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# British Columbia Mining Critic.

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

#### WEEKLY EDITION.

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#### NOTICES.

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#### EDITORIAL.

#### THE STICKINE RIVER RAILROAD DEAL.

The more closely this hastily consummated bargain is scrutinized the better it looks for the shrewd and fortunate contractors, Messrs, Mann & Mackenzie, the worse for the country at large. The railroad is to be lightly and cheaply built-largely of second-hand material-and will not cost even \$2,000,000. In return the contractors are to receive, subject to a royalty due of one per cent. only, gold rights over some 3,500,000 acres of land in the Yukon, and it would seem likely, in addition, a Provincial cash subsidy of at least \$250,000, and more probably over \$300,000, from British Columbia. In view of the Yukon craze and the ease with which Klondike promotions, not half so good in essence as the Mann-Mackenzie subsidy, are arranged in London, it is clear that the contractors should easily secure \$2 an acre, or \$7,000,000, for their land and mineral rights, these alone then assuring them a profit of at least \$5,000,000. Yet there were, when the Dominion Government closed the deal, at the instance of that distinguished Manitoba patriot, the Hon. Mr. Sifton, at least a score of big capitalists ready and eager to secure such a concession as the Stickine railroad monopoly rights, and there is no doubt that more than one strongly capitalized body would gladly have offered to undertake the comparatively easy task of building a

short line of light railroad to Teslin lake, in return for monopoly rights over the enormous freight and passenger traffic thus assured. Some syndicates, had offers been invited by tender, might even have offered cash bonuses for the concession.

The deal in any case involves a "dead give away" of Cauadian public values to the extent of millions of dollars, and also involves the conferment of huge monopoly rights in the Yukon gold country, the enforcement of which may well cause serious trouble. A more hopelessly inadequate bargain, tainted clearly by favoritism backed by reckless incompetence-if by nothing worse-has never been sought to be foisted on this much-abused Dominion since the not very distant days when Uncle Thomas McGreevy flourished with Sir Hector Langevin for his patron. We have indeed a Dominion government labeled "reform," but the reform is, up to the present, found only on the label, the administration's methods proving themselves, as a rule, in conformity with the worse and not the better traditions of Canadian politics.

#### FOLLY AIDING FRAUD.

The incompetent colonial news editing of leading English newspapers directly plays into the hands of a swindling class of promoters, who abound in London, and at whom apparently the wretchedly weak English laws against fraud and fraudulent conspiracy wholly fail to get. Thus the London Standard recently printed, without a single warning note or comment anywhere, an outrageously deceptive cable to the effect that Klondike quartz specimens, when beaten out on an anvil, showed \$300,000 a ton in gold value. No one on the Standard staff had sense enough to discern that the same, or even a better return, could be got from a minute gold nugget found anywhere with a little quartz about it, by assuming-of course falsely-that it was an average specimen from surrounding tons of quartz. The cable was, of course, inspired by some unscrupulous press boomster, but its publication in the Standard and other leading London daily papers has probably enabled the formation of at least half a dozen more Klondike companies of a fake type, and sent to the far and frozen north hundreds of "poor devils" from England, who ought never to have been induced to leave a warm family fireside. Language is too weak to stigmatize strongly enough, such swindler aiding stupidity on the part of world famous newspapers.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

There is a temporary feeling of discouragement making itself felt in the Slocan centers, as a result of a big migration to the Yukon of good mine workers, tempted to exchange a "certain" country for one full of hazards and uncertainties. However, even if good men leave the Slocan in large numbers, others equally good will soon come in, and in any case two-thirds of the migrants, being sensible men, even though they be temporarily deceived by generally delusive hopes of Yukon gold winning, will soon be back again in the world's best silver country.

It is hoped that there will be a good and representative gathering at the adjourned meeting on the 15th instant in Vancouver of those interested in the proposed British Columbia Chamber of Mines, as against the institution of which, though a few captious objectors have made themselves heard, there has not yet been raised a single argument of any weight or principle. Everything, of course, depends on the right working of such a Chamber by the right men—with methods open and above board, broadly beneficial, and in all respects above suspicion

It is stated that an order in council has been passed at Ottawa authorizing Canadian customs officials at the summit of White and Chilkoot passes to redeem at face value certificates of the amount of duty deposited at Skagway or Dyea. This will enable importers to deposit the duty and get it back in full without an interruption in their journey. This arrangement is commendable, being, moreover, absolutely necessitated by Mr. Sifton's bad bungling in arranging details of the recent "give and take" agreement with the United States, under which the Minister of the Interior gave, sometimes seemingly without knowing it, a great deal more than he got in return for his country, this, however, being, as the Stickine deal has further exemplified, a prominent point of the Siftonian system.

