

ROSSLAND REALTY

COLUMBIA AVE. VALUES

Settlement of the Paris Belle Suit and Removal of the Cloud on the Title Announced—The Northern Property Still Clouded.

Real estate values are generally considered to be the thermometer or the barometer of a town, city, county or province. If the prices of real estate are constantly increasing then the outside public knows that there is something behind the scenes that is causing a constant advance in values.

Rossland had a boom in real estate a couple of years ago that was somewhat disastrous and a large number of men lost money here just as they do in all boom towns, but now there is no real estate boom and yet there is a substantial advance in the value of frontage on Columbia avenue.

Today lots on either side of Columbia avenue between Lincoln and Spokane streets are worth from \$300 to \$500 a foot. The lots on the north are 80 by 116 feet. Some of these properties have changed hands at an even higher rate.

From Lincoln to St. Paul and from here to Spokane streets the value on both sides is considered to be about \$200 per front foot, but this value will be considerably enhanced when the rock cut is completed at the west end and the titles are absolute at the east end. And these are only questions of a very short time now, for the rock cut will be through in two weeks anyway and the title to the Paris Belle property has been settled on the court and only now needs the formal confirmation by the judge of the supreme court.

The settlement of this suit will have a very important bearing on the future of Rossland because investors will be ready to put money into structures that they would not otherwise have given the smallest consideration to owing to the insufficiency of the title.

In the meantime the property of the Montreal syndicate on the original townsite of Rossland is being inquired for more and more every day, and wherever a lot is to be had where the title is absolute there is no want of purchasers.

The settlement of this suit, too, is a big thing for the city and Assessor Harp will be able to go round and assess a large amount of property and the revenues of the city will be largely increased as soon as the court has confirmed the settlement which is expected to take place in the course of the next three or four weeks.

Just as soon as the title to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard property above First avenue is settled that part of the city will commence to go ahead rapidly. In the meantime it is interesting to know the prices that have been paid for properties where the title is secure and where the business of the city is being transacted. A few transfers recently made will show that the values stated above are not exaggerated.

The Golden Cafe block on the south side of Columbia avenue was sold a short time ago for \$80,000 at the rate of \$238.33 per front foot and the lot is only 100 feet deep. It cannot now be bought at an advance of 25 per cent. This sale was made last fall. Then a few days ago C. O. Lalonde sold his half of the Lalonde Rodier block to an English syndicate who wanted it purely as an investment for \$3,300 cash and this is east of Lincoln street. Then the Miller block has been sold to Ed Finch for \$7,000, and this is still further east than the Lalonde-Rodier block. McLaren & Armstrong sold the old Brunswick building property to H. S. Wallace for \$9,000, or exactly \$300 a foot. Going away from Columbia avenue the Collins block on Washington street in the rear of the proposed bank building has been sold to McMillan Bros. for \$9,000 or \$300 per foot. True this property is cornered on an alley and has a depth of 172 feet, but the sale shows the tendency to buy property and to pay well for it when the title is secure.

There is no doubt but that transfers will be much more numerous and the price paid much higher as soon as the title to the properties are absolute. The unsettled state of the titles on the property claimed under the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway grant can, it is said, be obviated by the government taking action to expedite the trial of the case and the friends of the present government, if they chose, could urge upon the government the advisability of such a course. In the meantime the city's growth is retarded, for no one cares to put up an expensive residence on property whose title is clouded. The only property in which good residences are erected lie in the original townsite, where long, heavy grades that are climbed, but now it is expected that residences will go up all over the east end and the revenue of the city will be materially increased.

THE BRUNSWICK GROUP.

Good Gold Values Obtained From the Ore Taken From the Tunnel.

The New Brunswick Consolidated Gold Mining company, owning the Florence, Deadwood and New Brunswick claims, on Wild Horse creek, a mile and a half from the railway station, have now made sufficient developed their property to obtain crown grants. A tunnel has been run in 200 feet on the New Brunswick claim, following the three claims which is traced through the three claims and shows 12 to 20 feet wide on the surface, assays being had at various points of \$26.91 gold and silver to \$70 in gold. The chief shareholders are John Henderson of Trail, W. H. Goodeve and M. H. Dobie of Rossland and others in Montreal, Toronto, St. Anomas and other places in Ontario. The workings have been inspected at different times by representatives of the eastern shareholders and so favorably reported upon that the shares are firmly held. Only promoters' "pool" shares have been issued, and they are not yet exhausted, although so much has been accomplished. The capital, are still in reserve, placing the company in an unusually strong financial condition, as these shares are expected to sell at a good price if Dundas and other neighboring mines verify what is now predicted of them. Dundas' vein is said to be exactly similar to New Brunswick's, and Tennessee's vein is said to also cross New Brunswick's.

MARTIN BLACKBALLED ITS GREAT FUTURE

The Attorney-General Put up and Rejected for a Victoria Club. R. E. Gosnell Speaks Enthusiastically of the Boundary.

He is Not Persona Grata With Some of the Old Party Men and Conservatives of the Island City.

The following is taken from the Victoria Globe: If any of the members of the Badminton club did not get down to business at the usual hour this morning there was some excuse for it. They had a late sitting last night, or at least, most of the club had, and it was the small hours of the morning before they went home.

The cause of all this trouble was the man who had been causing all the trouble in the province lately—nobody else but Hon. Joseph Martin.

The Badminton club has a different method of electing members than is pursued in most clubs. They do not simply put a man's name up and have him balloted for by the committee, but the task of saying who shall not be members.

A short time ago the attorney-general's name was put up for membership. This, however, did not meet with the approval of the other members, who, strange to say, really objected to having the distinguished statesman a member of their set.

Accordingly a general meeting of the members was summoned to discuss the committee's action last night, for there had been a lively canvass beforehand, and each one scented a row.

The discussion centered round a resolution by which it was proposed to refer the election of Mr. Martin back to the committee with instructions to the effect that the club did not desire the name of Joseph Martin as a member—and in fact to tell him that.

The debate which followed was decidedly interesting, and was participated in by members of the bench and bar and other shining lights of society.

Incidentally in the warmth of his advocacy of Mr. Martin, one gentleman mentioned the fact that Mr. Bostock, M. P., was a warm friend of Joseph Martin, and what is more, held a mortgage on part of the club furniture.

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IN SPRING TIME

Paine's Celery Compound

Is the Giver of Health and New Life to the Sick and Diseased.

Spring, with its bright sunshine, lengthening days, warm rains, and its promises of a new life in nature, is fast approaching. Nature's wonderful gifts are being enjoyed by the old and young who are enjoying full health and bodily activity.

To thousands the coming of spring means a fuller cup of agony and suffering; it is a time when the dark grave claims many victims.

When men and women are burdened with the disease of kidney disease, such as kidney disease, liver complaint, blood troubles, rheumatism, neuralgia, and the terrible after effects of grippe, spring has no charm for them. They have allowed themselves to sink into a condition of misery and helplessness during the winter that must quickly terminate life, unless that true health and life giver, Paine's Celery Compound, be made use of without delay.

The nervous system, weak and unstrung, must be fortified; the blood, sluggish, impure and watery, must be made clean and fast flowing, and every organ of digestion must be toned up to the true healthful pitch.

Nature's wonderfully successful medicine, Paine's Celery Compound, does this work as no other remedy can do. It acts as a nerve and brain food, it gives tone to the stomach, it banishes permanently kidney disease, liver complaint, rheumatism, dyspepsia and other troubles that make life a misery.

