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The British Columbia Mining Critic.

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

VOL. I. No. 7.

VANCOUVER, B. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1897.

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SOME SLOCAN MINES.

A man who has had a large experience in quartz and placer mining in this province is Mr. E. Roche, of Kaslo, who is now at the Oriental. He was in the Slocan country ten years ago, when there was practically very little mining done there, and has also been through the Youkon country for a couple of years, and so has seen quite a large portion of the Province.

Speaking of some of the mines that are not heard of quite so much as some others, Mr. Roche says that lately there has been a great deal of interest taken in mines on the South Fork of the Kaslo river, one of these, the Lontesuma, situated about midway between Ainsworth and Slocan, is a mine that Mr. Roche thinks will even surpass the great Slocan Star. Only last summer D. J. Munn got a quarter interest in it for \$500, and now, said Mr. Roche, he is one of the lucky men, for his interest is quite worth \$20,000. There is a vein 20 feet wide in the mine and a 700 foot tunnel is being run to strike the ledge at a depth of 450 feet. An aerial tramway, with a capacity of 150 tons, will be put in, and a concentrator of 120 tons capacity. The ore will concentrate one in five. Webb & Co., Seattle, are the principal owners.

The Beaver, on the Blue Ridge, has been bonded to an eastern man named Lefevre. It was the location of the Beaver years ago that really led in the end to the Slocan discoveries. The Beaver came first, then the Montezuma, and then the famous Payne group. The Sullivan, on South Fork, is another mine that is being worked well, and of which little has been heard outside. There are in fact many mines operated by private companies that just go ahead and do not count on notoriety.

"Take the Surprise, for instance," said Mr. Roche. That mine owned by Ferguson & Co., shipped 350 tons during the autumn and winter, the ore averaging 200 ounces to the ton. Then there is the Antoine, owned by Green & Son, of Saginaw, Alexander, of Kaslow, and others, which has shipped 250 tons and averaging 300 ounces to the ton."

Mr. Roche says that the road that is being built up the South Fork will be of immense benefit to the mines, giving them a good outlet and enabling them to

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NOTES AND JOTTINGS.

A Scotch company intends putting prospectors this season on the East Kootenay, Illecilliwaet and Big Bend country.

When the British people allowed their Queen to wed herself to a Wettin they might have foreseen she would give them a long reign.

On Monday last Mr. A. A. Boak, of A. A. Boak & Co. left here on a trip through the Kootenay and Slocan districts. He will return in about a month.

Mr. Robt. P. Bonner has returned after inspecting various claims at Harrison Lake. His mission was successful and satisfactory to his employers. Development work is now contemplated.

The attractions of the Queen's Jubilee has led to an abnormally large rush of travel to Europe from the United States and it is estimated the tourist will take out at least \$100,000,000 to help pay for the spectacle and the accompanying frolic so that for the Londoners the festival will be almost as good as a bonanza or a universal exposition.

From all provincial sources it is reported that hotels are crammed, improvements in progress and strangers coming in large numbers. Vancouver is securing its share of the "good time 'a-comin'." Its hotels are filled, and such is the demand for accommodation that many publicans are arranging for annexes. Vancouver is destined to become the metropolis of the northwestern coast.

Sixteen nationalities are represented in the employes of the Hall Mines, Ltd. They are from England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Canada, Sweden, the United States, Germany, France, Norway, Denmark, Italy, Switzerland, Finland, Poland and China. At various times the Company has had in its employ at Nelson an Irish nobleman, an honorable, an ex-major of the British army, an ex-officer of the French army, the nephew of a baronet, a retired British naval officer, a former subaltern in the Colonial forces and two sons of clergymen.

In his report on the Slocan, Prof. A. W. Carlyle, Provincial Mineralogist, says: "For some time back there has existed a strong antipathy to silver properties, and foreign investors especially have refused to entertain any proposition that was not on a gold basis, but now the fact is being realized that with silver even at its greatly reduced value, if there is a sufficient number of ounces of this white metal in the ore, a silver or silver-lead mine is quite as profitable and as desirable as a gold mine, and the handsome returns from the very high grade ores being mined in Slocan, Nelson and Ainsworth, are attracting increasing attention, as is testified by the numbers now seeking silver properties and the transactions recorded, as many mines or claims have been bought or bonded by English, American and Canadian investors, during the past season, not only within these districts, but other

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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1897.

Letters from practical men on topics connected with mining, mining machinery, mining laws, and matters relating to the mineralogical development of Canada, are always welcome.

Manufacturers and Dealers in appliances used in and about mines are invited to send illustrations and descriptions of new articles.

Views and descriptions of mines and mining locations solicited.

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MAURICE GRADWOHL,
Managing Editor.

Holland Block, Vancouver, B.C.
P. O. Box 125.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The present and prospective output of our mines justifies the cry: "A Canadian mint to coin Canadian money for Canadian use."

It would be well for some directors of development companies to bear in mind that when they show sufficient confidence in their claims to invest some of their own funds, others will be more easily induced to do likewise.

