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MINING TIT-BITS

The B. C. Mining Exchange and Investor's Guide.

VOL. I—VANCOUVER, SEPTEMBER, 1899—NO. 9

KLONDIKE.

"Phrygian Kings." Not one "Midas," but many.

Mr. A. H. Halder, Reuter's representative on mining matters here, and who has recently returned from the Yukon, where he has been in his capacity of mining expert, gave us his impressions, present and future, with regard to these Northern British Gold-fields.

Impressions and opinions which emanate from a gentleman of Mr. Halder's experience and reputation, are convincing evidences of the wealth of the Canadian Yukon, tangible proof of which met his gaze on every one of the principal creeks. Mr. Halder went into the Klondike inclined to scepticism, he returned (as he puts it) satisfied of its Pactolian character, which will benefit our grandsons as largely as ourselves. The gold is distributed over an extremely large area and so rich is the ground that the poorest diggings are 250 per cent. superior to the best in the Veldt.

Mr. Halder in conjunction with other African experts tested the gravel to the utmost; hence the results as above.

Klondike, he says emphatically, is a permanent camp, which is marked in unmistakable characters right across it. The number of hundreds of square miles of gold bearing country to our north is yet unknown. The known area is, however, continually on the increase, but there is no part of the South African field that carries so much gold as does the Klondike, taking it all good and bad together. The output of gold, too, can only be estimated, the real figures being thousands of ounces more than those returned.

Commissioner Senkler, a very clever fellow and a most obliging and efficient official, according to Reuter's man, is said to estimate the output paying royalty at about 60 per cent. of the whole. It is generally thought that a reduction in the royalty would carry with it a higher revenue for the Government.

There are great disadvantages to be labored under at present, both natural and legislative. Both, however, can be overcome, and diggers and capitalists alike are convinced that the Government is doing its best in this on all sides confessedly difficult subject. The two most noted mines at present belonging to English companies are the "McDonald Bonanza," under the management of Major Laing, and the "Hunker Concessions," originally owned by R. Anderson, and who is now managing Bonanza an extensive hydraulic plant, the largest and most complete in the district. It is working most satisfactory, and the gold washed out is certain to return all expenditure within a short time, and to pay fabulous profits for years. Similar results will be the case also with the Hunker Concessions. English capitalists have also acquired large areas of hydraulic ground on the Stewart and Indian rivers, where the best leases will average one dollar per cubic yard. Amongst who leases is the one purchased by Claud Marks, who represented the London Financial News.

It is surprising to see the hustle and rush for business in Dawson at present. It is the busiest city in Canada by all odds and probably unequalled in this respect by any on the continent. Anything you wish for can be had. You have only to pay. The hotels, considering the age of the town, are excellent. Only the best goes, whether it be the products of Havana or of the South of France. In this regard it rivals Johannesburg in its palmiest days.

Another point of interest is the influx of the Jew, the financier, the capitalist, the investor such as made the Veldt, such as ex-Mayor Sutro, of San Francisco, or others of more local note, men whose presence was indicative of money to be spent and dividends to be paid. These are now coming to Dawson, chiefly from Germany and England. "Avoid a mining camp," is Mr. Halder's sage advice, "that is not affected by the Nation." Even a Russian syndicate is buying up claims.

Dawson itself is making rapid advances along the path of municipal improvements. It is law-abiding and safe, safer than Piccadilly itself, the thanks being due to Col. Steele and his troopers. These form a splendid force, met with everywhere, gentlemanly, useful and absolutely trustworthy.

Mr. Halder goes to England to advise investors of the situation and carries with him the utmost confidence in the field. He expects to return next season and to bring back the means of purchasing several properties. The field is expanding, and in dredging, hydraulic and quartz mining enormous work will be done. Rich copper has been found on the Yukon itself and in its rock work fortunes will eventually be made.

Transportation has so far been the greatest difficulty and this is a most serious one, oftentimes, indeed, fatal to mining enterprises. Unless cheap rates can be obtained the progress of the country cannot but be retarded. The Canadian Development Co. have, however, some palatial steamers on the river between Bennett and Dawson. A sail on one of these in that delightful summer climate through scenes of inordinate beauty is almost equal, to compare it with one from Mr. Halder's native land, to a trip up the Rhine. While he seldom makes mention of such people yet his happy references to Mr. Kersey and his staff could not be overlooked. Competent and obliging to a degree they make the trip one of the pleasantest and there is little doubt but that the waters of the upper Yukon will soon take rank amongst the pleasure resorts, and excursions from all parts be run to Dawson. One thing, however, is urgently needed, that is, through bills of lading in from Skagway. People do not know what they have to pay and freight often costs three times the estimated sum by the time it reaches Dawson. This results in the utmost dissatisfaction and means, too, that more freight goes by St. Michael. The best, the quickest and the cheapest is the service now required by Klondike.

Amongst the latest developments of the north is its successful flotation of companies and these, too, within itself. This movement, which so marked the operations of the Veldt, is just in its incipency. Amongst

the first is the Gold Hills Consolidated Placer Mines, with a capital of 60,000 shares at \$1 each. This company is incorporated to acquire some rich claims on Eldorado and Bonanza creeks, having a frontage of 2,000 feet. Amongst the directors' names is noticed that of F. C. Liddle, Esq., who organized the Chamber of Mines in Johannesburg, and for a number of years was a leading figure in several of the best known South African companies. When Mr. Halder left Dawson nearly all the shares had been taken up at par, although but two days on the market.

Such well-known mining men as Albert Halder, F.G.S., and Reuter's representative, confirm the high character of this Northern "British" gold-field. No! they are not foreign, they are unquestionably British, equally so with the Cape and Australia, what may be said to the contrary notwithstanding.

We are pleased to quote the opinion of such authorities as Messrs. Halder and C. Marks; both gentlemen of reputation, and whose words carry weight with them sufficient to influence unlimited capital. Major Halder entered the Yukon country a very weak believer in its possibilities as expressed to date. Needless to say, he came away with the highest opinions as to present and future of the diggings, averring that they are verily Pactolian and that the life of them will not be confined to one generation. Being present during the wash-up, he has seen the results of the sluicing, in the profusion of gold dust and nuggets, which were tangible proof of the quality of the gravel.

Both Major Halder and Mr. C. Marks went into Dawson the reverse of optimistic; they return more than convinced of its wealth, and proceed to London, England, to make these facts known and appreciated.

Undoubtedly the Yukon is a marvelously rich ground and we don't stay to enquire whether this scattering of erratic nuggets is due to glacial, or any other action which science may advance. No, its tangibility is sufficient for all the lucky possessors, and they, up till now, have not "looked the gift horse in the mouth."

We have been from the first very guarded in our expressions, re the Klondike, preferring to wait till the Yukon was more or less a proved quantity, ere committing ourselves, and plainly stated so, we are therefore glad to know and confirm the character of these diggings, supported by the testimony of such practical authorities as Major Halder, Mr. C. Marks, of the Financial News, and Mr. M. Marks, latter gentleman of large alluvial and lode experience in Australia. Practical evidences, practical men, attest in a practical way the value of the district, hence it is practically impossible to doubt the fact.

Major Halder says, they are by far the richest diggings known, and will be good fifty years hence. As a hydraulic field, he predicts that large capital will flow in there for development. The ground, he says, is 250 per cent. better than the Cape. This will satisfy most people who are not "Boers."

