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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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FRANK S. TAGGART,  
Editor and Managing Director.

## British Columbia Mining Critic

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## EDITORIAL.

### JUST A LITTLE TOO "STRONG."

Mr. C. H. Mackintosh, the Canadian managing director of the British America Corporation, Limited, has made such a seemingly successful beginning of work for his company that it is somewhat excusable for him to allow momentary elation to outweigh sound judgment, when striving to compress within the limits of a short message by cable a "perfect psalm of praise," for first production at the statutory meeting of the stockholders of the corporation. Mr. Mackintosh then said (and his words were doubtless cheered to the echo by the rejoicing stockholders): "The British America Corporation has secured and holds the key to the majority of the golden treasure houses of British Columbia. We will practically control the mineral resources of the Province."

We would, however, respectfully remind Mr. Mackintosh and his confreres that good as the Trail Creek district undoubtedly is, it is by no means the location of a majority of the "golden treasure houses" of British Columbia, nor can a company even with £1,500,000 of capital behind it hope to do more than control a modest percentage of the vast mineral resources of our Province. We don't doubt that the British America Corporation has bought valuable and productive mining and other properties in and about Rossland, and we quite ex-

pect the Corporation will, if well managed, secure substantial dividends for its stockholders. But we cannot but suggest to Mr. Mackintosh that, whilst Rossland has at present one mine—the Le Roi—that pays goodly dividends, there are at least five and twenty substantial dividend payers in the Slocan country, and should be at least five and twenty others in British Columbia generally within two years at most. And more than one of the Slocan mines—the Payne being a case in point—yields larger dividends on its invested capital than even the Le Roi. No doubt, within a twelve month or so, there will be some half dozen paying gold-copper mines in and about Rossland, several of which the Corporation will own, but by then there will be at least five times as many like dividend earners in the Slocan alone, with quite a few others elsewhere in British Columbia. Trail Creek, good as it is, does not contain a tithe, or even a twentieth—thank Heaven—of the "golden treasure houses" of the Province. This Mr. Mackintosh will learn soon enough. Indeed, he probably knows it already, and even now feels that he crowed more than a little too loudly when he sent along, striking the wires, a message, the style of which must surely have been suggested by recent utterances of the Deutschland Kaiser, Wilhelm the voluble.

### CONCERNING SOME YUKON OUTFITS.

An intelligent visiting Manitoban of long Northwestern experience, informs the MINING CRITIC, as a result of a visit of careful investigation lately made to Seattle, that the outfitters of that city are, on exorbitant terms, supplying a host of unfortunate Klondike goldseekers with dangerously inadequate winter clothing, usually made of loose and pervious woolens, instead of in the main of furs or other very close textured materials, backed by impervious linings. In Vancouver, on the other hand, the Hudson Bay Company and other leading outfitters, as a rule, are stated by our informant to supply far more suitable clothing. The Seattle outfitters' usual line of conduct is morally criminal, as being certain to involve loss of health and even life in many cases, for as men of Manitoban winter experience aver, the wind will, when the thermometer

registers 40° to 50° below zero, easily pierce such garments as the Washington state men generally sell, and give the wearers dangerous if not fatal chills. The usual apology made by one of the "cheap and nasty" class of outfitters at Seattle, when challenged and confronted with the facts, is: "I do the best I can. I know the goods won't stand the worst Klondike weather, but I can't get the fur goods that are best for the prices at which I have to sell." In fact, Seattle clothing outfits for the Yukon are usually cheap and permeable, and certain soon to yield to stress of wear and weather. They will not in general begin to compare with the outfits put up by the best Vancouver supply men. As for the dogs sold almost everywhere for Yukon work, most will, so our Manitoban friend avers, never stand even a few days on the Alaskan trails, being beasts quite too thin skinned and too slightly supplied with woolly hair, and used, moreover, only to a mild climate. Not one British Columbia or Washington born dog in a hundred will be of the least use in the sub-arctic north. The dog there needed is a beast rough and tough enough for anything, and ready, if not hindered, to seize and devour even his own leather harness. Manitobans, who are used to very keen winters, have a fair knowledge of Klondike requirements in the way of protection from cold and exposure, in the case alike of men and dogs. Hence the criticism of our informant is in all probability generally accurate. Words fail to express his contempt for the Seattle outfitter of the usual type.

#### "DONE ON THE DEAL."

A dispatch from Washington summarizes as follows the new United States regulations as to the entry and transportation of merchandise destined for the Klondike region and Northwest territories of British Columbia, by way of Juneau, Dyea and Skagway, or other customs ports in Alaska:

"It is provided that imported merchandise arriving at any of those ports, en route for the Klondike, may be forwarded without payment of duty, in charge of a customs officer, at the expense of the importer, or upon the filing of a bond for its exportation, equal to the duties and charges, or the owner may make a deposit with the collector, the same to be refunded upon the certificate of the deputy collector on the frontier line, that the goods have been exported."

This necessity of filing a bond with the American collector of customs, or in the alternative making a deposit with him, in either case involves a value on the average of many dollars for securing duty which is not properly exactable. Hence it practically nullifies, in the case of the average Yukon goldseeker, outfitted in and by Canada, the effect of the equitable concessions sought and