When your life is in danger do not be misled by common advertised medicines, as many of them are dangerous and unsafe. Ask for the kind that cured your friends and neighbors—the kind that "makes people well."

Summer Athletics. A meeting will be called next week, of which due announcement will be made in The Miner, at which arrangements will be made for the organization of a lacrosse club, provided suitable grounds can be secured. It is felt, however, that the old baseball grounds are too dusty for good play. The same objections apply to their use for cricket or baseball, but if other grounds can be secured the athletes of the city, of whom there are any number, will put up some good sport during the coming summer.

THE RAILWAY SURVEYORS

They Arrive in Republic Via the San Poil.

A Party of Rosslanders in From Sheridan Camp—Notes of the Mines.

Republic, Wash., March 8.—(Special.) A party of railroad surveyors arrived here yesterday, but it is not known at present what road they represent.

Evidently they came up the San Poil. J. B. Hastings, assistant Colonel Topping and Henry Keagan, returned from Sheridan today, after examining the Zella M. mine. Samples will be taken to the bottom of the last-foot shaft in the mine, and the parties seem well pleased with the mine and its workings; in fact Mr. Thompson is rather enthusiastic.

All the gentlemen above named start, on their way this morning to catch the train, but some of them will return in a few days.

The strong sun and a whistling chinook wind is taking the snow down, which makes some of the southern hills bare.

A Rossland syndicate, with Ross Thompson at its head, has purchased the North Star, which has a tunnel in 300 feet. Frank Gandril is in charge, intending to run 1,000 feet of a tunnel, it is thought the Republic tunnel will be tapped.

Yesterday Ross Thompson made the last payment on the Harty Oude property, which is one of the most promising in the camp. Development work will be pushed with vigor.

Superintendent Hinckley of the Mary Ann reports that he has cut a six-foot vein of blue quartz, and that the Mary Ann looks better every shot. Mr. Hinckley will commence work on the Marquette in a few days.

W. S. McKillen is in from the Belcher claims, and reports that tunnel No. 2 has broken into the main lead at a lateral depth of 140 feet. As yet no assays have been made, but the ore looks good, being a white quartz carrying heavy values in copper. Several smaller veins were cut by the tunnel.

Republic, March 8.—(delayed in transmission.)—Herbert Bolster and George Kitchener, after a tramp through the hills from the Golden Harvest to the Mountain Lion return to Spokane to-night. Kitchener, who has made frequent trips here, is astonished at the development work, so steadily pushed ahead in the entire district, and the hills dotted with the unplanned and unpainted cabins. He thinks it will be a great camp.

C. T. Hill has located a claim called the Sunshine, about a mile and a half in a northerly direction from the Mountain Lion.

Like the Lions surface croppings those on the Sunshine are 50 feet wide, with surface assays of over \$3 per ton. So soon as arrangements can be completed a tunnel will be started. The claim is very steep, and a 50-foot tunnel will attain a depth of 125 feet. The intention is to dig on the hanging wall, and crosscut for the foot wall when 50 feet is reached. The quartz resembles all the rich quartz of the Republic district.

On the Monroe claim, Superintendent Raborg has let an additional 50-foot tract in the opinion of the superintendent the new contract will cut the ledge before the term expires.

The Gold Leaf tunnel is in now 365 feet and Superintendent Raborg today let a contract for 50 feet additional tunnel. In addition, it is thought, will carry the tunnel under the rich surface ore, and tap the ledge at a depth of 200 feet.

THE REPUBLIC CAMP.

Visitors Are There From Trail and Rossland—Mining Notes. Republic, Wash., March 7.—(Special.) What might have been called the "great push," are arriving here. Last evening J. B. Hastings, Ross Thompson, and George B. Kittenger, the well known mining man, is here looking after his interests; and Herbert Bolster, a Spokane man, a very disreputable name, and big real estate dealer, is taking in the camp and its surroundings.

Stage drivers claim they are sorely taxed, and that passengers should book weeks ahead, because a man that is left at the railway station for one day, thinks the great opportunity of his life is gone.

All over the hills of the Republic are as thick as mushrooms, and spring up almost as quick. It is getting a little lonesome for the "bed-rooms Trust," with their dollar a night. There are no stoves, nor tables in the rooms, and no back talk to the proprietors.

The tunnel on the Tribby is in 45 feet, and they anticipate that the ledge will be cut in the next 30 feet, as claim is about two and a half miles south of town.

A shaft was sunk 20 feet through the wash on the Insurgent, 600 feet south of shaft No. 1. At that depth the lead was encountered, which is said to be the Last Chance lode.

The Republic Giant tunnel is now nearly 50 feet under ground. The crosscut is expected to cut the ledge in a few days. All the necessary buildings are now erected, and the shaft is being pushed on the Buffalo claim, on the outside group in Cody camp. The shaft will be sunk 100 feet before crosscutting, and sinking is now in progress. The entire shaft is in quartz, which assays from \$2 to \$8 per ton.

A telephone message received here states that the governor has appointed the three county commissioners required by the new county bill. They are H. L. Percy and D. W. Yeargin of Republic, and Mr. Wilnot of the south of the Republic. The next election, make boundary lines, etc., Mr. Percy, with his energy and business qualifications, is considered about the right man for the appointment.

A BAYONET THURST is as a pin scratch to the tortures of indigestion and dyspepsia. The bravest soldier will shrink before the onslaught of these redoubtable enemy to health. Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets break down the stronghold of disease, build up and fortify the wasted nerve force, put new life, new hope, new energy, hoist the banner of victory in the steady flag of dyspepsia. 25 cents. For sale by Goodeve Bros.

A SURE CATARRH CURE.

No matter what your experience has been with so-called "remedies," your ultimate, complete recovery can surely and positively be effected. Don't suffer any longer. Don't trifle with a distressing and dangerous disease when a sure cure is within your grasp. Thousands of sufferers whose condition was worse than yours have been cured and are now in perfect health. Their enthusiastic and unsolicited testimonies show beyond the shadow of a doubt that

Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder

is the most wonderfully effective remedy ever compounded. It relieves the most severe case in from 10 to 60 minutes; it effects a full cure in a short time. The most eminent nose and throat specialists in the world have given their unqualified endorsement. In all cases of catarrh, colds, sore throat, asthma, hay fever and influenza it acts like magic. It is easy and pleasant to use. It never fails to do precisely what is claimed for it. In less than an hour it relieves the most severe case in from 10 to 60 minutes; it effects a full cure in a short time. The most eminent nose and throat specialists in the world have given their unqualified endorsement. In all cases of catarrh, colds, sore throat, asthma, hay fever and influenza it acts like magic. It is easy and pleasant to use. It never fails to do precisely what is claimed for it. In less than an hour it relieves the most severe case in from 10 to 60 minutes; it effects a full cure in a short time. 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AS BUSY AS BEES

The Boundary Country is the Center of Great Activity.

A TALK WITH H. WHITE

F. M. McLeod, the Well Known Barrister, Pays an Eloquent Tribute to the West, and Says Grand Forks Has a Great Future.

Grand Forks, March 14.—[Special.]—Henry White, superintendent of the City of Paris Gold Mining & Milling company, limited was in town today. He reports great activity in all the camps throughout the Boundary Creek country.