Every dollar dug out of the rocks is a new dollar. It is a contribution to the wealth of the world. Every ton of ore uncovered and transported makes our province and country richer. Every new mine opened up another valuable addition to the list of assets and mining, which has been begun in British Columbia so auspiciously, will be chief among our resources.

British Columbia will soon become recognized as one of the most cosmopolitan sections on the coast, judging from the accounts received from many places in the Province, giving the nationality of miners and investors. It behooves the heads of our educational institutions, therefore, to see to it, that the rising generation becomes proficient in other languages than our own.

The Slokan City News in its last issue comments editorially upon our esteemed citizen, Mr. F. Innes, and his association with the Two Friends mine. As we go to press at a late hour we have not the opportunity of giving the article the attention it really deserves. We do not impute to the writer any ulterior motives, but we wish to direct attention to a misstatement:

We watch with a great degree of patient attention the opening up of certain claims and the development of the mines. Every act possesses some interest to us, even if it be the unfulfilled promise or a bit of roquery. We desire to encourage and promote the mining industry by all legitimate methods and foster our mineral resources. But it is not necessary for a mine owner, director or superintendent to every other day, for instance, announce, "We can build a trail," "We have the trail in view," "The trail has been commenced," and so on *ad nauseam*. Add again, we do not exact from the superintendent the, to him edifying intelligence, that that bolt has been riveted in the boiler.

What we do want is good, substantial news of consequence and bearing upon possible dividends. The publication of all the little details which some prominent mine owners are now doing, will simply make us ridiculous in the eyes of the rest of the mining world, of which British Columbia is but a very small part, and will earn for us the unenviable title of "Kindergarten miners," an understood appellation. Besides, to those at home it does seem as if these detail managers seek cheap notoriety and free newspaper advertising. A good mine, properly handled, energetically worked, need not, figuratively, say, "look at me: see what I am doing," for its output, followed by reasonable (not necessarily enormous) returns will itself invite attention and the significant fact be heralded all over the land by its fortunate investors.

More work, directors and Superintendents, and less talk. Give us elbow grease, not chin-chin.

TEXADA ISLAND.

In this issue we publish a few particulars on some of the leading mines on the Island, all of which are even now shipping propositions. We might within reason add considerably to the list, but await the further development of other properties, as yet in their infancy, although assessment work has disclosed exceptional rich prospects.

With a certainty of success the above Island is bidding for the Premier position as a mining centre of the Coast. Pluck, energy and perseverance, combined with tact, has brought the Island into the prominence it deserves, and no longer does doubt exist as to its great mineral wealth. The properties now working demonstrate the fact that as depth is attained, the high quality of the ore bodies are assured. Every foot of sinking proves that value increases in the ore. Free gold is being discovered from end to end of the Island and the specimens are such as to compare with anything in the Cayoosh or other districts. A Townsite has been laid off at Sturt Bay, and a substantial hotel is being built for the accommodation of travellers. Several locations are being acquired by business people, and the future success of the townsite is most promising. Steamers will call daily up and down, and as the shipment of ore will be of no mean impor-

CARIBOO CREEK, SLOCAN MINING DISTRICT

A considerable amount activity is being displayed throughout this district and prospectors are coming in good numbers. Several of the claims are now working and the prospects warrant the expectation that during the next few months capital will be attracted from many parts of the world. Burton City, the point of landing is assuming some pretensions of becoming an important mining centre, several buildings being in the course of erection in anticipation of the increased population and locations in this townsite are realizing good figures.

The Columbia Cariboo Co. are pushing ahead with their tunnel, which will, at an early date, intersect the lode at 125 feet depth, when the connection will be made with the shaft which is down about forty feet in solid quartz, eight feet wide, carrying gold, silver and lead, with a value of about \$40 to the ton. Several open cuttings have been made exposing the lode in various parts of the property. The lode crosses the stratification at right angles and is traceable through the two properties belonging to the Company. It is a true fissure and varies but little for hundreds of feet where exposed, being eight feet wide, and a nice payable quartz carrying payable mineral from the very grass. Now that the snow has disappeared and a waggon road is being built, this property will soon become well known, especially amongst the mining community, as the amount of ore in sight when connection takes place in the shaft and tunnel will be very considerable. This property, which is under the superintendence of Capt. McLean, will be more heard of in the near future.

The Silver Queen group, known as Maxwell's, have started work with a gang of men and intend pushing development without delay. This property is also well known on account of its richness in gold and silver. From the very capping assays giving results in the hundreds, the lode on the property, which is of considerable width is exposed. The little work done so far indicates this property is also going to be one of the coming dividend payers. In places the vein matter exceeds 14 feet which will give nearly \$100 to the ton right across the face in silver and gold, but a streak of solid ore nearly three feet wide of this vein matter which is in the nature of a steel galena, assays about \$200. There is a promising future before this Company.

