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Kamloops and District
Mining Gazette.

*A Monthly Journal devoted to the Mining Interests
of the District of North Yale,
British Columbia.*

PUBLISHED BY W. W. CLARKE & F. E. YOUNG.

January - 1900.

No. 13. - - Issued Monthly.

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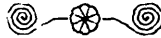
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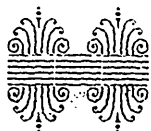
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Kamloops Mining Gazette.

VOL. 2. JANUARY. 1900. No. 1

What We Think.

At a special meeting of the Inland Board of Trade, held lately, a set of resolutions were sent from an East Kootenay Board for endorsement. Some of them were suggestions which do not come under the sphere of criticism of the Gazette, such as matters educational, etc. There are, however, one or two resolutions of the greatest importance, the bulk of which are left to a committee to report on. One was endorsed unanimously. It is a request to the Government to give an assurance that the taxation on the output of mines would not be increased. The occasion of this resolution is obvious to everyone. For the past twelve months the pulse of mining communities has beat very uneasily. Frightened by the hasty introduction of legislation affecting the management of mines, the capitalists have held aloof, consequently properties that should have been proved by now, are still in a doubtful stage. If, however, the Government will give an assurance that they will not seek to further increase the burdens the mines now have to carry, it will enable development work to be carried on with greater degree of assurance than can be done while there is a feeling of uncertainty as regards their intention. The resolution might, however, have gone a little further in suggesting a reduction of taxation for certain classes of property. At present the tax is

on the value of the ore at the dump, but in estimating the value no account is taken of the cost of production, which is so unequal. For instance, a 1 per cent. tax on the value of the ore is in some cases as much as a 20 per cent. profit on the profits of the mine, and in some cases actually eats up all the profit derived. Of course it is a pretty hard matter for the Government to determine what is or should be the actual cost of mining in every individual mine, but a rough schedule might be drawn up that would meet the case, and any mine owner who was not satisfied with it could be made to show good cause why it should not be carried into effect in the case of his particular mine; as is done with the question of assessments for farming or other property. It is of course the duty and the wish of every Government to build up the mining interests of the country, and when they find that the taxation is unduly heavy on certain classes of mining and in certain localities, so that the industry is retarded, they cannot but look into the matter seriously with a view to finding a remedy.

We most heartily endorse the suggestion that the office of Agent-General for British Columbia should be placed on a footing more commensurate with the vast interests of the province. In this connection we are enabled to speak with a thorough knowledge of the good which will accrue to British Columbia by a bolder, though more expensive policy. As has often been alluded to in these columns, Mr. W. W. Clarke took a small display of local ores to Lon-

don and placed them on exhibition in one of the public thoroughfares in the Strand. From information vouchsafed to us formally and in formally, we find that the little exhibit of minerals has caused quite a little excitement, and the enquiries that have been made have given Mr. Clarke a great deal more work than he anticipated. At no time during the day has the shop window, in which they were exhibited, been devoid of its little group of spectators, and British Columbia in general, and Kamloops in particular, has been brought before a large number of the British public in a manner that will make a far deeper impression than any amount of puff literature. This only goes to show that immense good might be done if a perpetual exhibition of British Columbia minerals and other products was held on some more important thoroughfare, with a proper supply of clerks' literature to enable the public to get further information that is so necessary. This, of course, would cost more than the present system, but the results would more than justify the increased expenditure.

Mines & Mining

COPPER IN 1899.

Although the increase in the production of copper was only a moderate one, the enlargement in consumption was very great. There was no accumulation of stocks by any producer or dealer during the year, so that the increase in production doubled with the decrease in

exports indicates that some 35,000 tons of copper were added to our domestic supply in 1899, and that the consumption in that year was greater than in 1898, by this very large quantity. This is not to be wondered at when we consider the extreme activity in construction work of all kinds, in which copper and its alloys are used; and especially the very large amount of electrical work—railroad, power transmission, lighting etc.—which has been constructed during the year.