"On the City of Paris we are down 20 feet and have struck a fine body of ore. It is a 16-foot ledge composed of hematite of iron, and pyrites of copper, carrying \$22 in gold, and from five ounces to 20 ounces in silver to the ton. The copper runs from six to ten per cent. This is the result of tests of samples by leading experts. A tunnel has been run in 800 feet to tap the ledge at a depth of 270 feet. We are proceeding with confidence before proceeding much further. There are 300 tons of ore on the dump.

"At the Lincoln there is a shaft 70 feet in ore and a prospect 100 feet long crosses the two ledges. This property is rich in ore in copper. Three tons taken from the dump were treated at the Omaha smelter. The return was 212 ounces of silver, \$26 in gold, and 15 per cent copper per ton. The tunnel in the City of Paris will, it is expected, tap both these ledges at a depth of 270 feet. There are 500 tons of ore on the dump at the Lincoln. Eighteen men are at work. The equipment consists of a 10-drill compressor. As soon as the railway reaches Grand Forks we will begin shipping ore. The camp is 12 miles from the city, but a new road will shorten the distance one fourth.

Mr. White, it will be remembered, located Old Ironsides, and the Knob Hill in 1891. J. P. Graves is the manager of the Paris company associated with him are Mr. Whitney of Philadelphia, brother of Mr. Whitney, ex-secretary of state; A. F. Galt of Montreal, and Mr. White.

Speaking about the Boundary Creek country, Mr. White observed:

"From a mining experience extending over a period of 23 years, I have no hesitation in declaring that this is the richest mineral region I have ever seen."

Mr. White also stated that he had recently bonded from James McGregor, and Lee Mercer, the Yankee Girl and the Belle. These claims are situated on James Vanber's ranch, three miles west of Grand Forks. Miners are at work and the shaft is down 40 feet. Mr. White added that the ledge is only two feet wide. Tests gave an average of \$2.50 in gold to the ton, with small quantities of copper and bismuth. The last payment on the properties is due on June 1.

F. R. Mendenhall of Rossland, representing the Jencks Machine company, returned today from Greenwood and reports great activity in the camp. He said the Brandon & Golden Crown company is drilling a plant, and the Brooklyn and Stewindler mines a duplicate pumping plant.

Grand Forks, March 14.—[Special.]—A plant for a new steam laundry is en route from Bossburg.

A thoroughly equipped machine shop will be started here in April. Local capitalists have just organized a company.

The B. C. Bottling Works, with facilities for supplying the Boundary Creek country, will begin operations on April 1. James Smith and James Davidson on Wednesday at a depth of 18 feet struck free-milling gold on their claim, Grand Forks No. 2, on the north fork of the Kettle river, two miles from town. The vein is three feet wide with a 15-inch streak. Development work will be pushed.

R. E. Gosnell of Victoria, has returned here after an inspection of the camps in the Boundary Creek district. He says he has private information to the effect that a smelter will shortly be erected in the vicinity of Grand Forks. The prospective site is within three miles of the city.

A. J. Marks of Nelson, B. C., has been appointed administrator of the estate of the late Charles Van Ness, who died here last month. His estate, besides property in Rossland, comprises 16 mineral claims, some of which are crown granted.

"Grand Forks has a wonderful future. It will be the metropolis of the Boundary Creek country."

These are the words uttered by F. M. McLeod, a well known barrister of Rossland, in conversation with a Miner correspondent today. The tribute was voluntary and spontaneous. Mr. McLeod has long been identified with the province of British Columbia. He has traveled the province and is especially familiar with the Yale district. His intimate knowledge of the Boundary Creek country, gained through frequent visits to the various camps, enable him to speak with a degree of authority.

Mr. McLeod continued, "has a thousand natural advantages that are not enjoyed by its embryonic rivals. It is situated in a fertile and beautiful valley, in the very center of a rich mineral region. People who have interests in the camps will not content themselves with remaining among the precipitous mountains. They will sigh for verdure, water, flowers, and grassy expanses. All these requisites are found in the Kettle river valley. The same motives will prompt the miner, on a holiday, to seek recreation among more exhilarating surroundings. Man, after all, is a gregarious animal. He likes company, diversion, society, in fine, escape from the desolate monotony presented by slanting hillsides capped with coniferous foliage. The influence of women, wives and mothers, is no inconsiderable factor in the equation.

"Nature, however, has conspired in your favor, and transportation will follow the lines of least resistance. There is a natural descent to Grand Forks from Pass Creek, Summit, Wellington, White and Central camps. Deadwood, Copper, Skylark, Greenwood and Province, especially the latter two camps, are as easily reached from here as from Greenwood.

"But another consideration, by far the largest camps are those that are drained by the north fork of the Kettle river. Their development hitherto somewhat retarded, will soon take pace. The indications, assay values, and prospects on the north fork are equal, if not better, than in the other camps. I regard Grand Forks as the most magnificent townsite in the interior of British Columbia."

THE STOCK MARKET

Rathmullens Were the Banner Sellers of the Week.

REPUBLICS ARE MOVING

Tamaracs Were Freely Sought for and Advanced in Price—Novelties Sold Rapidly—Waterloos Are in Demand—A Good Week's Business.

The stock business transacted during the week ending last evening was up to the average. A characteristic was three or four distinct furies, all in full motion at one time. The chief of these was the movement in Rathmullens: Then there was a decided movement in Republics, coupled with sympathetic movement to secure Jim Blaines. In addition to these Novelties and Tamaracs (pooled) were in excellent demand. The stock business reached a magnitude that is simply astonishing. This form of speculation is extending all over the Dominion, and local brokers are not astonished when they receive orders from the most remote points. Even staid old Montreal has the speculative fever in her veins. This is shown by the fact that the transactions for the Montreal exchange for the month of February broke the record there in the way of dealing in mining shares, the total dealings amounting to nearly a million of shares. The major portion of the dealings were confined in War Eagles, Paynes and Montreal & London. The trading in Payne was not started till the month was almost gone, and yet it changed hands to the extent of 427,000 shares. Payne shares were placed on the market at \$3.50 and they soon mounted up to \$4. Rathmullens changed hands during the week more than any other stock on the list. It is estimated that 250,000 shares were handled by the local brokers and at prices that ranged from 6 1/2 to 7 cents. The property was examined a day or two ago by an engineer and his report will be forthcoming in a short time. It is unofficially stated that a strike has been made and that the management desire to have its extent and character known before it was given to the public, as the intention is to give out only authentic information.

Republics were handled to a large extent and about all the available shares in this market were picked up to fill orders that came from Toronto and Montreal. The latest rumor concerning this property is that it has been sold to a Montreal syndicate, and that the Gooderham-Blackstock syndicate had nothing to do with the deal. Rumors concerning the sale of the control of the stock of the Republics public company, ever since a majority of them were tied up and placed in the hands of a strike Clark are as thick as blackberries. The Toronto papers nearly all have made statements to the effect that the Gooderham-Blackstock syndicate are in control. Patrick Clark knows all about the deal and up to date it seems that he has taken no one into his confidence. There is one consolation, and that is that even Mr. Clark cannot always keep the matter a secret.

Evenings Stars are in increased demand, and there has been considerable trading in them at prices which ranged from 10 1/2 to 11 cents. The property of the Evening Star company is looking exceedingly well.

Rambler Cariboo are selling fairly well. Yesterday in the Toronto board there was a sale of 1,000 at 38 1/2 cents. There were bids of 37 1/2 cents and as high as 44 cents were asked.

Iron Horses, now that crossticking has commenced from the 300-foot level, are in increased demand. There were sales locally on the Toronto exchange for 17 1/2 cents.