Mr. Bostock, M. P., and his associates control the British Columbia Mining Record, which in its February issue has the following to say of the Stickine railroad agreement: "Just as we go to press the astounding (if true) news is received from Ottawa that Messrs. McKenzie and Mann, the well-known railway contractors, have been granted by the Federal Government as a bonus for constructing 150 miles of road from the Stickine river to Teslin lake no less than 3,750,000 acres of land along the projected route, together with other valuable concessions. We shall have more to say on this matter next month. Meanwhile it will be interesting to notice what attempt is made to reconcile the present action of Sir Wilfred Laurier's cabinet with those fundamental principles of Liberalism wherewith it is so hopelessly at variance." The editor of the Mining Record thus speaks out with commendable boldness. Will the chief owner of the paper prove equally independent in his criticism of the deal?

#### THE MORAL OF THE SKAGWAY SITUATION

The situation grows so alarming at Skagway and other points in Alaska, on the American borders of the Yukon country, that peaceful residents are all urging the establishment of martial law, in order to hold under large and increasing armed bands of murderous ruffians. It is sincerely to be hoped that all notorious toughs will be rigidly excluded from the Yukon country. The mounted police should be able to effect this easily enough, as also to prevent the incoming of hordes of women of the There is, indeed, no need for the worst type. Yukon's hardy population to be in the main other than a fairly respectable body of people, mostly there for genuine work. Canada has, at least, ample warning by the case of Skagway of what needs to be done, though'it is noted that hitherto Dawson has been allowed to be run as a "wide open" town full of questionable resorts, although law and order have on the whole been fairly maintained. Avenues of access to the Yukon being few, it should prove exceptionally easy for the mounted police largely to exclude the undesirable element. The latest news is to the effect that martial law is, none too soon, to be established at Skagway and Dyea by means of two strong companies of a United States regiment.

#### THE CROW'S NEST WORKERS' TROUBLES.

The manner in which the reasonable comfort of the men working on the Crow's Nest extension of the C. P. R. has been neglected by some of the contractors is having in England an unfavorable effect on the emigration to Canada of able-bodied manual Some who thus emigrated and got work workers. on the Crow's Nest route have written home, and their letters have been quoted in leading English papers. If their statements prove correct, some of the men have been treated like dogs and otherwise got far less than their due. It is to be hoped that the Dominion Government inquiry now instituted will be made real and searching. If the just claims of workers be not conceded, tremendous scope is given for most detrimental agitation, subversive of industrial success.

#### AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT.

Messrs. Lipsett and Robinson, of the British and American Gold Mining Company, were in Vernon last week. They are owners of a group of claims situated back of Camp Hewitt, about 14 miles from Okanagan lake, and the company has secured sufficient land to form a townsite, which is called Glen Robinson. Here Messrs. Lipsett and Robinson say, that with the development of their mining claims a thriving little town is bound to spring up, and it is their intention to make it a model place. The cooperative system will be introduced wherever possible, and the Gothenburg method of regulating the liquor traffic will be tried. They intend to push work ahead as rapidly as possible. It may be added that the Gothenburg system of liquor licensing has the object of retaining the local sale of liquors in the hands of those who administer the local affairs of the district. Managers are appointed, paid by salary, and expressly forbidden to encourage intoxication by the sale of any liquor to drunkards, habitual or otherwise. The managers are also charged to prevent immoderate indulgence on the premises, whilst the profits of the trade are devoted to local improvements or other public purposes. This is doubtless what Messrs. Lipsett and Robinson have in view, so long as they and their associates control the townsite and in part administer local affairs under a voluntary system. But whenever Glen Robinson becomes incorporated, the experiment must cease, unless a special charter should be obtained, as under the municipal laws of British Columbia a city or district council has no power to sell liquor, even if the profits be devoted pro bono publico and the trade be most carefully regulated. The Gothenburg liquor system takes its name from the old Swedish seaport, in which the system has long prevailed, as it is stated, to the general social advantage of the community.

