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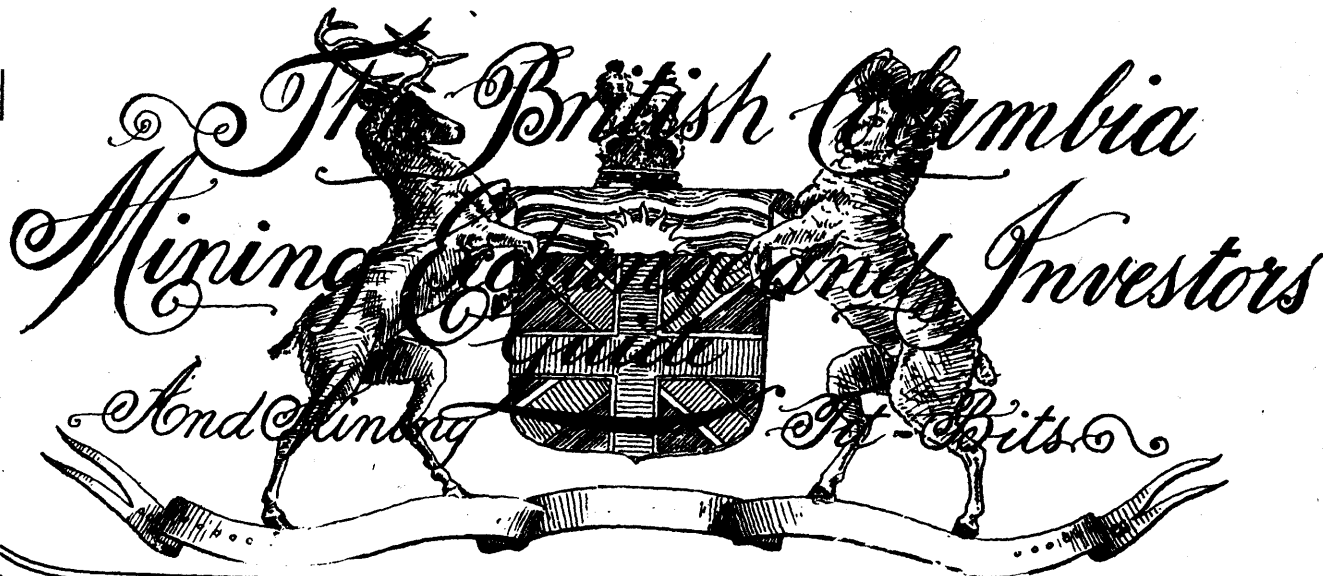
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VOL. II. No. 7.

VANCOUVER, JULY, 1900

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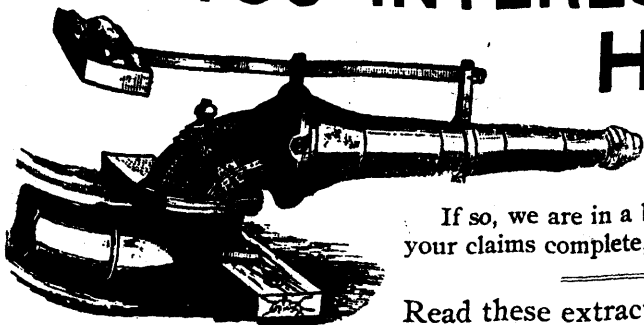
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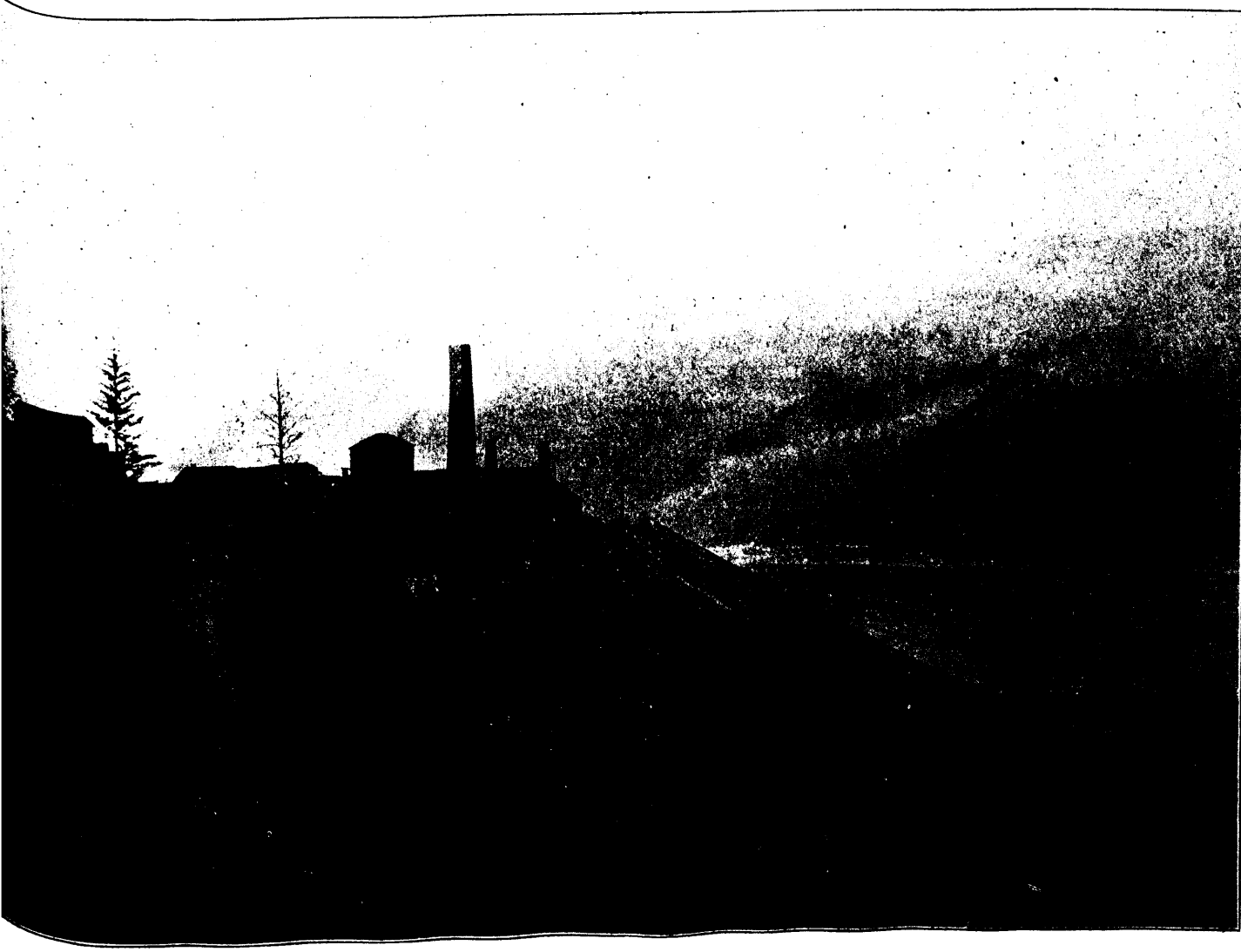
And Mining Tit-Bits.

VOL. II.—VANCOUVER, B. C., JULY 1900—No. 7.

B. C. MINING LAWS.

A correspondent, "Miner," has sent us a lengthy letter bearing on the laws regulating placer mining in B. C., which, from the standpoint of his locality, certainly is not a particularly happy lot, under present conditions.

successfully than elsewhere, the laws are stringent, and would be termed severe here. It is imperative that operations should commence without delay, and dredge established on each claim within the year to be worked continuously, or the whole is forfeited. This string-



CANADIAN SMELTING CO.'S WORKS AT TRAIL, B. C.

We are of opinion that the ideas and advice of practical bona fide placer miners should be ascertained by our Government Mining Bureau, and if possible, such arrangements made that would bear less hardly on the placer miners, especially does this apply to the out-of-the-way districts in which our correspondent seems to be located.

Crown granting placer mines, and placing them on the footing of lode mines, while undoubtedly simplifying matters, would not, we believe, be an unmixed blessing.

In New Zealand, where dredging is carried on more

ency probably accounts for the success of the industry in New Zealand, and acts, as it were, as a stimulus to the enterprise. Certain it is that leases cannot be held without the necessary machinery to be placed on the property; enforcing such business lines, success is more likely to be obtained, and the confidence of the investor secured. The New Zealand Government are to be congratulated for acting in so practical a manner in this respect, which minimises jobbery and prevents property becoming a medium for unprincipled speculation.

British Columbia placer laws, although much easier

for the individual miner than that of New Zealand, still bear somewhat heavy, considering the risks of placer mining to-day in B. C. "Poor man's diggings," as "Miner" says, being as far as present understood, played out in the district he refers to, which is distant from civilization or base of supplies, and transportation both difficult and expensive.

To say that we are as much behind the Australasian mining laws as it is possible to be, is saying very little. Comparisons are odiously against us, and we should be classed as A-1 fools were such unsatisfactory mining regulations allowed to continue.

We have frequently pointed out the numerous disadvantages we have to labor under in this Province from a mining point of view, politics being the bane of the whole system. The good of the country does not figure in the matter at all, hence we are—what we are.