St. Elmos, which were selling a few days since for 4 1/2 to 5 cents, sold yesterday for 8 cents. The cause of the demand was the sale of the control of the capital stock of the company to a New York and Boston syndicate at the rate of 10 cents per share.

Jim Blaines have advanced from 40 to 53 cents in the past week and they were firm at the latter figure last evening. The shares advanced in sympathy with the rise in Republics.

It is estimated by conservative authorities that 100,000 shares of Novelties changed hands during the week. They sold for 4 cents in the early part of the week and yesterday they were firm at 5 cents.

Tamaracs (pooled) were among the liveliest movers of the week. These shares advanced from 10 cents in the early part of the week to 15 cents yesterday. This was the result of an important strike in the property of the company, and also because sufficient of the treasury shares were recently sold to carry on development in the company's property.

Iron Colts are selling for 20 cents. Virginias are rather flat and sales have been made recently at from 50 1/2 to 51 cents.

The pooled shares of the American Eagle Gold Mining company are now selling for 2 1/2 cents. The treasury shares are selling for 10 cents and there is a good demand for both.

Waterloos have been quiet for several days, but yesterday there was a sudden demand, which was caused by the reception of news from Camp McKinney to the effect that a strike of free gold had been made in the Waterloo property.

Brandon & Golden Crowns are selling for 31 cents. Noble Fives are coming to the front again and they are selling for 32 1/2 cents. There has been a strike in the Noble Five property, and this accounts for the advance.

Sunsets are active and are selling at 9 cents. Winpings are selling some and the price ranges from 27 1/2 to 28 cents. Athabascas are a little stiffer than they have been and are selling for 51 cents. Old Ironsides are quoted at \$1.10, and Knob Hills at \$1. Both these stocks are scarce and hard to purchase, as holders generally have purchased them as investments.

A RUMORED BIG DEAL

It Is Said the Republic Has Been Sold For \$3,500,000.

It Is Alleged That Buyer Is the Gooderham-Blackstock Syndicate—Other Notes of Interest.

C. C. Woodhouse, M. E., and general manager of the Kamloops Mining & Development company, has returned from an extended visit to Republic. In speaking of Republic he said that matters were shaping themselves there for continued prosperity. The intention was to soon commence the grading of the streets of the camp. Besides this a number of fine and commodious buildings have been planned and will be erected during the coming summer. The properties throughout the camp are showing up better each day. Nearly every day there is a new strike of the property, and there are generally of importance. One of the recent events of the camp has been the photographing of interesting and picturesque surface and subterranean scenes in and around the Republic. Mr. Baker, of Millburn for the Toronto Globe for a number which is to be devoted entirely to the camp, and which is to be called the Republic issue. Some of the subterranean scenes were the white quartz, which will look like alabaster caves by gaslight. Mr. Woodhouse said that there is a report in the Republic camp to the effect that the Republic has been sold to the Gooderham-Blackstock syndicate for \$3,500,000.

When asked about the recent strike in the North Star Pool, Mr. Woodhouse replied that he was not in the habit of public talk of that. He was willing, however, to give the public a chance to go to the North Star Pool dump and secure a sample of free gold therefrom.

SLOCAN'S MINES

Increase of Ore Reserves—Shipments of Ore—Notes on Many Properties.

The Silver Cup made its best showing in its last strike—10 inches of grey copper has been made.

On the Neepawa property, situated on Ten Mile, a 16-inch strike of galena ore has been made.

The Queen Bee made a shipment of 6 1/2 tons of galena to the Hall Mines smelter, Nelson, the past week.

A new company, it is supposed, will again open up the Galena farm, which at the present time, has a large showing of low grade ore.

A miner down from the Noble Five reports another large strike on that property, but there is no official announcement as yet. This is no doubt the best property will yet take a very high rank as a shipper.

A very important strike was made on the Vulture, just above Cody, on Tuesday. One foot of ore was seen, and a second of concentrating ore have been encountered at a very moderate depth. The property is owned by the Investment & Mining Trust of Canada, with H. H. Jones, manager. The owner is Mr. M. L. Grimmett was the owner of an eighth interest, and he now regrets that he did not hang on to the ore bonanza; but we can't say that for the future.

The Lakeview claim, lying on the lake shore between Silverton and the mine, has been purchased for the Northwest Mining syndicate, by the agent, J. W. H. Jones. The cash price was realized by the owners, Messrs. Bendum, Kite and Thomas of Silverton, but the figure was not made public. Considerable work has been done on the property, and the purchase of this claim by the Northwest Mining syndicate, brings their Bosum group almost into Silverton townsite.

The Last Chance mine is running the Payne close section of the shipments, both being over 1,000 tons since the first of the year.

Howard West, an assayer of New Denver has just returned from the Ohio. He reports that a week sampling and checking up the tailings of the concentrator. There are no new developments in the situation at that property.

The Edith mine is being connected with Silverton by telephone. Two men are working on the Queen City group situated on the shore of the little lake. The property is owned by the Vulture group, situated close to Cody, upon which a foot of clear ore was struck on Wednesday. In the main the property is in excellent condition. The new strike is in over 100 feet and the chute is of shipping quality. This property is operated by the Financial & Mining Trust of Canada, with H. H. Jones, manager. The property is owned by the Vulture group, situated close to Cody, upon which a foot of clear ore was struck on Wednesday. In the main the property is in excellent condition. The new strike is in over 100 feet and the chute is of shipping quality. This property is operated by the Financial & Mining Trust of Canada, with H. H. Jones, manager.

The Nelson Tribune says: The Slocan Mining section by reason of the numerous good strikes that have been made on working properties, in addition to the increase of ore reserves in the larger mines. To this list it is to be added the fact that the Vulture group, situated close to Cody, upon which a foot of clear ore was struck on Wednesday. In the main the property is in excellent condition. The new strike is in over 100 feet and the chute is of shipping quality. This property is operated by the Financial & Mining Trust of Canada, with H. H. Jones, manager.

The following figures show the shipments of ore from the Slocan properties mentioned for the week ending March 10:

Table with 2 columns: Property Name and Tons. Includes items like Payne, Lake Chance, Ivanhoe, Whitewater, Queen Bee, Rambler-Cariboo, Total.

Twenty-six men are now employed on the Bosum, and this force is to be increased shortly to 30. Work on the No. 3 tunnel has been temporarily stopped and efforts directed toward erecting a large group in the Duncan coast. The new strike is being sunk to test the dip and continuance of the ore chute. Two carloads of ore are on a wharf at New Denver ready for shipment, making an aggregate of 700 tons, which has netted the lucky owners over \$40,000, more than enough to place the mine on a solvent basis. It is quite possible that the Vulture will be placed on the general stock market in London, at an increase of capital.

On the Mabou, just above the present mine, a heavy mineralized ledge is being mineralized. The contact with a second spur will be made shortly, and a fine body of shipping ore is expected. The Neepawa vein, on which a strike was made recently, runs through the Mabou and Ohio, and it will be proven in the spring. The Mabou will be surveyed for a crown grant in the summer.

NEW MOTIVE POWER

Liquid Air May in Time Do Some Great Work.

HOW IT IS MANUFACTURED

Charles E. Tripler, the Inventor of the Process For Making It, Tells How Cheaply It Can Be Produced—Its Wonderful Properties.

The latest developments concerning liquid air and its practical application for commercial purposes as designed for Charles E. Tripler of New York city, is entertainingly told in a current number of McClure's by Ray Stannard Baker.