The Winnipeg Eureka has suspended work owing to the snowslides, but will resume at an early date. Success has not favored the Company so far, for the reason that too many tunnels have been driven in various places, all to no purpose; in fact, it has been a case of dodging from here and there in order to get a big body of payable ore with ten

or twenty feet of driving. Notwithstanding, there is a good showing on the property, and systematically worked, will come to the front, as the ore is of high grade where exposed; but the necessity is obvious that concentration of work is the only possible means of intersecting the lode which runs through the property.

The Promotora is another valuable property in bad hands—litigation and disputing obstructing the work on the claim. Ore shipped from this property with all difficulties to contend with gave a net return of about \$50 after paying considerable expenses in transportation. It is to be hoped that development work will shortly be resumed, as there is an amount of encouragement in the continuation of the ore vein and the high prospects obtainable both in silver and gold warrants, all necessary expenditure in opening it up upon a permanent working basis.

Several other properties will shortly start work and there is no question as to 90 per cent. of properties worked upon a systematical basis and under the superintendence of competent mining men will give a good account of their merits. The "Milly Mac" group should not be forgotten. The veins running through this group give high values and as the bodies are of great width with every show of continuation and permanency.

Several speculators and gentlemen of influence from Vancouver and other places have been acquiring population by actual purchase and others are being bonded at good figures.

KAMLOOPS.

An Old Story, a New Camp, and a Newer Word.

[Communicated.]

Some ten years or more ago, as a reservoir was being dug for Kamloops water supply, it occurred to one or two residents that gold might be found in the process. The foreman of the work concurred with this idea, and thought it probable, when they had reached bed-rock, that auriferous deposits would be found. When this interesting stage was "got down to," the goldseekers sacked up some of the dirt and took it secretly to the river to wash out. They panned out not only colors, but glittering dust in vastly paying quantity. Pale and breathless they rushed to the recording office, took out licenses, and let one or two particular "pals" in on the scheme. The excitement was tense and intense. Staking out was done in solemn silence and with dexterous dispatch. At nightfall, however, one of the initiated got alcoholically confidential and gave the "snap" away. Very soon, and throughout the night, the whole hillside behind the town was alive with lanterns borne by citizens, who, Diogenes-like, were looking, not for one honest man, but for good yellow gold. Next morning two distinct roars rent the sky above Kamloops—one of prolonged laughter, and

one of pronounced indignation from the victimized. The foreman of the work had "salted" the dirt by spilling some gold dust in it as it was sacked. He kept quiet for several days subsequent, and the incident is now only a memory, and to some not a pleasant one.

To-day, however, Kamloops contains the promise of becoming one of the best mining camps in British Columbia and one of the biggest camps in the world. Of course there are diverse opinions about this; but the consensus of testimony from mining men and experts who have visited the camp since last autumn is, that its possibilities are great and its probabilities large. It is not, however, a poor man's camp, and requires extensive capital to develop. Over one thousand claims have been recorded, of which a fair percentage have wonderfully good indications. Assessment work has been done on a number of claims, and two—the Python and the Iron Mask—have reached a shipping stage. This state was, in fact, arrived at last year; but, for some reasons, nothing further had been done with them up to the end of May. A "fillip" has been given to the camp by the bonding of the Iron Cap to Patsy Clarke of War Eagle fame. This should prove a good card. If some of the claim-holders will come off the high-prices, and bond their claims at reasonable rates to developing companies, there is no apparent reason why Kamloops should not rank as one of the most important mining centres in British Columbia. It is advantageously placed either for shipping or smelting purposes, and is climatically a miners' Mecca.

Kamloops, with Ireland, has the honor of being the birthplace of a new verb. It happened in this wise: A claim was struck and given the name of the Lucky Strike, which indeed it was and is. It was bonded to a Mr. Cobblestick for five hundred dollars down, and a considerable sum to be paid after work was done. Being, it is said, disappointed at not securing surrounding claims at his own figures, Mr. Cobblestick refuses to develop the Lucky Strike, and will let it remain idle, paying the assessment without development. As this is one of the most promising prospects in the whole camp, the mining population is somewhat indignant, and a hope is frequently expressed that no more claims will be "cobbledicked." Hence the word, which in process of time may take classic rank with "boycott."

MACK.

Work has been started on a reservoir on Quartz Creek to supply Ymir with water. A long flume will have to be constructed from the dam to the city. The work is being done by a company of Victoria and Rossland men, who have also, it is said, undertaken the installation of an electric light plant. The electric light is to supply the whole town. The water from Quartz creek is unequalled for purity and sweetness.

PLAIN TALK ON ORE-TESTING.