When a rise in prices began early in the year, a large number of new companies were organized to work new tracts in the Lake Superior Copper Region, and several old mines were revived, re-incorporated and development work begun. None of these concerns, however, can be yet ranked as producers, as is well it takes three years and an expenditure of \$750,000 to make a mine in the Lake Superior District.

Canada shews a considerable gain in 1899, principally from the B. C. mines. In 1900 it appears probable that the increase will be still greater, as preparation has been made for working and smelting on a very considerable scale the copper ores of the Boundary District as well as those in the West Kootenay division.

It has often been urged that whenever a product like copper rises too high in values it will have two effects, to stimulate production and curtail consumption; and while this will, in general, always remain true, additional facts will arise, which, to a certain extent, will upset standard rules. An increase in the copper production can only come about slowly and existing large producing

mines will not continue for ever. The truth of this has this year been largely demonstrated.

Whatever the future may bring forth, it can be confidently stated that consumption is likely to remain eminently satisfactory, and that the prosperity of the last few years in the copper industry will continue for some time to come. *Engineering and Mining Journal.*

THE DIAMOND DRILL.

The Cheapest Known Method of Prospecting a Mining property.

The Rossland Miner says: Mr. H. M. Williams, who has been operating diamond drills for the past ten years, is in Rossland. He says that the contract price of diamond drill work is from \$2.50 to \$4 per foot against from \$20 to \$30 for drifting and from \$30 to \$50 per foot for shafting. A diamond drill outfit working two shifts ought to be able to run 500 feet in a month and at a cost not exceeding \$1 per foot.

The diamond drill is coming into increased use in Colorado and particularly in Leadville, where it is very successful in finding ore bodies. In the last two years it has been in use a great deal in the Bunker Hill and Sullivan, where about 4000 and 5000 feet have been bored. In the Slocan some very extensive and valuable work has been done with this form of drill. In Republic camp, where it could be used most successfully it has not been used because of the prejudice against it.

"What kind of diamonds do we use? The diamonds used are of the black variety which comes from Brazil. The size used is from a karat to a karat and a half. These

diamonds cost about \$33 a karat. For softer rock we use an inferior smoked or boart diamond, which is not quite as hard as the black diamonds. For still softer rock we can use the Montana sapphire, which is worth from \$1.50 to \$7 per karat. The black diamonds cannot be beaten for hardness and durability. They are not only used in drilling but also in sawing and turning stone and cutting millstones.

"What does a diamond drill plant cost? They vary in price. A hand plant can be purchased for about \$400, while power plants run from \$400 to \$5000. An excellent plant can be purchased for about \$1200. The boring capacity of these plants varies from 350 to 500 feet.

"What is claimed for the diamond drill is the cheapness with which mining property can be explored. The work only costs a tithe of what it does to make tunnels, shafts and upraises, and for this reason it should be much more used than it is. Once the pay shoots are located it is not much trouble to open them up. It costs much less to find out whether a mine is valuable or worthless by the diamond drill than by any other means."

Scarcity of iron causes singular trade conditions in San Francisco. Old mining camps have been scoured for old iron; machinery once costing large sums, dismantled and shipped to the bay; Cuban cannon balls have been imported; iron is on the way from Scotland; and pig-iron, once sold and shipped to Japan, is now being returned to California, costing, laid down, \$17 per ton.

Float.

To Be Told - Sub Rosa.

Ore that doesn't increase with depth is the kind that the average mine promoter never discovered in his lexicon.

Always believe everything the artless prospector tells you about his discoveries because he has a philanthropist design to let you in cheap on a big thing.

The mine finder enjoys more pipe dreams on a diet of bacon and beans than an Oriental can find in a ton of opium.

When you set out to buy stock on the ground floor, remember that in financing a prospect there are more ground floors than one.

The difference between a prospect and a mine is a dividend, and the difference between the average mining company and a prospect is a hole in the ground.

It is bad policy to try to buy mining property from a man who can see into the bowels of the earth, unless you are prepared to deed him its entire superficial area and the milky way to boot.