Briefly, the liquefaction of air is caused by intense cold not by compression, although compression is a part of the process. Until recent years scientists thought that air was a permanent gas and would always remain so, but in 1877 Raoul Pictet proved that oxygen was not really a permanent gas, but merely the vapor of a mineral, as steam is the vapor of ice. Later in 1892, Olzewski, of Warsaw, succeeded in liquefying nitrogen, the other constituent of air, and in the same year Professor James Dewar, an Englishman, actually succeeded in producing liquid air in some quantity, and then froze it into a solid mass. The first ounces of liquid air made cost more than \$3,000, but a few years later he reduced the cost to \$40 a pint. Now comes Mr. Tripler, who makes the liquid air at a cost of about twenty cents a gallon, and the most wonderful part of it is that the inventor uses liquid air to produce liquid air.

The machinery by which the product is manufactured consists of a vacuum pump, condenser and liquefier, operated by a ten-horse power engine, the engine being driven by liquid air, thus making liquid air by liquid air, truly a marvellous performance. Mr. Tripler says: "I have actually made about ten gallons of liquid air in my liquefier by the use of about three gallons in my engine. There is, therefore, a surplusage of seven gallons that has cost me nothing, and which I can use elsewhere as power."

In describing the process and the why and wherefore of the new invention Mr. Tripler says that "it is really one of the simplest things in the world, when you understand it. In the case of the steam engine you have water, and the water must take heat enough out of the coal and put it into the water to change the water into gas—that is steam. The expansion of the gas produces power, and the water will not waste off any steam until it reaches the boiling point of 212 degrees Fahrenheit."

"Now steam bears the same relation to water that air bears to liquid air. Air is a liquid at 312 degrees below zero—a degree of cold that we can hardly imagine. If you raise it above 312 degrees below zero it boils just as water boils above 212 degrees. Now then we live at a temperature averaging, say, seventy degrees above zero, about the present temperature of this room. In other words, we are 382 degrees warmer than liquid air. Therefore, compared with the cold of liquid air, we are living in a burning furnace. A race of people who could live in a room at 312 degrees below zero would be as quickly in this room as we would in a baking oven. Now, then you have air a liquid at 312 degrees below zero. You expose to the heat of the furnace in which we live, and it boils instantly, and throws off a vapor which expands and produces power, and that is the whole matter."

The main object of Mr. Tripler at the present time is the production of a power giving substance. "If you can get a cheap power," he says, "all other properties are solved. You can apply liquid air to any engine and use it as easily and safely as steam. You need no large boiler, no water, no coal and you have no smoke and no sulphur. No other substance in the world, unless it be liquid hydrogen is as cold as liquid air. Alcohol freezes at so low a temperature that it is 202 degrees below zero, that it is used in the thermometer to register all degrees of cold, but it will not measure the fearful cold of liquid air. A cup of liquid air was poured into a tumbler and it froze the alcohol. Mr. Tripler stirred it up with a glass rod. It boiled for a few minutes and then thickened up like sugar syrup, and froze solid. Mercury in a frozen until it is as hard as granite and liquid air freezes other metals just as hard as it freezes mercury. Iron and steel become as brittle as glass. Copper, lead, and all precious metals on the other hand, are made more pliable so that even a thick piece can be bent readily between the fingers. An egg boiled in frozen liquid air became so hard that a sharp blow with a hammer would require to crack it, and the inside of it had the peculiar crystalline appearance of quartz, a kind of mineral egg. A liquid air will burst steel. One of Tripler's experiments demonstrates it in a way. He makes a tumbler of ice and fills it with full of liquid oxygen. Then a burning match is fastened to the top of the spring and dipped into the liquid air, when the steel burns readily like a ball of fire, sputtering and giving out a glare of dazzling brilliancy. Ordinarily a tumbler filled with water would be required to crack it, and the inside of it had the peculiar crystalline appearance of quartz, a kind of mineral egg. A liquid air will burst steel. One of Tripler's experiments demonstrates it in a way. 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Lining Stocks

Redden-Jackson Company... F. O. Cox 494... C. G. Clough... and Moretz & Neal.

FEATURES.

firm yesterday, with the standard stocks... under 50 cents... Judges predict \$1... at future... the best buy in the market during the day... Novelty continues... and was largely... offered yesterday at... Park was firm in the... in it.

Table of stock prices including Mill Creek, Montreal Gold, Mugwump, Nelson, Noble Five, etc.

for Today.

Table of stock prices for today including Lone Pine, Golden Gate, Princess, etc.

Columbia Townsite.

May, 1898.

October, 1898.

S. S. Railway Addition

Rossland

on Rossland Real Estate.

A. W. Rossland

Redden-Jackson Co.,

and Liability.

Brokers and Brokers.

J. L. PARKER,

Mining Engineer

Arker & Co

Engineers

Workers

Stock will find it to go forward same

DEMAND SOLICITED.

The week just ended has been a busy one...

On the Waterloo, and some of the McKinney stocks show advance from their...

Following stocks, subject to market conditions...

Table of stock prices including Morrison, Smuggler, Winnipeg, etc.

Rossland, B. C.

Y.M.I.R. B. C.

Assistant resident engineer

of Ymir office.

Grogan

Stock Market.

Good demand yesterday... were bought up at 12... were asking 13 cents... Deer Park sold at 8-12... jumped up to \$3.50, and...

ROSSLAND STOCKS.

Table of Rossland stock prices including Lily May, Lerwick, Montreal Gold, etc.

KA STOCKS.

Table of KA stock prices including Rebate, Republic, Mountain Lion, etc.

being bargains subject to sale... 1000 Evening Star... 1000 Morrison... 1000 Iron Mask... 1000...

us, and we will advertise... on commission only.

of Silver.

March 11.—Bar silver, 77 1/2; silver cer...

(Editorial concluded from Page 4.)

SPokane Wants a Smelter.

Spokane is nothing if not ambitious, and leaves no stone unturned that will assist in her aggrandizement. She sits like a queen on her throne on the banks of the Spokane river, and is surrounded on all sides by a rich mining and pastoral country that must needs pay her willing tribute by reason of her superb location, her enterprise, her wealth and her energy. Spokane has made considerable money out of her mining, farming and pastoral investments. Her citizens have an overweening ambition and are bent on making Spokane a smelting center. It seems that James J. Hill, the president of the Great Northern railway, who, by the way, is a native of Canada, has been asking the Spokane people if they had ever tried to establish a smelter there. He further remarked if they would provide the smelter he would furnish the transportation. It was further said by Mr. Hill that he believed the time was ripe when it was to the interest of Spokane to establish the smelting industry in that city. The Spokesman-Review, in commenting upon the smelting question, says:

"If Mr. Hill will give the word, Spokane can be made one of the chief smelting centers of the United States. He indicates a desire to do this. He realizes, of course, that if ores from the north & northern branch would haul them from the mines to Spokane." His main line would carry the fuel to the smelter, and he would also have the long haul on the bullion from the smelter to the distant refinery.

"Mr. Hill also comprehends the grave responsibility, if smelters are not established here, of the smelting industry being firmly established across the line. Already successful smelters are established at Nelson and Trail, and plans are formulated for another in the Boundary Creek country. A large part of the ores of the mineral belt along the international boundary will not pass to the distant smelters of the United States and if smelters are not erected here, these ores will go to the local smelters of Southern British Columbia, and the tonnage will pass to the Canadian Pacific."