The Transvaal boerishness overshadows the situation at home and we are of opinion that the introduction of some more bores to kill the other boers off, and rid Africa of such pests, will be the inevitable steps to take under existing conditions. Much as we deplore the necessity of resorting to arms and consequent horrors and bloodshed, there are times when the evil

cannot be averted with safety and honor to the people and the flag, and this is one of those occasions. These boerish tusks must be drawn and the boers taught a lesson in political economy and to respect the rights of the individual, so long as they are responsible to the British people. When Britons, who gave to the world all that makes life worth living, the blessing of freedom, forget their duty to the oppressed, then and then only may their enemies rejoice; not before.

GRAND FORKS OF BONANZA GOLD MINING COMPANY LIMITED.

The Superintendent, Mr. Marks, advises the head office, Vancouver, that they have established the machinery on the property, and are working full swing, and will have a wash-up in about ten days in one instance, and five weeks in another, provided it does not freeze up too soon, everything going successfully. "Our property on Quartz Creek will prove alright." (Signed.) M. Marks.

NOTES.

Mr. J. D. Kendall, of Berwick & Moering, of London, has left for England. He will return to B. C. after a short absence.

The Dominion Government has at last made up its mind to spend a moiety in opening up roads, etc., in the Yukon. \$180,000 or thereabouts, we believe, is the figure. Let us hope the diggers get the benefit of it, in the going and coming to Dawson from their claims, or at least a good pack trail.

Klondike has maintained its character; something over \$20,000,000 has already been brought down from the diggings as the result of the present clean-up. In fact, nearly every boat continues to bring down a larger or smaller amount of the pure stuff.

The Grand Forks of Bonanza have decided to call in the 15c. issue, and no further stock will be written off except at par, 25 cents.

It is said that during the last week in August, some four or five steamers carried \$300,000 worth of merchandise from Vancouver.

Very heavy shipments are now being sent through to the Yukon, all vessels sailing North are taxed to the utmost for freight space.

Local wholesale men estimate, that, during last month their sales in Dawson City, amounted in value to something like \$600,000.

We hear there is a probability of an all Canadian route (Railway) to the Yukon, and this in the near future. In our last issue we referred to this, as an easy way of getting over the Alaskan question, by showing our neighbors we can do without them; or rather, that we are equally as enterprising and business-like as themselves. We don't intend to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for the satisfaction of the United States.

SMILKAMEEN.

MONARCHY GROUP.—The owners inform us that they are continuing work on this property, so as to place it on a shipping basis. The superintendent is highly pleased with the development so far and informs us that it will prove more than equal to expectations.

KAMLOOPS.

We are informed that development is steadily proceeding in this camp and one or two good deals are on the tapis.

THE COAST.

On the coast properties to a great extent have closed down, we presume for want of capital. The prospects are good enough, but development funds are generally needed.

The Van Anda smelter is producing metal right along and has shipped quite a quantity to the States.

LARDEAU.

We are informed that 5 ft. of solid ore has been struck in the old workings of the Nettie L. next the "I & L." The owners are to be congratulated, a large staff of men are employed on this property and we hear they have been shipping ore worth \$1.25 per lb. The Great Northern Railway are laying out their station at Fergusson, so that this camp will shortly possess every facility for shipping. The C. P. R. are also proceeding with their line round Trout Lake. We predict a prosperous future for the Lardeau. "Everything comes to those who wait."

CANADIAN MINING COMPANIES REGISTERED IN LONDON.

Anglo-Canadian Lead Syndicate, Limited, registered Aug. 2nd. Capital £51,500 in £1 shares. Objects: To adopt arrangements with the London and Dublin Finance Corporation Limited, to search for, prospect, examine and explore lead and other mines, etc.

The Cariboo Hydraulic Consolidated, the largest company, which got from its earliest gravel working this season some \$50,000 of gold, is expected to get nearly \$250,000 before the end of the year, and is largely developing.

An English company, the Cariboo Consolidated Gold Mining Co., has been refused registration by the B. C. authorities on account of similarity of name with the Cariboo Hydraulic Consolidated.

On the Golden River Quesnelle Co.'s property about sixty men are employed, and Mr. Hunter, the manager, looks for good good results.

The Vancouver correspondent of the The Mining Journal (London, Eng.), thinks the Atlin district, north border of B. C., while presenting some fair opportunities for moderately capitalized hydraulicing concerns, is only moderately rich placer ground, while the gold-bearing quartz discoveries do not yet amount to anything considerable. The output of Atlin gold this season will be a minimum of £200,000, with a maximum of twice as much. Some 6,000 or 7,000 people were in the Atlin at the beginning of the season, but for the close he thinks it will retain between

2,000 and 3,000. The best output to date of writing, Aug. 4, he puts at between \$2,000 and \$3,000. But the district is young; this is practically its first season.

Mr. Bertram Tennyson, a nephew of the late Lord Tennyson, and a mining expert, has returned to Victoria from Dease Lake. Amongst interesting things he mentions that there is a man, about seventy miles from Dease post, who has been working a hill claim all alone for years, and living like a hermit, and has tunnelled into his hill 2,500 feet.

AUSTRALIAN GOLD PRODUCTION.

The gold yields for the four out of the five principal Australasian colonies for the first half of 1899 show a very satisfactory increase over the corresponding period of 1898, as follows:

	1st half '98.	1st half '99.	Increase.
	Oz.	Oz.	Oz.
West Australia	470,691	709,794	239,103
Queensland	427,217	450,967	23,750
Victoria	391,058	430,092	39,034
New South Wales	153,724	187,364	33,640
	1,442,790	1,778,216	355,627

New Zealand, Tasmania, and South Australia are also increasing their outputs, and the last named is coming into notice amongst gold fields, especially the north-eastern part, where several hundreds of reef claims have been staked out. The output from the colonies enumerated for the first half-year is estimated at £7,000,000, while the exports for the same period reached just over £6,000,000. It is thought that the output for 1899 will be between £16,000,000 and £17,000,000, or about three millions more than 1898. The cash dividends of the mining companies for June amounted to £336,659.

PROSPECTING AS A PROFESSION.

A school exclusively for the training of mining prospectors is one of the needs of the times. Prospecting as a profession seems to have been quite overlooked in the present day. That this should be so is remarkable, not only because the nineteenth century wants a new profession to absorb energies which other professions are hardly able to employ, but also because the immediate destiny of a new mining country is determined by the success or failure of its prospectors. If they are not thoroughly trained and capable of taking the fullest advantage of the mineral resources of a district, then the development of that district may possibly be very seriously retarded. We had an illustration of this fact last year on the Stickeen. Ten thousand men made their way into Northern Cassiar and camped on Telegraph Creek until their provisions gave out, when they returned to civilization full of discrediting reports of a country that they had seen nothing of. The lack of trained prospectors is felt in every part of Canada, so much so that the need is described as the most pressing the Dominion has, after the want of capital. Surely, then, here is an opening for young men who have had a thorough course of study in geology, mineralogy, chemistry, assaying and the like, for the field is by no means adequately or satisfactorily filled by the present-day prospector. By and by we may hope that the Dominion Government will provide facilities for instruction in scientific prospecting in every part of the Dominion.

MINING TIT-BITS,

The Mining Exchange & Investor's Guide.

Is published monthly as a Guide to Investors generally, to whose interests it devotes itself.