#### LOSS AND GAIN.

The Province will lose much officially, and the British America Corporation should gain very substantially, by the now announced transfer of the expert services of Mr. W. A. Carlyle, the Provincial Mineralogist, to the Corporation, which has engaged Mr. Carlyle at a salary larger considerably than that given by the Province, but more commensurate with the value of his exceptionally capable service.

#### NEW WESTMINSTER ADVANCING.

One New Westminster industry at least has received a big temporary fillip, as a result of the Yukon boom. Moir's shipbuilding yard is now employing 130 men, against about a dozen or so there regularly engaged in the past.

#### MINERS' WINDOWS.

One of the great drawbacks to life in the far north is the difficulty in securing light in the dwellings of the miners. It is nearly impossible to transport ordinary window glass over the long rough trails from the coast to the interior, besides which the cost of freight is something enormous. Should, however, glass be used, a window frame is required, and it is not every one having sufficient knowledge of the use of tools (if he has any) that can construct a window frame and put in the glass without breaking it.

Some miners use a flour sack oiled, or even a block of ice, but both are very unsatisfactory. Even glass is ever cracking and breaking from the intense cold, and is always so frosted up that it admits very little light.

A substitute for glass has been used for some years in the large eastern manufacturing houses.

It is called "translucent fabric," and it is claimed is impervious to the weather, unaffected by heat, cold, expansion or contraction, is flexible, durable and unbreakable. The basis is steel wire cloth covered with oxidized boiled linseed oil, which gives it a light amber color, casting a soft and pleasant light. The amount of light transmitted is equal to that of one-quarter in ribbed glass, and the weight is only half a pound to the square foot. At a temperature of 600° the material covering the wire will begin to blister, but will not melt, crack or succumb to a lower temperature. The cost is the same as very heavy glass, but owing to its lightness and flexibility it will be much cheaper landed at Dawson City than glass.-Klondike Review.

#### WORDING DROLL, BUT EFFECTIVE.

The following is stated to be a copy of a transfer deed, filed at Dawson City in the office of the Yukon gold commissioner on the 10th of December last :

Dawson dec 7 1897

no all man by these presents that i william thompson of this place does by these presents Sell Transfer and convey to john Smith, to be his airs ancestors and assigns forever the following property Namely a full one half interest or all my write and title in Claim no one hundred and six (106) above Discovery on Bonanza creek in the Yukon mining division for the consideration of \$10000.00 cash in hand in witness whereof i set my hand and seal.

witness Patrick O'Byrne. William Thompson.

Katie MacRae.

The deed holds well enough, the meaning being quite as clear as the grammar and wording are eccentric.

#### GETTING IN THEIR WORK.

Evidently, judging from complaints made by American goldseekers on the Stewart river through the columns of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, the Dominion authorities, eager to make big profits by the Yukon, are neglecting no source of revenue. The fullest timber dues are now, it is stated, being collected on Yukon timber, cut for boat building and lumber manufacture, whilst the cordwood cutter is also being compelled to take out the usual miner's license, which allows the cutting of wood in connection with mining; and also obliged to pay stumpage dues. It is but fair, on the other hand, to note that the Yukon's camps contrast most favorably, as regards freedom from actual crime, with hells on earth like Skagway, where, on territory claimed by the United States, lawlessness runs riot under a burlesque parody of government, which is wholly unable to prevent robbery and murder, and has to be rudely supplemented by the hanging work of vigilance committees. The Yukon miner and worker is and will be hit hard enough by excessive direct and indirect taxation, but he will at least be able to live in fair security under a rule of law and order.

#### MORE TROUBLE FOR KLONDIKERS.

If it be true, as reported, that a host of Japanese coolie workers is about peacefully to invade the Kloudike in quest of mine labor at cheap rates, there will be serious social trouble up north, as the Japs will soon get labor down to the lowest living basis of probably 55 or 55.50 a day, with further reductions later. Good should, however, ultimately result, as all Canada will thus in due course learn what the white worker of British Columbia has to fear from the almost unrestricted immigration of Mongol labor. The first body of Japs will, it is stated, number 5,000.

#### MINE INSPECTION.

It is satisfactory to learn that Mr. D. J. Macdonald, Provincial Inspector of Metalliferous Mines, reports that as a result of his recent official visit to Rossland, all that he asked in the interests of the protection of mine workers in connection with the appliances of the local mines, was conceded readily and willingly.