The ambitious plans of Spokane are all right so far as smelting the ores of the territory in Washington and the adjoining states that are tributary to her are concerned. The smelting industry, however, of Southern British Columbia is established on a firm footing. There are smelters at Pilot Bay, Golden, Trail and Nelson. The active ones are those at Nelson and Trail. The others are lying idle. The one at Golden, we understand, will shortly be put to work. Smelters are to be erected at Cascade City and Grand Forks, and at other points where they may be needed.

The cheap coke of East Kootenay is a tower of strength to the smelting industry, and the conditions are becoming more favorable, and the smelting industry is on a firm and enduring footing here so far as the copper-gold ores are concerned. This is so much the case that there is not the least fear that any of this class of ore will be sent to Spokane or anywhere else for treatment in the future.

With the silver-lead ores it is different. The smelters of the United States, and particularly those around Omaha and Denver, must have the silver-lead ores of this section to mix with their dry ores, and where they contain over 50 per cent lead will smelt them for nothing, and where they contain between 40 and 50 per cent a nominal charge of \$1 per ton is made, with an increasing charge as the percentage of lead becomes smaller. Besides this there is a market for lead around Omaha and other points. It is turned into white lead, shot, sheet lead and other of the manufactured products of lead. The import duty on lead collected by the United States is less when it is in the ore than when it is in the shape of pig lead. Therefore the producers of silver-lead ores of the Slovan find it to their advantage to send their product to the smelters in the United States for the following reasons:

First—Because the cost of smelting is less there than it is here.

Second—Because there is a market for the lead.

The reason why the Kootenay smelters have not so far made a success of the smelting of silver-lead ores is because there are no dry ores here to mix with them so that they can be economically reduced. The second reason is that there is but little market for the lead after it is produced, because there are no plants in which the raw lead can be turned into the manufactured products of lead. In time there may be dry ores found here and factories erected for the manufacture of white lead, etc., but until this is done it is to be feared that much of the silver-lead ores of the Kootenays will be sent to Colorado and Nebraska for treatment. We greatly fear that the same things that militate against the smelting of silver-lead ores in the Kootenays would have a like effect at Spokane. There they have so far no dry ores available. Besides this there are no factories for the manufacturing of white lead, etc. It is to be feared that the silver-lead ores would be sent past the city of Spokane, as they are at present, to points where they are needed in the reduction of dry ores. These and other matters will have to be considered before the people of Spokane erect their smelter. The scheme might be a success, but if this is achieved it will take years of time and the expenditure of a vast sum before the goal sought for is reached. In the meanwhile our smelting industry will have been well established that nothing can wrest it from us.

BLACKBALLING OF HON. JOSEPH MARTIN.

Hon. Joseph Martin, the attorney-general of the Province, has been blackballed by the Badminton Club of Victoria, and publicity has been given to the fact through the press. The action of this island club will certainly not in the slightest degree affect Mr. Martin's popularity in his constituency or in the Province, and it is doubtful if it will greatly disturb his slumbers. He has had worse rubs in his political life than a left-handed blow from a body of men who allow political or personal rancor to dictate such a course of conduct. The Badminton Club may be regarded as the citadel in which the old-time element has entrenched itself after all the other fortifications have been won by the invading forces of recent immigration. And from this point of questionable vantage the men who, but a few years back, controlled the province and deputed themselves into the fancy that they were guiding its destinies, survey with amazement and aversion the victorious advance of those whom they regard as enemies and interlopers. The ability and energy displayed by Mr. Martin naturally mark him out as a Vandal leader who deserves and incurs their strongest hostility. In this light the blackballing of the attorney-general was a distinct compliment to his force of character and administrative ability.

CHINESE DISMEMBERMENT.

From the utterances of the leading British papers it is evident that the dismemberment of the Chinese Empire has already been begun, and the only question now to be considered is what power will obtain the largest share. It will be a sort of land-grabbing game, which will be an exemplification of the sentiment contained in the verse written by Wordsworth, which reads as follows:

"The good old rule sufficeth them the simple plan, that they should take who have the power, and they should keep who can."

There may be trouble over division of the remnants, as predicted by Lord Charles Beresford, but that the empire is to be cut into strips is now certain.

The contest for supremacy of the trade of China is one in which the chief nations of the world have long contended. Great Britain has won the prize in this respect, and her merchants have made colossal fortunes in traffic with the Celestial empire. The end of the struggle for territory is not yet, but when geographers commence to make new maps of what is now known as the Chinese empire, it is certain that Great Britain will not be shown as having the smallest share. She will win in this as she has in the matter of securing the lion's share of the trade.

REGULATING ASSAYERS.

One of the commendable acts of the last legislature was the passage of an act regulating the practice of assaying. The act in brief provides for the bi-annual institution of examinations under government for efficiency in the practice of assaying and "other kindred subjects as may be deemed advisable;" and after the expiration of two years, from the 1st of March, 1899, no one not holding a government certificate of efficiency will be allowed to practice as an assayer in the Province; but in order to save the annoyance of undergoing a test of this kind provision is made that any person applying for a certificate of efficiency on satisfying the duly appointed examiners that he has passed a course of practical analytical or assay work in any school of mines or college in Canada, Great Britain or Ireland, shall be entitled to receive such a certificate on recommendations of the examiners; or, in other words, the government certificates will be granted to all applicants able to present satisfactory credentials.

No one can complain of the provisions of this act. Its effect will be to weed out the incompetent and to keep in the business those who are qualified to carry it on. It will have the effect, too, of protecting the public from impositions that are sometimes far reaching. A great deal depends on the accuracy of assays, and the public will be protected from what has been a form of fraud on the part of those who are poorly grounded in the profession.

The Mining Record, in speaking of this matter, regrets that it will be two years before the act will go into effect. This journal suggests that it would be a wise move to have similar laws applying to the professions of mine managers and mining engineers.

We heartily concur in the suggestion, and if any one needs proof of the necessity of such a course all he will have to do is to take a trip around the camp and observe the many monuments of incompetency in tunnels where there should be shafts, and other burrowings which are the work of incompetent engineers. These burrowings had they been made by moles would, in some instances, have attained better results. Some of them seem to have been made simply for the purpose of making subterranean excursions through the country rock, as they are of no use whatever for mining purposes. They were planned without knowledge of geology, mineralogy or any other ology, and executed without the least practical knowledge of mining. In making these workings, which are extended in divers directions, without apparently any set purpose,

thousands of dollars of the money of individuals and stockholders has been spent. Had examinations been necessary at the time the individuals who projected and carried out these plans for sinking money in fruitless work, were carrying on operations those in charge never could have passed, as a few queries would have shown how utterly incompetent they were. The public should be protected from the incompetent mine managers and engineers, just as much as it is from quack doctors or poorly informed assayers.

A CANADIAN MINT.

British Columbia, through her legislature, has declared herself in favor of the establishment of a mint in Canada. In the same breath the declaration is made that this province is the most suitable place in which the mint could be established and maintained. The resolution provides that a humble address be directed to His Honor, the lieutenant-governor, requesting him to communicate with the Dominion government, urging upon that government the desirability of the establishment at the earliest possible date of a mint, such mint to be established in the Province of British Columbia.

The resolution is the result of an agitation that has been going on for some time in favor of the establishment of a mint. About the only opposition to the plan came for awhile from the Canadian Bankers' association. At the last annual meeting of the Bankers' association, held in Toronto five months since, the president in his address favored the establishment of a mint, and his views met with the general approval of the association. This shows that even the bankers are in favor of the measure.