CORRESPONDENTS.—All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, B. C. M. P. Exchange, and any correspondents desiring advice or information in reference to investments, we will reply to, free of charge, provided they are annual Subscribers.

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IN THE PEACE RIVER COUNTRY.

Some time ago a surveying party penetrated the Peace River Country of the British Northwest Territories in the attempt to find a practical route for what is known as the Stikine-Teslin Railway. The following is a partial account of a report of the party to the Edmonton (N. T.) "Bulletin":

Between the junction of the Parsnip and Finlay rivers and Hudson's Hope, Peace River runs between two ranges of mountains which have an elevation of between 3,000 and 4,000 feet above the level of Peace River. The peaks of some of the mountains are bare of vegetation. Mount Selwyn is the highest point of the eastern range along the rivers, and has an elevation of 6,240 feet above sea-level. It was ascended by the chief of the expedition, who succeeded in reaching the summit, where he obtained a wide-spread view of the surrounding country, presenting to him a grand panorama of mountain peaks capped with snow the year round, as far as the eye could reach.

Peace River has a fall of about a foot and a half per mile on an average from the junction of the Parsnip and Finlay to the canyon, and presents no serious obstacles to navigation, with the exception of the Parle Pass and Finlay Rapids, when it is necessary to portage supplies and other freight. Peace River Canyon, which is about twenty-four miles long, presents the appearance of a large canal cut through the mountains by the river, the walls of the canyon being 100 to 400 feet high. It has taken ages to make the channel through which it runs at the present time, the old bed of the canyon being clearly seen over 150 feet above the river where it now runs. The proof of this is seen in a series of deep wells cut in the solid rock by whirling boulders caused by the eddies of the river, being similar to such wells on the level of the river as it runs now. These wells are fifteen to twenty feet deep and from two to four feet in diameter, their walls being worn smooth and polished by the constant rubbing of the boulders as they turned for centuries.

Three miles from the mouth of the canyon there is an island which presents at a distance the appearance of a large ship of war of the old wooden pattern, with its numerous port-holes.

This island stands about thirty feet out of the river, having been cut out in this peculiar way by the river in the years gone by. The fall of the river through the canyon is about 270 feet in twenty-three miles, and there is a series of rapids from its mouth to Hudson's Hope. Navigation, although dangerous, is not impossible at certain times of the year to expert boatmen; but there is nothing to be gained by attempting to go through.

BRITISH IMPERIALISM.

We clip the following from an English exchange, and must express ourselves as fully in accord with it.

Statesmen, politicians, and newspapers have had a good deal to say of late on the subject of Imperialism as contrasted with Little Englandism, but they have all lost sight of one very important point in relation to the expansion of the Empire. They either look at the matter from a purely political standpoint or indulge in sentiments which are neither practical nor wise, all the time forgetting that it is necessary for us to extend our bounds in order that we may provide occupations for the surplus population of these islands. British capital is to all intents and purposes independent of national boundaries or location. It is as easy for a capitalist to buy Mexican bonds as it is for him to purchase Argentine or Russian securities, but the man whose principal resources consist of bright brains and brawny arms cannot so easily locate himself abroad. In many of the countries of the world there is no room at all for him, and apart from the United States of America, he has to make his choice between our own Colonies and dependencies on the one hand, and South American countries and a few places in Asia on the other hand. Not only as a matter of sentiment, but also as a matter of serious advantages the young Briton who leaves his native land turns his gaze primarily to those parts of the world where the good old flag flies—where every man has the protection of just laws and the inducement to do his best, as compared with certain other countries where justice goes to the highest bidder and where corruption reigns supreme. It is palpable, therefore, that in simple justice to the surplus population of the United Kingdom, Her Majesty's ministers, to whatever party they may belong, are in duty bound to do their utmost, not merely to defend and protect the Colonies we now possess, but also to exercise the utmost care in getting our proper share of the "waste places of the earth" not hitherto properly governed, or falling into anarchy as the result of the decay of their present rulers. We are a colonising people. We are, perhaps, foolishly generous in admitting the goods of all other nations on equal terms to the Colonies for which we have fought and worked, but we do this from most generous motives, and no man can justly say that British rule is other than beneficial in any part of the world. Our young men, and some of our men who are no longer in the first flush of youth, are always quitting their homes

and helping the progress of civilisation whilst also securing some solid advantages for themselves. In every climate and under all imaginable conditions they pursue their avocations; and in nine cases out of ten they benefit the land of their adoption. They are worthy of praise and protection, and if these represent Imperialism, we confess that we are Imperialists to the backbone.

AN ERA OF STRIKERS.

The country has been, and still is passing through a series of strikes, unusual in number and in stubborn pertinacity. There are constant mutations in business conditions, and, consequently, the relations in some aspects of labor and capital are as constantly changing. The real struggle is for a deserved share of produced wealth on the part of labor.

There are repeated asseverations of prosperity in the country, and the prices of some commodities have greatly advanced, and with no increase in the cost of production, the profits of capital have been greatly enhanced. Seeing this has caused the operatives to believe that their wages should be correspondingly raised, and because this has not been done, and is refused, strikes are resorted to for the enforcement of compliance with the terms of the workers. The antagonism between labor and capital is the same as that between buyer and seller, or producer and consumer. The selfishness of human nature often interposes obstacles of relations of fairness and justice which should ever exist between the various classes of humanity.

It is unfortunate that there cannot always be an understanding, based upon what each deserves in the allotment of wealth as it is produced. There are two reasons why this is not done: one being too much egoism, and the other is the want of knowledge of conditions which should be taken into consideration in awarding the just share to each.

Capital does not of itself produce wealth, but it is a useful and necessary agency in carrying forward enterprises and industries by which opportunities are afforded for producing wealth in conjunction with labor. The possessors of capital thus invested are entitled to be guaranteed not only against loss, but to a just and reasonable remuneration, which should at least be sufficient to compensate for the trouble and hazards of making the investment, and more than that, as capital may be regarded as so much stored labor, it should have an earning power that the aged may have the means of a livelihood when their earning power has departed from them.

Labor should not be deprived of its fair share of produced wealth, and there would be no collision between the forces of labor and capital, if there were a disposition on both sides to act justly, and the intelligence to comprehend the inevitable ups and downs in business affairs.

Capitalists should not make a case for iron rule as to the profits they will exact, nor should labor make an unchangeable scale of wages. There should be a sliding scale on both sides.

and equitable changes made to correspond with the varying conditions of business.

The right to refuse to work when terms are unsatisfactory is undeniable, but dissatisfaction should rest upon substantial grounds, and not upon inadequate knowledge of existing facts. Strikes that proceed no farther than cessation from work no one should find fault with, except those who suffer from the non-earning of wages, but those who are attended by destruction of property, or interference with those who are willing to work on probable terms, are more than reprehensible, they are crimes against society. The principle is the same whether property is wrongly taken from one or he is wrongfully prevented from earning property. Labor organizations should guard against the undue exacting of capital, but because among laboring men there are non-communists with labor organizations, it is no excuse for a resort to coercion and violence.

The indefensible conduct of strikers in the past has kept a large number of thoughtful and good men from becoming members of labor organizations. A just course will largely increase the membership, and create a more extended and deeper sympathy on the part of the American people. Reprehensible demands and incendiary agitation estrange sympathy and impair the effect of organized effort to protect the rights and promote the interests of the working classes. Labor and capital are interdependent, and should be cordially co-operative.