alleged to have been obtained by the Hon. Mr. Sifton. The changed United States regulations will be practically as hard on a poor miner provided with few spare dollars, as those for which they are substituted, and they are clearly designed by the tricksters in control of American financial affairs at Washington, with a view to retain in, or drive to, Pacific coast centers in the States the supply trade of the British Yukon. We repeat our last week's assertion that Mr. Sifton has been "jockeyed," a fact which he and his colleagues will resent, if they have any spirit, by effective retaliation, directed with a view to limit, so far as possible, to British subjects, the opportunities of the Yukon country.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Mann-Mackenzie contract of the Dominion Government may turn out to be good for Canada, and a mutually advantageous arrangement. It is, meanwhile, certain that it embodies for the enterprising contractors and their associates of Canada's great railroad an exceptionally profitable bargain, as it should be easy enough for the contractors, by disposal in the British or American money market of their enormous grant of land and mineral rights in the Yukon, to obtain more than all the cost of the line's construction, which should not exceed \$2,000,000, and may be less, while it may be taken as certain that there are big British company projectors who would readily purchase for £500,000—as a grand speculation for promoters—the rights granted over several thousand square miles of Yukon mineral country. Probably the very productive life of the railroad will not exceed 10 years, but in that time passenger and goods traffic should easily yield a goodly profit on the working of the line by its joint owners or the contractors, with a sufficient additional sum to provide a sinking fund for redemption of capital. The fact of the railroad being of narrow gauge will, of course, materially lessen construction expenses. The monopoly clause in the contract is certainly on general principles objectionable, but may very likely in this instance be largely justified by the argument, which we are apt to believe valid, that whilst the Yukon country will for about a decade yield goodly returns for one railroad, the aggregate traffic would, if divided amongst several railroad companies, provide too scanty dividends for their stockholders.

Another circumstance of the greatest significance in connection with the Stickine and other recent railroad deals is the proof which they abundantly afford that the Canadian Pacific railroad is, as the MINING CRITIC has previously observed, absolutely master of the situation in Canada. Messrs. Mann & Mackenzie, behind whom is, or will, no doubt, be the C. P. R., control the Coast-Kootenay project. The great railroad is now acquiring the Columbia

& Western interests, and it has already acquired the one Yukon route. Meanwhile the officials of that hapless undertaking, the Grand Trunk Railroad Company, hasten to assure the world that they have neither hope nor intention of seeking their only apparent salvation, by early future Western and Pacific coast extensions. It is a veritable triumph for the Canadian Pacific Railroad Company, which has with this as with previous Dominion Governments, "got there, as usual, with both feet."

Truth, in its latest issue to hand, speaks of some two dozen recent British Columbian promotions in London, England, and avers that most of these—the British America Corporation being a notable exception—are of the "wild-cat" order. The general verdict thus pronounced by Truth is fairly correct as to most of the companies to which it refers, but Mr. Labouchere's organ, as usual, confounds British Columbian with Yukon ventures, which are not the same thing, it being safe to say that a large majority of Yukon flotations have been of the "wild-cat" order. And of the two dozen promotions to which Truth refers, more than half are Yukon schemes. Mr. Labouchere's money editor is seemingly quite ignorant of Canadian geography, for he places his denunciations of Yukon undertakings under the heading of "British Columbia Companies."

The Nelson Economist objects to the proposed Provincial Chamber of Mines, on the grounds, first, that the Chamber is to be worked and run by mining brokers; and, secondly, that it is to be a body, having its offices and usual place of meeting at Vancouver. The former objection is untenable, for the Chamber will be broadly representative and include doubtless more members that are directly interested in mine working or mine ownership, than it will brokers, whilst the Chamber is by no means bound to select Vancouver as its headquarters. Its members will doubtless choose the place they deem most convenient, and are in nowise bound in advance to locate in any particular city.

#### THE BRITISH COLUMBIA YEAR BOOK.

The MINING CRITIC acknowledges with thanks the receipt of a copy of this most creditable production by Mr. R. E. Gosnell, the Provincial Librarian. It is replete with statistical and other most valuable information as to the present position and prospects of British Columbia, and in addition contains a most interesting resume of the history of the Province. It is not saying too much to aver that it is one of the best year books of the day. Indeed it compares favorably even with the similar general Canadian compilation for which the Dominion Department of the Interior has received much credit. Intelligent mining and business men of the Province

should certainly obtain a copy of the work ere its issue becomes exhausted.

#### A NECESSARY WARNING.

It is to be hoped that English tenderfeet and other inexperienced mortals will not be misled by an unfortunate statement in the Klondike issue of the British Columbia Mining Record to the effect that there is gold enough to be gotten out of the Klondike to make millions rich. On the contrary, there is nothing to indicate that at best it will make rich more than a few thousands of people—more probably a few hundreds. Even \$70,000,000 in gold, which is a value that it would take the Klondike years to yield, and is probably a big estimate of the productiveness of the placers, would not, after deducting cost of living, working expenses and interest on capital sunk, make even moderately rich more than a thousand people. A little and very simple figuring will easily show this. To put it plainly, most of the Klondike migrants won't even make decent wages, though a small band of Yukon goldseekers will, favored by special good fortune, make their fortunes. But they will most assuredly be but a small band, and not represent one in fifty of those that make far north. As a rule, transport men and companies, promoters, general traders, liquor men and gamblers will there make far more than men of the mining class. The Kootenays, so, too, Cassiar—as we venture to predict—will soon be found to be better far for the gold winner than the Klondike. "Better twenty years of Kootenay than a cycle of Yukon," to parody the words of Tennyson. Indeed, the gold of the Yukon will probably be all of the past in less than twenty years.

#### COLONEL DOMVILLE OBJECTS.

Col. Domville, M. P., does not think much of, or rather thinks and feels badly, concerning the Mann-Mackenzie arrangement. It would be better, in his opinion, to aid the construction of a railroad over one of the passes from Lynn canal. On dit, by the bye, that the Mann-Mackenzie arrangement in part frustrates a rival speedy transport scheme of the gallant colonel's Yukon company. Sir Charles Tupper, who ever stands by the C. P. R., naturally endorses the proposal, it being so fully associated with Canada's great transcontinental railroad. The chief objection to the alternative routes suggested by Colonel Domville is that they would be too largely exploited by our hoggish neighbors on the other side of the international boundary, who would, whilst affording no British opportunities in Alaska, fain grasp all that there is of profit in our British Yukon territory.