There are men in every line of business who differ greatly upon the principles underlying their special branch and the methods under which it should be conducted. Some are honest in their differences, while others are willing to sacrifice their real opinions to any matter of expediency which promises more ready and full returns of cash to their coffers. There are assayers who believe that the prospector should be "encouraged" by overstating the value of his ore, and who habitually give small returns, from a "trace" to a few dollars per ton, on ore which they know to be totally barren, thinking by this fraud to keep the miner at work for days, or perhaps months, upon a prospect which will yield nothing, spending valuable time and money to no purpose, save that of giving a few dollars' worth of work to the assayer. Perhaps the prospector sends samples to two different assayers, and one returns him "no trace," while the other gives him a value of a few dollars per ton. The biggest return is almost invariably accepted as correct, and the "no trace" man is charged with a failure. Some assayers say it makes no difference whether they return "no trace" or a dollar or two a ton, because in neither case is the ore of any value. I claim the contrary, and assert that the accuracy of an assay of ore of very low grade is much more important than that of an ore carrying a hundred dollars per ton, for the reason that in the first case a difference between "no trace" and a dollar or two may decide the expenditure of hundreds or perhaps thousands of dollars in development; while in the latter, the ore will be shipped anyway; and we have all learned that the smelters will pay for nothing but the actual contents of the ore. Then, too, these returns of value from valueless ore are often the result of accident or carelessness in the hands of an assayer who has every intention of being honest. A particle of rich ore in the grinder left from the last sample, a salted crucible, a loaded cleaning brush, a dirty mixing cloth, flakes containing a little precious metal—these and other matters of carelessness, uncleanness or disorder about the laboratory are continually making the difference between reliability and worthlessness in the result of assaying. The general public is not competent to judge of the qualifications of an assayer any more than those of a physician. Any man can buy an outfit for a hundred dollars and stick out his shingle "Chemist and Assayer," when in reality he knows no more about the correct application of the principles underlying the trade he professes than the man in the moon. Such instances are more common than many would believe; and sometimes people of intelligence, who could at once realize the foolishness of putting out the cheapest lawyer or doctor, will give their patronage to such an assayer, just because they can get

his services a little cheaper than those of a man who is competent in his profession and who realizes the importance of taking pains.

A good assayer is often charged with failure because his customer is ignorant of the first principles of sampling ore. Sometimes a piece of rock is broken in two, the halves sent to different assayers, widely varying results are obtained, and one of the operators is charged with an error, when in fact both are correct, and the results are chargeable to the fact that the metal was unevenly disseminated through the sample. It is well to remember that like results can only be reasonably expected when the sample is finely crushed, thoroughly mixed and carefully divided. The careful miner will treat his sample in this way, grinding as fine as his circumstances will permit, mixing and dividing carefully, and in every case reserving a portion of the sample, so that a check assay can be made if desired. As the best men are liable to an occasional mistake, no conservative miner will expend any large amount of labor or money upon the result of a single assay, but will base his future work upon the concurring results of two or more reliable assayers.

The best practical test of the qualifications of an assayer is his ability to check with the smelters on their shipment pulps; and if you are in doubt with whom to trust your work, go to your friends who are ore shippers and get them to tell you whom they patronize. No man can be honest in this business without making many enemies among those customers who have had higher assays elsewhere than he can give them and who had rather believe their assayer dishonest or incompetent than that their ore is less valuable than they hoped. Remember that good men as a rule can get a good price for their work. I have in mind an assayer in Colorado who probably does more business than any man in the West and who charges two dollars for a gold and silver assay while others in the same town charge fifty cents, and the chances are that, considering the real value of the work turned out, the two-dollar man comes the nearer to earning his fee. If there is any trade in which "cheap and nasty" work is utterly valueless it is in that of the assayer.—Ex.

We are informed upon very reliable authority that a *bona fide* cash offer of a handsome amount has been made for the capital stock of the Dominion Development Co., by a syndicate of capitalists. We endeavored to secure from the directorate confirmation of this rumor before going to press, but we regret to say that they were very reticent, hence we shall be unable to furnish our readers with the details until next week. Much strength is given the report owing to the fact that the price of Dominion Development shares has advanced sharply and there are few sellers.

THE ORPHAN BOY.

Must be Investigated.

We are pleased to learn that there is to be an investigation into the affairs of the Deer Park Mining Company of Rossland. This is as it should be. An investigation may result in eliciting facts which will hold the managers blameless, or otherwise. Already we have had occasion to refer to a few transactions which have happened in connection with mining affairs which savor largely of rank dishonesty, and concerning which we hope the attorney-general, as head of the administration of Justice in this province, will give that attention which the peculiar nature of the transactions demand. From facts coming to our knowledge, we are decidedly of the opinion that there is at least one mining transaction in this province whose affairs, if not cleared up, and those connected with it exposed and punished, as they deserve to be if found to be guilty of irregular business methods, an impression will go abroad that the carrying out of the law in British Columbia is a travesty upon justice. The Orphan Boy mining affair has done more to give the mining industry a set-back than anything which has ever happened to that promising industry. So far as this proposition is concerned, those who feel that their estate was grossly mismanaged are determined, we understand, to sift the whole matter to the bottom.—World.

Mayor Templeton and Mr. C. N. Davidson left yesterday [Tuesday] for Revelstoke, to let a contract for some work on the Orphan Boy mine, in the Big Bend country, about the sale of which so much has been heard of late.—News-Advertiser.

Through a mutual acquaintance our managing editor offered Mr. J. W. Haskins the use of our columns for the purpose of replying to his alleged detractors. We offered to publish his production *verbatim et literatim*. The offer was declined.