These are some of the general principles that should be respected. The issues in specific cases it is not our purpose or business to discuss.

During the month of June 10,000 tons of coal and 2,000 tons of coke were shipped from Fernie by the Crow's Nest Coal Company. Two mines on worked, near Fernie, two mines on day by December. Another mine is being opened at Michel. In three months 100 coke ovens will be in operation.

The Philadelphia Mining Company has bought land near the Butte mills, six miles below Rossland, B. C. on the Northport road, and is engaged in building in fifty-ton concentrator. The mine is less than two miles. Three car loads of machinery have been ordered and are expected by the time the building is ready to receive it. It is claimed by the owner of the mine, the Mountain Trail, that they have an abundance of concentrating ore.

No more striking example of home thrift can be found than in the newly-awakened mining zeal that is everywhere prevalent in and about Spokane. Prior to the sale of the great Le Roi mine at Rossland, B. C., in which Spokane men were chiefly interested, the Washington city experienced remark-

able prosperity; but with the sale of the Le Roi, and the advent of the Klondike boom, local enthusiasm waned and naught was heard of Spokane for a year or more. Then Spokane capital and energy began working in the Republic District of the Colville Reservation Country in Northeastern Washington, and to-day the camps in that region are more prominently mentioned than any other mining-camps in the Union. And they seem to deserve their prominence, for it is certain that a very rich belt of mineral has been opened. The nearness of this territory to Spokane has precipitated another period of prosperity—which has all the earmarks of permanency. It all goes to show that it is wiser and better to pitch in and develop one's own resources, than it is to shut off energy and thus give tacit encouragement to developments in the outside world.

This paragraph is from the Colonial Goldfields of last year and goes to show the necessity of a journal such as the "B. C. Mining Exchange."

Mr. F. L. Mercer, a partner in the firm of Osborn and Mercer, of Piccadilly, is now on a visit to British Columbia with Mr. A. J. McMillan, of Rossland, and has been interviewed as to his opinions concerning the future of Rossland in particular, and of the Province in general. His reply was as follows:—"I hardly like to give an opinion, having been so short a time in your beautiful country, but since you ask me I must say two things have greatly struck me. First—The immensity and richness of the mineral wealth of this Province, and then the strange fact of how little it is known and appreciated in Great Britain. Your gold and silver mines appear to be marvellously rich, but until Mr. McMillan spoke to me about them last winter I am bound to say I knew little or nothing about them. If you desire to attract British capital out here for development, by all means take active steps to make British Columbia far better known in England." Mr. Mercer suggested that the authorities should make known as widely as possible in the British press what splendid opportunities there are in the Province for the profitable investment of capital.

A GREAT CLEAN-UP.

With 110 passengers on board and close on half a million dollars in gold dust and drafts, the steamer Cutch arrived in port last night from the north, after a flying trip to Skagway and return. The fact that she made the trip direct, without stopping at any of the canneries, shows the large business that could thus be arranged for every through trip. The decks were lined with passengers when the vessel came in and they all had a very business-like and comparatively well-off, if rough, appearance. They had had a very good trip up the river from Dawson, for, as one man explained, as the vessel was tying up, it was very easy to navigate now, even though the water was lower

than it had been for several years at the same time in the season. This was because every bar and sandbank was marked by a half-sunken steamer, which showed the way very clearly to all other navigators who happened to pass that way. They had left Dawson on August 17th, a week later than any others who have come out and down to Seattle by the last steamers, and they were only four days coming down from Skagway.

J. R. Rudico, of Seattle, was the richest man aboard, and he had about \$200,000 of the treasure brought down by the Cutch. J. H. Howie, a Brandon man, had nearly \$100,000, and other passengers made up the further amounts. Humboldt Gates, a young Californian; who, by the way, gained his gold at the apparent expense of his health, was another rich passenger. Among other prominent people on board was T. W. Williams, correspondent for "Black and White," of London, who has been on quite a prolonged stay in the country. Mr. Wilkins and J. Gordon Arthur were other prominent people who were aboard.

The most interesting news from Dawson was the statement of one of the largest clean-ups for the time that has ever taken place in the history of the country. It was on claim No. 2 above on Bonanza, which is owned by an English Syndicate. The clean-up lasted for six days and was completed on the 14th of this month, the Sunday previous to the departure of the Klondikers for the outside. It was witnessed, so that there could be no possible question about the accuracy of it, by Manager Doig, of the Bank of B. N. A., and Mr. Halperin, another prominent official as well as many other people. Close upon \$50,000 was taken out during the time mentioned; one of the richest pans ever taken in the Klondike was secured. It was worth \$975 and another pan contained a nugget worth \$456, weighing 28 1-2 ozs. The property is a large one and several adjoining claims will likely turn out very well.

Administrator Ogilvie has just announced that \$175,000 will be expended in the building of trails and wagon roads which are so much needed throughout the district. It is expected that other appropriations will be made by the Yukon Council for such work and that a good deal of necessary assistance will be given the mining industry in this way.

When the party passed up the river they saw the telegraph line completed to 25 miles below Selkirk. It will easily be in Dawson by the 15th of September, "and then the next thing to do is to have a cable or wire of some sort down to Vancouver from Skagway," said Mr. Williams to a reporter this morning, as he was discussing the matter.

Miss "Cad" Wilson, who is one of the best known variety actresses in the west, and has a reputation all the way from Chicago to the Klondike, was also a passenger by the Cutch, and she brought down in the vicinity of \$20,000, the result of her two years' earnings in the music halls in Dawson and other judicious investments. She left for Seattle this morning with nearly all the passengers who were eventually bound for the American side of the line.

Mining Tit-Bits, the B. C. Mining Exchange and Investors' Guide.

GOLD FROM THE NORTH.

The Montreal "Chronicle" says: Every steamer arriving at Vancouver with returning Klondikers brings sufficient of the precious metal to warrant belief in the permanency of the mining industry in the Yukon territory. It seems but yesterday that the Klondike adventurers were passing through Montreal, en route to the newly discovered land of golden promise; that the stores of the metropolis made attractive displays of sleeping bags, spirit lamps and camp furniture of wonderful construction; that harrowing stories were told and eagerly listened to of privation and hardship calculated to test the endurance of a Nansen and the strength of a Sandow.

Now, everything is changed. Law and order reigns supreme at Dawson City and elsewhere; the mining population have been provided with everything obtainable in the east, including banking facilities, oysters and stout; and those who have money can purchase all the luxuries of the season. Moreover, it seems probable that within a short time the Yukon will be only a fourteen days' journey from Montreal, and the introduction of a telegraph system will remove all the romance and mystery so lately associated with the country. Then a reduction in the cost of provisions and labor will make business pursuits in a far away corner of this Dominion possible and profitable, and with our improved knowledge of the country its steady progress is assured. Experience has shown that the tales of returning and disappointed travellers are not always reliable. The climate of the Yukon is now known to be bearable, and for a considerable period of the year the people of Dawson City require no more clothing or food than the toiler in the Canadian metropolis.

RICH GOLD SPECIMENS.

The Butte (Mont.) "Western Mining World," some time ago, told of a collection of mineral brought down by Joseph Brown from his Gear Gulch property in that State. The particles of gold were so large and plentiful in the dead-looking formation in which they were imbedded, that a glimpse of the chunk of mineral put the beholder in a frame of mind to believe almost any tale of miners' sudden wealth. "How much will that stuff go to the ton?" asked a serious-looking tenderfoot. "To the ton!" said the genial banker; "a ton of that would just buy half the State." And the pilgrim believed it.