#### LITIGATION SETTI.ED.

The British America Corporation has secured, at a price stated to be \$25,000, Mr. E. Haney's interests in the Pack Train and Legal Tender mining claims on Nickel Plate flat. Mr. Haney's interest was contested, but the corporation has acquired the opposing rights, and now controls the ownership of the property.

#### THE KLONDIKE GAME.

The editor of the New Denver Ledge sizes up the Klondike stampede in this way:

" J'londike holds the stage just now, and all the world seems inclined to ante. By the time the railroads, steamboats and stores, who constitute the 'kitty' in this golden game, get the 'rake-off' there will be nothing left for the players. A few will drop out with a roll, but thousands will curse the day that they ever allowed their thirst for gold to get the better of them. A year from now the amount of faded ambition, 'busted hopes' and Klondike routes that will be lying around the west will be simply immense. There is plenty of the yellow metal in the north, but the majority of the people who are going after it will never find any, except in their imaginations. A gold stampede is like a war. A few men get all the honor and money, while the rest get vain regrets, shattered constitutions, bitter experiences, frosted hopes, the marble heart and icicles. But, such things must be at every victory, whether the combatants are fighting for their country's flag or the metal that is yellow in the pan, and more powerful, almost, than any other force in this wicked but up-to-date planet."

## THE WORLD'S GOLD PRODUCERS.

The greatest of the world's gold producers of 1897 are, first, the Transvaal; secondly, the Australian colonies; and, only third, the United States.

As to this the London Mining Journal well sums up the position and clears away misapprehensions caused by miscalculations made by New York's leading mining paper. The Mining Journal says

"Great prominence has been given in the financial press of London to the figures of the world's gold production for 7897 published by our contemporary, the Engineering and Mining Journal of New York. In these figures the United States is placed first, with an output of 2,685,000 ounces, the Rand coming second with 2,683,548 ounces, and Australia third with 2,462,863. Our contemporary, however, has been somewhat too hasty in compiling these statistics, and, therefore, it is not surprising to find them incorrect and misleading. In our mining article of last week we gave the total Rand production for the year, and remarked that it placed this part of the world in the front rank of gold fields. As we there stated, the Rand produced no less than 3,034,674 ounces, and even Australasia surpassed the United States with an output of 2,837,626 ounces, exclusive of Tasmania and South Australia, so that instead of being first the United States come third in the leading gold fields of the world. We think our contemporary might have waited a little before making up its estimates.

#### Current Mining News.

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

#### ANOTHER IMPORTANT PURCHASE.

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The British America Corporation has bought for \$285,000 another important Rossland mine, the Columbia and Kootenay.

#### THE ORO FINO.

The manager at Fairview of this mine, Mr. Fleming Robinson, reports that the ledge on No. 3 shaft is fully nine feet wide, and shows richly in galena and gold. Hence good results are confidently expected by him shortly.

#### PROMISING FOR NELSON.

It is now believed by prominent West Kootenay mining men that the gold and copper belt in which are the Forty-Nine and Hall creeks, Nelson, will shortly be found to be one of the richest areas in the Province. The district includs the Silver King, Fern, Northern Light group of the Bright Prospect Company, Referendum and Athabasca.

#### LE ROI MEETING.

The regular monthly meeting of the directors was held in Spokane on the 1st instant. The usual profitable working was reported, but it was decided, in order to provide further ore purchasing capital for the associated Northport smelter, to use for that purpose what would otherwise be distributed as the usual monthly dividend.

#### THE BRITISH AMERICA CORPORATION.

The Hon. C. H. Mackintosh, the resident director of the Corporation, has already found that Rossland and Trail Creek don't by any means include all the golden treasure houses of British Columbia. This is proved by the news that the corporation has now bought the Argentenil claim on the North fork of Salmon river—a very promising district indeed.

#### AT KAMLOOPS.

The Pothook Bonanza claim is reported as sold to an English company in London. The mine shaft is now down nearly 50 feet, native copper showing well, so the manager states. Meanwhile the English company, which now owns the Copper-King Copper-Jack claims, will shortly begin work, and at the Iron Mask the face of solid ore is stated to be  $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide and showing remarkably well.

#### THE PAYNE ON SALE.

The Sandon Paystreak states that the famous Payne mine is now working with a staff reduced one-half in number, a circumstance which is believed to indicate that the Payne mine is about to be sold for a big sum to an English syndicate. There are doubtless many English inquiries as to the terms on which this mine—the greatest silver producer in the Slocan, and second to none in profitable productiveness in the whole gold and silver area of British Columbia—can be acquired. And it is likely enough the shrewd American owners will sell, if they get their price, which assuredly will not be low. Rumor suggests \$3,000,000 as an approximate price for the mine.