AN ENGLISHMAN'S VIEWS.

That the Province of British Columbia possesses vast mineral resources has been proved by recently published official statistics; but all the same we think the following warning thrown out by a London paper recently introduced to safeguard the interests of English investors in "B.C." properties is apropos:

"Locally registered mining stock has found little favor in England up to the present, and in view of the scandals which reach these shores from time to time of the unloading of promoter stock, the sale of forged certificates, etc., there is little room for surprise. An excellent suggestion has been made, which, if acted upon, might minimize risk—viz that all treasury shares have the word treasury printed across the certificate."

We would go farther than this and suggest that investors who have a fancy for this class of mining enterprise should leave "locally registered" companies severely alone, for it is obvious that those who acquire interests in these concerns are entirely at the mercy of the local officials. In the case of English registered companies, on the other hand, those who participate can find out the whereabouts of the company's office, the extent of its property, and the amount of its capital issued and unissued, while they are free from that question of "assessibility" which hangs over the heads of those who buy local "B. C." shares issued at a discount.—Ex.

TEXADA ISLAND.

Considerable development work is being prosecuted all over the Island, and the prospects are very encouraging. On the Van Anda the shaft is down 110 feet. From the 60-foot level a winze is being sunk on the vein to connect with the lower level. At 80 feet depth a strong body of purple copper ore has been met with, being three feet wide in the solid, showing free gold, and is undoubtedly continuous. This strike is most important, as the grade of the ore is very high and will return large profits to the shareholders.

The Raven mine has a large staff of men at work, both driving on the lode and sinking. The shaft is down 75 feet in eight feet of good ore, with only one wall; this body of ore is rich in free gold and carries 20 per cent. copper, and is traceable through several properties.

The Kirk Lake company have sunk a shaft 100 feet, and have a body of high grade ore four feet wide carrying considerable gold. Machinery will be put on the ground immediately and fifteen men will be employed in the erection thereof. The treasury stock has been taken up in large blocks and plenty of cash is available for development, this property bids fair to attract much attention in the near future.

The Surprise company has sunk a shaft 111 feet and driven a tunnel from the 70 foot level a distance of 80 feet, sinking will be resumed at once to the 200 feet level, when driving will be commenced on the Silver Tip lode which passes through the Surprise. Mr. Jell, the Manager, is here making the necessary arrangements for a whim and horses to expedite sinking. This Company possesses four claims, all of which have very large surface shows, going from a few dollars to \$25 in copper and gold. This property is being energetically worked and reflects credit on the management.

The Texada proprietary's claim, the Silver Tip, is a property that has come much into prominence. A shaft has

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In Vancouver of British Columbia Mining Companies.