PART OF THE WORLD'S WORK.

"It is an utterly low view of business," says the "Pall Mall Gazette," "which regards it as only a means of getting a living. A man's business is his part of the world's work, his share of the great activities which render society possible. He may like to or dislike it, but it is his work, and as such requires application, self-denial, discipline."

A BIG WEEK FOR ROSSLAND.

One of the most satisfactory features of last week's business at Rossland was the increase in the ore production, which has not only turned the 100,000 ton mark for 1899, but has also broken the record for weekly shipments, and this notwithstanding that a large shipper, the Centre Star, owing to the installation of a new power plant, did not ship a pound of ore during the week. The Iron Mask is increasing its shipments, and averages eight cars a week, while the Evening Star is holding its own, and the big shippers, the Le Roi and War Eagle, are steadily increasing their output. The Columbia & Kootenay has made its first shipment for the year, having sent a carload of ore to the Hall Mines smelter at Nelson. The following are the approximate shipments for the week:

Mine.	Week. Tons.	Year. Tons.
Le Roi	2,362.5	58,271.5
War Eagle	2,299.5	34,626.5
Iron Mask	252	2,739
Evening Star	63	737
Deer Park		18
Centre Star		6,157
Columbia-Kootenay	31.5	31.5
Total	5,008.5	102,580.5

BADLY MIXED.

Two of Spokane's lucky mining men were playing a friendly game of cribbage. The colonel took whisky, the mayor gin, but the glasses became mixed in some way, and the mayor emptied a small glass of water, while the colonel chased his whisky with juice of juniper. "That's the poorest gin I ever struck," said the major. "It's any worse than this Spokane river water," growled the colonel, "I pity the man who drinks it."—Spokane (Wash.) "Spokesman-Review."

LADIES WANTED.

"A Single Miner," in the course of a letter to the Manitoba "Free Press" from Nelson, British Columbia, says:—"We need more ladies here of the respectable class; strong, healthy, refined and sociable women of good morals, from 18 to 30 years of age and upwards and of a class that are willing to marry gentlemen of small means, middle means, and miners like myself, who may some day, if luck in the prospect claims turns out good on development work, after hard years of toil, get his nice little haul in the thousands, as many of them with patience have already struck it. We have a great future ahead of us here. Nelson promises to be of great wealth in mineral showings. Nelson has a population of about 3,500, and is a central point in the commercial line, and just needs a few hundred marriageable, Protestant Anglo-Saxon ladies, from the British Isles, or elsewhere, to marry the many single men I know of here who cannot find companions."

A MOVING MOUNTAIN.

An Eastern paper is authority for the statement that there is a mountain of dark brown basalt on the Columbia River nearly 2,000 feet in height and stretching along the stream for six or eight miles. When the white settlers first came into the country, the Indians told them that this mountain was travelling; that some day it would move across the Columbia and form a lake which would reach from the Cascades to the Dalles.

What the Indians said has been found true in some respects. The mountain is in motion. Its movement is forward and downward. The railroad builders who constructed their line along the base found the tracks continually forced out of place. In some places the movement has amounted to eight and ten feet in a few hours. Geologists attribute the phenomenon to the fact that the mountain rests on a substratum of conglomerate or of soft sandstone which is steadily being washed away by the current of the big river.

NO VOLCANO THERE.

There have been many startling stories of Alaskan mountains during the past year—some true and some not true. The latest and most vivid was that of an active volcano near the Atlin mining district. That story is a myth. It was given out with Doctor Kinsale of Denver as authority. He repudiates the interviews, and brands the whole yarn as a fake. There is a volcano far to the southeast, but it has long been extinct.

FROM A PEANUT-STAND TO WEALTH.

Running a peanut-stand is a profitable occupation, but it does not compare with placer mining in the Klondike, according to the ideas of Nathan Kresky of Long Pond, Pa., who left St. Paul the other day on his way back to Dawson City to resume operations on the eight claims that belong to him and a partner who was taken into the deal two years ago. Mr. Kresky has a lot of gold nuggets to show for his trip, and, in addition, he has placed a number of certificates of deposit in his inside vest pocket, to be used on a rainy day.

He told a "Pioneer Press" reporter of this city that he is worth \$50,000 and that he would not be surprised if the amount would reach more than that. He and his partner recently sold two claims on Bonanza Creek, one for \$100,000 and the other for \$40,000. The latter was one of the choice claims of the original diggings, and had already panned out for its owners half the amount it brought in the market. A number of nuggets were brought out of the claim which commanded in the market over \$100 apiece, and Mr. Kresky now has in his possession nearly \$1,000 of free gold that was taken from this claim.

Unlike some of the late arrivals from the Klondike country, Mr. Kresky intends to return. He is satisfied that he can gain a fortune in the Alaskan region, and expects to return there as fast as railroads, boats, and dog-teams can carry him. He is confident of clearing up \$100,000 worth of gold during the year, and after that he will sell his claims and return to civilization.

The ex-peanut man gave some curious accounts of conditions in the gold country. Although the men were cut off by the United States, they were fairly well informed as to the conditions prevailing here, and showed the keenest interest in the relations between this country and Spain. The news of the battle of Manila and Dewey's victory almost set the town crazy, and extravagant prices were paid for the States with the first account of the battle. A young man who arrived from Seattle rented a hall and charged fifty cents admissions for the reading of the paper containing the account. He played a three-night stand before the miners were satisfied, and at the end sold the paper for \$10. This occurred two weeks after the news of battle had reached this country.

to wager reckless sums on his favorite candidate.

Warren and Finlan had owned the property for some years, the Spokane (Wash.) "Spokesman-Review" says, but had been unable to agree upon the method in which it should be worked. They met one day in Lynch Brothers' saloon, and the old wordy quarrel was at once renewed as to the relative values of different methods of working the mine.

"I'll sell you my interest for what it cost me," said Finlan.

"I don't want your interest," replied the general.

"Well, I'll buy your interest," said Finlan.

"Don't want to sell," retorted the general.

"Well, I'll shake the dice with you to see whether you or I own the mine," Finlan rejoined, with some warmth.

Warren hesitated a moment. His friends believed that Finlan was bluffing, but Warren knew the man. The mine was a valuable one. After considering a moment, Warren took his hands out of his trousers pocket, and remarked:

"Miles, I'll go you."

"Give us the dice-box," yelled Finlan to the bartender. The ivories were produced.

"What do you want to shake?" asked Finlan.

"Any way will do me," replied Warren.

"Any way will suit me, too," said Finlan. "Now, name your game."

"Name yours," curtly replied Warren.

"One flop, aces high, then," said Finlan, as he rattled the dice in the box.

"Aces high goes," said Warren; "the winner to set up the wine for the house."

"That suits me. Here goes," said Finlan, as he spilled the dice on the bar.

"Two sixes. I've got you, Charlie. this time," as he passed the box over to Warren.

"That looks good, but I think I can beat it, Miles," said Warren as he tossed the dice out.

There was not a pair in sight.

"Ace high is a good hand sometimes, but it loses this time, Charlie," remarked Finlan as he threw a \$100 bill on the bar and added: "Give the boys what they want, bartender."