Canada produces gold, silver, copper and nickel, the essentials for coinage of money of the several denominations. A considerable proportion of the coin at present in circulation is of British and American make. The subsidiary silver and copper money that is coined under the authority of the government is made in England. It is claimed in defense of this plan that it can be coined cheaper in Great Britain than it can be here. The same could be said of all the work that is done in Canada. It could be done cheaper in England because wages are lower there. This fact would not justify the giving of the work that is now done here to the toilers of England.

This country now has a population of about 6,000,000. It is large enough, important enough, has patriotism enough to desire to have its own distinctive coins, and feels that it has got far beyond the stage when it should be compelled to have in circulation money made by other countries. These are some of the sentiments that lie at the bottom of the agitation for a mint; that these reasons will be potent enough, within a very short time, to bring about the establishment of a mint now seems certain. British Columbia seems to have the best claims to have the mint located within her confines. This is so because she produces more of the precious metals than any other of the provinces of the Dominion.

RENEW THE AGITATION.

The Dominion parliament will be in session on the 17th of March, and the important question of the betterment of the condition of the silver-lead interests of the Slovan should be brought to its attention in so able a manner that favorable action will be taken. It will be remembered that President Buchanan, of the Kaslo board of trade, was sent to Ottawa by the boards of trade of Kootenay last year to lay before the government the question of the United States import duty on Kootenay silver-lead ores, and other questions affecting them. President Buchanan arrived in Toronto only a short time before parliament adjourned, and as the government seemed cold toward and not disposed to act in the matter, he urged that a commissioner be appointed to inquire into the subject, and to suggest such remedies as to the members seemed proper to the parliament that is now about to convene. No action was taken on this suggestion. It is said that the ministry is now much more favorable than it was to take action. This is because considerable light has been thrown upon it by the discussion that has been in progress almost ever since in the newspapers. It is a question of paramount importance to the Kootenays, and the Dominion government should lend its best energies to aid in the establishing and maintaining of the industry of smelting of silver-lead ores here. It should aid all in its power in the establishing of factories so that lead could be turned into its manufactured products. In addition to this legislation should be shaped as much as possible to the end that there could be built up markets abroad for our lead and its products.

The agitation of last year on this matter should be renewed, and boards of trade should take action the same as they did last year. Besides this a commission should be sent to Ottawa so that the question may be properly presented to the government.

OLD RAILS USED.

A subject which would furnish the curious student of national development with much material for reflection is the history of railway enterprise in Canada, and it is a matter for doubt whether, as a result of his inquiry, he would not condemn the unscrupulousness more than admire the resolution of the promoters of our great railway undertakings. In the course of his investigation he would constantly be forced to ask himself the question, not how often had the country been victimized, but how often had it had the fortune to escape that fate; and the answer, it is feared, would leave either the honesty or the capacity of our parliamentary representatives in doubt. He would find that during the past quarter of a century the Dominion of Canada has been the paradise of rapacious corporations and political plunderers, who have worked in alliance to despoil the people. He would find that at length, so clearly did it become recognized that, in any negotiations between the Government and railway companies, the interests of the people were regarded as a secondary consideration, if, indeed, they were considered at all, that the word "deals," which came to be applied almost exclusively to such transactions, began to convey to the popular mind the idea of something inherently corrupt. Nor would he discover that, until within a very recent period, there had been any general revolt throughout the country against this pernicious condition of affairs. Political morality had reached such a low ebb that the people felt the effort to bring about a better state of things to be too great for them to undertake. When they did finally begin to assert themselves and to insist that their revenue and estates should be properly and honestly administered they found it difficult to convince their plunderers that they were alive to the situation and powerful to defend themselves. When, however, the conviction was at length forced upon their understanding that the days of open spoliation had passed, it brought about simply a change of methods, not of principles, and it is doubtful if this change were for the better. Craft and dissimulation, extravagant promises, professions of consideration for the public interests, were among the arts now employed to conceal the motives which actuated them in their dealings with the people, and these arts have been employed with a success very little short of that which attended the old time system of open and avowed corruption.

An instance of this triumph of artifice and duplicity is not far to seek. Of all the railway lines which have received the endorsement and financial backing of the Canadian people the Crow's Nest Pass road is the best illustration of a charter having been obtained by the exercise of these arts; it is likewise the best illustration of utter disregard paid to solemn pledges and to the public interest. It is, in addition to this, the road of all others in the Dominion from which the people have obtained nothing like value for their outlay.

At the time the charter was obtained the Canadian Pacific Railway company was content to make any promises and to subscribe to any conditions which might secure to it an enormous subsidy and at the same time give it virtual control of this important entrance to the British Columbian gold regions. It was then that its management exhausted their store of patriotic protestation, and that their hired press, in a frenzy of simulated loyalty, warned the Canadian people against handing over to alien companies privileges which, they asserted, national sentiment and business prudence should dictate to them to preserve to themselves. This grandiloquent plea for the C. P. R. had its effect, and by the extravagance of its promises the Canadian Pacific company chloroformed the public into acquiescence with the award by a government which it itself controlled. The charter was accordingly given amid the acclaims of hired applauders and with pardonable expectations on the part of the people.

The history of the construction of this road will some day be written, and it will furnish unpleasant though, perhaps, useful reading. To build it the people of Canada gave the C. P. R. the enormous subsidy of \$11,000 a mile, and in view of this grant and the unstinted promises and professions made by the company they had reason to look for unusual excellence in the material furnished and the service to be given. They had their own people would obtain whatever advantages might flow from the work of building the line. Instead, however, of what they had naturally and reasonably hoped for they find a road constructed with inferior material and rushed through with the sole object of putting money in the pockets of the company and its hangers-on. The tales of ill-treatment of Canadian workmen and of lives sacrificed to the cupidity of this corporation are still ringing in the ears of the people of the Dominion. So great did the evil become that finally the government had reluctantly to interfere and order an investigation, while the C. P. R. company itself was compelled to make promises of amendment, which, however, were simply intended to quiet the public mind until they were in a position to ignore popular indignation. But it is not only in the treatment of its men that the company has swerved from its obligation to the people who so liberally subsidized it. A fact which is not generally known, and which is sufficient in itself to brand this company as recreant to every profection which it made to the people at the time it obtained the charter for the

road, is that old rails from the mountain division of the main line were used and the new rails, ordered ostensibly for the Crow's Nest Pass road, were laid on the Mountain division. Other applicants for the charter were prepared to lay new rails and furnish a safe highway, but specious promises and simulated loyalty carried the day, and the Dominion has reaped the reward of its credulity and patriotism, which is this imperfect road built, owned and operated by the C. P. R. with the money of the people.

We contend that the Canadian people did not give the Canadian Pacific Railway company \$11,000 a mile to build a road with second-hand rails. In any dealings which the Laurier government may have with the C. P. R. during the approaching session of parliament, these facts should be kept steadily in view, and the administration should extend its future favors to this corporation with the clear recognition that wherever this company can employ deception or exercise duplicity it will do so.

CHURCH EXEMPTION.