**VANCOUVER SPEAKS OUT.**

In view of American diplomatic chicanery, as also of the "dog-in-the-manger" policy of many alien mine owners and controllers in the Kootenays, the resolutions passed at Vancouver's massmeeting of Wednesday last are thoroughly to the point, and may well be most carefully considered, and, to a large extent, adopted, at Ottawa and at Victoria, respectively. The gist of the resolutions then enthusiastically passed, which undoubtedly represent the general opinion of Pacific Canada, is as follows:

1. Resolved, That timber and mining licenses be granted only to British subjects, and the citizens of such countries as accord similar privileges to British subjects within their own territories.

2. That so long as Canadian lumber going into the United States is taxed, an equal tax should be levied on lumber coming from the United States into Canada.

3. That there is no more need for United States troops to enter any part of Canada on a relief expedition to the Klondike than there is for Canadian troops to enter the United States to protect New York or Chicago.

4. That the disputed territory should be administered jointly by Canada and the United States, until the boundary line is finally settled.

5. That while it may be right to carry supplies as a gift to starving miners, if there be such, it is unfair to permit goods to be carried in free of duties and sold in competition with Canadian merchants, as it is within the reach of the Canadian Government and merchants in general to provide all necessary supplies for the miners at a date as early as that at which the United States government can furnish supplies.

6. That the conveyance of goods from one point to another point in Canada, in vessels prohibited under the coasting regulations from engaging in the coasting trade, be immediately stopped.

Whereas, It has been shown that British subjects are supplanted by aliens in the Kootenay and other parts of the Province where American capital has been invested, or where American managers are engaged, by discharging the British workman; and, whereas, British workmen are entitled to all the emoluments due such workmen taken from the soil of Canada and British Columbia in particular; and, whereas, the action of these Americans tends to drive the British subject from the right to live on the soil of his own country, be it resolved, that this meeting emphatically protests against the grant of miners' licenses or allowing miners to take up claims, except they be British subjects, and urges upon the government the necessity of protecting miners of British origin in this Province, by prohibiting any alien from working in the mines who cannot prove residence in the said Province of at

least three years; and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Turner and the members of parliament for this city, Mr. A. Williams, Mr. F. C. Cotton and Mr. P. McPherson, with the request that they use their best endeavors to get the same enacted.

Limits of space prevent further comment on the above commendable resolutions in the present issue.

**A HOPEFUL SIGN.**

Under this heading the Canadian Mining Review of this month comments eulogistically on recent efforts made by the MINING CRITIC and the News Advertiser with a view to expose more than doubtful recent flotations of British Columbia mining enterprises in London. The Mining Review notices in particular our exposure of the gross misrepresentation and exaggeration which marked the flotation of the Queen Bess Proprietary Company, Limited. The Mining Review considers it a specially hopeful sign for British Columbia that there is now a birth of a spirit of criticism amongst the press, and that our Province has now at least one or two journals which appreciate the "inevitable discredit that will be brought upon British Columbia, unless reputable journals put forth their best efforts to counteract the effect of the boom papers."

**DISPUTED COAL RIGHTS.**

The right of the New Vancouver Coal Company to mine under the sea between Protection Island and Newcastle Townsite is to be tested. The Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company, through their solicitors, Messes. Davie, Pooley & Luxton, have made application to the supreme court for an injunction to prevent the New Vancouver Coal Company from continuing operations at the place named, their contention being that their grant to the land in the vicinity of the Newcastle townsite gives them the right to mine under the sea, while the grant of Protection Island to the New Vancouver Coal Company does not carry the same right. The New Vancouver Coal Company has been mining for some time under the sea at the place named, the coal being raised from the Protection Island shaft. The action is still in a preliminary stage.

**TO OUR READERS.**

Readers of this week's issue will note that a plethora of matter connected with the Yukon and its development limits more than is usual, the MINING CRITIC'S consideration of purely British Columbia mining affairs. This, however, is, under the circumstances, unavoidable, our space being necessarily limited.

## 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.

### ROSSLAND DISTRICT MINE SALES.

The Waverley group of the Rossland district is reported sold for \$15,000 to an English syndicate; and the Wasser, on Sophie mountain, has been bought by W. H. Bell for \$5,000.

### THE ATHABASCA.

This mine of the Nelson district continues its carefully gotten modest shipments from Toad mountain to the Hall Mines smelter at Nelson, the mine's aggregate shipments to date being 260 tons, averaging \$65 each in value.

### A FAIRVIEW PURCHASE.

It is stated that Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann, of Toronto, have bought a seven-eighths interest in the well-known Stemwinder mine and ordered machinery for its working. The purchase money is stated to be \$100,000.

### THE HOWARD FRACTION.

A recent shipment of ore from the Howard Fraction, in the Slocan division, of which the British Canadian Gold Fields Company have control, gave returns of 173.5 ounces in silver, 1.14 ounces in gold, an average value of \$116.93 per ton at the present value of silver. The shipment consisted of 23 tons, which gave returns of \$2,704.65.

### THE ARLINGTON MINE.

It is stated that the Arlington, near Slocan City, expects shortly to become a steady shipper to Nelson. The returns on the first carload of 20 tons show the gratifying net sum of \$2,097.10. There are three other cars at the smelter upon which returns have not yet been received. Since the Arlington Company was organized last June, the management has done 550 feet of work in sinking and drifting. This is an average of about 80 feet of development work per month, which is a good showing, considering the force employed. The company now employs 12 men. The property consists of two claims, the Arlington and Burlington, both Crown granted. In order to determine the value of the property at depth, the management has decided to sink to the 300-foot level, and for this purpose additional machinery will be needed, and this will be purchased and installed at an early date.

## THE TWO FRIENDS.

A shipment of 22 tons of Two Friends ore has been made to the Hall Mines smelter at Nelson. The Two Friends ore is stated as of exceedingly high grade, it averaging all the way from 203 ounces in silver to the ton and upwards, with about 45 per cent. lead. This will make the tenth carload of ore that has been shipped from this property, seven carloads being shipped by the former management and three carloads by the new management. Nine men are now at work on the property, constantly taking out ore and doing considerable dead work on the side. The dead work consists of running a tunnel in on a stringer some distance up the hill from the old workings, where it is believed a large body of ore will be struck.