The next morning Mr. Warren made out the deed.

The mine was later sold to the Anaconda Company by Mr. Finlan. Three years ago the adjoining claim was sold for \$760,000 to Marcus Daly.

The closing prices as compared with last week and sales for the week are as follows:—

	A week ago.	To-day.
War Eagle..	360	359
Payne	135	138
Montreal-London.. . . .	47½	58
Republic	125	127½
	Sales.	
War Eagle	8,000 shares	
Payne	4,700 shares	
Montreal-London	11,675 shares	
Republic	8,700 shares	

* * *

Slocan Sovereign, in which the Montreal-London Company holds 400,000 shares, has had an advance of 7½ points during the week, and closed strong today at 35 bid.

The fact is lost sight of that, when this stock was placed on the market, it was at that time worth double what was paid for it, but the Montreal-London Company, wishing to let their shareholders in on the ground floor in a good thing, sold the stock to them at 25 cents per share. The Sovereign was then a proved property, and had it not been for the miners' strike and a serious accident to the contractors who were driving the deep tunnel, the mine would have been nearly ready to ship to-day.

As it is, shipments from the Sovereign may be expected to commence shortly after the end of the year, and the Argenita will commence to ship before that time. An output of no more than one car load per week of the latter's rich ore will, in itself, earn a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. or 10 per cent. per annum on the Company's capital stock. The par value of the stock in the Solcan Company held by the Montreal-London Company is \$400,000, and, as the par value of the Montreal-London Company's own capital is only \$432,000, it will be seen that a 10 per cent. dividend earned by the Slocan Company would mean an additional 9 per cent. dividend for Montreal-London shareholders.

Slocan stock should to-day be selling at much higher figures in view of the Company's prospects and nearness to being a dividend payer, and those who buy now will make money.

* * *

The New Gold Fields of British Columbia, an English Corporation, of which Sir Charles Tupper is President, have declared a 20 per cent. dividend for the year ending 30th June.

The profits of the Company for the year were £17,380 14s. 3d.

* * *

FOUND A SULPHUR SPRING.

While taking a stroll across the hills east of Grand Forks, B. C., one afternoon, George Cummings discovered a sulphur spring. He was crossing a little gully, through which trickled a tiny stream of water, when he detected a strong smell of sulphur. Suspecting the cause, he examined the streamlet, and was amazed to find sulphurous deposits here and there along the banks. Following up the course of the stream, Cummings found a large-sized spring. As soon as he tasted the water he was convinced that he had made an important discovery. Reporting the news on his return to the city, a small-sized stampede took place to the spring, which is located on John A. Manly's ranch, three-quarters of a mile from the town limits. The correctness of Mr. Cummings' find was soon confirmed, and already the health-giving waters are being dispensed around town as a beverage. Mr. Manly purposes laying a pipe from the spring to the Yale Hotel. Samples of the water have been sent to Spokane for the purpose of obtaining an analysis of the properties thereof.

THEY SHOOK DICE FOR A MINE.

General Charles S. Warren, a pioneer of Butte, but now a resident of Spokane, and Miles Finlan shook dice in the summer of 1892 for a copper-mine then valued at \$75,000 and now at a cool million. The mine adjoined the Anaconda and was held jointly by Warren and Finlan. The latter is at present a wealthy mine operator of Butte, who is noted everywhere as a plunger in stocks, on horse-races, and in a political campaign. In the latter amusement he makes the millionaires of Butte hold their breath when he offers

Mining Matters.

Mining stocks have been decidedly better in price during the week with the exception of War Eagle. The fear of a strike by the miners in the Rossland Camp has had a depressing effect on the latter stock, but the news today is more reassuring, and an improvement will likely take place in the War Eagle quotation immediately.

and which is alleged to also have the Mikado lead running through it.

The transaction alluded to above should enable the Company to pay a dividend to shareholders.

The Montreal-London Company hold 50,000 shares out of the Bullion Company's capital of 300,000 shares. Bullion stock should now have a good advance.

* * *

The Princess Maud of the Republic camp is turning out well. Samples taken from the vein on the 200 foot level show values of over \$200 per ton, and shipments will, it is expected, commence about 15th October, which should pay the cost of further development. The shares in the Company are assessable.

* * *

The Committee appointed at the meeting of the Canadian shareholders of the J. O. 41 Company, held in Toronto last month, sent a representative to Duluth to attend a meeting of the Directors. The object of the meeting was to accept the resignation of the old directors and to have Canadian men appointed in their places. After this active means will be taken to develop the prospect, and put it on a profitable basis.

* * *

It is reported that a recent 10 days' run at the Golden Star produced \$5,800 in bullion, and also that the ore bodies now being encountered in the lower levels are proving very rich.

The stock is keeping very steady round 42.

* * *

Recent examinations of the B. C. mine of Summit camp have shown that property to be in a highly satisfactory condition. Careful estimates by competent experts place the value of the ore in sight at \$1,000,000, on which there is an estimated profit of \$600,000.—Grand Forks "Miner."

* * *

The prospect pit which is being sunk on the ore, recently discovered on the Virginia, is now over 15 feet deep. The bottom of the shaft is all in ore. The high grade of ore seems to be maintained, and there is every indication that the ore body is continuous.

* * *

A rare metal known as nagyagite, composed of tellurium, lead, and gold, has been found at Triple Lake camp on Canyon Creek, near Greenwood, B. C.

* * *

The output from the mines of Ymir for the present year, computed to the end of last month, is as follows: Ymir mine, 7,400 tons crushed, and 46 tons shipped; Porto Rico, 2,000 tons crushed; Dundee, 700 tons crushed; Blackcock, 188 tons shipped; New Victor, 6 tons shipped; Tamarac, 7 tons shipped. Total, 10,347 tons.

* * *

The B. C. mine has now half a million dollars worth of ore in sight. Now that a large body has been blocked out, stopping will be commenced in a few weeks. The two dumps already contain 5,000 tons of ore. The new and enlarged plant has not yet arrived from Montreal.

The strike at the Van Anda is reported to be settled, but the news has not had the effect of strengthening up the stock.

* * *

The weekly report from the Manager of the Dufferin Mine which came to hand to-day contains the very satisfactory information that ore of the value of \$16 per ton, 40 per cent. of which is free gold, has been encountered in one of the drifts being opened up on the 200-foot level.

The face of the drive in No. 2 East drift on the 200-foot level is in \$7 ore, and in No. 2 West drift in \$4 ore.

In sinking the shaft on the East Dufferin values of \$20 per ton have been obtained at a depth of 70 feet. The ore here is not yet to be had in paying quantities, however, but the indications point to the vein widening into something substantial at greater depth.

* * *

The shipments from Rossland camp for the first six months of the year total 64,629 tons as against 38,877 tons for the same period of 1898, an increase of 25,752 in the six months.

* * *

A daily postal-service is now established between Medicine Hat, through the Crow's Nest Pass, to Kootenay Landing. A closed baggage-car is attached to trains, which carry mails every day except Sunday.

* * *

The annual report of the Hudson Bay Company for the year ending May 31st, shows a profit of £125,595, 9s. 11d. as compared with £69,373, 7s. 9d. last year. This improved condition is due to the increase in the price of furs; to increased profit on general business owing to the late Klondike rush and improved conditions of trade; and to larger receipts from the sale of lands, due to the increase in immigration.