#### THE FERN.

Mr. J. A. Veatch, the superintendent, reports that work at the mine is progressing favorably, and large bodies of ore of good value are being uncovered. An electric light plant has been installed, and it is the intention to immediately put in a cyanide plant to treat the tailings of the stamp mill, which at present are being stored. It is expected that the cyanide plant will double the output of gold per ton. The ten stamps will not be put in until after the cyanide plant is installed. The next clean-up will be about the end of February, when, it is confidently hoped, that the present bright anticipations of the mine management will be further enhanced.

#### ROSSLAND'S ORE SHIPMENTS.

Rossland's ore shipments for the week ending February 5th are as follows: Le Roi mine, 1,000 tons; War Eagle mine, 135 tons; Centre Star mine, 75 tons; Iron Mask mine, 80 tons. Total, 1,290 tons. The shipments for the same period last year were 1,209 tons. The shipments since January 1st, 1897, amount to 78,836 tons.

The Le Roi still continues to be by far the largest shipper, but the War Eagle mine is considerably increasing its output. Evidently a period of greater activity is commencing at the latter mine, which is moreover about to be more fully tested when the 2,000-feet level is reached.

#### AN IMPORTANT SAVING.

Says the Rossland Record: "The item of lime flux at the Northport smelter is a saving of some \$200 a day over the Trail smelter, which will enable the Rossland ore to be treated at a much less cost than at Trail, or other points in this section. It only costs about 30 cents a ton to deliver lime rock to the Northport smelter, while it costs about \$5 a ton at Trail. This is a matter of great importance with the treatment of Trail creek ores."

#### THE WAVERLEY.

Bad accounts come from Albert canyon as to the progress, or rather want of progress, at this Illeciliwaet mine. Many men have been discharged, as it seems, after practically doing little or nothing for some time, and as for the rawhiding of the promised first shipment of 1,000 tons of ore, that also is postponed. Radical changes in mine management at this much-boomed mine in embryo are seemingly needed, in substitution for grossly misleading reports at company meetings in England. Meanwhile it is interesting to note, on the authority of the Vancouver News-Advertiser, that "there are now about 100 tons more of Waverley ore at Albert canyon, and ' though there is some left at the mine.' it will not be got out this winter on account of the weather." Were it not that it is only the News-Advertiser's quaint way of putting things, the news that after shipping the vast bulk of 100 tons of ore, there is still "some left at the mine" would be alarming indeed for the Waverley's stockholders. The point worth noting in our contemporary's news item is, of course, that nothing good is to be expected from the Waverley for some months to come, despite the Grant-Govan assurances of thousands of pounds sterling of profit weekly, all plainly in sight. The time is surely come for someone from the mine to call in on the Revelstoke papers, and after there inspiring a nice little puff as to the mine prospects, send the item home for Col. Anstey or some other director to quote-quite innocently-as an evidence of local confidence in the Waverley and its workers.

#### IN THE SLOCAN.

The Rambler-Cariboo is now shipping two carloads a week. On the other hand the Ruby Silver and the Lucky Jim have closed down for the season, the latter after making heavy recent shipments. The Antoine is shipping steadily ore improving in richness, and the Dardanelles will ship soon. The Noble Five will also, it is hoped, shortly be reconstructed with further working capital. The bulk of the stock is rapidly changing hands and being absorbed by a new group of men.

#### WELL DEFINED.

Says the B. C. Review, of London, Eng.: "A shrewd definition of the Klondike situation was given to a Press representative by a peculiarly observant stockbroker. 'It comes just to this,' he said ; 'all the transportation companies on the Pacific slope are engaged night and day in telling cheerful lies about Klondike in order to secure a rush of passengers—in the certain knowledge that they will have to take them all back again pretty quick.'"

#### IN EAST KOOTENAY.

The noted North Star Company has lately mcreased largely its force of miners, and a big shipment of ore is again assured this season. Already several hundred tons are at the river landing. Neumachaery is meanwhile being placed in the mine.

On the St. Eugene the tunnel is now in 700 feet, the face showing solid galena. The management states that 15,000 tons of ore are on the dump, and preparations are being made for a 300-ton concentrator and a tramway. Both will be built thus spring.