It is not always the mine making the largest output that pays the largest dividend, though it may be best for the greatest number of people.

Promoting Mining Enterprises.

An exaggeration of the facts when presenting a mine or a prospect for sale seldom accomplishes the desired result, and often has a reactionary effect when the misrepresentation

is discovered. In these days little or nothing is taken for "granted," as was often the case in former years, and now in order to interest capital a mine owner must have a property worthy of the necessary investigation, to say nothing of a possible subsequent investment. Realizing this, the claim owner, in his anxiety to proffer something attractive to the possible investor, and knowing perhaps that his property does not possess all the merits of a bonanza, is led to place exaggerated values on his ores and the greatest width of vein becomes its average width. All the disadvantages are suppressed as far as possible, while such favorable conditions as do exist are magnified to such an extent as often to lead to a suspicion that the truth is not given due consideration, often to the ridicule of the entire proposition. It is not an easy matter to sell poor property of any kind, and misstating the facts seldom affords a remedy, for in the event of an investigation by competent persons these facts are sure to be discovered. A well-known American expert once remarked: "When I go to examine a mine I usually ask the foreman or superintendent—with a wink—to show me where his best ore is, which he invariably does, and then I find the poor places myself."

While the prospector usually is on the bull-side in a deal for his property, he sometimes underestimates its value. A well known mine was discovered and worked in a shiftless fashion by the discoverer, who one day had an offer of \$12,500 for it. He promptly accepted the offer, and, upon receiving his money, crossed the street to where a friend

was standing and remarked: "Thank God, the fools are not all dead yet." "How's that?" inquired his friend. "I've just sold the D—— mine for \$12,500." This mine has since produced more than \$5,000,000.

What a contrast between this man and the Siskiyou Co., Cal., "mine superintendent" who recently remarked that he had in his property 45 feet of ore. His listener, who was acquainted with the facts, inquired in astonishment where it was. "Why," was the reply, "we have thirty claims with a foot and a half of ore in each."

The secret of successful mine promotion lies in a careful selection of property worth all that is asked for it, and such a mine will practically sell itself. No amount of misrepresentation will give value to the property, and its proximity to other valuable and producing mines is given but passing consideration unless it be known that the ore shoots of the working mines actually pass their end lines and enter the property offered for sale, and even then unless the ore shoots be developed the value is wholly speculative and not given more than nominal credit by the investor. Still in the face of these facts promoters continually magnify the value of adjoining property, and in the glittering prospectus make prominent passing reference to valuable mines which chance to be in the same county or perhaps the same State. Such methods are particularly resorted to when the property offered for sale has little merit of its own to recommend it, but the time has come when such representations and misrepresentations are measured by their proper worth.

Real vs. Bogus Mining.

There is probably no class of men who are more abused than mining experts. That all who profess to be expert in mining affairs are really entitled to any such distinction is more than doubtful, but that the term "mining expert" includes men of undoubted ability and experience is equally true. Many definitions of what constitutes a mining expert have been given—some of them humorous and some abusive. However, the ideal mining expert must be a man of broad education and experience in mining matters, engineering and metallurgy, and there are many mining men whose experience in these matters entitles their opinion and judgment to more than ordinary consideration, and the term expert applied to such men is not a misnomer. When a mining engineer is sent to examine a property he must necessarily be a conservative, for his own experience and that of others has taught him to accept little for fact that he cannot see, and he is often compelled to refuse to recommend a property—at the seller's price—in which he really sees merit, and possibly recommends at a lower figure, and for this he is roundly abused by the miners, and sometimes the newspapers, of the district in which the property is situated.