* * *

Twelve months ago a telephone exchange in Cascade would have been considered out of the question for several years to come. Such an institution is now assured in a few weeks. As Br'er Johnsing remarked "The world do move."—The Cascade (B. C.) "Record."

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Finance.

LONDON, Eng.

The Westralian mining section still leads the way, and the boom in this department shows no signs of giving way. There is a wide market open embracing both high and low priced shares. Bidding up has been a continual feature, with only an occasional and temporary reaction.

* * *

Company flotation, or reconstruction, is also more prominent than is usual at this period, but hardly any of it is attractive. The Argentine Borax Co., Ltd., wants a capital of \$750,000. Two-thirds of this is to go for the purchase of concessions in Argentina. The promoter is Arthur Cohen, who failed a

little time back in his attempt to float the Baxter cycle brake. Very insufficient reasons are given for drawing up estimates of profits, and the people who give testimonials about the great value of the concessions are all practically officers of the Company.

* * *

The Central London Electric Railway is making good progress. The whole subterranean way has been dug out and the line laid down. The stations are being rapidly proceeded with, and the boilers, engines and dynamos are being fixed up. Cars are being built and already 27 electric locomotives have been turned out. The total expenditure of construction so far (to June 30th) has been \$14,205,000, and the relief of the congested condition of the streets above the tunnel is worth every cent of it.

* * *

The high price of copper has greatly stimulated production all over the world in the uncornered sources. Another increase in supply was shown at the end of last month, and the price has dropped about one per cent. British consumers are still managing to hold their orders, and between the increase in supply and the decrease in demand it is rather hard to see how the American Syndicate is going to make its game pay.

* * *

The Welsh tin-plate trade is rapidly picking up its old position. Eight or ten years ago the loss of the American market nearly closed every mill in the special district, but gradually they have re-opened, and now above 400 are in full blast. Excessive competition between owners has been met and abolished by mutual understanding, and the new prosperity is indicated by an advance in wages to 15,000 tin-plate operatives from August 1st.

* * *

The total capital placed for subscription in London during the half year (including such cosmopolitan giants as the American Copper Combines, \$75,000,000, and the Russian loan) was \$716,000,000, as against \$491,210,000 in the 1897 January to June period, and \$437,500,000 in 1897. The outlook for the second half of the year is also extremely promising.

* * *

Another flourishing Company is Mellin's Food, Limited, on which the sun never sets. From the Chairman's speech at the annual meeting last week when a 14 per cent. dividend was announced, one gathers that there are now Mellin's Food companies in North America, India, Australia and New Zealand.

* * *

The cheapness of Kaffir shares just now is leading some careful but farsighted people to buy them. The idea is that in a couple of months or so the difficulty with Uncle Paul will be buried (for a while any way), and a very decent increase of value will accrue to those people who stand away from the scare and keep their heads cool.

Stock Market.

LONDON, ENG., Sept., 1899.

A continuous rise in American Railroad Shares is the principal point in connection with the Stock Markets. In this direction speculation has unexpectedly increased, stimulated by Wall Street, and this movement has particularly quickened the interest taken in Grand Trunk securities, but divided considerations again depressed Canadian Pacific shares, which touched 98½ and, until a weekly return showing an increase of \$3,000 transpired, looked like falling below that figure. Political disturbances in France and the Transvaal question keep general business below normal proportions, nor have easier conditions in the money market materially strengthened the position.

The holiday spirit is still very pronounced in the B. C. department. No enquiry scarcely is reported, and the few changes are unfavorable to holders, but New Goldfields, the Duncan Mines and B. A. C., if lower, are certainly not weak at existing quotations. Le Roi remain almost stationary, or as if there is still some dissatisfaction over recent returns. But this really is no sign that the values are decreasing with depth. The rate of freight and treatment is so much lower than it was a year or two ago, that a low grade of ore can be shipped at a profit. Under the old management only the richest ore was shipped to the smelter, but now that the lower grade stuff is being mixed with the higher grade, a larger tonnage will become available, so that if present averages are less the shareholders must benefit in the end.

At Toronto business has begun to revive, and considerable fluctuation is reported in prices. Golden Star fell sharply but were bought at the lower level for Montreal. War Eagles have moved freely. Foley appeared to be a better market. Crow's Nest Pass shares closed in demand at a rise. The company is competing successfully with American fuel in the smelting districts of Montana. The output at Fernie last month was 10,000 tons of coal and 2,000 tons of coke, or 12 per cent. of the total output of B. C.

B.C. AND KLONDIKE QUOTATIONS

- Alaska Goldfields, 1 and 3-16.
- Athabaska 13-16.
- Bennett Lake and Klondike Nav., 1.
- British America Corporation, 24s. 3d.
- B. C. Development Association, 1½.
- B. C. & New Find Goldfields, 9-16.
- Dominion Mining Development, and Agency, 13-16.
- Duncan Mines, 1 and 3-16.
- Hall Mines, ½.
- Klondike Bonanza 15-16.
- Klondike Mining, Trading and Transport, ¾.
- Klondike and North-West Territories, (10s. shares) 6s.
- Le Roi, 6½.
- Lillooet, Fraser River, and Cariboo Goldfields, 6s.
- London and B. C. Goldfields, 1½.
- McDonald's Bonanza, 1.
- New Goldfields of B. C., 1 and 9-16.
- Queen Bees Proprietary, 1 and 1-16.

- Vancouver and B. C. Gen. Ex. ¾.
- Velvet, 1 and 9-16.
- Whitewater Mines, 15-16.
- Yukon Goldfields, 1 and 7-16.
- Ymir Gold Mines, 1 and 3-16.

Shares in Locally Registered Companies, dealt in in London, in multiples of 500 shares;—

- Alf Gold Mining Company, 2s.
- Dundee, 10½.
- War Eagle Con. Mining Co., 13-16.

LATEST POINTS.

Bank Rate, 3½ per cent. Open market rate three months' bank bills, 3½ per cent. Silver, 27½d. per oz. (bar) standard. Copper, £75 17s. 6d. per ton. Pig iron, 68s. 10d. Tin, £133 5s. Lead, £15 os. od. Consols, 106 xd. Canada 3½ per cent., 106. British Columbia 3 per cent. Inscribed stock, 96. C. P. R. shares, 99½. Bank of British Columbia, 18½. Bank of British North America, 62. Bank of Montreal, 520. Hudson's Bay, 22.

LOCAL STOCK MARKET.

	PAR VALUE.	PRICE.
Alberni Con.....	1 00	05 ½
Alberni Mountain Rose..	1 00	05 ½
Athabasca	1 00	44
Big Three	1 00	24
Cariboo Hydraulic	5 00	\$1 55
Cariboo McKinney	1 00	1 25
Canadian Goldfields.....	—	07 ½
Crow's Nest Coal	25 00	48 00
Dardanelles	1 00	14 ½
Deer Park.....	1 00	3
Evening Star.....	1 00	12
Grand Forks of Bonanza	25	25
Hall Mines.....	1 00	—
Iron Colt.....	1 00	10
Iron Horse	1 00	8 ½
Iron Mask	1 00	73
Knob Hill.....	1 00	95
Le Roi	£ 5	£6 ½
Mineral Hill.....	1 00	05
Minnehaha	1 00	19
Monte Cristo	1 00	9
Montreal Goldfields.....	1 00	17
Morrison	—	16
Noble Five	1 00	23
Novelty	1 00	03
Old Ironsides.....	1 00	1 17
Payne.....	1 00	1 31
Rambler Cariboo	1 00	47
Rathmullen	1 00	03 ¼
Slocan Star.....	50	1 25
St. Elmo	1 00	06
Van Anda	1 00	10
Victory-Triumph	1 00	06
Virginia.....	1 00	12 ½
Waterloo	10	10
War Eagle	1 00	3 65
White Bear.....	1 00	04 ½
Winnipeg	1 00	31 ½

Dividends have been paid by the following Mines:—

Le Roi	\$825,000
War Eagle	309,000
Payne	1,000,000
Slocan Star.....	400,000
Rath	450,000
Reco	350,000
Idaho	150,000

Under the provisions of the Coal Mines Act, no miner who has not been employed before the 9th day of August, 1899, can be employed on work underground unless he is able to satisfy the inspector that he can read and understand the meaning of the special rules as printed in the English language.