The great want here is a similar institution to that in New Zealand, viz., what is termed a Warden's Court, or Court of Equity, established in connection with the Government Mining Bureau of New Zealand. The Warden holds his Court through the separate districts at stated times, for the purpose of hearing and deciding on matters of equity only, thus saving miners, etc., the cost of litigation, which would otherwise be incurred in the ordinary settlement of differences, extensions, etc. This officer is well paid, and is above suspicion. The Government pays him £800 (\$4000) per year, and therefore gets both able men and honest.

The Government grants subsidies to prospectors, mining associations, etc., giving pound for pound, or, for every \$5.00 the prospector advances, the Government gives another \$5.00 for prospecting purposes.

Again the prospector gets his property examined and reported on by the Government geologist, by paying his expenses only.

Placer and mining grounds generally are never alienated from the Crown or the people. Leases being granted up to 42 years to cover the exigencies of every case, and the size of such property is from one acre to one hundred acres, which last covers all rights and privileges, and is termed a special claim, covering as it does, placer or alluvial, dredging and lode mining. Conditions, however, must be complied with, or satisfactory cause shown, or the property is open to the public.

No consolidation of leases is allowed, the requisite machinery having to be placed on each claim within six months. The reason of the success of New Zealand mining industries is obvious. Robbery, wire pulling, and the tying up of lands by unprincipled speculators is not possible there. We commend the study of the New Zealand mining laws to our B. C. Government, with a view to the amendment of those at present existing here and which are both unbusiness like, unjust, and insulting to a common sense people, as also extremely dangerous to its best interests. Mediocrity is too flattering a term to apply to such a mass of verbiage.

We think that long leases should be granted, say 10 or 20 years, with option of renewal for the same period at a yearly rental, commencing at \$1.50 per acre the first year, \$3.00 the second, and \$5.00 per year after, thus helping the miner through the preliminary stage. Leases of course, must be subject to actual work, yearly. One man should be continuously employed to each acre for the first year, size of leases, of course, should depend on the conditions. Placer or alluvial ground should be the minimum, not less than an acre. Dredging leases, not more than a mile of water course to any lease, which should take in the benches 100 feet

from high water, every claim to be worked separately and dredge established on each.

Lode leases, with the privilege of working same as alluvial or other workings, as conditions or exigencies require, should not exceed 100 acres, the ground to be continuously worked.

We are of opinion that a commission should be appointed by the Government to thoroughly inquire into the present system, the practical placer miners' view of the matter should be heard. He has all the toil and hard knocks in mining the yellow metal, his work is indispensable to the Province, and, unfortunately, the present lines are neither conducive to the success of mining nor the miner.

MINERAL DETERMINATION AND MINERAL TERMS.

COMPILED BY T. R. HARDIMAN.

(Continued from No. 6.)

IRON.

Iron ranks, excepting coal, as the most important of all minerals, its use being more general than that of any other, and in that respect may be considered the most valuable to man. Some 60,000,000 tons are produced each year from its various ores, which are also more generally distributed, being found in all formations chiefly in combination with oxygen. The specific gravity of iron is 7.78. Its principal ores are—

Hematite, brown oxide; gravity, 4.0; contains 60 per cent. iron, 26 oxygen, 14 water. The hardness of most kinds of hematite is about 6, too hard to scratch with a knife. Specific gravity of the crystals is 5.2. The lustre is metallic in the specular iron varieties, dull and earthy in the others; color usually iron black, but also red; streak, dull red, like dried blood. Hematite is mined in the Lake Superior regions and also in the Southern States. British Columbia could develop a large industry in the production of iron. Large deposits are everywhere, both of hematite and magnetic, and the time will come when this Province will rank well up as a contributor to the world's supply.

Native Iron is of rare occurrence and of no practical importance. Meteorites, which occasionally fall to the earth, are sometimes entirely metallic iron. Large masses are also found at Disko, Greenland, imbedded in basalt. This is a noteworthy exception.

Pyrite, or Iron Pyrites, sometimes called "fool's gold," iron disulphide. It contains 54 per cent. of sulphur to 46 per cent. of iron, and is one of commonest of metallic minerals. It is found in cubic crystals and also in massive form in large deposits, which are mined for the sulphur it yields on roasting. Pyrites is of no value for the iron it contains, but is used for the sake of the sulphur and sulphuric acid which is made from it. Pyrite is also associated with copper pyrites, such as chalcopyrite. It is found in immense beds in British Columbia and in almost all kinds of formations. Auriferous pyrites are mined for the gold obtained on smelting. Hardness, a little above 6; lustre, brilliant metallic; color, light or brass yellow; streak, dark greenish black.

Magnetite, or magnetic oxide of iron. Hardness, 6; specific gravity, 5.18; lustre, metallic, usually brilliant; color, black; streak, black. Like hematite, it is an important iron ore. The noted Swedish iron and steel are made from magnetite. It abounds in the region of Lake Superior, is abundant in the trap rocks of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and the Palisades of the Hudson. The coast of British Columbia also contains

much of this ore. As the name implies, the character of these ores is magnetic; the variety known as the lodestone is a magnet in itself, having a north and south pole, the power of picking up particles of iron or steel, and when suspended sets with the poles north and south, as the needle of the compass. Magnetite contains 72 per cent. of iron and 28 per cent. of oxygen when unmixed with impurities.

Pyrrhotite, or magnetic pyrites. Iron sulphide. Color, reddish bronze; hardness, 3.5 to 4.5; specific gravity, 4.6; lustre, metallic; streak, dark grayish

when fresh, thus often called white iron pyrites, lustre bright metallic, but becomes easily tarnished.

Limonite, brown oxide of iron. Hardness, 5; specific gravity a little below 4; lustre varies from sub-metallic to earthy; contains 60 per cent. iron, 26 per cent. oxygen, and 14 of water. It is often called brown hematite, because, while resembling some kinds of hematite, it has usually a brown color and always a brown streak. Occurs only in massive, especially stalactitic shapes, or forms with rounded surface; structure frequently fibrous, but earthy as in brown



THE TOWN OF GRAND FORKS, 1899.

black. Pyrrhotite often contains nickel up to 5 per cent., as at Sudbury, Ont., thus constituting one of the most important ores of nickel.

Arsenopyrite, or arsenical pyrites. Iron Sulphur-senide. Hardness, about 6; specific gravity, 6; lustre, metallic; color, when fresh silver white, becomes dull and tarnishes on exposure; streak, greyish black. Like others of the pyrite group it is hard enough to strike fire with a steel. Contains sulphur and arsenic, hence called arsenical pyrites, as also mispickel. It is commonly found in masses. The arsenopyrite of Deloro, Can., is auriferous and mined for the gold it yields.

Marcasite, or white iron pyrites. Iron disulphide. Hardness, 6 to 6.5, same as pyrite; specific gravity, lower, only 4.8 instead of 5; color is a paler yellow

ochre, used for paint. It is, in one form or another, one of the most valuable of iron ores. Limonite is from the Greek, meaning meadow, because found in marshy places, one kind being known as bog iron ore. It is extensively mined in the States and abounds in places along the B. C. coast. The ore is known as low grade, yielding relatively only a small amount of iron, because of impurities, such as clay, etc., being present.

Goethite, so called after the poet Goethe, in another oxide, containing water. Occurs in brilliant prismatic crystals, also massive and often fibrous in structure; color, yellow brown to deep brownish black; streak like that of limonite, which it resembles somewhat.

Turgite is another iron hydrate, occurring in form like limonite; yields 5 per cent. water; streak, red; uncommon.

Siderite, Spathic iron. Iron carbonate. Hardness, 3.5 to 4; specific gravity, 3.8; lustre, vitreous; color, bright yellow to brown; streak, nearly white; contains 60 per cent. iron and 38 of carbonic acid. Extensively mined in Cornwall, England, as also are the arsenical ores of iron and cobalt; found also in Pennsylvania, Ohio, etc.

Chromite, or chromic iron, is an iron ore very much in appearance like magnetic and is common in the massive form. As a mineral it is principally valuable as a source of the element chromium, which forms a bright colored yellow or green class of salts, called chromates, used for pigments and in calico printing. It is often associated with serpentine, as in Pennsylvania and Maryland. It is also mined in California and Turkey. Chromium is also used in chrome steel. Iron paint, or ochre, is simply oxide of iron either naturally or artificially triturated to an impalpable powder, pure or mixed with clay or other material. The limonite oxides give yellow, the hematite red, and the magnetic black paints.

To be continued.

DOMINION RAILWAY SUBSIDIES.

The subsidies granted for the above purposes are—

Ontario	\$1,201,400.00
Quebec	924,000.00
Nova Scotia.....	337,600.00
New Brunswick.....	464,000.00
Western Railways.....	555,000.00

Ninety-six thousand dollars of this last amount is granted to the Kaslo and Lardo Duncan Railway, for a railroad from Duncan Lake towards Lardo or Arrow Lake, or from Lardo to Arrow Lake, not exceeding thirty miles.