The bond on the Two Friends was thrown up the early part of last summer, and the property was considered worthless. The title to the mine reverted to the original owners, and they believing it all right, concluded to continue working. As a result three carloads of ore have been shipped by them, and they have plenty of ore in sight. It is said that a handsome spot cash figure has been offered for the property, but the owners are confident that they have a good thing, and are not at all anxious about making the deal.

### THE ALBION.

The Albion mine, in Ainsworth camp, is proving its value. In the ore body recently opened up it is reported that there is a large quantity of ore in sight, solid galena. The tunnel in the Albion mine is 420 feet long, and a drift has been run 20 feet to the south and 85 feet to the north. In the north drift, it is reported, there is a pay chute 60 feet in length, varying in width from 16 inches to 3 feet, with a 3-foot vein of ore in the face of the drift. The raise of 375 feet to the surface, which the trustees intend to push as fast as possible, is up about 25 feet, and in such a fine body of ore that two men blew out 25 tons in one day. In the 3-foot vein of ore in the north drift there is a nice streak of galena, which is being sacked, and a carload will be shipped to the smelter. It has been decided to take 200 tons of ore from the bin and run it through the concentrator.

### THE LE ROI'S FUTURE.

The London Truth states that the Le Roi mine will probably be brought out shortly in London, England, as a subsidiary company under the parentage of the British America Corporation Company, Limited. Truth adds, that Mr. Whittaker Wright, a leading promoter and director of the Corporation, will shortly visit Rossland in order to note the progress of his company's undertakings in British Columbia.

### "MOTHER LODE MOONSHINE."

As to this last resource of Yukon boomsters, the London Mining Journal speaks as follows: "Notwithstanding the denunciations of the professed mineralogist, it is the sad truth that the rule of three, as it is called, supplants the rule of thumb but very slowly. Men who have spent the greater part of their lives in actual work down the mine shaft are apt to grow supercilious over the scientific method, and to take short cuts to their conclusions. They are, moreover, to some extent given to superstition, and vie with the mariner in the strength of their beliefs in luck, occultism, and portents. Rather an amusing instance in point is the beautiful trustfulness with which the mining men in the great Northwest are looking forward to the discovery of the great storehouse of the world's riches—the Mother lode, whence have sprung all the secondary deposits which have been worked by the enterprising miner in past times. So strongly is this theory implanted in the American mind that in the California rush of 1849 the belief that the miners were at last on the trail of the great glittering serpent was loudly proclaimed; and a great part of the eagerness with which men from every part of the American continent have lately poured into the cold and cheerless Klondike region is attributed by some to a recrudescence of the hope that at the eleventh hour it has been unearthed, and will uncoil itself to the everlasting enrichment of the fortunate possessor. Like many another legendary faith, this belief in the universal Mother lode is bereft of all scientific sponsorship; but in so far as it sustains and stimulates the gold mining zeal, it serves a useful purpose."

### THE GOLDEN CACHE.

Superintendent Rives again reports this week the discovery of exceptionally rich gold deposits in the new ledge at this mine. The MINING CRITIC hopes that the generally favorable forecast thus indicated, may be verified by future working results at the mine. The samples taken and tested were rich indeed, but were obviously specially good specimens, and cannot be taken as representative of the bulk of the ore, as were it otherwise the Golden Cache would be a veritable Golconda in miniature.

### ONE-FOURTH OF THE WORLD'S GOLD YIELD

Last year Victoria, Australia, yielded 810,000 ounces, Queensland 794,000 ounces, and Western Australia 687,000 ounces of gold—together fully one-fourth of the world's gold production for the year as the output of three Australian colonies. New Zealand, South Australia, and Tasmania also in the aggregate yielded a further large amount of gold in 1897.

### THE YUKON'S ADMINISTRATOR SPEAKS OUT.

Major Walsh, writing on Christmas Eve from the mouth of Big Salmon river, says that the food problem will have to be faced after the territory is filled up with the new population that will go in next spring. He calculates that river boats will not be able to land more than half the supplies necessary to sustain the estimated population next summer. Another part of his letter contains an important warning, of which the public should take notice—more especially the gullible British public, amongst whom company mongering sparks seem to be abundant, whilst honest and capable promoters are few. He says:

"I am informed that fifteen or twenty agents and brokers have come out from Dawson carrying with them, some say, hundreds—some say thousands—of certificates for entries for mining on all streams in the neighborhood and to the mountain tops, with the hope that they can be put on the market and be readily seized by the gullible public in the United States and Canada. So, too, doubtless, in England. They are trying to imitate the brokers of South Africa and Rossland. If this be true there is no question but it will be injurious to the country and to good properties that may be put on the market.

### LE ROI SMELTER.

The Le Roi smelter at Northport was blown in on January 21st, and work started well. It is the intention of the Le Roi people to treat the entire output of the mine at the new plant. Mr. James Breen is the manager of the smelter, and Mr. H. C. Bellinger is superintendent. The plant consists of two water jacketed copper matte furnaces, 38x120 inches inside, with water jacketed fore hearths, two Connersville blowers for supplying air to the furnaces; a 50-ton reverberator matte furnace; a Holtoff-Wethey roasting furnace, 10x100 feet in size; a 150-horse power Reynolds Corliss condensing engine; two 80-horse power tubular boilers; an hydraulic platform elevator, and a complete ore sampling plant. The smelter is already treating an average of 160 tons a day with only one blast at work. Four hundred tons per diem will shortly be treated when the second blast is available. Meanwhile the Le Roi mine continues to make a steady daily output of some 200 tons of ore.

### TEXADA'S NEW HOTEL.

Texada Island is now provided, at the instance of Mr. L. L. Palmer, who is largely interested in the island's mining development, with a well-equipped hostelry in the Hotel Texada, which will supply much-needed accommodation.