COMPANIES.	NO. OF SHARES.	PAR VALUE	PRICE
TRAIL CREEK.			
Alberta.....	1,000,000	\$ 1 00	\$ 0 13
B. C. Gold King.....	1,000,000	1 00	10
B. C. Gold Fields.....	2,500,000	2 00	40
Beaver.....	750,000	1 00	10
Big Chief.....	1,900,000	1 00	10
Big Three.....	3,500,000	1 00	12
Bluebird.....	600,000	1 00	10
Bruce.....	1,000,000	1 00	10
Bute.....	1,000,000	1 00	05
Caledonian Con.....	500,000	1 00	07
California.....	2,500,000	1 00	15
C. & G.....	500,000	1 00	05
Celtic Queen.....	750,000	1 00	04
Centr Star.....	500,000	1 00	10
Colonia.....	1,000,000	1 00	25
Commander.....	500,000	1 00	22
Crown Point.....	1,000,000	1 00	51
Deer Park.....	1,000,000	1 00	18 1/2
Delta Colla.....	1,000,000	1 00	04
Delaware.....	1,500,000	1 00	12
Eastern Star.....	500,000	1 00	12
Enterprise.....	1,000,000	1 00	20
Eric.....	1,000,000	1 00	04
Evening Star.....	1,000,000	1 00	11 1/2
Georgia.....	1,000,000	1 00	16
Gertrude.....	500,000	1 00	08 1/2
Giant.....	2,500,000	1 00	15
Golden Drip.....	500,000	1 00	15
Golden Queen.....	1,000,000	1 00	10
Great Western.....	1,000,000	1 00	14
Hattie Brown.....	1,000,000	1 00	07 1/2
Helen.....	500,000	1 00	05
High Ore.....	600,000	1 00	04
Homestake.....	1,000,000	1 00	10
Idaho.....	500,000	1 00	10
Imperial.....	1,000,000	1 00	05 1/2
Independent.....	1,000,000	1 00	06
Iron Horse.....	1,000,000	1 00	20
Iron Mask.....	500,000	1 00	46
I. X. J.....	1,000,000	1 00	12
Josie.....	700,000	1 00	53
Jumbo.....	500,000	1 00	70
Knight-Templar.....	500,000	1 00	04
Kootenay-London.....	1,000,000	1 00	10
La Roi.....	500,000	5 00	7 50
Lily May.....	1,000,000	1 00	20
Mayflower.....	1,000,000	1 00	12
Monarch.....	700,000	1 00	10
Monita.....	750,000	1 00	18
Monte Cristo.....	1,000,000	1 00	14
Morning Star.....	1,000,000	1 00	07 1/2
Nest Egg.....	500,000	1 00	08
Morning Star.....	1,000,000	1 00	15
Northern Belle.....	1,000,000	1 00	06 1/2
Northern.....	1,000,000	1 00	28 1/2
O. K.....	1,000,000	1 00	06
Pato Alto.....	1,000,000	1 00	11
Phoenix.....	500,000	1 00	07
Poorman.....	500,000	1 00	15
R. E. Lee.....	2,000,000	1 00	10
Red Mountain View.....	1,000,000	1 00	10
Red Point.....	1,000,000	1 00	10
Rochester.....	500,000	1 00	15
Rossland Star.....	1,000,000	1 00	25
Rossland J. Red M'En.....	1,000,000	1 00	06 1/2
St. Elmo.....	1,000,000	1 00	12 1/2
St. Paul.....	500,000	1 00	08
Silverline.....	500,000	1 00	20
Southern C. & W. C.....	1,000,000	1 00	10
Sultana.....	2,500	100 00	10
Trail Mining Co.....	600,000	1 00	12
Union.....	500,000	1 00	1.53
Virginia.....	2,000,000	1 00	27
War Eagle Con.....	500,000	1 00	16
West La Roi.....	2,000,000	1 00	06
White Bear.....	1,000,000	1 00	06
Young British Am.....	1,000,000	1 00	17
AINSWORTH.			
Dellie.....	700,000	1 00	07 1/2
Ellen.....	1,000,000	1 00	05
BOUNDARY			
Old Ironsides.....	1,000,000	1 00	40
CAMP MCKINNEY			
Cariboo.....	800,000	1 00	10
CAMP FAIR VIEW.			
Occidental.....	600,000	1 00	10
NELSON.			
Exchequer.....	1,000,000	1 00	6 10
Hall Mines.....	2 0 000	£1 00	10
NORTHPORT.			
Red Top.....	1,000,000	\$1 00	25
SLOCAN.			
Athabasca.....	1,000,000	1 00	1 00
Alamo.....	600,000	1 00	06 1/2
Bon Diable.....	75,000	1 00	25
Bondholder.....	1,000,000	1 00	10
Buffalo.....	150,000	25	10
Cumberland.....	50,000	10 00	10

COMPANIES.	NO. OF SHARES	PAR VALUE	PRICE
Reco.....	1,000,000	1 00	1 50
Slocan Star.....	1,000,000	50	2 55
Sunshine.....	50,000	10 00	
Washington.....	1,000,000	1 00	25
Wonderful.....	1,000,000	1 00	08
REVELSTOKE.			
Orphan Boy.....	700,000	1 00	
TEXADA ISLAND.			
Texada Proprietary.....	1,000,000	\$ 25	\$ 0 25
Van Anda.....	6,000,000	1 00	05
Victoria-Texada.....	600,000	25	25
ALBERNI DIST.			
Alberni M'En Rose.....	250,000	1 00	05
Alberni Con.....	1,000,000	1 00	12
Mineral Creek.....	500,000	1 00	05 1/2
Mineral Hill.....	750,000	1 00	10
Quadra.....	500,000	1 00	10
GARIBOO			
Cariboo Gold Fields.....	100,000		
Cariboo Hydraulic.....	500,000	5 00	10 25
Columbia & Cariboo.....	1,000,000	1 00	15
Horsely Hydraulic.....	200,000		
Horsely Gold M. Co.....	100,000	10 00	1 50
Slough Creek.....	500,000	1 00	50
LILLOOET DIST.			
Golden Cache.....	500,000	1 00	1 65
Lillooet Gold Reefs.....	200,000	25	25

Dividends paid to date are as follows: La Roi, \$375,000; War Eagle, \$187,000; Rambler, Cariboo, \$40,000; Reco, \$100,000; Slocan Star, \$800,000; Two Friends, \$30,000; Cariboo, \$141,410. It is estimated that the profits of the mines subjoined have returned the sums placed opposite their respective names:

Payne.....	\$250,000	Goodenough.....	\$35,000
Idaho.....	132,000	Noble Five.....	50,000
Poorman.....	50,000	Northern Belle.....	20,000
Ruth.....	50,000	Antoine.....	10,000
Whitewater.....	40,000	Surprise.....	20,000
Washington.....	20,000	Monitor.....	15,000
Slocan Bov.....	25,000	Last Chance.....	50,000

surface, showing little or no variation. This lode is not only one of the best defined and most valuable on the Island, but will compete with any on the coast. Of the ore body two feet is solid metal and three feet being mixed with quartz the whole five being worth about \$40 in copper, gold and silver. The ore is of an exceptional character and is the first of its kind discovered in British Columbia. There is still much doubt as to its actual component parts, but the fact remains that the smelting value is very good. A few tons of ore is being sent for treatment and active development work is to be commenced at an early date, both sinking and driving on the lode. Two other lodes traverse the property and from the very surface over \$20 has been obtained in copper and gold.