Total subsidies granted amount to \$3,493,000.00, with the usual conditions, which are as follow, viz:— Payment of the subsidy in instalments by progress estimate, or upon completion of the work; also that where no company is named in the resolution, the bonus shall be paid to such company as shall satisfy the Government of its ability to construct and complete the work. The time for commencement of the subsidized enterprises is two years from the 1st of August; the works to be completed at a period set by order in Council, not to exceed four years. Running powers to other railways are secured and provision is made for the carrying of men, materials and mails at rates to be fixed by order in Council.

As usual, British Columbia, who contributes more per capita towards the Dominion revenues than any other portion of Canada, gets the least consideration. \$96,000 and thirty miles of road! What, under the circumstances, is the use of representation? Men of the Martin calibre should be given a fighting chance.

B. C. LEGISLATION.

We eschew politics, but give in to none in our endeavors to advance our Province and identify ourselves with the best interests to that end, and our unmitigated satisfaction must be expressed at the appointment of so capable and experienced a man as Sir Henri Joly to the position of Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia. His character and experience of public life will enable him to grasp the mixed situation here and shake the whole into a possible working proposition. Since the old Crown Colony times British Columbia has been wanting a quantity such as Sir Henri Joly,

who would, while lending dignity to the situation, have the advantage of being a practical, well tried legislator, a distinguished man and, better still, a man of integrity.

Mr. James Dunsmuir is also, we believe, the right man in the right place. A good head and right principles combined will be the levers by which the Province will move forward; and we do not doubt but that he will infuse his supporters with the same common sense. Possibly there are not a few who will be inclined to view the arrangement as an Island Government; we credit the Premier, however, with better judgment. The first session will dispel prejudices of this sort without a doubt.



Now for a thoroughly representative London Agency—no stinting for the sake of a few hundred dollars—a good man and well paid. Offices in the City, which is the proper business location, and plenty of the right kind of literature to aid him.



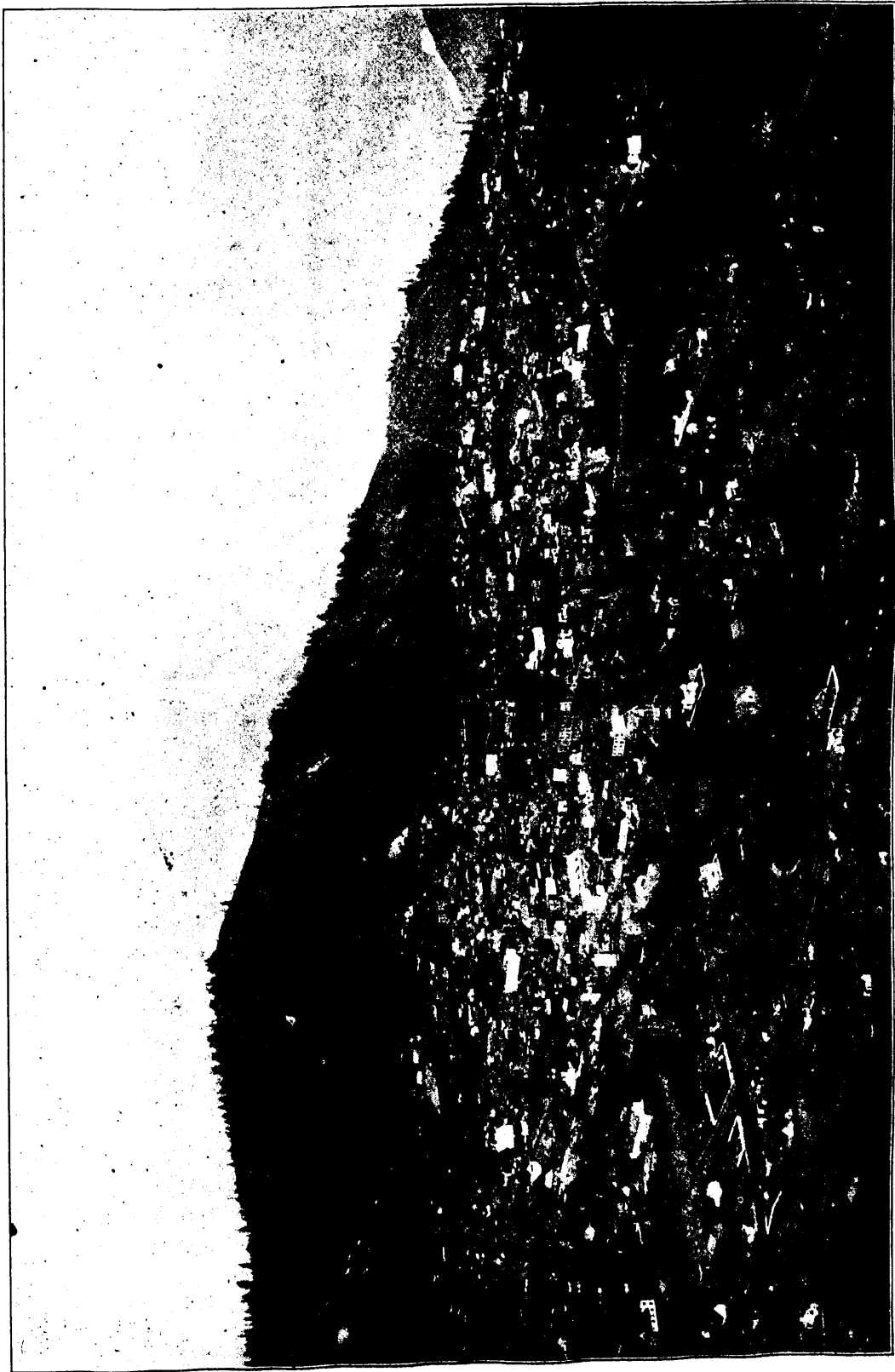
Roads and trails also is another important matter. A correspondent reminds us that the Selkirk and other Provincial Governments had promised repeatedly that proper communication should be given from the Coast to the Omineca district, by wagon road, from Kitimat Arm or Hazleton Creek to Manson Creek. The district is undoubtedly of sufficient value to warrant this expenditure. At present supplies can be shipped to the Klondike or Atlin at much less cost than to this district, which is only a few hundred miles to the north of us. The greater portion of the route would be a waterway, so that it does not imply a heavy item of expense. At present the whole district is handicapped and its progress unsatisfactory for the reasons pointed out.

SOME BIG COPPER MINES.

W. B. Carlyle, superintendent of the Rio Tinto Mines in Spain, writes to an American friend: "This is a monster. There are 135,000,000 tons of ore in sight, of which we must extract 1,000,000 tons this year. We have a very good railroad, 375 miles long, with thirty locomotives on the main line and fifty at the mine, and this year we will handle 5,000,000 tons of ore. There are very extensive underground works. The other day, down on the 1,200 foot level, I was shown a solid body of ore 660 feet wide. There are 10,000 Spaniards at work. We pay here from 50 cents to 85 cents per day."

Official statistics of the United Verde Copper Mine show that the construction expenses in 1899 amounted to \$811,110, and that the total product of the mine for the year was 43,390,590 pounds of copper. The deepest shaft on the property is 700 feet; the longest tunnel 3,000 feet; the ore body at 1,200 feet is reported to be 600 feet wide. Senator Clark owns his own railway connections, and runs from eight to nine trains daily to haul the ore.

A monster raft for the Pacific, that will contain fourteen million feet of lumber, is being constructed on Pudget Sound, for towing to Japan. If the raft holds together the venture will be a paying one. Should it go to pieces, the projector will be a heavy loser, and the vessels that traverse the waters of that ocean will be in constant danger from the floating parts of the raft.



ROSSLAND, GENERAL VIEW, 1899.

Notes.

The Mines Contract and Investigation Company of Toronto has secured, in addition to its already large holdings in Western Ontario, the entire property and plant of the French Creek Mining Company of British Columbia, an hydraulic proposition. The property is fully equipped with the latest up-to-date hydraulic machinery, and though lately closed on account of the labor troubles, these are now happily ended, and the works in full operation under the new management. The purchase price is not disclosed, but it is believed to have been a large one.



We learn that considerable difficulty is experienced in obtaining the consent of a large number of shareholders in the Hall Mines to the new re-construction scheme.



A man convicted of any offence in the Klondike is compelled to saw wood. He saws ten hours a day steadily, day after day, until his sentence expires. He must saw regardless of the weather. In the most intense cold, the hardest rain, the fiercest snow-storm, he is compelled to continue sawing, and if the day has not ten hours of light, lanterns are provided to enable him to put in a full day. When the pile of sawed wood begins to get low, the authorities sentence men for very slight offences, and the natural result is that nearly all the Dawsonites are kept on their good behavior.



An English syndicate proposes to invest \$100,000 at Rat Portage in a pulp mill. It is said that John Mather of Ottawa is interested.



It is interesting to know that the production of copper in the first decade of the century was only 91,000 tons. Basing the estimate for 1900 on last years figures the last decade will be 3,643,000 tons. That is as much won in nine days now as was won in a whole year at the beginning of the century.