The Sullivan Mining Company will also begin work on their big properties in the Fort. Steele dis-\*rict about March, with the aid of the best machinery and a large body of men. Evidently, therefore, the Fort Steele district will be an exceptionally busy mining region this season, when it should at least treble if not quadruple its previous yearly average of precious metal ore production.

#### THE MORNING GLORY'S TROUBLES.

The adjourned general meeting of the shareholders of the Morning Glory Mining Company was held at Vernon on February 1st. The president, Mr. A. E. Morden, was in the chair. He stated that the liabilities of the company were about \$4,000, and asked if any person present could suggest or propose any means of paying these, and continuing the work of the mine. He read a proposition he had received from a syndicate in Portage la Prairie, where a large block of stock is held. The syndicate agreed to advance \$4,...oo, to be used exclusively for the payment of debts, at 25 per cent., they to have absolute control of the management, and to be secured by a mortgage of \$10,000 on the This offer was indignantly refused, and property. the president then stated that only two courses remained open; the concern must be wound up, or local shareholders must form a syndicate and run it. He pointed out what a setback it would give mining matters in this district should this company go to pieces, and as encouragement read a certificate from Mr. Steadman, stating that at the last clean-up, when the mill was shut down, out of 10¼ tons of Sarah rock 57% ounces of gold had been obtained, exclusive of concentrates, which, the president added, would be worth perhaps \$20 more, making the net result about \$120. After discussion, it was decided to appoint a committee, consisting of Messrs. A. E. Morden, S. McIlvanie and W. C Pound, to see what could be done in town towards forming a syndicate to take over the management and raise money to pay such liabilities as could not at present be settled, any money so advanced to be secured by mortgage on the property.

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#### THE CHANNE MINING COMPANY.

This company has, in view of ad valorem registration duties and the desirability of making share nominal values more nearly correspond with actual ones, and with the amounts at which stock, declared fully paid and non-assessable, is issued, wisely decided to reduce its stated share capital from \$1,000,-000 to \$250,000, the par value of stock being reduced from \$1 to 25 cents. Mr. G. W. Willis, the general manager, and a party of workers have gone north with a view to the immediate further development of coast properties belonging to the company.

#### THE TIN HORN,

It now appears that the gold produced by the wash-up of 1,000 tons of rock at this Fairview mine amounted to about \$1,000 only. It is said that only country rock was treated, but all kinds of reports are prevalent about Fairview, concerning the mine and its recent working methods. Clearly there has to be the most complete reorganization of the working of this much advertised Fairview free-milling gold mine, if it is to prove a working success, instead of, as now, acting as a discouragement to freemilling gold mining in and about Fairview.

#### RECENT LONDON COMPANY REGISTRATIONS.

Klondike Champs d'Or Syndicate, Limited. Registered by L. Lambert, 3 Broad Street Buildings, E C, with a capital of  $\pounds_{2,000}$  in  $\pounds_{1}$  shares. Table A mainly applies.

British Columbia Steamship, Trading, and Agency Company, Limited. Registered by Dawson and Company, 9 and 10 Pancras Lane, E. C., with a capital of  $\pounds 7$  in  $\pounds 1$  shares. Table A mainly applies.

The Klondike Bonanza, Limited. Capital,  $\pounds_{150}$ , oot in  $\pounds_1$  shares, to carry on the business of explorers, etc.

The Dominion, Fairview and Klondike Syndicate, Limited. Capital, £130,000 in £1 shares, to carry on the business of financiers, etc.

The Klondike Co-operative Transport Association Limited. Capital,  $\pounds 6,000$  in  $\pounds 1$  shares, to carry on the business of shipowners, merchants, etc.

The London and Klondike Gold Mining Agency, Limited. Capital, £5,000 in £1 shares.

The Canadian Estates, Limited. Capital,  $\pounds 150,-000$  in  $\pounds 1$  shares. Objects : For securing openings for the employment of capital in Canada or elsewhere.

The British Columbia and Northwest Territories Exploration Syndicate, Limited. Capital,  $\pounds_{30,000}$ in  $\pounds_{I}$  shares, to acquire properties situated near Greenwood City, in the district of Kettle River mining division, British Columbia.

The Rossland and Boundary Creek Syndicate,

Limited. Capital, £30,000 in £1 shares.

The Stickine River, Teslin Lake, and Yukon Transport and Trading Company, Limited. Capital,  $\pounds_{1,000}$  in  $\pounds_{1}$  shares.