**THE CHINESE MINERS ON TEXADA.**

Although it was recently stated that the none too skillful Chinese workers at the Van Anda mine, Texada Island, would be substituted by white workers, such is not the case. And to make matters worse, the Chinese are not only violating the law against the working of Mongolians underground in metalliferous mines, but also, it seems, neglecting even to take out miners' licenses, whilst the local magistrate, Dr. Forbes, refuses to swear out the needed informations with a view to hearing the charges—an altogether unsatisfactory state of affairs. Nor does the Van Anda mine itself benefit by this Mongol cheap labor, as it is of an unskillful type, and its endeavors lead to comparatively inefficient working.

**THE GALENA FARM.**

The mechanical appliances and other working apparatus, including provision for the safety and comfort of employes at the Galena Farm mines, are all stated to be highly satisfactory, and constitute a partly redeeming feature of an undertaking, which, although its ores are now looking better and early shipments therefrom are expected, cannot yield any decent returns to such stockholders as have bought for cash, until stock hugely overcapitalized and watered superabundantly be "pared down" on a reconstruction basis, involving reduction of capital, too much of which is really nominal.

**THE TRANSVAAL GOLD OUTPUT.**

Although reports state that Johannesburg is crowded with the unemployed, and news from many Transvaal mine quarters strikes a doleful key, the Rand, or Witwatersrand district, made last year an enormous and "record" gold output, amounting to 3,034,674 ounces. Each year since 1892 has shown a big increase of yield, that of 1892 being 1,120,868 ounces, whilst the return of 1893 came to 1,478,473 ounces, that of 1894 to 2,024,159 ounces, that of 1895 to 2,277,635 ounces, that of 1896 to 2,281,875 ounces, and last year's yield, as above stated, to 3,034,674 ounces.

**THE MORNING GLORY.**

The shareholders of this Vernon free-milling gold mine have, as a result of trouble and dissensions at the mine, causing the discharge or resignation of leading officials, decided that the mill be shut down pro tem., pending the securing of proper management. There is much comment about Vernon as to the extraordinary style which the affairs of this concern have been conducted, everything about it being seemingly the reverse of businesslike, and the present mill stoppage being virtually a confession of incompetency.

**THE SUNSET NO. 2.**

This Rosslund mine, in which many Vancouver men are interested, is stated to be making satisfactory development. The main tunnel is now 170 feet beyond the No. 1 shaft, and is in four feet of good ore. Since October 5th last the amount of work done on this property amounts to a total measurement of 539 feet. This consists of upraises 62 feet, tunneling 362 feet, and crosscuts 25 feet, while the No. 1 shaft has been extended 35 feet below the tunnel level, and the No. 3 shaft has been deepened 55 feet.

**THE QUESNELLE HAZELTON TRAIL.**

The citizens of Ashcroft have petitioned the Provincial Government to build new bridges on and repair the trail between Quesnelle and Telegraph creek via Hazelton. They claim that many Yukon goldseekers will this summer set out for Klondike by the Teslin lake and Hootalingqua route, starting from Ashcroft and making north via the Cariboo road and the Quesnelle and Telegraph Creek trail. The needed improvements can, according to the petitioners, be completed in April, and before the prospectors set out on their overland route to the far north.

**DOING GOOD WORK.**

His Honor Judge Forin has just dismissed an appeal taken by a man named Adler against the refusal by Mr. Griffith, S. M., of a renewal of a license in respect of an inn known as the Kootenay House, Golden. It came out in evidence that the appellant maintained professional gamblers as bartenders, and that guests in his house were first made drunk and then practically robbed by poker sharps in the landlord's very presence. His Honor promptly dismissed the case, on the ground that the appellant admitted that he allowed—and this also on a Sunday, in defiance of the Sunday observance laws—both intoxication and gambling in his house. The judge, in giving his decision, stated that he meant to make things uncommonly lively for any saloon men who allowed their houses to be used for the purposes of plunder by professional gamblers and other harpies. His Honor Judge Forin will do the best of work if he helps in clearing the Kootenays of professional gamblers and other human vermin, who prey upon the sturdy miner and rob him of a big percentage of his hard-earned wages. It will be well if the mounted police expel a horde of such scoundrels from the Yukon, which is but too likely to be overrun by them. By all accounts more than a thousand of the dangerous element are already making for the Klondike.