How *a propos* of our own situation is the following, which we clip from the *Sidney Bulletin*: "What trustful fools the Australians are to invest under present conditions in mines, absolutely controlled and faked by a lot of shady London stockbrokers. What on earth does anybody here, not right in the ring, know about the real condition of any big Westralian mines for instance? Sooner or later the Australian public will see that every mine leased by the State to a private person is regularly inspected and publicly reported on by a trustworthy and well paid Government official, and in case of very important mines the report will come at short intervals."



The Golden River Quesnelle has come to the end of its tether at the cost of more than one big dam(n). It is asserted that something better might have been expected from Mr. Forbes Vernon. We know really one good thing that he damned in another way, while acting as B. C. representative in London. He's a pretty good man to follow.



The Turquoise mine in the Mineral Park district, near Chloride, Ariz., has been bought by Tiffany & Co., of New York.

A New Zealand dredgemaster, for a Fraser River company, Mr. Ewen Butler, arrived by the S. S. *Miowera* from Alexandra, Otago District, New Zealand. Mr. Butler is an experienced dredgemaster and had with him also two winchmen for the Cobledick Dredge Coy. the management of which we hear Mr. Butler will assume.



The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company has property comprising some 200,000 acres of land, almost the entire area of which is supposed to be underlaid with coal, which, according to geological reports, contains a large number of seams, the aggregate thickness of which approximates 150 feet. Reducing this one half there is in the property over 10,000,000,000 tons. The total output of the coal of the world is less than 300,000,000 tons per year. During the past year the mines produced 116,200 tons of coal, on which a net profit of \$47,308.17 was made. The Company is now opening up a second series of mines at Michel, about thirty miles from Fernie, so that there will be alternate sources of supply. It is understood that a dividend will be declared this year.



The B. C. *Review* says, and justly:—"The Central Canada Chamber of Mines has received a well-merited rebuke for disseminating quantities of "free copy" to English journals consisting only of optimistic generalities concerning the wealth of Western Ontario and the importance and representative position of this particular Chamber of Mines. It is quite true that the Dominion is full of good things, among which its mineral wealth is by no means the least, but to attract attention and inspire confidence we want tables, statistics, comparative earnings, and costs and other authenticated statements and details which are read and weighed by the careful and business-like investor. A rumor reaches us that those who run this chamber are going to turn over a new leaf and give us this valuable and much wanted information, and by so doing they will benefit Canada and confer a favor on the unfortunate journalist who quickly tires of receiving half-a-dozen envelopes by each Canadian mail ostentatiously marked 'private,' and containing a printed slip of airy generalities and nothing more."



The Director of the United States Mint, talking to a correspondent of the *Evening Post*, recently, said: "The phenomenal gold output of the world in the year 1899 will probably be nearly equalled this year, in spite of the shut-down of the mines in South Africa. I should say \$300,000,000 would be a fair estimate of this years yield, and after peace has once more come, provided no new disturbing factors intervene, the world's gold output will not be long in reaching \$400,000,000 per annum. Although South Africa remains at the head of the column, the United States, now that the Klondike and Cape Nome are both producing, is likely to follow only a little way behind. An estimate received here places the gold output of the Klondike for this year at \$18,000,000. We are expecting about \$10,000,000 from Cape Nome. This Klondike estimate, by the way, is the work of a local newspaper reporter in that section, but it seems to be very intelligently prepared. The South African disturbance affected last years total as well as this, but obviously for not so long a time, and so if the world's total keeps up to \$300,000,000 it will mean a gratifying increase in other quarters."

William L. Caldwell, of the Mexican General Electric Company of the city of Mexico, says: "In the last ten or fifteen years Mexico has advanced very materially in an electrical sense. The first plant was put in by a wealthy resident of Guadalajara about twelve years ago, and since that time the advance has been rapid and substantial. Mexico is filled with natural opportunities electrical. There are numerous fine waterways which will afford ample energy for driving a good sized plant, which in turn will distribute a great amount of power. This energy costs nothing save the cost of putting in the machinery and subsequent superintendence. There is one instance, in the republic, of electrical power, equivalent in force to 2,700 h.p., being transmitted for a distance of forty miles. Ten years ago such an idea would have been little short of nonsense."



A syndicate of New York bankers has important plans under way for the development of big deposits of iron and coal near Monterey, Mexico. Furnaces and a complete finishing plant on a large scale will be built at Monterey, at an estimated cost of \$10,000,000.



The higher classes of machinery and tools used in Russia are from Great Britain and the United States. At present there is more demand for common sorts. The finer sorts are used in bicycle factories, marine machine shops, etc.



A census of persons employed in mines, quarries, and other mineral workings in the colonies and possessions of the United Kingdom in 1898, showed a total for the entire Empire of 1,799,751.



It is said that the earliest knowledge of copper in the south-west was from the Mexicans, who in the latter part of the last century discovered the Santa Rita mines in New Mexico, near Silver City. The Mexicans called these mines Creadera del Cobre, the place where copper was created, the native metal cropping out of the ground. Masses a ton in weight were extracted and shipped to the City of Mexico to be coined into copper money. In 1838 the Apaches drove out the miners, and not until 1873 was mining resumed under American Management.—*Los Angeles Mining Review.*



The most notable company promotion of the week is that of the Bird's Custard Powder firm. The whole capital of \$1,500,000 is taken at the purchase price, no valuation of the assets is given, and the profits are only shown for the last two years, and they are lumped together.



That low grade ore may be worked with profit by modern methods was demonstrated last year at the De Lamar group of mines in Mercur, Utah; 128,804 tons of ore, averaging about \$3.50 per ton and giving a return of \$449,437, was worked at a cost of \$1.16 per ton for mining the ore and 72 cents for milling, leaving a net profit of \$146,010 for the year. From tailings, which had a value of \$1.09 per ton, a net profit of 60 cents was realized, the treatment costing 49 cents per ton; \$10,531 was the net profit from the tailings.



The Hall Mining and Smelting Company, Ltd., has been registered with a capital of £325,000 in shares of £1, to acquire the business of the Hall Mines, Limited.

Coke from the Union Mines in British Columbia is finding a market in the United States and Japan. A shipment of 200 tons to a Whatcom, Wash., foundry was so satisfactory that the order was repeated. The SS. *Tartar*, took a shipment of 300 tons to Japan.



British Columbia Land and Investment Agency.—The report shows that the company made some progress during the year 1899. The directors are able to declare a 2 per cent. dividend on the four per cent. cumulative preference shares. The gross profits amounted to about £23,000, but nearly half of this went in expenses. This comparatively satisfactory result, as the report calls a profit of £762 from the Canadian Pacific Land assets, arises from Mr. T. D. Galpin having agreed to buy back part of the assets which the company of which he was the principal shareholder sold to the agency.



In the annual report of the Ontario Bureau of Mines, Dr. A. P. Coleman, writing on the values of ores, comments as follows:—

The question of what constitutes the difference between high and low grade is often assumed to be about \$20 for high grade, and about \$5 or \$6 for low grade ores, but a comparison of the average values from the principal free-milling gold-producing camps gives as follows: Black Hills, South Dakota, average value of ore per ton, \$3.50; Gilpin County, Colorado, \$7; Grass Valley, California, \$5; Amador County, California, \$4.25; Douglas Island, Alaska, \$2.85; Victoria Camp, Australia, \$9; Ballarat Camp, Australia, \$8.50; New Zealand, \$10.66; Transvaal, \$7; making a total average of \$6.53 per ton, from which it is evident that \$5 per ton may be considered low grade, and \$7 per ton as an approach to high grade ores. New Zealand, which gives the highest average on the list, is one of the smallest producers, whereas the lower grade ores produce by far the largest portion of the world's supply.

Comparing these with our West Ontario Mines we find: Average value of ore per ton—Mikado, Shoal Lake, Lake of the Woods, \$7; Sultana, Lake of the Woods, \$6; Regina, Lake of the Woods, \$6; Golden Star, Lower Seine Valley, \$5.65; Hammond Reef, Upper Seine Valley, \$3.70; Alice A., Lower Seine Valley, \$5.60. These values are necessarily liberal, as it is difficult to arrive at exact values, and they give an average value to West Ontario gold ore of \$5.66 per ton.

The principal low grade ores are the Alaska Mines and the Homestake Mine, South Dakota, U.S.A. The returns for the latter, which employs 540 stamps, are from the mill, including concentrates, \$4.31, from which is to be deducted cost of mining, which amounts to \$2.73, leaving the net earnings at \$1.58 a ton. The Alaska Mines are still lower grade, but, like the Homestake Mine, they have large bodies, which reduces the cost of mining to a minimum. The Alaska-Treadwell has 660 stamps, the Alaska-United 220 stamps, and the Alaska-Mexican 120 stamps. The official returns for these mines for the year ending May, 1899, give the net earnings per ton as follows: Alaska-Treadwell, \$1.45; Alaska-United, \$2.67; Alaska-Mexican, 64 cts. The average value of these Alaska ores is \$3, and they yield a profit of \$1.58 a ton after expenses are paid.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce has we understand \$200,000 in Klondike Gold on the way down.

The *Dirigo* arrived with \$1,000,000 from the north.

