn. | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 18 |
| St. Elmo | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 4 |
| St. Paul | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 8 |
| Silverline | 500,000 | 1 00 | 6 |
| Southern C. & W. C. | 500,000 | 1 00 | 20 |
| Virginia | 500,000 | 1 00 | 11 |
| War Eagle Con | 2,000,000 | 1 00 | 1 00 |
| West Le Sol | 500,000 | 1 00 | 17 |
| White Bear | 2,000,000 | 1 00 | 11 |
| AINSWORTH, NELSON & SLOCAN | | | |
| American Boy | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 15 |
| Fern Gold | 2,000,000 | 25 | 55 |
| Hex of Slocan | 1,000,000 | 25 | 25 |
| Arlington | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 13 |
| Argo | 100,000 | 10 | 10 |
| Athalma | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 23 |
| Black Hills | 100,000 | 10 | 10 |
| Buffalo of Slocan | 150,000 | 25 | 25 |
| Handholder | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | |
| Alamo | 500,000 | 1 00 | |
| Canadian M. M. and S. Co | 2,000,000 | 1 00 | 07 1/2 |
| Columbia-Cariboo | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 15 |
| Cumberland | 500,000 | 10 00 | |
| Dardanelles | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 15 |
| Belle | 500,000 | 1 00 | 12 |
| Elton | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| Elise | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| Ellen | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 07 1/2 |
| Elkhorn | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Eschschuer | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Goodenough | 500,000 | 1 00 | 25 |
| Gilson | 500,000 | 1 00 | 17 1/2 |
| Grey Eagle | 500,000 | 1 00 | |
| Hall Mines | 200,000 | 21 | |
| Her | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 12 |
| London | 150,000 | 25 | 25 |
| Minnesota | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | |
| Nelson-Poorman | 2,500,000 | 25 | 25 |
| Northern Light | 250,000 | 1 00 | 16 1/2 |
| Noble Five Con. | 1,200,000 | 1 00 | 3 |
| Ottawa and Ivanhoe | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 12 1/2 |
| Phoenix Consolidated | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| Rambler Con. | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 30 |
| Reco | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 1 20 |
| Slocan Reciprocity | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 08 |
| Slocan Star | 500,000 | 1 00 | 11 20 |
| Santa Marie | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| Sheriff | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 24 |
| Silver Hand | 250,000 | 25 | 12 1/2 |
| Slocan Queen | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Star | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| St. Keverae | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 04 |
| Sunshine | 500,000 | 20 00 | |
| Two Friends | 200,000 | 20 | 15 |
| Washington | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 25 |
| Wonderful | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 04 |

| COMPANY | CAPITAL | PAR VALUE | PRICE |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|---------|
| LARDEAU | | | |
| Consolidated Sable Creek Mining Co | \$1,500,000 | \$ 1 00 | \$ 1 00 |
| TEXADA ISLAND | | | |
| Texada Proprietary | 50,000 | 25 | 25 |
| Van Anda | 5,000,000 | 1 00 | 4 |
| Victoria-Texada | 150,000 | 25 | 25 |
| Texada Kirk Lake | 60,000 | 1 00 | 1 00 |
| Raven | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| Gold Bar | 100,000 | 10 | |
| VANCOUVER ISLAND | | | |
| Alberni Mountain Rose | 250,000 | 1 00 | 5 |
| Ambrosine | 500,000 | 1 00 | 1 00 |
| Consolidated Alberni | 5,000,000 | 1 00 | 9 |
| Mineral Creek | 300,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| Mineral Hill | 750,000 | 1 00 | 05 |
| Quadra | 500,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| CARIBOO | | | |
| Cariboo Gold Fields, Ltd. | \$100,000 | | |
| Cariboo Hydraulic | 300,000 | 5 00 | 9 00 |
| Horseshoe Hydraulic | 200,000 | | |
| Horseshoe Gold Mining Co | 1,000,000 | 10 00 | 10 00 |
| Cariboo M. & D. Co. | 300,000 | 1 00 | 25 |
| Golden River Quesselle | \$250,000 | 21 | 2 50 |
| Victoria Hydraulic | 300,000 | 1 00 | 25 |
| LILLOOET DISTRICT | | | |
| Alpha Bell | 500,000 | 1 00 | 5 |
| Donkian Developing | 25,000 | 25 | 21 |
| Excelsior | 500,000 | 1 00 | |
| Golden Cache | 500,000 | 1 00 | 1 00 |
| Lillooet Gold Reefs | 200,000 | 25 | 25 |
| Gayouph Creek Mines | 500,000 | 1 00 | 20 |
| FAIRVIEW CAMP | | | |
| Tin Horn | 250,000 | 25 | 05 |
| Winches'er | 200,000 | 25 | 25 |
| BOUNDARY | | | |
| Old Ironsides | 1,000,000 | 1 00 | 15 |
| Golden Crown | 2,000,000 | 1 00 | 20 |
| Boundary Creek M. & M. Co. | 1,500,000 | 1 00 | 10 |
| CAMP MCKINNEY | | | |
| Cariboo | 500,000 | 1 00 | 25 |

Dividends paid to date are as follows: Le Sol, \$275,000; War Eagle (Old Company), \$27,500; Rambler-Cariboo, \$40,000; Reco, \$20,000; Slocan Star, \$150,000; Cariboo, \$180,000; Donkian Developing, \$18,150.