The Kangaroo market continues to show a most marked improvement. W. Australia's gold mines are bonanza hold-outs just now. The speculative inducements are such, that, despite the holiday season, the weather, the alarms, the excursions of contemporary foreign politics, the special section on 'Change, sacred to the operations in Lake Views, Great Bonholders, Golden Horseshoes, etc., conable to as lively as ever. The prospects of these and neighboring mines are favoring to an extreme. Sulphide plants are being introduced, capable of treating hundreds of tons of ore daily, and dividends of a very lucrative sort are at hand.

London's greatest passenger carrying company, the General Omnibns Company, has issued its half-yearly report. The peculiar phenomenon so frequently met with in this branch of finance—an increased revenue almost entirely swallowed up by an increase in expenditure is apparent here. There were not far short of a hundred million passengers carried during the six months, producing a revenue of nearly three million dollars. The increase in revenue was \$184,880, of which over \$6,775 remained as profit.

Not only is British whisky driving French brandy out of the Syrian market, as was recorded in a recent issue of this paper, but it has now conquered Mauritius. Whisky was unknown there ten years ago, and cognac was master of all it surveyed. And now nine tenths of the spirit consumed there is composed of our familiar whisky.

The copper movement is not registering any lightning changes. The price per ton, in January, was \$290, and now it is round about \$380. In the middle of May it had nearly touched \$400. The appreciation is decidedly substantial, not viewed over the six months, but is not exhibiting any further increase in the price of the metal; the Anaconda, Rio Tinto, and Mountain Oopper securities standing high in the London market.

It is calculated that there will be an increase of forty million dollars in the world's production of gold this year, making a total yield of three hundred and ten million dollars. All the great mining centres are concerned in this increase. The Rand return for 1899 is estimated to be one hundred million dollars, an increase of 20 per cent. This much troubled district is, despite Kruger and the war party, turning out \$8,500,000 per month.

The Bank of British North America announces a dividend of twenty-five shillings per share payable on the 6th of October.

Rambler Cariboo has advanced from 32 to 42 and is called for much higher dividends. The company has paid several discontinued in the past, but these were prosecuted owing to the necessity of tunnel development work. The deep assaying 125 ounces of silver to the ton and 65 per cent. lead. The vein of pay ore is two feet wide, and there is sufficient now in sight to net the company \$500,000.

It is reported that the Mackintosh Syndicate has purchased the Sunset mine on Copper Mountain, Smilkameen. The consideration is said to be \$40,000.

We stated in a former number that the Board of Trade here SHOULD be of infinite advantage to both City and Province. We reiterate this; they undoubtedly COULD, if they were differently constituted and were not such old women in business. The best men are resigning all the time—and no wonder.

The Metal Market.

NEW YORK, Aug. 29th, 1899,

SILVER.

The silver market has been firm. Less silver has been going forward because of the strike in Colorado and the scarcity of lead ores.

COPPER.

The market continues very firm and consumption in this country proceeds at a marvelous rate and appears to be on the increase. We quote for Lake copper 17½c. In electrolytic copper a good business has been done at 17.22c. @ 17.35c. for cakes, wirebars and ingots, and 17c. @ 17.10 for cathodes.

LEAD.

The demand for lead at this season of the year is, as usual, very large. Prices have advanced somewhat and the metal is now quoted at 4.55 @ 4.60. The foreign market is firmer and a good business has been done for export. Spanish lead is being quoted at £14 10s. @ £14 11s. 3d. English lead is quoted 5s. higher.

SPELTER.

The demand for spelter has been better and it appears that consumers generally are not well supplied, there being signs, as fall approaches, that the demand for galvanizing purposes will increase. New York is quoted at 5.80, while the foreign market is £25 5s. for good ordinary and £25 10s. for special.

Answers to Correspondents.

TOM, LEEDS.—(1) Our opinions of the Klondike are expressed in this number; we do not, however, infer that all are the lucky ones. (2) Money is undoubtedly essential, and we would be sorry to hear of any one going in without having a reserve to fall back on, which will also enable him to take advantage of any good chance that may offer. (3) Sufficient to tide you over your apprenticeship and experience.

FINANCE.—(1) This is a question affecting capitalisation and cannot possibly accrue on such in the time you mention. (2) Yes, on the debentures, possibly.

MEXICO.—We are not in a position to make a comparison; will send you some statistics which may help you.

W., SWANSEA.—Will endeavor to answer you fully by letter. We should think Mr. J. W. Byrne would be able to advise you.

Wireless telegraphy will perhaps have its first great test during its holding of the National Export Exposition, to be held in Philadelphia during the fall. No effort will be made to duplicate the Eiffel Tower, but a structure of some kind is being considered that will hold up a copper wire 1000 feet in the air.

NOTICE.

All interested in the development of British Columbia, please forward any samples of ore representing B. C. prospects or mines, to office of this paper for exhibition at our London Office.

Parcels must be labelled and described, and sent prepaid.

We shall be pleased to receive and acknowledge any correspondence relative to mining matters generally.

INCORPORATED DIVIDEND PAYING MINES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Names of Mines.	No. shares.	Capital Stock.	Par Val.	Am't of last Div.	Date of last Dividend.	Total paid on Dividends.	Minerals Produced.
CARIBOO	800,000	800,000	\$1.00	\$ 01½	Feb, 1899	\$248,965	G
FERN	200,000	200,000	1.00	05	Jan., 1898	110,000	S L
HALL MINES CO.	250,000	1,250,000	5.00	25	May, 1898	160,000	G S C L
IDAHO	500,000	2,500,000	5.00	05½	June, 1899	292,000	S L
LE ROI	1,000,000	1,000,000	1.00	10	Apr., 1898	775,000	G
RAMBLER-CARIBOO	1,000,000	1,000,000	1.00	01	Apr., 1899	50,000	S C
RECO	1,000,000	1,000,000	1.00	10	Jan., 1898	287,500	S L G
SLOCAN STAR	2,000,000	1,000,000	50	05	Mar, 1897	350,000	G
WAR EAGLE CON.	2,000,000	1,000,000	1.00	01½	June, 1899	335,250	S L G
WHITE WATER	125,000	1,615,000	5.00	32	Apr., 1898	194,000	G

The Mining Tit-Bits and Exchange is a Vancouver Periodical, and is published in the interest of all genuine mining and financial business. Its existence is a necessity if we are not asleep to the fact that Vancouver and the Province at large must be kept constantly before the eyes of the world.

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