Seattle has received already some 6 tons of Klondike gold since the opening of navigation.

The B. C. Mining Exchange and Investor's Guide.

is published monthly as a Guide to Investors generally, to whose interests it devotes itself.

MANAGING EDITOR . . . T. R. HARDIMAN.

CORRESPONDENTS.—All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, B. C. Mining Exchange, and any correspondents desiring advice or information in reference to investments, we will reply to, free of charge, provided they are annual Subscribers.

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Mining News.

ATLIN.

Reports from this camp seems fairly favorable, though it will take a year or two to demonstrate its value.

BARKERVILLE, B. C.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Lightning Creek Gold Gravels and Drainage Co. has installed a hoisting and pumping engine and underground work is again in progress under the management of Henry Jones.

The Consolidated Cariboo Ltd. tunnel near Stanley is completed, from the breast a 30 ft. raise was driven to the gravel which is reported to be rich and where prospect tunnels are now being driven.

Work is suspended, temporarily it is said, on the property of the Colonial Mines Development Co. Ltd. on Summit Creek.

The Downie Pass and Shepherd Creek Mining Co. Ltd. is prospecting the placer in Downie Pass, acquired two years ago from E. C. Shepherd and Sons. This reminds the casual observer that there are more ways than one of doing a thing, and one right way. The usual procedure, I believe, is to prospect ground, if possible, before acquiring it. The Sutherland Hydraulic Mining Co. is digging 1066 rods of ditch from Stewart Creek to the head of the Shermer ditch, which is being enlarged. A water storage dam is also being constructed in connection. Tom Smith and George W. Naves have struck a good prospect on Martin Creek; the gold is all coarse, the heaviest to date being an \$11 nugget.

The Canadian Creek ground held by the Cariboo Deeps. Ltd., H. Carry and H. Boursin, are being put in shape for drifting. The work under way includes a flume and ditch from Grouse Creek.

When the Provincial Parliament meets among the first Acts passed should be one authorizing the building of a wagon road from Kitimat Arm, or Hazelton to Mansion creek.

That the Omenica district is rich in gold is beyond dispute but, until heavy modern mining machinery can be taken there,

it can be but haltingly and partially developed. The freight- ing of ordinary supplies by the cheapest route, *i. e.* from Victoria or Vancouver, *via* Skeena river and the Hazelton Trail, is 11½ cents per lb, so that a mining operator can actually land supplies in Klondike or Atlin at less cost than in Omenica. Notwithstanding these well-nigh prohibitory conditions there has been expended in that district during the last four years, nearly if not quite \$500,000 in the purchase and equipment of placers. That people invest money in a district so isolated and handicapped augers well for the richness of the region and indication of what may be expected when it is possible to develop mines there at a reasonable cost; in fact, there is no reason to doubt that a wonderful mining development awaits and depends upon cheap transport into that important section of the Province.

The months of May and June have been very wet, so the hydraulic season will be as long as the average, notwithstanding the light snowfall last winter, although some mines, notably the Cariboo Gold Fields, Ltd., will have a short season. The Cariboo Consolidated, Ltd. has leased the Cariboo Cold Fields, Ltd. water to use on Lowhee creek at such times as the supply is insufficient for the operation of the C. G. F. elevator. Negotiations are proceeding for the transfer of the entire property of the Gold Fields to the Consolidated. Rich gravel has been struck in the Ah Quay claim of the Cariboo Consolidated, Ltd. near Stanley. Two shifts are driving the tunnel of the Cariboo Deeps, Ltd. on Antler creek, where a splendid prospect, as high as 70 cents to the pan, has been struck.

The shaft of the Incorporated Exploration Co. of B. C. Ltd. at Slough creek is being sunk at the rate of three feet per day with three shifts working. It is 5 x 15 ft. inside timbers, and will be 352 ft. deep. 250 buckets of water per day delays the work appreciably. The operation of the Cariboo Exploration Co. Ltd. hydraulic at Burns creek was delayed by the death of manager Medlicott at Kamloops hospital last month. Arnold Wilson, an experienced hydraulic foreman, is temporarily in charge.

The Bremner-Maund syndicate will dig a ditch from Stout's Gulch to the hydraulic on lower Williams Creek, bought from Woolcock and Hancock. Surveys and estimates for the ditch and pipe-line have been made by engineer James Champion.

The Colonial Mines Dev. Co. Ltd. is running four monitors on Summit Creek benches and continues prospecting in the deep channel.

The Sutherland Hydraulic Mining Co. has purchased P. McKennas one-half interest in the Discovery claims at 8 mile Lake for \$7,500.

BOUNDARY.

At the 300-foot level drifts are also being run, approximately north and south from the shaft. Each drift is in 90 feet, and when in 100 crosscutting will be commenced.

On the surface much work has been done in excavating ground, building half a mile of a wagon road up the side of the hill and preparing foundations for the new machinery plant from Montreal about the end of the present month. Included in this new plant is a 35-drill compressor, two 100-horse power boilers and a hoisting engine with a capacity of 1000 tons of ore per day from a depth of 1,500 feet. In a previous article full particulars of this plant were given by the correspondent. It will be seen, however, that the management is providing a plant, which with the one already in use, will last the mine for many years to come.

Lumber is on the ground for the construction of ore bins, which will be started shortly. There will be four bins each 18 x 20 feet in size, to hold between 2,500 and 3,000 tons. Other proposed improvements consist of a new dining hall with a seating capacity of 300 men at one time, also a big addition to the present sleeping apartments for 200 more men. A store-house 35 x 50 feet has just been completed.

At the mine the company is at present employing 58 men. Rudolph Linden is in charge of the smelter construction work of the British Columbia Copper Company, during the temporary absence of Paul Johnson, the smelter manager, in Europe. Mr. Linden told the correspondent that by October at the latest, the work would be completed and the smelter blown in. Starting from the upper end the work done to date is as follows: The heavy timbers for the receiving ore bins are in place, and only the lining is to be finished. The ore bins will have a holding capacity of 400 tons. They are 150 feet in length and 30 feet in width. The skeleton for the sampler building is finished. All that is now wanting is the machinery to be installed. It will be a 600-ton sampler. The lower gravity ore bins for charging the furnaces are practically completed. So also is the long dust flume, the skewback irons being in place ready for the brick arching. Three carloads of construction irons and parts for the furnace have arrived and will be in place within two weeks. The blower and boiler house are also finished. Word has been received that the blower has been

shipped from Connisville, Ind. The machinery for the sampler is also en route.

The smoke stack will be a steel one, 75 feet in height. Forty men are employed on the construction work.

Money and plenty of it is being utilized in the development of several splendid properties in Deadwood camp which ranks second in importance, of a dozen camps in the Boundary district. The British Columbia Copper Company, Limited, of New York, owning the Mother Lode mine in this camp, and now building a 300 ton smelter at Greenwood, has expended many thousands of dollars already in developing the mine and in the construction of the smelter, and has yet to spend many thousands more before the mine and smelter will be a profit paying concern. But that both will be, cannot be doubted when one learns of the truly immense profit paying ore body already opened up in the mine and the economical manner in which the ore will be handled and smelted. Beside the Mother Lode mine in the Deadwood camp the following properties are also being developed: The Sunset, Buckhorn, Butcher Boy, Greyhound and Great Hopes. Assessment work is also being done on a number of claims, and there are other properties such as the Morrison, Ah There, St. Lawrence, Arlington-Burns, Iron-Top and Early History that will, it is hoped, have development resumed this summer.

From Mr. Frederick Keffer, M.E., the general manager of the British Columbia Copper Company, Limited, the correspondent of the *Miner* recently obtained the following information regarding the development of the Mother Lode mine. At the 200-foot level the north drift was in 710 feet. From this drift are five crosscuts. Four of these crosscuts are in ore which have been run for the purpose of locating the ore body, ascertaining its value and blocking same out preparatory to stopping. The work has proved a continuous ore body for a length of 350 feet with an average width of 90 feet, the shortest width being 87 feet and the longest 110 feet. From this level up to the surface is about 360 feet. All this ore is practically pay ore. It is a chalcopryrite in a gangue consisting of iron, lime and silica, in such proportions that the same may be very economically smelted without the necessity of introducing barren fluxes.

The south drift on the same level was in 340 feet from the shaft. This drift is being extended to meet a tunnel starting from a point near Copper Creek, 800 feet away from the shaft. The tunnel has been driven 275 feet. There is yet about 180 feet to be run before connections will be made. This outlet will be used for the purpose of a drainage tunnel.

BRIDGE RIVER.

Parties will be up from Vancouver shortly to go up Bridge river to look over the Woodchuck claims in the interests of Lord Ernest Hamilton. Mr. J. Dunlop will accompany them.

Parties going into the Bridge river mines are now going by way of Mission Mountain and up the old route instead of by McGillivray creek. Ferries will be made and parties leaving town will go through with very little trouble.

Wm. Young, who is interested in the Lorne came down from Cadwallader a short time ago and has been in town for several days. He reports a good run the past week with the arrastras which amounted over \$1000. Mr. Young will return again to the mine in a few weeks.

CAPE NOME.