**Mining Stock Quotations**

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

| COMPANY                               | CAPITAL     | PAR VALUE | PRICE  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------|
| <b>TRAIL CREEK</b>                    |             |           |        |
| R. C. Gold Fields                     | \$2,500,000 | \$ 2 00   | \$ 11  |
| Beaver                                | 750,000     | 1 00      | 10     |
| Big Three                             | 3,500,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| Bruce                                 | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| Butte                                 | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 11 1/2 |
| Caledonian Con.                       | 500,000     | 1 00      | 04     |
| California                            | 2,500,000   | 1 00      | 8      |
| Cellie Queen                          | 750,000     | 1 00      | 5      |
| Centre Star                           | 500,000     | 1 00      |        |
| Colonna                               | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 20 1/2 |
| Commander                             | 500,000     | 1 00      | 18     |
| Crown Point                           | 1,000,000   | 1 00      |        |
| Deer Park                             | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 12     |
| Delaware                              | 1,500,000   | 1 00      | 12     |
| Eastern Star                          | 500,000     | 1 00      | 20     |
| Entprise                              | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 20     |
| Erie                                  | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 04     |
| Evening Star                          | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 9      |
| Georgia                               | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 15     |
| Gertrude                              | 500,000     | 1 00      | 11     |
| Golden Drip                           | 500,000     | 1 00      |        |
| Great Western                         | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 11     |
| Hattie Brown                          | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 4      |
| High Ore                              | 500,000     | 1 00      | 4      |
| Imperial                              | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 05     |
| Independent                           | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 06     |
| Iron Horse                            | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 15     |
| Iron Mask                             | 500,000     | 1 00      | 37     |
| I. X. 2                               | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| Josie                                 | 700,000     | 1 00      | 31     |
| Jumbo                                 | 500,000     | 1 00      | 05     |
| Kootena London                        | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| Le Roi                                | 500,000     | 5 00      | 9 00   |
| Lily May                              | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 29     |
| Mayflower                             | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 8      |
| Monita                                | 750,000     | 1 00      | 16     |
| Monte Cristo                          | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 27     |
| Morning Star                          | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 07     |
| Nest Egg                              | 500,000     | 1 00      | 4      |
| Northern Belle                        | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| O. K.                                 | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 5      |
| Palo Alto                             | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 8      |
| Phoenix                               | 500,000     | 1 00      | 12     |
| Poorman                               | 500,000     | 1 00      | 4      |
| Red Mountain View                     | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| Rosland, Red M'n.                     | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 18     |
| St. Elmo                              | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 6      |
| St. Paul                              | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 8      |
| Silverline                            | 500,000     | 1 00      | 4      |
| Southern C. & W. C.                   | 500,000     | 1 00      | 20     |
| Virginia                              | 500,000     | 1 00      | 13     |
| War Eagle Con.                        | 2,000,000   | 1 00      | 1 00   |
| West Le Roi                           | 500,000     | 1 00      | 28     |
| White Bear                            | 2,000,000   | 1 00      | 9      |
| <b>AINSWORTH, NELSON &amp; SLOCAN</b> |             |           |        |
| American Boy                          | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 15     |
| Fern Gold                             | 2,000,000   | 25        | 50     |
| Ibex of Slocan                        | 300,000     | 25        | 25     |
| Arlington                             | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 12     |
| Argo                                  | 100,000     | 10        | 10     |
| Athabasca                             | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 26     |
| Black Hills                           | 100,000     | 10        | 10     |
| Buffalo of Slocan                     | 150,000     | 25        | 25     |
| Bondholder                            | 1,000,000   | 1 00      |        |
| Alamo                                 | 500,000     | 1 00      |        |
| Canadian M. M. and S. Co              | 2,000,000   | 1 00      | 07 1/2 |
| Columbia-Cariboo                      | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 15     |
| Cumberland                            | 500,000     | 10 00     |        |
| Dardanelles                           | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 13     |
| Dellie                                | 750,000     | 1 00      | 12     |
| Eldon                                 | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 05     |
| Elise                                 | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 05     |
| Ellen                                 | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 07 1/2 |
| Elkhorn                               | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| Eschequer                             | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| Goodenough                            | 800,000     | 1 00      | 25     |
| Gibson                                | 650,000     | 1 00      | 17 1/2 |
| Gray Eagle                            | 750,000     | 1 00      |        |
| Hall Mines                            | 300,000     | £1        |        |
| Idler                                 | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 12 1/2 |
| London                                | 150,000     | 25        | 25     |
| Minnesota                             | 1,000,000   | 1 00      |        |
| Nelson-Poorman                        | 250,000     | 25        | 25     |
| Northern Light                        | 250,000     | 1 00      | 10 1/2 |
| Noble Five Co.                        | 1,200,000   | 1 00      | 15     |
| Ottawa and Ivanhoe                    | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 12 1/2 |
| Phoenix Consolidated                  | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 05     |
| Rambler Con.                          | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 35     |
| Reco                                  | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 1 70   |
| Slocan Reciprocity                    | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 06     |
| Slocan Star                           | 500,000     | 50        | 2 30   |
| Santa Marie                           | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 05     |
| Sheriff                               | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 24     |
| Silver Band                           | 250,000     | 25        | 12 1/2 |
| Slocan Queen                          | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| Star                                  | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 05     |
| St. Keverne                           | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 04     |
| Sunshine                              | 500,000     | 10 00     |        |
| Two Friends                           | 240,000     | 30        | 14     |
| Washington                            | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 25     |
| Wonderful                             | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 04     |

| COMPANY                             | CAPITAL     | PAR VALUE | PRICE  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------|
| <b>LARDEAU</b>                      |             |           |        |
| Consolidated Sable Creek Mining Co. | \$1,500,000 | \$ 1 00   | \$ 100 |
| <b>TEXADA ISLAND</b>                |             |           |        |
| Texada Proprietary                  | 50,000      | 25        | 25     |
| Van Ande                            | 5,000,000   | 1 00      | 1      |
| Victoria-Texada                     | 150,000     | 25        | 25     |
| Texada Kirk Lake                    | 600,000     | 1 00      | 1 00   |
| Raven                               | 1, 00,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| Gold Bar                            | 100,000     | 10        |        |
| <b>VANCOUVER ISLAND</b>             |             |           |        |
| Alberni Mountain Rose               | 250,000     | 1 00      | 5 1/2  |
| Ambroline                           | 500,000     | 1 00      | 1 00   |
| Consolidated Alberni                | 5 0,000     | 1 00      | 18     |
| Mineral Creek                       | 300,0 0     | 1 00      | 05 1/2 |
| Mineral Hill                        | 750,000     | 1 00      | 05     |
| Quadra                              | 500,000     | 1 00      | 10     |
| <b>CARIBOO</b>                      |             |           |        |
| Cariboo Gold Fields, Ld.            | £100,000    |           |        |
| Cariboo Hydraulic Con.              | 300,000     | 5 00      | 65     |
| Horsely Hydraulic                   | 200,000     |           |        |
| Horsely Gold Mining Co.             | 1,000,000   | 10 00     | 10 00  |
| Cariboo M. & D. Co.                 | 300,000     | 1 00      | 25     |
| Golden River Quesnelle              | £150,000    | £1        | 2 50   |
| Victoria Hydraulic                  | 300,000     | 1 00      | 85     |
| <b>LILLOOET DISTRICT</b>            |             |           |        |
| Alpha Bell                          | 573,000     | 1 00      | 42     |
| Dominion Developing                 | 22,500      | 25        | 25     |
| Excelsior                           | 500,000     | 1 00      | 50     |
| Golden Cache                        | 500,000     | 1 00      | 85     |
| Lillooet Gold Reefs                 | 200,000     | 25        | 25     |
| Cayoosh Creek Mines                 | 500,000     | 1 00      | 50     |
| <b>FAIRVIEW CAMP</b>                |             |           |        |
| Tin Horn                            | 270,000     | 25        | 38     |
| Winches'er                          | 200,000     | 25        | 35     |
| <b>BOUNDARY</b>                     |             |           |        |
| Old Ironsides                       | 1,000,000   | 1 00      | 12     |
| Golden Crown                        | 2,000,000   | 1 00      | 20     |
| Boundary Creek M. & M. Co.          | 1,500,000   | 1 00      | 10     |
| <b>CAMP MCKINNEY</b>                |             |           |        |
| Cariboo                             | 800,000     | 1 00      | 54     |