Most of these are, as usual, Klondike companies, of which the average large proportion will of course come to naught.

#### AROUND ROSSLAND.

It is reported that the British America Corporation has secured the Whoop-Up on Sophie mountain, the sale of which has been already reported.

Sales are becoming common. A quarter interest in the Copper Wonder group on Sophie mountain has been sold for \$10,000, or on the basis of \$40,000 for the property. The seller was Mr. Allen G. White, although Ben Finnell was a silent owner in the group, and the buyer was Mr. Nicholas Reuter of Tacoma. The claims, which adjoin the Velvet group, comprise the Copper Chief, the Copper Wonder, the Princess, the Lottie and the Duke.

Mr. William Aldridge, who is spoken of in Rossland as the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's smelter expert, has been in that city on business connected with the reduction works which the railway company contemplates erecting. Mr. Aldridge was in Rossland several weeks ago with Mr. H. Susmann. At that time an effort was made to arrange for treating the ore of some of the big mines at the proposed smelter, and although Mr. Aldridge declines to say anything for publication, it is understood that he is at Rossland again on the same mission as before. Mr. Aldridge has been in almost daily consultation with Mr. J. H. Hastings, the manager of the War Eagle mine.

#### MINING NOTES.

The Comstock Mining and Milling Company was organized in Colville, Wash., last week with a capital stock of \$500,000.

The Sonora Railway has contracted with the Boleo Company, of Santa Rosalia, Mexico, to move 18,000 tons of copper matte and bullion per annum, and the first train load was delivered at Guaymas December 3d. The freight will go to New Orleans, passing through the United States in bond, thence by steamer to Europe.

Cripple Creek, in El Paso county, Colo., has added more than twelve millions of dollars to the world's output of gold during 1897, an increase of 40 per cent. over the previous year. Colorado's gold production for the past year is nearly \$22,000,-000, more than a third of the gold product of the United States, a sum equal to \$146 for each man in the state, or \$2,200 for each man engaged in gold mining. Colorado has done her share toward increasing the general prosperity of the nation, and enters upon the new year with hope and confidence.

## Mining Stock Quotations

Corrected Weekly by Percy W. Charleson, Mining Broker, 417 Hastings Street, Vancouver.

	417 Hastings Street, vancouver.					
CONPANY	CAPITAL	PAR VALUE	PRICE	Consolidated S TEX		
TRAIL CREEK			[``	Toyada Propr		
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Tin Horn Winches'er BOUNDARY	270,000 200,000	<b>25</b> 35	35 24			
Old Ironsides Golden Crown. Bonndary Creek M. & M. Co CAMP McKINNEY Cariboo.	1,000,000 2,060,000 1,500,000	1 00 1 00 1 00	12 20 10			
Dividends paid to date areas follows: Le Roi, \$725,000; War Eagle     (Old Company), \$217,500; Rambler-Carlboo, \$40,000; Reco, \$250,000;     Stacan Star, \$280,000; Carlboo, \$189,000; Dominion Developing,     \$158,158,158,158,158,158,158,158,158,158,						
The Celebrated Hammered Steel Shoes and Dies Shoes and Dies Made Mark Frade Mark Fra						
RAND BROTHERS						
Stock and Mining REAL ESTATE R	-	ers				
CAMBIE STREET	VANCOU	VER, I	3. C.			

#### NOT "ON THE BOOM."

The Western Mining World of Butte, which naturally stands by the mining interests of Montana, contains in its latest issue to hand very apt and suggestive comment on the Klondike boom in its relation to the mining interests of the Western States. Those miners who in British Columbia would fain as Montana miners are doing in hosts—leave good home country for the far away and desolate Klondike might well take the moral to heart of our contemporary's humorous lay sermon on the subject-It is so well worth quoting that we give it verbatim as follows :

"The Western Mining World has been asked to favor the Eduonton route to the Kloudike, on the grounds that it takes in Butte, Helena, Great Falls, Sappington and Lump Gulch, and almost every other place lying between Johannesburg and Dawson City. If a man wants to go to the Klondike it matters very little whether he wades through the snow over the Edmonton route, blows himself in through the Seattle route, or swims the Yukon. The main thing is to spend all the money he has getting there, so as to have more room for what he will make after his arrival. So far as this publication is concerned it does not favor any route to the Klondike. When it comes to a choice of routes over which American bone and sinew, slightly embellished with brains, shall desert the splendid mining fields of this country for the overboomed, God-forsaken regions of the north, one route is as good as another-especially if it costs more.

