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The British Columbia Mining Critic.

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

VOL. I. No. 4.

VANCOUVER, B. C., THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1897.

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BRITISH CAPITAL'S NEW FIELD.

There will soon be a great change in the trend of investment of English capital in mining properties, unless all signs fall. It appears that the cost of working the Rand, in South Africa, has amounted to more than the total yield of gold. This would not be a bad sign in an undeveloped country: but in Africa, where the amount of ore that will be available may be estimated with comparative certainty, it seems a great deal. Certainly the British public will not invest in Africa with any expectations of great profits or opportunities for speculation.

In West Australia the case is a little different. While the profits have been extremely small, there can be no question that the country is undeveloped, and there will be opportunities for speculation there; but at present, owing to overcapitalization, the British investor does not feel like making investments. So much harm has been done by this over-capitalization, that it is difficult now in London to float good mines from any part of Australia.

The British speculators and investors are bound to find new fields; and, as a result, their representatives are to be found in the western part of North America in great numbers. This will bring a great deal of capital to the Western States, Mexico and British Columbia, and the development of many large properties. But one trouble will come from it all: the English promoter will indulge in his old habit of over-capitalization, and many a district in the west will receive a black eye in the London market.

British Columbia is already suffering from this to a certain extent; and the good people have lately formed a Miners' Protective association in the West Kootenay country, whose purpose is to protect the investing public, and give out such information as will be of value to prospective purchasers. It is stated that numerous companies have been organized and the stock sold largely on account of their proximity to some well known property. This has been carried to such an extent, that many eastern people are losing confidence in the mines of Trail creek and other parts of British Columbia. Such an organization can be the means of doing a great amount of good by exposing any wild-

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THEN AND NOW.

A map of the western portion of the United States, designed to show the mineral belt, would twenty years ago have shown Washington and the adjoining section of British Columbia as a blank. There might have been a few spots, such as the Swank, Ruby and Sultan placers and the Peshastin mines in Washington, and the Cariboo, Rock Creek and Wild Horse placers in British Columbia; but otherwise this whole broad stretch of country would have been regarded as barren, so far as mineral was concerned. During those twenty years the people of the Pacific Northwest have been occupied in filling in that blank. They have not worked continuously: for many circumstances have until late years diverted their attention: but for eight years past they have gradually centred their energies more and more on mining, until now it is their one absorbing interest, to which every other takes a subordinate place. They have proved what has been repeatedly denied, that the mineral belt extends through the whole breadth of Washington and British Columbia, and discovery has been continually pushed northward through Alaska to the confines of the frozen ocean. It is now an established fact, which the most pessimistic sceptic cannot gainsay, that the backbone of the American continent, from the Arctic ocean to Tierra del Fuego, with all its ribs and spurs, has mineral for its marrow. This mineral is of every kind, precious and base, and in every combination, and it only awaits the application of man's genius and industry to be turned to his uses.

THE KASLO SAMPLER.

The new additions to the sampler are now about completed. Five new receiving bins have been built flush with the track, allowing the handling of ore in bulk from the cars, and avoiding the necessity of sacking at the mine for shipment. Seven new shipping bins have been built on the lower side of the works, making nineteen bins in all. A new shipping platform has been built, and this will be divided into compartments, each shipping bin having its own ore chute and dockage compartment, thereby avoiding possibility of error or mistake in shipment of ore, each shipment being handled entirely by itself and almost automatically through the whole process. New tramways, chutes and ore cars have been added, and new receiving sheds are being built. At present the shipments are light, on account of poor trails. The Ruth made a good shipment on Saturday, and the Jackson shipped about two carloads. By the time the mines are shipping heavily again, the sampler will be in a position to handle all the ore offered. The Kaslo people fondly cherish the hope of a smelter being built on the bay; but the Kootenay Ore company people themselves have no statements to make regarding the same, though it is more than probable that a concentrator will be built in the near future, enabling the company to handle economically a grade of ore for which they have now no demand.

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MINING MEN
AND
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Devoted to the Interests of Mining and the Protection of Investors.

THURSDAYMAY 20, 1897.

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

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

Views and descriptions of mines and mining locations solicited.

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MAURICE GRADWOHL,
Managing Editor.