Dividends paid to date are as follows: Le Roi, \$725,000; War Eagle (Old Company), \$217,500; Rambler-Cariboo, \$40,000; Reco, \$250,000; Slocan Star, \$350,000; Cariboo, \$180,000; Dominion Developing, \$158,158. The Hall Mines, Limited, has also paid dividends on preferred and ordinary stock.

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

|            |           |                |        |
|------------|-----------|----------------|--------|
| Payne      | \$400,000 | Goodenough     | 35,000 |
| Idaho      | 240,000   | Noble Five     | 50,000 |
| Poorman    | 50,000    | Northern Belle | 20,000 |
| Ruth       | 150,000   | Antoine        | 10,000 |
| Whitewater | 154,000   | Surprise       | 20,000 |
| Washington | 20,000    | Monitor        | 15,000 |
| Slocan Boy | 25,000    | Last Chance    | 50,000 |
|            |           | Fern           | 10,000 |

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Stock and Mining Brokers  
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**THE ASHCROFT-KLONDIKE ROUTE.**

"Mr. McFarlane is right. No one but a natural born fool would ever attempt to start for the Klondike by either the Ashcroft or Kamloops routes," said a well-known manufacturer of this city to a MINING CRITIC representative.

"Now take the Ashcroft route to Teslin lake, for instance. Passengers coming from the east pay the same fare to Ashcroft as to Vancouver. If they start from the former place they have a long six weeks' journey before them to reach Telegraph creek. If they come to Vancouver they step aboard a boat, and in less than three days, at a cost of \$20, are landed at Wrangel, and by taking river boats there they will in summer be landed at Telegraph creek inside of one week. They are boarded and lodged the entire distance.

"True, there is good feed for horses on the trail from Ashcroft to Telegraph creek; but in the name of common sense what advantage would there be in that unless people were out for a pleasure trip.

"No man in his sober senses will attempt to go to the Klondike by the Ashcroft route."

**BEATS A FISH STORY.**

Sir George Newnes, the enterprising editor of London's famous "omnium gatherum"—Tit-Bits—evidently loves to quote a good story without demanding strong vouchers for its authenticity. Thus a recent issue of this paper tells the following tale of the Transvaal on the authority of the one Captain E. Moss, of the Transvaal:

"I have twenty-four monkeys," he said, "employed around my mines. They do the work of seven able-bodied men. In many instances they lend valuable aid where a man is useless. They gather up the small pieces of quartz that would be passed unnoticed by the working men, and pile them in little heaps that can easily be gathered up in a shovel and thrown into the mill. They work just as they please, sometimes going down into the mines when they have cleared up all the debris on the outside. They live and work together without

quarreling any more than men do. They are quite methodical in their habits, and go to work and finish up in the same manner as human beings would do under similar circumstances. It is very interesting to watch them at their labor, and see how carefully they look after every detail of the work they attempt. They clean up about the mines, following the wheelbarrows and carts used in mining, and pick up everything that falls off on the way."

Not a bad tale for Mr. Moss—or may be Moses—of that happy land of the Dutchman and the Deutscher, the one and only Transvaal.

Cable Address: "CORDOVA," Vancouver.

Codes: A 1, 4th Ed., A. B. C., Moreing and Neal.

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519 Hastings St., Vancouver, B. C. P. O. Box 749

MINES REPORTED ON AND MANAGED

Consulting Engineer:

Leslie Hill, C. E., A. M. I. C. E., M. F. Inst. M. E.

**Notice.**

Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Texada Proprietary Gold Mines, Limited, will be held at the office of the Company, 319 Cambie Street, Vancouver, B. C., on Monday, 21st day of February, 1898, at 3 p.m.

**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.

**B. C. MINING PROSPECTOR'S EXCHANGE LIMITED**

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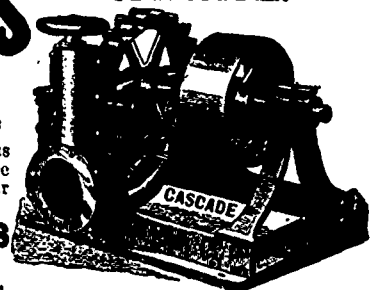
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(L.S.) THOS. R. McINNES,  
CANADA,

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c.

To our faithful the Members elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of British Columbia at our City of Victoria—Greeting.

- A PROCLAMATION.

A. G. Smith, Deputy Attorney-General.

WHEREAS, We are desirous and resolved, as soon as may be, to meet Our people of Our Province of British Columbia, and to have their advice in Our Legislature;

NOW KNOW YE, that for divers causes and considerations, and taking into consideration the ease and convenience of Our loving subjects, We have thought fit by and with the advice of Our Executive Council of the Province of British Columbia to hereby convoke, and by these presents enjoin you, and each of you, that on Thursday, the tenth day of the month of February, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, you meet Us in Our said Legislature of Parliament of Our said Province, at Our City of Victoria, FOR THE DISPATCH OF BUSINESS, to treat, do, act, and conclude upon those things which in Our Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, by the Common Council of Our said Province may by the favor of God, be ordained.

In Testimony Whereof, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of the said Province to be hereunto affixed: Witness, the Honorable Thomas R. McInnes, Lieutenant-Governor of Our said Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our said Province, this thirtieth day of December, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, and in the sixty-first year of Our Reign.

By Command.