San Francisco, July 11.—News that martial law had been proclaimed at Nome City by Gen. Randall, in charge of the United States troops in that district, was brought here by the steamer "St. Paul," 13 days from St. Michael. The necessity for martial law arose out of the jumping of mining claims and other acts of lawlessness.

S. S. *Garmon* arrived at Port Townsend, Washington, July 17, with about \$75,000 in gold dust from Nome, also nine boxes of 250 lbs each from Dawson. T. Smallpox epidemic is reported at Nome.

CARRIBOO.

Through the kindness of Mr. Clark of Lytton, and who has just returned from the line now being pushed north from Quesnelle so rapidly by the Dominion Government, we learn that the line is now completed 258 miles north from Quesnelle and going ahead at the rate of six miles per day. The Omineca branch will be from Fraser Lake instead of from Stony creek, as was at first intended. Stations north of Quesnelle so far are: 16-Mile Cabin, Blackwater, 52; Bobtail Lake, 80; Stony Creek 110; Fraser Lake, 138. At other points, every 28 or 30 miles, neat cabins are being erected and supplies put in for operators and line men, it being intended that each station, averaging 30 miles apart, will have two men stationed there, and half way between each station is a refuge house for use in an emergency.

Mr. Trodden, the foreman, enforces one very good rule, no liquor and no firearms are allowed with the party and consequently there is no trouble. Thirty-five white men are working on construction and also a large number of Indians, many of the latter being packers.

It will not be long now until Dawson will tell Ashcroft direct to let the world know what is going on in Klondike and vice versa.—*Ashcroft Journal*.

Nothing definite has yet been learned of the wash-up at the Cariboo mine at Quesnelle Forks. From the fact that the stock has made a sharp advance, it selling now at Montreal at from \$1.15 to \$1.30, there is no doubt but that there have been good results obtained for this season's work. It is rumored that the amount washed up is \$120,000, another report says \$150,000 and a third one \$200,000. In any case it is good and comes at the right time to do Cariboo in general good.

EAST KOOTENAY.

For some time past trouble has been brewing between the miners and companies on the North Star and Sullivan hills, which, if not amicably arranged, will spread to the adjacent camps and result in 3000 or more miners going on strike. The managers, or their representatives, of the ten shipping mines on those hills are very reticent on the subject.

It is also reported that the miners have held several meetings recently, but they are just as reticent as the managers.

If a strike is inaugurated it is feared that it will be a long one, as the Miners' Union not only has a good fat treasury at the present time, but it also owns the "Union Miner," a property on the St. Marys which for six months has been shipping quite regularly and much more than paid its way of late for development.

It is sincerely hoped that cool counsels will prevail and an amicable settlement be reached.—*Cranbrook Herald*.

HOWE SOUND.

The Britannia property is not yet through the option stage, we understand. The prospects are undoubtedly gratifying as far as the mineral showing is concerned.

Several other properties contiguous to the Britannia are also changing hands, although as yet prospects. In fact the locality is staked for miles back.

Advices just to hand state that the Le Roi No 2. was not the success reported. The whole business being rigged considerably.

KLONDIKE.

Assistant Gold Commissioner Bell estimates the output for the present season will be \$20,000,000.

The steamer "City of Seattle" has returned to Seattle on July 11th from Alaska with \$900,000 in gold from the Klondike. Of the total amount, dust valued at \$800,000 was shipped out by the Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Bank of British North America, of Dawson, to the Seattle assay office. Besides this there was \$100,000 of individual gold. Dawson passengers say the Klondike clean-up is progressing satisfactorily.

Steamer "Cottage City" arrived from the north with a number of Klondikers and about \$300,000 in gold dust aboard. The miners tell of great excitement at Dawson over the strike of conglomerate at Indian river. Assays give from \$8 to \$20 to the ton, and there is said to be thousands of miles in extent of the ore. It is said that the new find will yet rival Johannesburg. Miners are in somewhat of a mix-up as to the registration of the claims as Placer or as Quartz. There is, of course, a great difference in size of the two classes.

It is said that a Swede named August Trulson, and his partner, while working their claim on Lower Dominion Creek, near Dawson, in the Yukon Country, came across a well preserved specimen of a mammoth that will be of great interest to scientists.

The huge monster had apparently been caught in a glacial slide, and there was nothing to detract from its general like-life appearance, in spite of the fact that it was forty feet below the surface. The only other recorded instance of an animal of this species having been found intact, was about fifty years ago. This was in an iceberg on the coast of Siberia, and the specimen is now in the St. Petersburg Museum.

The Dominion monster weighed between twenty-five and thirty tons, with a length over all of forty-four feet and six inches. Its right tusk was broken, but the left is in a perfect state of preservation, measuring three inches over fourteen feet in length, and 38 inches in circumference. It is covered with a hairy wool and about fifteen inches long.

Probably the most remarkable feature was that the meat of the animal was as fresh and sweet as if it had been killed only yesterday. The hindquarters of the mammoth weighed 8,642 pounds. It is now the favorite question on the streets of Dawson—"Where else on earth is it possible to sit down to breakfast and order a tenderloin of mammoth, and be served with a juicy cut of a huge monster the size and weight of a Yukon steamer, and killed, perhaps, 25,000 years ago?"

A rich strike is reported on the Indian river.

The SS. *Danube* left for the south on the 5th with a good passenger list and full freight.

Numbers are wending their way to White Horse, which from its copper prospects and general situation seems likely to progress.

The *Cutch* and *Rosalie* arrived from the north on the 8th, the one with \$50,000, and the other with 600,000 in Klondike Gold.

The SS. *Cutch* arrived down from Skagway on June 30th, having two passengers and a large amount of gold dust on board. Mr. C. J. Dumbolton had, it is said, the largest amount of gold, which he brought from the Klondike with him. His property on Dominion Creek produced, we understand, \$20,000 on the clean-up.

Berry Bros.' clean-up will be some \$300,000.

Yukon river is reported as rising, which will ensure better navigation to Dawson. The White Pass and Yukon Railway extension from Bennet to White Horse will be finished by 1st of next month. Trains will be running through from Skagway to White Horse after that date. The line opened will be 120 miles.

The *Cutch* arrived down on the 18th July with between \$200,000 and \$300,000 in gold, besides a large number of drafts. The *Cutch* left again on the 22nd and took with it a large shipment of hydraulic pipe and other mining machinery, sent by Armstrong and Morrison of Vancouver.

Advices from the north say that the "Banket" of South Africa is duplicated in the find on Indian river. Verification in due course.

LARDEAU.

The trail to the Triune is almost completed and supplies are now being packed right to the mine. Enough ore has already been sacked to load the pack horses both ways. There are five men at work in the mine and three finishing up the trail work. The ore now sacked will run over \$300 a sack or nearly \$6,000 to the ton. Of course this is picked ore, but it is pretty fair picking even at that. The Triune will surprise the smelter men at Trail and give this camp a much deserved boost in the eyes of the mining world. They expect to ship ore steadily from this date, averaging in value at least \$300 to the ton. The owners, Messrs. A. and D. Ferguson, have refused two big cash down offers in the last two weeks. The property is not for sale. And thus another steady shipper has been added to the list of Lardeau's wealth producers.

R. Leckie-Ewing came down from the Empire group, on the head of Carriboo and Gainer creeks, a few days ago. A force of men have been put to work on a crosscut tunnel and are now in about 20 ft. The snow is going fast. Mr. Ewing has taken some excellent views of the property and surrounding country. Work will be vigorously prosecuted from now on, and supplies for the coming winter will be taken in as soon as a few repairs are made to the Empire trail. This trail, which is one of the best in the district, the *Engl.* might say, was built by the Empire Company, without any assistance whatever from the Government. They now need a couple of hundred dollars to repair it and seeing that the company has spent hundreds of dollars on the first cost, the Government should at least be expected to meet this mild requisition.

On account of wetness the men working in one of the drifts were laid off. This cuts the force down to about fifteen. Stopping and drifting still continues, taking out only the ore encountered. The proposed long base tunnel has not yet been begun. The Cup was never looking better than at present.

Rowland Harris, M.E., of Greenwood, accompanied by a Mr. Brown, (brother of the famous "Barbarian" Brown), arrived in the camp and proceeded to the Monitor and Mogul mineral claims, up the north fork, owned by the Monitor Mines Co. Ltd., to examine and report upon them. Mr. Harris had nothing to make public at present, more than that he would return in a few weeks, certain instructions being carried out in the meantime by the miners now working. The tunnel, running along the hanging wall, is now in about 100 ft. While Mr. Harris was there a shot or two was put into the lead at the 60 ft. point and the lead crosscut at the face of the tunnel. Between 25 and 28 inches of galena ore was exposed on the hanging wall, and 5 or 6 inches of a paystreak on the foot wall. J. T. Lauthers is taking up additional supplies this week and work will be pushed right ahead.