It is estimated that the profits of the mines subjoined have returned the sums placed opposite their respective names:

| | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------------|--------|
| Payne | \$400,000 | Goodenough | 25,000 |
| Oslo | 200,000 | Noble Five | 50,000 |
| Poorman | 50,000 | Northern Belle | 20,000 |
| Ruth | 150,000 | Autolme | 10,000 |
| Whitewater | 20,000 | Surprise | 20,000 |
| Washington | 20,000 | Monitor | 15,000 |
| Slocan Boy | 25,000 | Last Chance | 50,000 |

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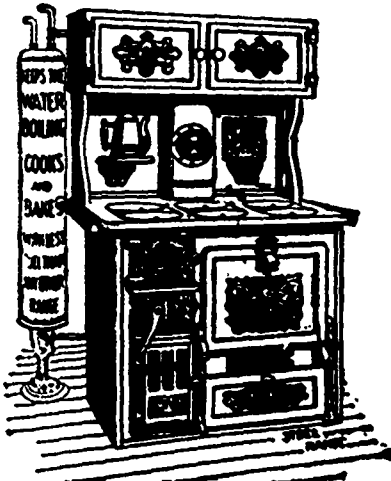
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IMPORTANT MINING DEAL.

Westminsterites Bond their Claims on Skookumchuck to Toronto Parties for \$100,000.

Details of an important mining deal, in which New Westminster parties are interested, have been made public, and show that the mines of this district are meeting with recognition from the outside world.

Some weeks ago Mr. Peter Ryan, the well-known Ontario contractor, was in the city, but it was not known exactly what he was after. He is one of the proprietors of the stage line between Cariboo and Ashcroft, but while in the Province he took a look about him in the interests of Toronto capitalists and inspected several mining properties in this district. Through the medium of Mr. John Crean, manager of the Hotel Guichon, Mr. Ryan has now bonded six claims on Harrison Lake. These claims are all owned by the Skookumchuck Mining Co., Limited, all New Westminster people, and are situated on Tipella Mountain, adjoining those of the Fire Mountain Company.

About \$1,000 worth of development work has been done on these claims, which comprise 300 acres, and a shaft has been sunk 41 feet, and is in free gold. In fact, free gold is found all over the claims, and assays have showed values from \$25 to \$210 per ton, chiefly in gold, but carrying silver and peacock copper.

The amount for which the claims have been bonded is \$100,000, and a substantial amount was paid down yesterday to bind the bargain. If on investigation the purchase is to be completed, the sellers will be offered a choice of stock in the new company. At all events it looks as if each of the original owners would make about \$15,000 by the deal, and the whole district will be indirectly benefited.

AMERICAN COAL PRODUCTION IN 1896.

The report of Statistician E. W. Parker on the production of coal in the United States in 1896 has just been issued. The total production of coal of all kinds in the country during that year amounted to 171,416,390 long tons, or 191,986,357 short tons, and having a total value of \$196,640,166. With the exception of 1895, when the output reached 193,117,630 short tons, this was the largest production in its history. The anthracite produced amounted to 54,346,081 tons, a decrease of 3,653,256 tons as compared with 1895. The bituminous output was 137,640,276 tons, an increase of 2,522,083 tons.

The price of bituminous coal at mines has steadily fallen since 1887. In that year the average in the United States was \$1.12 per ton. The next two years it was about \$1. Then for three years it was fairly steady at 99 cents. In 1893 it dropped to 96

cents, in 1894 to 91 cents, in 1895 to 86 cents, and in 1896 to 83 cents per ton, the lowest ever recorded.

Anthracite coal operators, on the contrary, by reducing their output and by associated effort, secured \$1.85 per long ton for the marketed product, as compared with \$1.72 in 1895.

There were eighteen states and territories whose product exceeded 1,000,000 tons. Nine reported an increased production in 1896 and nine a decrease. Those in which the production increased were Alabama, Colorado, Indian Territory, Illinois, Maryland, Montana, Tennessee, Washington and West Virginia. Those in which the production decreased were Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wyoming.

Pennsylvania led with 36 per cent. of the total bituminous output, against 37 per cent. in 1895. Illinois was second with 14 per cent., against 13 per cent. in 1895. West Virginia and Ohio were practically tied for third place with 9½ per cent. each, the former leading by a few thousand tons. Alabama held fifth place with 4.2 per cent.

In 1896 there were 2,599 bituminous mines, excluding small banks, employing 237,665 men an average of 192 days. In 1895, 2,555 mines reported, employing 239,962 men an average of 194 days.