Victoria Texada Company have seven men working and the prospects are of the best.

The Clara B. is another valuable property giving great results in copper and gold.

Several other claim have started work and, for legitimate work, Texada Island ranks second to none on the Coast as a mining centre.

There have been no startling discoveries made recently in the West Kootenay, but on the whole the news from the mines is encouraging. The O. K., which has closed down owing to a change of management, is to resume on Monday,

ROSSLAND MINES AND COMPANIES.

Rossland will require a very strong combination of all its principal supporters, backed up by Spokane, to stave off the inevitable crash that must come sooner or later, occasioned principally by the strong advocacy of the local press in supporting all and every proposition put before the public relative to mining. Exaggerated statements as to the continual rich strikes, and the publication without due inquiry of every story originating from promoters and owners of locations purporting to have immense lodes giving high results in the precious metals, have not been borne out by facts. The incorporation of companies to acquire claims without a particle of merit has been stupendous, and the public has been gulled to such an extent that the awakening to the true state of affairs will be a very hard blow to the mining industry throughout British Columbia. The promised dividends are not forthcoming; but the old old story is, with all conceivable impudence, repeated day after day with greater emphasis than ever. For instance, on this mine and that mine a strike has been made of such magnitude that all others previously have fallen into insignificance. Where now is that boasted future that was to make Rossland the greatest mining camp in the world? the production from its great mines being such as to induce the withdrawal of capital from other well known mining centres to be placed at the disposal of Rossland; yet Johannesburg still holds the premier position to Rossland, so far as actual production is concerned.

Not very long since we were told, upon the authority of well known men who gave vent to their views through the Rossland press, that the returns obtained from the mines in Kootenay would exceed a number of times over that of the Transvaal or Western Australia. What is their answer now? Why are so many claims (not mines) closing down, notably the Deer Park? Because those institutions known as the Rossland and Spokane Stock Exchanges offered shares and received no response from buyers? because the Orphan Boy swindle deterred capitalists in the east from investing further in treasury shares? or because confidence has rightly been withdrawn from companies that through the medium of the local press have no better results to show than their past boasting as to the richness of their ore bodies, which will not pay for the treatment? What has become of all that ore carrying from twenty to sixty dollars in value? Why has the promising Horne-Payne mine shut down? Because by development the prospects in view are not encouraging? It is greatly to be deplored that in the near future companies possessing mineral claims, and incorporated from five hundred thousand dollars upwards,

through want of funds, or, more properly speaking, because instead of the twenty-dollar average, nothing better than three to six dollars is obtainable from any portion of ore. Yet in scarcely one instance have the local press taken the trouble to ascertain values before giving a glowing account of every location in Kootenay; and to them is the responsibility principally due.

Shipping ore apparently is the one requisite desirable for Rossland. How much have they? Echo answers, "Wait." What has become of all the free gold tale that was so rich that it had to be sacked for safety? All these instalments have been supported by the press, and what now is the outcome? From Toronto, Montreal and other eastern centres came real estate brokers and others to purchase mineral claims, which they did—some for a hundred dollars, some for a thousand dollars, and others at even a slight advance. Where these claims were located they inquired not, the snow was on the ground—a plausible excuse. The outcome is simply this: Those claims were incorporated for a million dollars, and the treasury shares sold from five to fifteen cents. The snow is off the ground now. Where are the claims? in many instances, of course, non-existent, or there is no sign of a vein. It is quite time these weeds were thrown to one side, and those bearing values brought to the front.

CONCENTRATES.

Assessment work is being done on the Grey Eagle and Golden Pheasant in Greenwood Camp, with very satisfactory results.

Third and what is undoubtedly the main ledge on the Bon Diable property was struck a few days ago. This claim is owned by the Bon Diable Mining company, and is situated near Vernon.

In last week's issue we referred to the exceptional richness of the Golden Cache property, of which there can be no shadow of a doubt, therefore why is so much secrecy observed?

At Rossland the stockbrokers' committee has completed the by-laws and constitution of the new exchange and have submitted them to the board of trade for ratification.

The rush of people from all parts of the United States to Spokane, for the purpose of reaching the mining districts of British Columbia, continues unabated. Every train north on the Spokane & Northern railway carries from 100 to 200 passengers.

Prospectors are pushing out from Alnsworth to the higher altitudes, the point of attraction seeming to be the Glacier country, around the headwaters of Woodbury, Coffee and Kokanee creeks where rich finds were made last fall.

A corporation, to be called the Slocan Lake Gold and Silver Company, is being

group of five claims, which are situated between Springer and Lemon creeks. At present there are twelve men working on the property, but when the deal under way is completed, the force will be doubled.