In general, mining experts are accused of dressing ridiculously, going about the country with much circumstance and bluster, rushing hastily through a mine and passing judgment on its value. There are those who would do such things but they are imposters, such as are found in every walk of life, and not entitled to be classed as expert in

anything. There are often times when a mining engineer goes a long distance to examine a mine on the estate of the owner, or on a report of some person signing E.M. after his name, who may be the blacksmith at the mine or a bartender in the village nearest the property. Having arrived at the mine, a glance is sometimes sufficient for the expert to decide that time spent in an examination would be wasted and ninety-nine times out of a hundred he will be right. It is rarely that a property is sold for a large sum without a thorough examination lasting from a few days to several months. There are cases on record wherein undeveloped mining claims have been sold for large sums on the advice of experts because of the value in adjoining mines.

Watch Reports and Prospectuses.

The following suggestions, given by Mr. Walter McDermott, before the London Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, some years ago, will give the investor some of the earmarks by which a good report can be judged:

"A report need not be long-winded to justify the fee paid for it, but should be so full in actual description as to enable a reader inexperienced in mining to draw his own conclusions from the facts given without having to trust entirely to the deductions of the writer. The important details to be set forth clearly are those relating to position and facility of access of the property, local conditions as to fuel and water and timber supply; extent and forms of openings; variations in thickness of deposit; character and value and form of occurrence of ore. It is

important in giving a clear idea of the property that the distribution of the payable ore in the deposit should be described. It makes a great difference sometimes in the conclusions to be drawn, whether the value consists in a uniform value throughout the rock. On account of the necessity for this description it is not always sufficient to state that an average width of vein contains an average of so much value per ton, as this may be in the nature of a conclusion, not of a fact, and so may need to be justified by the detailed facts of the report. The extent and character of the dump piles at a worked mine often afford valuable confirmatory evidence as to the character and value of the property. I have seen reports in which piles of rich ore were stated to be on hand in the mine in certain quantity and value; but on figuring out the expert's own statements as to width of pay ore and extent of openings, it was clear that the hole in the ground could never hold the ore said to have come out of it. The configuration of stopes in a worked mine often gives very suggestive ideas as to the run of pay ore, and as to the probable character of the ground still standing.

"Geology and mineralogy should naturally be used with discretion, but only for purposes actually bearing on the description and conclusions to be drawn, not for mere padding, nor for the airing of theories better treated in a purely scientific paper."—Canadian Mining Gazette.

The copper production of Arizona in 1899 was 140,000,000 lbs.

Local Claims.

Mr. F. J. Deane, M.P.P., moved the following resolution in the Legislative Assembly last week:

Whereas among the volunteers who have gone or may go to South Africa to serve with Her Majesty's forces during the present war there are some persons who are the holders of claims under the provisions of the "Mineral Act";

And whereas it is desirable that the said claims should be protected during the absence from British Columbia of such persons, while serving Her Majesty as aforesaid;

Be it therefore resolved, that the mineral claims of any British Columbia volunteer serving Her Majesty in the present war be not open to location by any person during the absence of such volunteer upon such service, nor for a period of twelve months after the close of said war.

The Hon. Mr. Carter-Cotton pointed out that this was out of order. The Government would make suitable arrangements to accomplish the end sought by the resolution, with the spirit of which all members of the House would be in accord.

Mr. W. W. Clarke will return to Kamloops before the next issue and the public may expect more than one interesting article on the opinions on and the possibilities of the success of the camp in London,

Work is being rapidly pushed at the Tenderfoot. The tunnel is now in 85 feet, counting the 25 feet of approach. The management expect

to cut the vein, which is over 25 feet wide at the surface, in about 35 feet more. Cross cutting will then be commenced, when the company will be in a position to calculate the extent of their ore bodies. A force of five men is now employed, working two shifts.

A commercial traveller from one of the coast wholesale houses, was in town this week. He told us that he was in London, Eng. last fall, and passing down the Strand he was attracted by a crowd of people looking into the windows of a large store. On making his way to the front, he discovered that what they were looking at, was an exhibit of Kamloops ores, placed on exhibition there by Mr. W. W. Clarke, of the Kamloops Mining Gazette. He said that he passed by the same place several times, and on each occasion there was quite a crowd of interested spectators collected. He was of opinion that it was one of the best advertising ideas that B.C. had had.—Kamloops Standard.