S. S. Connauton, manager, and J. D. Carlyle, superintendent of the Lode Star Mining and Development Company, which has property on Hall creek, over on the Duncan slope, told a *Miner* reporter in Nelson that they were working six men on their claims and that they had traced the lead for 6,000 feet. They have run three tunnels to the depth of 60 feet each. The ore, taken from the property, in all values runs from \$58 to \$145. They have made three crosscuts on the main lead. Ore from these gives from \$60 to \$100. There are also three open cuts on the same lead, giving about the same values. On one

of the claims they have stripped a copper ledge, four feet across. The property will be Crown granted this summer. They also stated that if they had railroad conveniences they would be able to ship nearly 100 tons of ore per day.

Jas. Grant, with E. M. Morgan and Leonard Kenyon, who have been working with him on the Golden Gate, came in a short time ago. He has succeeded in getting a fifty foot tunnel driven and has started a crosscut, which will continue this fall for a distance of about 40 feet, when he expects to strike a body of ore. So far they have been drifting in graphite with a shale and slate formation. It is to be hoped that Mr. Grant's hopes will be realized, as he is certainly entitled to be well paid for his many years of hard labor.

LILLOOET.

Messrs. F. S. Reynolds, Oliver Harvey and C. R. Doxat of Ashcroft visited the Anderson Lake company's mines during the past week and spent a couple of days looking over the properties. The ten-stamp mill will start up for the months run as soon as some alterations found necessary are completed. About 180 tons of rock has been crushed so far by the mill, the rock being found of a very satisfactory grade, but owing to trouble in the mill, a large percentage of loss occurred in gold, over fifteen pounds of quick silver having been sent over the plates during the few days the mill run and with it much of the fine gold from one of the batteries that was partially cleaned up so as to reset the dies, a dozen or more nuggets, averaging from \$3 to \$7 were taken out.

Mr. John Marshall who has been at the mine in an official capacity for the past two months has, now that the mill is completed resigned his position and at the present time Mr. W. E. Brett is in charge with H. Hodge as head mill man.

We learn that the company are arranging for an increase in capitalization so as to provide a treasury stock and have made arrangements with the owners of the Ruby and Diamond claims lying below and adjoining the company's property, for their purchase, and will at once put in the second ten-stamp for which the building was built, and the mortar blocks are in place, so that in ninety days time we may expect to hear the noise of twenty-stamps, dropping on McGillivray creek.

The ledge shows up remarkably well in the different levels, gold showing across the face of the ledge, in the lower tunnel about 300 feet in and nearly 200 feet under ground. The ledge is at this point from ten to twelve feet wide and all carrying good gold values.—*Prospector.*

NELSON.

The Ophir near Nelson has been bonded to the York and Lancaster Syndicate, represented by Mr. T. G. Procter. They are sinking and crosscutting to test the values of the ore, which is said to be free milling gold.

The Athabasca mill run for June, 1900, is a record to stamper and which gives us great pleasure to publish.

Period of run	29 days, 9 hrs.
Number of tons milled	475
Value of Bullion recovered	\$21,675.00
Concentrates	5,919.73

\$27,594.73

Value of bullion per ton of ore:

Crushed	\$45.63
Concentrates	12.44
Total values received per ton of ore crushed	58.00
Percentage by weight of concentrates to ore crushed.....	10.8
Percentage of recovery in mill	80.6

E. NELSON FELL, *Manager*

The Silver King is, we hear, about to use electricity as a motive power, in the place of steam.

OKANAGAN.

News has reached us of copper finds of an encouraging nature from Kerenos district. Several parties of prospectors are out and a number of claims worked, which have given on the preliminary work fairly satisfactory tests. Values being in gold and copper, from 4 per cent. copper, 3.50 gold, to 9½ per cent. copper and \$5 in gold. We shall be glad to hear that the ore is correct.

ROSSLAND.

Trail smelter lead furnace is closed for a few days for clearing and repairs. A new roast pile has been started.

Additions to the smelter plant necessitated some 500,000 bricks, the contract for which has just been completed by Mr. R. Tugswell and represents one of the largest kilns ever burnt in B. C.

Ore shipments for week ending 14th July was—Le Roi, 4675 tons; Evening Star, 75 tons. Some 100,000 tons is in the Le Roi dumps ready for shipment.

A rumour was circulated that the War Eagle and Centre Star mines had been bought by the B. C. Corporation. The report is thought to have originated from London, from where Messrs Gooderham and Blackstock have just returned.

SLOCAN.

Sanden shipments for June amount to 1482 tons, made up as follows: Payne 550 tons, Star 480, Last Chance 260, Ruth 152, American Boy and the Augusta 20 each. The probability is that the shipments will increase each month, till they reach their full volume in October.

We hear that Whitewater is likely to show some good gold as also silver prospects. Mr. C. Plowman representing English capital, has taken an option on some claims at Whitewater, within 3 miles of the railway. Tests show very good gold values.

Steady development continues in the Rambler Cariboo, which it said will shortly resume the payment of dividends. A larger and more improved plant is being installed, including a 10-drill compressor, as also a 280 h. p. boiler.

Whitewater mine concentrator is averaging a car per day. Shipments for the last week in June were 168 tons, and for the first week of this month 134 tons.

TFXADA ISLAND.

The Copper Queen is in six feet of smelting ore at the 200 ft level. On the 500 ft level they have drifted 20 ft. in ore.

At the Cornell work is also proceeding most satisfactorily, a drift has been run at the 160 ft level some 40 ft. and crosscut and 2 ft. stoping will be commenced at once.

The Loyal, a prospect which is developing already, into a shipper. Five scowloads of copper ore having been shipped to the smelter. A few months since this property was an unknown quantity.—*Coast Miner.*

WHITE HORSE.

We hear that the copper claims developing here are encouraging.

YMIR.

A cable to London gives the following returns from the Ymir mine for the month of April. Total amount crushed 3,000 tons (dry weight). The mill ran 29 days 2 hours. Bullion produced, \$18,000; concentrates, 175 tons; total estimated value, \$7,000. This makes the output from the mine for the first four months of the present year reach a total of \$71,500.

The Dundee is at a comparative standstill until the English Syndicate, which has the option decides on their course.

The Toronto and Standard Mining Exchange of Toronto, Ont. have amalgamated.

It is rumored that the B. C. Development Association intend to enlarge their capital to £100,000.

In this issue we give illustrations of Grand Forks in 1899. Rossland, Trail Smelting Works, some of Giants of the Forest, Vancouver Island, and Mining Scenes in Atlin, B. C.

Ymir Co., we hear, will have 60 stamps at work shortly.

Athabasca has cut its capital down to one-half and intend doubling the capacity of the mill. As the mine is under excellent management, dividends will doubtless be forthcoming at no distant date.

Butte, Montana, has established a school of mines, at a cost of \$100,000. The first applicant for admission was a lady.

The Chinese war should help the silver production and stimulate the industry generally. It is estimated that during the first five months of the year China imported some 27,000,000 ounces.

New South Wales, Mining returns for the past year are:—

Silver and Lead	£2,070,657.0.0
Gold	1,751,815.0.0
Coal and Shale	1,325,798.0.0
Copper	399,814.0.0
Opal	135,000.0.0
Tin	98,428.0.0
Coke	77,130.0.0
Diamonds	10,341.0.0

Total £6,157,557.0.0
or \$30,787,785

We beg to acknowledge "The Journal of the Mining Society of Nova Scotia," Vol. v.; also "The Gold Measures of Nova Scotia and Deep Mining" by E. R. Faribault B. Sc. (Geological Survey of Canada.)

Also "Annual Reports" from the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, and "Mining Reports of B. C." from Department of Mines, Victoria.

We also acknowledged receipt of description of the "Auro-meter Gold Tester," which instrument it fulfils its character, should be indispensable to Banks, Traders, and gold buyers generally. It not only weighs the gold, but avoids the risk of paying for impurities. Besides which it registers the value of the gold or dust in dollars and cents.

Finance.

LONDON, ENG.

The Chinese complications, has depressed even Gilt Edge Stock on the Exchange, money tight and stock markets demoralized. Le Rois have dropped. Westralians however, more than keep their end up. This unfortunate Eastern Crisis will delay several proposed B. C. issues.

It is stated that a combination in the bleaching business, under the title of the United Bleachers Association, Limited, has just been registered, with a capital of nine millions, three millions to be in debentures, and the remainder in preference or ordinary shares of £1 each. It is believed that when the issue is made in a few weeks it will take the form of two to two and-a-half millions of first mortgage, £100 debenture stock, and 5½ per cent cumulative preference and ordinary shares. Mr. Herb. Shepherd Cross, M. P., a member of the firm of Messrs. Thos. Cross and Co., Limited, bleachers, Mortfield, Bolton, will take the chairmanship of the association; and Messrs. John Stanning and Son, bleachers, and Mr. John Breunard, a director of the Unson Bank of Maachester, and who is connected with bleaching firms, will act as general managers.

Many well known and important firms have contributed to the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

We have received the annual report of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, which must be highly satisfactory to the shareholders and the Bank's clients.

Net profits for year ending 31st May, 1900, was \$766,582.52, \$34,821.05 being carried forward, \$250,000.00 to rest account, or Reserve fund, and a dividend paid of seven per cent. for the year amounting to \$420,000.00.