As we go to press we are informed that the Big Chief mine, near Rossland, has been closed down. A short time ago Mr. Peter MacDonald, Contractor, issued a writ against the company controlling the "Big Chief" mine to recover payment for work done under contract for running a tunnel on the property.

A great strike of copper ore was made in the Van Anda mine on last Wednesday. A new ledge of four feet of solid ore, assaying very high, was encountered in the new shaft at a depth of 30 feet. The Silver Tip company have let a contract to sink another 200 feet, which will make the shaft when finished 328 feet deep. The showing in the mine is very fine. The machinery for the Surprise mine, which is near the Silver Tip, has arrived on the ground. The wharf on Sturt Bay has been finished and the roads are graded to it.

The announcement made early last week that the ledge had been reached on the Mountain Rose claim, at Alborni, was pleasing news to the many in Vancouver who are shareholders. The vein, as stated, is about three feet thick, and from average samples of quartz, picked from different places on the ledge, two assays were obtained going \$29.60 and \$30 respectively. The company is making arrangements to develop the property extensively, and it is likely that a gang of men will be put to work to drift on the ledge in the near future.

There are several reasons for the present depression in local mining stocks. The first, probably, is because the market is flooded with it, and the second is because there has been no money made out of local stocks for some time. The unsettled condition and the varying of prices has had something to do with it. A person who paid 25 cents a share in the east for stock that could have been bought in Rossland for 10 cents, roars loud and long. Others have, therefore, become afraid to buy at all. Some claim that the stock exchange has ruined the stock market. It may be a primary cause, because it has tended to lower the prices of some stocks, but the bottom figures must be reached, sooner or later, so the sooner the better. Values must be fixed upon actual merit; and those that cannot thus stand must fall, and the sooner the better. The mines around Rossland are all right, and showing up well. Strange to say there has been no recent strikes of such importance as to have caused a decided rise in the stock of any company. But it will soon occur, and others will follow, when a general revival in mining stocks will soon occur. It will come soon.—Ex.

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Nansen's Social and Financial Success.

The extraordinary social boom enjoyed by Dr. Nansen, which quite exceeds anything London ever did for Stanley or any other British explorer, has lifted the success of his book beyond doubt. The Constables paid such a huge price for it that the publishing trade believed it would ruin them, but I have their assurance that every subscription received after last Monday noon represented a net profit. The book will appear on Monday, and will monopolize the British reading world to the exclusion of all else.

Other European countries are not so excited over the Swedish hero, and in Norway, perhaps because he is a Swede, the papers are cynically referring to him as Finansen. Certainly his monetary rewards are going to be enormous.—London Cor. N.Y. Times.

The Cozy Kitchen.

The modern kitchen, incased in brick walls at the back of the house, lacks much of the charm associated with the old-fashioned kitchen of a generation or so ago. Yet a small expenditure of time and money will make bright and cheerful an apartment where at least one human being spends three-quarters of her life. A clock ticking cheerily and some thin white sash curtains at the window add much to its comfort and cost but little. The floor should be covered with a bright oilcloth or linoleum and the walls tinted some sunny color. A rack for three or four books and two or three plants on the window-sills will help to brighten the kitchen, and there but few maids who will not appreciate these efforts made in her behalf.

The Demand For Thermometers.

A dealer in thermometers said that under ordinary conditions the sales of thermometers were about ten per cent. greater in winter than in summer. There were more people, and so more buyers in town in winter, and he thought, too, that people were more interested in the temperature of winter weather than in that of summer. If there should be a prolonged spell of very hot weather in summer the sale of thermometers would increase enough to make it equal the usual sale in winter. A like cold spell in winter, however, would increase the sale in that season, so that take it altogether the average sale of thermometers was greater in winter than in summer.—New York Sun.

British Strikes in 1895.

The annual report of Mr. J. Burnett of the Labor Department of the British Board of Trade, on strikes and lockouts, "shows that there were 876 disputes resulting in stoppage of work during 1895, and these involved 263,758 workpeople, as against 1061 disputes and 324,245 workpeople in 1894. As regards results, 303, or 34.6 per cent. of the disputes ended in favor of the workpeople, as against 35 per cent. in 1894; but in these successful disputes 24 per cent. of the persons affected during the year were involved, against 22.1 in the preceding year. The aggregate number of days lost in 1895 was 5,542,600, compared with 9,322,096 in 1894 and 31,205,062 in 1893. The average duration per head of disputes in 1895 was 21.6 days, as against 29.5 in the preceding year. The value of the aggregate number of working days lost, worked out as wages, would amount to about £1,120,000, compared with £2,000,000 in 1894. The percentage of persons concerned in the disputes of 1895, which were settled by conciliation or negotiation, was 74.8, as against 56.7 in 1894."

Will Not Use a Hair Brush.

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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.

Moodyville and North Vancouver Ferry—Leave Moodyville: 8, 9:15, 10:45 E. noon, 2, 4 and 5:45 p. m. Leave Vancouver: 8:35, 10, 11:30, 1:15 p. m., 3:15, 5:15 and 6:26. Calling at North Vancouver each way, excepting the noon trip.

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