The tunnel in the Copper King has at length tapped the vein and ore similar to that in the shaft is being mined. The Tunnel will be continued until the width of the ledge is determined when cross-cutting will be commenced.

Good ore is being obtained from the Python mine, where work is being steadily pushed. The new shaft-house is now finished, and a horse whim is now being put in.

The assessment work has been done on the Last Chance.

THE MINING RECORDS.

Cardwell—about 6 miles W. of Sicamous, E. of Shuswap Lake; E. J. O'Brien. Jan. 5.

Mona—as above, H. Sweeney Jan. 5.

Tubal Cain—as above, M. J. Finlapson; Jan. 5.

Mona—600 feet S. of C. P. R. at Mission $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles W. of Kamloops; E. Fletcher; Jan. 5.

Recovery—on Copper Creek, J. F. Wells; Jan. 15.

Neck or Nothing—on Blind Gulch Jamieson Creek, E. B. Drummond; Jan. 19.

Pride of the Valley—4 miles W. of Lower Nicola—A. R. Carrington; Jan. 17.

Primus—3 miles S. W. of Sugar Loaf, 1 mile W. of Cherry Creek, E. B. Drummond; Jan. 16.

Secundus—as above, J. C. McLaren, Jan. 23.

Widgeon (fractional)—N. E. slope of Sugar Loaf Mtn., James Ross; January 25.

ASSESSMENT WORK.

Onward—Messrs. Blair, Buxton and Costley.

Prince of Wales—J. H. Hill.

London—C. J. Winney.

Clondike—1900, 1901, A. G. McDonald and J. R. Michell.

Noonday—1601, 1902 as above.

Cripple—John Boulanger.

Last Chance—W. W. Purdey and J. R. Hull.

The B. C. Exploration Company, who own the Lucky Strike are now negotiating for the Bluebird and Neighbour group. The price asked is \$25,000.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that an application will be given to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, at its next session, for an act to incorporate a Company with power to construct, equip, operate and maintain a railway for the conveying of passengers and freight from some point at or near the outlet of Kamloops Lake; thence by the most direct and feasible route to the plateau of the Bonaparte River; thence to a point on the Cariboo Wagon Road near the One Hundred Mile House; thence following generally the route of the Cariboo Wagon Road to the mouth of Quesnelle River; and to build and operate tramways in connection therewith with power to construct, operate and maintain branch lines and all necessary bridges, roads, ways and ferries, and to build, own and maintain wharves and docks in connection therewith; and with power to build, own, equip and maintain steam and other vessels and boats, and to operate the same on any navigable waters within the Province; and with power to build, equip, operate and maintain telegraph and telephone lines in connection with such railway and branches, and to transmit thereon messages for the public and charge tolls for the same and to generate electricity for the supply of light, heat and power; and with power to expropriate lands for the purposes of the Company, and to acquire lands, bonuses, privileges and other aids from any government, municipal corporation or other persons or bodies; and to levy and collect tolls from all parties using and on all freight passing over any of such roads, railways, tramways and ferries, wharves and vessels built by the Company; and with power to make traffic or other arrangements with railway, steamboat, telegraph, telephone or other companies, and to have all other necessary or incidental rights, powers and privileges in that behalf.

Dated at the City of Victoria, this 4th day of December, A.D. 1899.

BODWELL & DUFF,

Agents for the Applicants.

Notice.

The British Columbia Southern Railway Company will apply to the Parliament of Canada at its next session for an Act authorizing the Company to complete at any time before the end of the year 1904, its western section as described in the Act of the said Parliament (60-61 Victoria, Chapter 36) and a branch line from a point on its main line at or near the Forks of Michel Creek, thence by way of Michel Creek to Martin Creek, and for other purposes.

By Order of the Board,

H. CAMPBELL OSWALD,

Montreal,

Secretary.

17th November, 1899.

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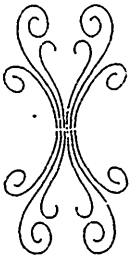
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