The bill before the Ontario legislature for the exemption of church property is the cause of considerable excitement just now in the cities of that province. The faithful church-going community is up in arms, and is making a good fight against the bill. Toronto, the city of churches, is the chief centre of the agitation, and at public meetings and congregational assemblies resolutions adverse to the bill are being formulated for transmission to the government, and delegations are being appointed to impress the members of the cabinet with the seriousness of the results which will probably flow from the adoption of such a measure. There is much reason in their contention that the church, apart from its usefulness as religious teacher, is deserving of public recognition and support on the ground that it is an active agent in the building up of good citizenship. This plea can, however, be carried too far, and probably is in Toronto. In that city there are very few of the churches which are not heavily burdened with debt, and many of them would be unable to exist at all if taxation were imposed. The struggle against the imposition of taxation is, therefore, a simple struggle for existence. That a cry from such a source should be considered is questionable. By their impudence in getting into debt they have shown their unfitness to exist at all. If they were merged with stronger congregations they would bring an increase of strength to their new place of worship and would make it not only possible but right that they should assist in defraying the expenses for those privileges which they enjoy in common with the rest of the community. It is not a Christian virtue, and certainly not a virtue in a head centre of Christian teaching, to lay up treasures of silver and gold. If, therefore, a church is able to pay its taxes, it should do so; if it is not, it has no excuse for separate existence in this country possessing a multitude of religious institutions.

SIGNS OF SPRING.

It is evident from the rising temperature and the mixed rain and snow, storm and sunshine, that spring is coming; that is, our short spring that only stays with us a brief time and then we have summer. Practically there are only two seasons here—the wet and the dry. The snow begins to lie upon the ground about the 7th of November and remains until the 7th of April. This gives us about five months during which the valleys and mountains are enveloped with a white covering of snow. Then there ensues a month of alternate rain storms and sunshine. So it may be said that the winter lasts for six months. Then there ensues a month of vernal-like weather, and suddenly the sun sends down his rays with intensity for three or four months. Then follows a visible decrease in the heat, and finally rains comes down, followed by small furies of snow during October, and then we are in November again and the snow comes to stay for a period of five months. This is about the way the seasons wax and wane with us here on the misty mountain tops. It is not an unpleasant climate. There are far worse in many sections to the south and west of us. Take Manitoba, for instance, where the weather is often 40 to 50 below zero for long periods, and where there is actual suffering from the intense cold. Then there is Montana, parts of Idaho and the two Dakotas, where the blizzard sometimes reigns for weeks, and during this period causes many deaths, so great is the fury of the storm and so intense is the cold. There is scarcely a day in the year here when one cannot work out of doors, and, taken altogether, our climate will compare favorably with that of many sections where the people boast of the mildness of their weather.

THE THIRD SESSION OF THE AMERICAN MINING CONGRESS IS TO BE AT MILWAUKEE, WIS., NEXT AUGUST.

The first was in Denver, Colorado, July, 1897; the second, Salt Lake City, Utah, July, 1898. SEVERAL OF THE largest smelters throughout the country are reported about to consolidate with a \$50,000,000 capitalization. It is understood that as between the combine and the smelting establishments not included therein, existing arrangements regarding interchange of business, etc., will not be disturbed.

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Meagre Appropriations Have Half Starved Them.

NO COAL FOR FURNACES

The Board of School Trustees of Rossland Have Always Had "A Hard Road to Travel." The Appropriations Made by the Province.

The board of school trustees of Rossland have always had a hard road to travel. The appropriations made by the provincial government in the past have been so meagre that in many respects the schools have been starved, and indeed they have been so cramped for want of fuel that they have had to close school. The trustees consist of Ald. O. Lalonde, chairman; S. Fortschak, secretary, and H. B. McCraney. The government pays the salaries of the nine teachers and gives the trustees \$450, or \$50 a year for each class for incidentals expenses. The salaries range downward from \$80 per month to \$50 per month, or 12 months of the year, so that the highest salary is \$600 per annum, and the lowest \$600 per annum. The \$450 appropriation has to pay for fuel, toilet arrangements, which alone costs \$10 per month and all other incidental expenses. It is of some interest to know that out of this appropriation of \$450 for incidentals, \$102 had to be paid out for wood alone in December, and since January, \$205 worth of coal has been consumed in the 5-7-11 school term, making for a trifle over one-third of school term a total of \$307, or more than two-thirds of the whole appropriation for this one item alone, leaving only \$143 to cover all other expenses for the whole term and the cost of fuel for two-thirds of the term. It is necessary to provide water, soap, brushes, mops and many other items, but all has been supposed to be done with a meagre appropriation of \$90 per month for nine school rooms. A short time ago matters became so bad that drastic measures had to be taken. The authorities in Victoria knew nothing of severe weather, and have no idea of what it costs to heat a school-room, with the thermometer 15 to 20 degrees below zero, and they kicked. Fortunately for Rossland the board of trustees was just as independent as the government, and when the appropriation was exhausted the board demanded more. The board had no power to purchase anything, school was closed for want of fuel, and the chairman notified Dr. Pope, superintendent of education, and Hon. Joseph Martin, then acting minister of education, while Hon. J. Fred. Hunt was seeking re-election, of the action of the board. Within a few hours a telegram came back authorizing the board to purchase fuel, and the schools were reopened next day, and since then there has been no trouble, but the main cause of the difficulty, the insufficiency of the appropriation, still remains, and the board is constantly begging for funds.

The present government has proved to be more reasonable than the late one, and has not either bulldozed or insulted the board, and drawn down on their heads the wrath of the Rossland board. The late government did that, and got such a letter back that they drew in their horns and apologized. During the late session Attorney-General Martin intimated to James M. Martin, the member for Rossland that before long the cities of the province would have to take the public schools off the hands of the government and manage them themselves in the same way that Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster and Nanaimo do, with a capitation grant of \$10. Mr. Martin told the attorney-general that Rossland would do that if the government would erect another school building like the one on the hill first. But the attorney-general winked the other eye.

The following are the teachers now employed in the Rossland schools, but another will have to be added soon. The teachers are given in the order of their divisions: W. A. Blair, principal; Miss J. McQueen, Miss M. L. Moffatt, Miss Margaret M. Burns, Miss M. Walker, Miss E. L. Renwick, Miss A. L. Noble, Miss K. N. Fraser, and Miss Edith Macfarlane. These teachers have proved themselves efficient, and have placed the standard of the Rossland schools so high that they have no fear of the visit of the provincial inspector next week.

STENOGRAPHER BEATEN

The Full Court Orders Mr. Jones to Furnish the Notes. Sutors Relied on Him For Transcripts of His Official Notes and Are Entitled to Them.

Victoria March 11.—The full court today gave judgment on the appeal from the decision of Mr. Justice Drake on Pender vs. the War Eagle, refusing to order Stenographer Jones to deliver a transcript of his notes in the case, which he withheld on account of the department disputing the amount of his claim for pay. The full court reversed the decision, their judgment concluding as follows: We have nothing to do with the dispute which has arisen between Mr. Jones and the attorney-general's department with respect to compensation, and it must be obvious that no suitor's right to a transcript of the notes, such as they now asked for, can be prejudiced in consequence of any such dispute. In sitting and acting in the court at Rossland as follows: We have nothing to do with the dispute which has arisen between Mr. Jones and the attorney-general's department with respect to compensation, and it must be obvious that no suitor's right to a transcript of the notes, such as they now asked for, can be prejudiced in consequence of any such dispute. In sitting and acting in the court at Rossland as follows: We have nothing to do with the dispute which has arisen between Mr. Jones and the attorney-general's department with respect to compensation, and it must be obvious that no suitor's right to a transcript of the notes, such as they now asked for, can be prejudiced in consequence of any such dispute. 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