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

MINING ENGINEERS, EXPERTS AND MINERS.

Now that British Columbia is becoming a well known mining field, the gentlemen who follow the calling of mining engineer, mining expert and practical miner are flocking to all parts of the province where indications of mineral riches are such as to seem to justify investigation. They come from Johannesburg, West Australia, New Zealand, Victoria and New South Wales; from England and the United States. Yet, so far, what reliance can be placed upon this heterogeneous class? Mining engineers with reputations from Australia, Cripple Creek, Johannesburg, or any other known place in the world, arrive here and know—nothing (a bold but true statement). The conditions of formation, stratification, mineral, etc., are so diametrically opposed to those they have met with in their previous experiences, that their knowledge of mining in other countries can only lead them astray here; so that, notwithstanding their mining ability, although helping them over technical points, it will not advance them in this country. In the meantime, their reports will of a necessity be written most cautiously, otherwise a doubt must be attached to their reliability.

The snow has now gone, and an engineer representing a strong firm of mining financiers, for instance, arrives for the purpose of purchasing mining properties: where does he gather his information? Generally at the hotel in which he stays. The first good talker tells him he has options on certain claims assaying from anything up to one thousand dollars. He immediately leaves for the desired spot, only to find something he did not expect—probably a ledge, probably one which he cannot judge; but he has to look wise, take samples, and after con-

will be satisfactory. These experts from all quarters of the globe express opinions to only those who do not and cannot understand them. Of miners there are very few, their places having been taken by loggers, fishermen, navvies and others; yet all these during a month's experience have gained more knowledge, they pretend, than men who have worked underground for a number of years.

It is requisite for engineers to be in this country at least six months, inspecting properties daily, and thoroughly investigating formation, stratification, etc. After that time they begin to understand just a little; and after a further six months they may possibly pass an unbiased opinion with some degree of authority. Meanwhile, however, they have to depend on the size of the lode, the value of its assays, and what they learn from those who have had more experience through longer investigation and living in the country, through snow and other difficulties. Experts of the class we have enumerated must, we say, have practical experience in their own business before they are competent to pass judgment on unknown values here. Yes, even experts must learn.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Numerous inquiries have been made of the BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING CRITIC as to the status of the Orphan Boy case now pending in our court. The assizes now being on, practically no "development work" will be done until next week. The committee of the shareholders of Vancouver will meet ere the close of the week, it is stated, and a definite plan of action be outlined, so that the legal proceedings will receive a deserved impetus. There is no recognized signal of retreat.

It may be not out of place to impress upon prospectors one important fact. There are prospectors and prospectors, but it is a fact known to venturesome and enterprising men that many of those sent out equipped with tools and supplied with needful funds in addition to part payment for services are derelict in their duties. Lounging about hotels, saloons and other places of repose, etc. is not performing their duty and is actually injurious to their own interests as well as dishonorable to their employers. Reports of the actions and non-actions of prospectors from sources unknown to them, reach those mostly interested and the consequences are that the unfavorable results of the venture discourages the man with capital from further seeking to discover, locate and possess worthy mineral lands. Let prospectors bear constantly in mind that their interests and those of their employers are identical and the result will prove mutually

THE ORPHAN BOY.

News, Views and Interrogatories.

A letter was received yesterday by a firm here from a gentleman in an Ontario town, who is a shareholder in the Orphan Boy Gold Mining Co. He says that "the 'Orphan Boy' mine" has done more to "knock the bottom" out of mining stocks than you can imagine. As a result, all stocks have petered out, and you cannot think of selling stocks. If the shareholders and brokers do not make some attempt to protect themselves, you might as well "pull in your shingle." The writer says that he and others will be prepared to subscribe to a fund to secure a thorough investigation of the matter, and to protect the interests of the shareholders.

[The foregoing is from a recent issue of a morning contemporary. That this SWINDLE has done much to injure the stock market, and indeed mining, is unfortunately but too true. Still, the prevalent and strongly expressed sentiment of condemnation of the acts of the conspirators all over the province necessarily results in our favor. No means are being spared to "knock the bottom" out of this scandalous piece of trickery; and let it be said to the honor of the press that no efforts have been spared to ventilate the facts surrounding the attempted transfer of this unfortunate mine. It is to be hoped that the "gentleman in an Ontario town," and others too, will exercise a little patience and watch some development work; we've only seen the outcroppings thus far.—Ed.]