We have frequently referred to Seattle's relation to the boom, not in criticism of that route, but by way of disparaging the efforts of that place to mislead the public as to the merits of the Klondike gold fields and the opportunities offered the miner and investor. Any point desirably located for outfitting is tempted, no doubt, to stimulate trade by encouraging pilgrims to take the road. This is unquestionably the case with Seattle. Tacoma is trying in a feeble way, to imitate her sister city, but with indifferent success. San Francisco has entered the race for preferment, and Spokane has discovered an overland route. We are at a loss to understand why the enterprising inhabitants of Moosatuckmaguntic, Maine, have not as yet discovered a direct route to Dawson City, via Hudson's Bay. The selection of a route from Butte, via Helena, via Great Falls, via most any other town that don't get out of the way, will, if vigorously advocated with genuine Seattle nerve, aid materially in depopulating this and adjoining states.

With the press of this state booming the moose wallow known as Dawson City, and vouching for the truth of the numberless fakes of the Klondike, from Skookum gulch to Pat Galvin, a long-drawn quietus could be placed upon the development of

the splendid resources of Montana. True, the advocacy of the Edmonton route might induce a few pilgrims from the east to drop off at Helena and buy a few smoked harings and walk to Dawson City, instead of going to the coast and taking a steamer, but the amount our Helena friends would realize out of the deal would not justify the mutilated veracity that would hang like crepe from the door knob of every newspaper office in the state.

Charles D. Lane, the California millionaire mine owner, was in the city of Mexico last week, and is on his way to New York, where he will complete the purchase of the Esperanza mine in Mexico.

Spokane, Washington, merchants have organized to capture a share of the Klondike trade. They have issued a pamphlet and map, painting the overland route from that city in glowing colors.

Cable Address: "Conpova," Vancouver Copes: A 1, 4th Ed., A. B. C., Moreing and Neal.

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A. Erskine Smith

## Mining Engineer

Late of

Coolgardie, Australia,

DAWSON, N. W. T.

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA, and ROSSLAND, B. C.

Mining properties on the Yukon reported on.

#### Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Texada Proprietary (fold Mines, Limited, will be held at the office of the Company, 319 Cambio Street, Vancouver, B.C., on Monday, 21st day of Fobruary, 1898, at 3 p.m. Business: To receive report of Directors and to elect

Business: To receive report of Directors and to elect Directors and Auditor for ensuing year, and any other business that may come before the meeting, W. H. KEARY,

Secretary.

VANCOUVER, B.C., January 25th, 1898.



474

If you go to the Klondyke, be sure that your outfit is light and that you have something warm to sleep in. The lightest known substance is Eiderdown. It is warmer than

The "Alaska Brand" sleeping bag has double linings of Elderdown, besides a lining of warm gray wool, and is cov-ered on the outside with a windproof and waterproof canvas. It is warmer than whole stacks of blankets, weighs fourteen pounds, and is not injured by rain or snow.

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## W Thos. Newman

Author "Hidden Mines," etc.; late engineer in charge for the British Canadian Gold and Silver Mines Co., Limited

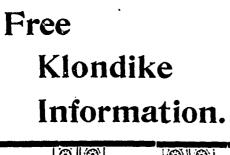
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	Whitewater.					
** 10.03 **	Bear Lake					
* 10.18 *	MeGnigan	······································				
10.38 ······	Sandon	······································				
	SANDON AND CO	DY.				
Lv 11.00 a.m						
Telegraphie Adaress, "Bed-rock." R. W. BRYAN.   Code, Moreing & Neals Superintendent.						

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Time Table No. 6, to take effect July 3, 1807.

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No. 2 prisonger (dally except Sunday)
Leaves Rossland
Arrives at Trall
No. 4 passenger (daily)
Leaves Rossland
Arrives at Trall. No. 6 passenger (daily except Sunday)
No. 6 passenger (daily except Sunday)
Leaves Rossland 7.06 a.m.
Arrives at Tra: 7.50 a.m.
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Leaves Trail
Arrives in Rossland,
No. I passenger (daily)
LeavesTrail
Arrives in Rossland 1.30 p.m.
No. 5 passenger (daily except Sunday) Leaves Trail
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for way ports and Shoal Bay, calling at Business Court weeks.
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