Statement appended covering the year ending 31st May, 1900,	
Balance at credit of Profit and Loss Account, brought forward from last year,	
was	\$55,738.53
Net Profits for the year ending 31st May, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amounted to	766,582.52

Making in all \$822,321.05

Which has been appropriated as follows:—

Dividends Nos. 65 and 66, at seven per cent. per annum	420,000.00
Transferred to Rest Account	250,000.00
Written off Bank Premises	100,000.00
Transferred to Pension Fund	10,000.00
Grant to National Patriotic Fund	5,000.00
Grant to Fund for relief of sufferers by Ottawa Fire	2,500.00
Balance carried forward	34,821.05
	\$822,321.05

B. C. AND KLONDIKE QUOTATIONS.

LONDON, ENG.

Alaska Goldfields,	13-16
British America Corporation,	15s.
B. C. Development Assoc.	½
Dominion Mining Development and Agency	½
Duncan Mines,	¾
Hall Mines,	1-16
Klondike Bonanza	5/8
Le Roi	6 7-16
London and B. C. Goldfields,	1 ¾
McDonald's Bonanza,	¾
New Goldfields of B. C.,	1
Queen Bess Proprietary,	¾
Velvet,	1
Whitewater Mines,	¾
Yukon Goldfields, (new)	1 ½
Ymir Gold Mines,	1 ¾

NEW YORK METAL QUOTATIONS.—Pig Iron, \$16.50 to 20.50; Copper, \$16.50; Lead, \$3.97½ to \$4.02½; Spelter, \$4.20 to \$4.25.

The Stock Markets.

LOCAL STOCK MARKET.

	PAR VALUE.	PRICE
Alberni Con	1 00	5½
Alberni Mountain Rose..	1 00	5½
Athabasca	1 00	13½
Big Three..	1 00	7¼
Cariboo Hydraulic	5 00	\$1.36
Cariboo McKinney	1 00	78½
Canadian Goldfields	—	7¼
Crow's Nest Coal.....	25 00	38 50
Dardanelles..	1 00	3
Deer Park	1 00	2
Evening Star	1 00	9½
Grand Forks of Bonanza	25	50
Hall Mines.....	1 00	—
Iron Colt	1 00	—
Iron Horse	1 00	—
Iron Mask	1 00	30
Knob Hill	1 00	47
Le Roi	£5	£5
Mineral Hill	1 00	95
Mimchaba	1 00	3¼
Monte Christo.....	1 00	4
Montreal Goldfields.....	1 00	3½
Morrison	—	2½
Noble Five	1 00	7
Novelty	1 00	03
Old Ironsides	1 00	75
Payne	1 00	1 03
Rambler Cariboo	1 00	24
Rathmullen	1 00	—
Slocan Star.....	50	—
St. Elmo	1 00	—
Van Anda.....	1 00	3
Victory-Triumph	1 00	02½
Virginia	1 00	—
Waterloo	10	06
War Eagle	1 00	1 52
White Bear	1 00	2
Winnipeg	1 00	10¼

Correspondence.

Cariboo District, July 10, 1900.

To the Editor.

It is certainly gratifying that the men who are doing things, who are keeping this district alive—the mine-owners, managers and prospectors, are practically a unit in favor of Crown grants for placers; and it is hoped the Members from Cariboo will be able to get the Act passed at this session.

The discrimination against placer mining as compared with quartz mining is so distinctly unfair and foolish that it is astonishing how it could have existed so long; yet, to this day, there are people loath to admit the fact that the halcyon days of the placer miner in this Province are past never to return, but nevertheless the shallow, rich creeks, the poor man's diggings, have been found and worked out, and present conditions necessitate a radical revision of the old laws. The placer lease is but a halting, inadequate move in the right direction, giving sufficient area, but only under such onerous conditions that in nine cases out of ten it would have been better for the miner had he invested his money, skill, and muscle in some other business or country. This is not a healthy condition, and it cannot last long; when the placer investor finally tumbles to what is being done to him in this Province he will quit, and when he does, this part of it will be as it was eight years ago, dead as Julius Caesar.

The apparent prosperity in Cariboo, as evidenced by increased Government receipts, is easily explained; the reason is this: the mining lease law being absolutely unworkable is not enforced. A leaseholder who, doing the best he can to comply with the terms of his lease, fails not too badly in the effort, and keeps the rent paid up, continues to hold the ground, but it actually depends upon the probity, good sense, and discretion of the Gold Commissioner, and it is indeed fortunate that his decisions are usually in accordance with equity instead of as "Tis written in the bond".

Many years experience in Cariboo mining gives me the right to speak with some show of authority when I say that 90 per cent. of the mining leases now held in the district are, or have been forfeitable, and among the owners of the 90 per cent. are some of the heaviest operators in the district. Is it not an absurd state of affairs, and can you imagine the result of a strict



MINING SCENE ON PINE CREEK, ATLIN, M. D.

enforcement of the conditions of these leases? What is the sense of having placer mining regulations, that, if enforced, would ruin the industry? Here is an instance of the frightful injustice possible under this system: A well known mining man has been trying for years to open up a deep drift mine. He has sunk in it all the money he had, \$100,000, probably five times as much as he thought would be necessary, notwithstanding the most admirable pluck he has thus far entirely failed to open the mine, or find gold in paying quantity, although a favorable prospect has been found. He is now in the East trying to borrow money or form a company, and if he fails in this will inevitably lose the whole, for he cannot possibly do the work required, amounting to thousands of dollars annually.

Perhaps the thought strikes you that being in such a predicament, will make a man do some hard rustling for more money to put into this country. Undoubtedly, but for every dollar he secures under those circumstances, two or three in the pockets of other men will be so thoroughly scared that they can never be coaxed to take the position that the first \$100,000 are now in.

We cannot expect that investors will continue to invest their money foolishly; to put into placers, more heavily taxed and with less security of title than obtains in other placer countries, or in quartz mining in this country. I summed up the situation and it is simply this: We must have capital, and, to get it, must treat it fairly.

However, I think a re-enactment of the old Crown grant law would be unwise, it produces too little revenue to be a fiscal success, and encourages holding ground without work, which is bad for the wage-miner, merchant, and laborer, and tends to give the grant owner an unfair advantage over the investor. All the objections to placer grants can be overcome by a carefully drafted law intended to avoid the errors of the old one. How would this do as a skeleton or outline? Allow Crown grants for placer on an exact equality with quartz Crown grants as to cost and area. If a placer grant has been unworked, or less than a fixed amount has been expended on it during the year, the property to be taxed, on a valuation given by the owner through the proper Government official by an intending purchaser not subject to refusal. Grants on which work to the fixed amount has been done during the year, and non-dividend paying, to be free from taxation. Dividend paying grant mines to be taxed on a valuation fixed by the proper Government official

and not subject to the un-refusable tender. All grants on which the tax has not been paid to be sold to highest bidders annually on a date specified in the Act.

Such a measure would be revenue-producing in a high degree, would accord the fairest treatment, greatly stimulate and give perfect security to investment. The un-refusable tender is the gist of the whole scheme, for the owner would put the valuation neither too high nor too low; he could not cinch the capitalist and the ground thus held would go at a fair price to the man who could develop it.

Non-taxation of worked but unprofitable mines is but just, for the man who is trying to develop a mine and not succeeding is sufficiently out of luck without being taxed in addition. I cannot assert with too much emphasis that the permanent prosperity of the northern interior of the Province is in the hands of our legislators. Handicapped by the climate and remoteness from supply points, the one present available resource of all

that region is the placer, for quartz development must perforce await the coming of cheap transportation—the railroad. The early-day, golden period of quick returns by crude methods in Cariboo, Omenica, and Cassiar should have been immediately succeeded by a new era of cheap mining on a large scale. The one should have followed the other as a natural sequence. The fact that stagnation, and to a great degree abandonment followed that early period is proof positive of the Boer incapacity of the British Columbia legislator to meet new conditions. The partial revival of mining activity in these districts is less due to the wisdom of our law makers than to the unparalleled, world wide struggle for the yellow metal, resulting in a revival in every gold mining country. That gratifying progress has been made under the burdensome, vicious, dangerous lease system is ample guarantee of the prosperity that will follow in the footsteps of honest, sensible legislation.

Gentlemen of the Legislature, Press the button, we will do the rest.
MINER.

Answers to Correspondents.

A.Z., ENG.—1. Giving advice is a thankless task. However, we have repeatedly stated, that those who cannot afford to risk something, should keep away from mining speculations. "Fools generally rush in where angels fear to tread," hence much of the odium under which mining lays, is attributed to this fact. Treated as a business proposition you are just as safe as investing in any other business enterprise. 2. Enquire and see for yourself, get the best advice possible from those who make the matter a profession, then you minimize the risk.

BOXER.—No; there is no difficulty with anything good. The trouble is here, that men are too poor to put the money in to the extent necessary to prove a mine as a rule.

ANTIE, LONDON.—That is a rigging matter. Sell out at once under the circumstances, or at all events cover yourself.

Through pressure of space we have to hold over other correspondence until our next issue.

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Published at 612 Cordova Street, Vancouver, B. C. Printed by Timms Printing Company, 517 Seymour St., Vancouver, B. C.