JAMES BAKER,

Provincial Secretary.

38-41



## 14 POUNDS!

The Alaska Brand Sleeping Bag is lined with Eiderdown and warmer than whole stacks of blankets. For full particulars see our advertisement in the last number.

Our Miner's Cap, which protects the face and the neck, is almost a necessary complement of every miner's outfit. It only weighs ten ounces and is warmer than fur. The best stores in British Columbia keep them, but if your dealer does not have one and will not get you one, send us a money order for \$2.00 and we will send you one to any address in Canada, charges prepaid.

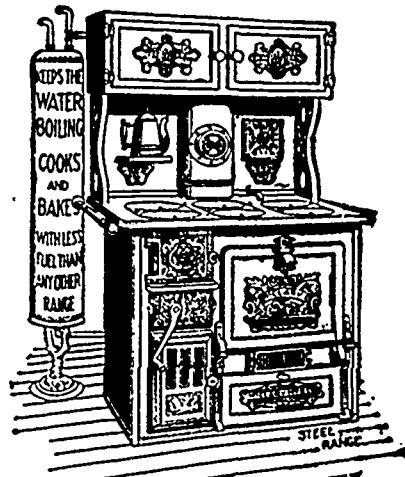
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## Mines and Prospects

**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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And report on MINES and PROSPECTS, with specific valuation where desirable. Also plan, estimate and supervise development. SPECIALTY—The appraisal of Prospects and

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BRITISH COLUMBIA  
MINING CRITIC**

Will furnish, free of charge, full information relating to British Columbia or Klondike Mining Districts. We will give you a list of articles necessary for a Klondike outfit—a list that is guaranteed to be right by men who have visited the country—a list that will save you money. If you are coming this way we will secure hotel accommodations for you at rates ranging from \$1 per day upwards and our representative will meet you on your arrival and do everything possible to make you feel at home while in the city. To

**READERS OF THE CRITIC**

Who are not subscribers, but who contemplate outfitting in Vancouver, we extend the same privilege, with one exception: Should they desire information requiring inquiry and reply by personal letter it will be necessary to enclose a fee of \$1, or by sending \$2 they may obtain the Weekly Mining Critic, which will be sent to any address desired for one year.

Address communications to

**Information Bureau, Mining Critic**  
**19 Cambie St., VANCOUVER, B. C.**

**Subscription  
\$2.00 per annum**

## International Navigation and Trading Co, Limited

Steamers. "INTERNATIONAL" & "ALBERTA"  
On the Kootenay Lake and River

### — TIME CARD —

In Effect 12 July, 1897. Subject to Change Without Notice.

Five Mile Point Connection with all Passenger Trains of the N. & F. S. R. R. to and from Northport, Rossland and Spokane. Tickets sold and Baggage checked to all U.S. Points

Leave Kaslo for Nelson and way points, daily except Sundays, 5:45 a. m.  
Arrive Northport 12:15 p.m.; Rossland, 3:40 p.m.; Spokane, 6 p.m.  
Leave Nelson for Kaslo and way points, daily except Sunday, 5:30 p.m.  
Leaving Spokane 8 a.m.; Rossland, 10:30 a.m., Northport, 1:50 p.m.

### New Service on Kootenay Lake.

Leave Nelson for Kaslo, etc., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., Sat. 8:30 a.m.  
Arrive Kaslo 12:30 p.m.  
Leave Kaslo for Nelson, etc., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 4:00 p.m.  
Arrive Nelson 8:00 p.m.

G. ALEXANDER, General Manager.

## Kaslo & Slocan Railway

### — TIME CARD —

Trains Run on Pacific Standard Time.

| Going west   | Daily      | Going east   |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Lv 8:00 a.m. | Kaslo      | Ar 3:50 p.m. |
| " 8:30 "     | South Fork | " 3:15 "     |
| " 9:30 "     | Sprule's   | " 2:15 "     |
| " 9:51 "     | Whitewater | " 2:04 "     |
| " 10:01 "    | Bear Lake  | " 1:48 "     |
| " 10:18 "    | McGulgan   | " 1:35 "     |
| " 10:28 "    | Junction   | " 1:12 "     |
| Ar 10:50 "   | Sandon     | Lv 1:00 "    |

### SANDON AND CODY.

Lv 11:00 a.m. Sandon Ar 1:45 p.m.  
Ar 11:20 " Cody Lv 11:25 a.m.

Telegraphic Address, "Bed-rock." R. W. BRYAN, Superintendent.

## COLUMBIA & WESTERN RAILWAY CO.

Time Table No. 6, to take effect July 3, 1897.

### EASTBOUND.

No. 2 passenger (daily except Sunday)  
Leaves Rossland 3:00 p.m.  
Arrives at Trall 3:50 p.m.  
No. 4 passenger (daily)  
Leaves Rossland 11:00 a.m.  
Arrives at Trall 12:00 a.m.  
No. 6 passenger (daily except Sunday)  
Leaves Rossland 7:00 a.m.  
Arrives at Trall 7:50 a.m.

### WESTBOUND.

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

Connections made with all boats arriving and departing from Trall.

GENERAL OFFICES, TRALL, B. C. E. P. GUTELIUS, Gen. Supt

## UNION STEAMSHIP CO., OF B. C., LTD.

Head Office and Wharf, Vancouver, B. C.

**Northern Settlements**—SS Comox sails from Company's Wharf every Tuesday at 9 a.m. for Bowen Island, Howe Sound, Sechart, Jervis Inlet, Froeck, L. and A. Island, Lund, Hernando Island, Cortez Island, Read Island, Valdez Island, Shoal Bay, Phillips Arm, Frederick Arm, Thurlow Island, Loughborough Inlet, Salmon River, Port Neville, and sails every Friday at 3 p.m. for way ports and Shoal Bay, calling at Bute Inlet every six weeks.

**Rivers Inlet and Naas River**—SS. Coquitlam sails on 8th and 22nd of each month and will proceed to any part of the Coast should inducements offer.

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