The world's production of coal amounted in 1896 to 660,550,426 short tons, to which aggregate Great Britain contributed 218,804,611 tons; the United States, 191,986,357 tons; Germany, 123,906,391 tons; Austria-Hungary, 35,985,664 tons; France, 32,300,537 tons; Belgium, 23,375,726 tons; and Russia, 10,005,210 tons. The world's output in 1895 was 643,108,705 tons; in 1894, 609,344,362 tons; in 1893, 581,250,481 tons. For ten years the percentage produced by the United States has varied between 26.59 and 31.37.

METAL QUOTATIONS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Copper—quiet; brokers' price, \$10¾; exchange price, \$10.75 to \$10.85. Lead—firm, brokers' price 3½c; exchange price, \$3.75 to \$3.80.

Bar silver, 59½ c. per oz; Mexican dollars, 40½c; silver certificates, 59½c.—Ex.

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OVERLAND TO KLONDYKE.

Whilst the people of Kamloops are agitating for the building of a road of 57 miles in length, that will connect them with the famous Cariboo Road and place them in touch with Klondyke via a very long land route, the B. C. Mining Journal, of Ashcroft, rightly points out that even then the route to Dawson City via Ashcroft and the old Cariboo Road will be very much shorter than that via Kamloops, the construction of the missing link of which would cost the Province \$57,000.

If, however, as the Kamloops Sentinel suggests, the new road will open out a fine range of good country for settlement it may be worth even the \$57,000; if not, its construction would be superfluous, in view of the existing route from Ashcroft.

It is quite possible that the road may in any case be made. The Opposition men of Kamloops favor it, as the proposal was originally advocated by Mr. F. J. Deane, the Sentinel's editor, who is most anxious to supersede the Hon. G. B. Martin as an M. P. P., and the latter gentleman's influence will no doubt be exerted in the same direction as he is ready to do anything and everything to keep his seat, and with this end in view will do his "level best" to get round the people of Kamloops.

It is not of course yet known how the other members of the Provincial Government will regard the proposed expenditure. Some of them may hesitate thereat, especially if doubtful whether in conceding the request they will be playing a hand for Martin or for Deane.

One thing is meanwhile certain as to the various suggested overland routes to Klondyke, namely that the one via Edmonton is scarce worth consideration, so long, difficult and dangerous is it. It is also certain that the people of Spokane will next spring largely avail themselves of the Ashcroft-Klondyke overland route. In the interim the people of Spokane mean to try and send four carloads of provisions for the relief of the Dawson City miners through Ashcroft via the Cariboo Road and Teslin Lake route, the later stages of the long journey being taken by dog trains.

The people of Spokane and Ashcroft will unite in this public-spirited work of charity. No whiskey will be sent—of that there is more than enough in the Yukon—but a goodly supply of flour, bacon and beans, as an instalment of relief. At least thirty such shipments as represented by the Spokane-Ashcroft offer will however be needed this winter in the Yukon country.

GREAT GAIN TO INDIVIDUALS IS A "CASUAL ADVANTAGE" OF THE CROW'S NEST POLICY.

The transfer to private individuals, including some distinguished Ontario Grits, of three hundred thousand acres of coal lands which British Colum-

bia gave to build the Crow's Nest Pass Railway, was not the motive of the Crow's Nest Pass policy fastened upon the Liberal party by the Toronto friends of the C. P. R.

By no means. The transfer of such enormous wealth to individuals who did nothing to earn these coal lands, was merely one of the casual advantages of the Liberal policy.

And the providing of \$3,000,000 to build a railway for the benefit of the C. P. R. and its friends, the coal barons, is one of the "casual disadvantages" which the country can charge up to the Liberal policy upon the same question.

It is all right to shout about paper concessions, and to make a noise about the restitution of a part of the public domain. Apologists for the Crow's Nest Pass policy shirk the duty of explaining the exact return which the Ontario Grits and their western allies are going to make to the country for the three hundred thousand acres of coal lands, the substantial but "casual advantage" which these gentlemen owe to the new Liberal policy of enriching them and the C. P. R. at the expense of the country.—Toronto Telegram.

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| " 8:36 " | South Fork..... | " 3:15 " |
| " 9:36 " | Sprule's..... | " 2:15 " |
| " 9:51 " | Whitewater..... | " 2:00 " |
| " 10:03 " | Bear Lake..... | " 1:45 " |
| " 10:18 " | McGuigan..... | " 1:30 " |
| " 10:38 " | Junction..... | " 1:12 " |
| Ar 10:50 " | S..... | Lv 1:00 " |

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Arrives at Trail..... 3:50 p.m.
No. 4 passenger (daily)
Leaves Rossland..... 11:00 a.m.
Arrives at Trail..... 12:00 a.m.
No. 6 passenger (daily except Sunday)
Leaves Rossland..... 7:00 a.m.
Arrives at Trail..... 7:50 a.m.

WESTBOUND.

No. 3 passenger (daily except Sunday)
Leaves Trail..... 8:15 a.m.
Arrives in Rossland..... 9:30 a.m.
No. 1 passenger (daily)
Leaves Trail..... 12:30 p.m.
Arrives in Rossland..... 1:30 p.m.
No. 5 passenger (daily except Sunday)
Leaves Trail..... 5:45 p.m.
Arrives in Rossland..... 7:00 p.m.

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