The following article was dictated to our representative yesterday morning by William Templeton, Esq., mayor of Vancouver:

"In conversation with Mayor Templeton, he challenged any of the gentlemen who are connecting his name with the alleged Orphan Boy swindle to directly charge him with any malfeasance or crookedness in the transaction."

CORRESPONDENCE.

EDITOR BRITISH COLUMBIA MINING CRITIC

SIR,—Allow me a little space in your valuable journal to ask a few pertinent questions in reference to what is now generally termed the "Orphan Boy" swindle.

1. How can J. W. Haskins hold the Orphan Boy Gold Mining Co. liable for cash he claims to have advanced on September 7th, 1896, more than one month previous to the existence of the company, the letters of incorporation having been issued on October 16th, 1896?

2. What authority has J. W. Haskins for charging the sum of \$100 for two trips to Revelstoke and return, when he was in Vancouver on his own business,

and not that of the company?

3. If it costs but \$100 for two trips to Revelstoke and return for the president and manager, why is the accommodating secretary-treasurer, H. A. Brown, paid \$100 for one return trip? Has the increased remuneration anything to do with the secretary's silence about the judgment?

4. Why did the secretary open the books of the company on or about the 21st of April, 1897, and transfer Haskins' stock to Templeton, when he had notified shareholders in March that the books of the company were closed against them without assigning any reason?

5. Why did the secretary-treasurer and board of directors not compel the president and manager, J. W. Haskins, to desist from slaughtering his stock to the exclusion of treasury shares?

6. Why was J. W. Haskins' stock made out in blank and sold to the public as treasury stock? Surely the secretary, H. A. Brown, was aware of all this; and yet he took no action to protect those who were paying him his salary for that purpose.

7. Did H. A. Brown receive in cash the modest sum of \$772.73 claimed to have been paid him by the president and manager in his bill of particulars?

8. What has become of the surplus of \$3,200 stated to have been in the treasury on December 7th, 1896, after payment of all liabilities? Yet the president and manager claims, in his bill of particulars, that a considerable liability existed at that time.

Now, Mr. Editor, I submit that this iniquitous transaction calls for a most thorough investigation upon the part of the government, and those found guilty of wrecking this most promising company should be rigorously dealt with.

A VICTIM.

Vancouver, B. C. May 18th, 1897.

[The averments in this letter are, if true, most serious ones, and in our next issue we will report the result of our inquiries. Of course, all these matters "will come out in court;" but justice, while it comes down with heels of iron, travels with soles of lead.—Ed.]

BRITISH CAPITAL.

A wealthy English capitalist, in a recent letter to a correspondent in Toronto on the subject of investment of British money in Canadian mines, gives the following advice to owners of mining prospects who are trying to sell in the old country. He says:

"I could place three or four good properties here, if the owners would only be content to take shares instead of cash at present. I find every one wanting from \$1,000 to \$25,000 in cash for a mere prospect of forty acres. They are only spoiling their chances. How much better would it be, and how much more confidence one on this side would have in the venture, if a man would say, 'I

don't want more than \$500 cash in a month, and one-fifth of the share capital of any company formed to work the property.' Take it that the capital was \$250,000, he would get \$50,000 in fully paid up shares, non-assessable; and if he agreed to pool them, I could readily sell them at 7s. 6d. or 10s. if the mine went on well during the sinking of a couple of shafts. The \$500 would pay him for his outlay on the property, including two or three good reports, assays, samples, plans, etc. Men won't put up capital here to develop prospects and pay over \$500 in cash for them. Their owners either must stand in and take the risks of the things turning out well, or keep their properties."

INTERVIEW.

British Pacific Gold Property Company.

On Tuesday last Mr. W. J. Dowler, secretary of the above named company, was a guest at one of our leading hotels. Upon being shown a letter which has received much publicity, bearing date April 22nd, 1897, and addressed to Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, he was asked:

We notice that considerable publicity has been given your company by the action of Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere in a letter from you containing a proposition submitted to him on behalf of your company?

"So I perceive. Sir Henri has evidently undertaken to kill two birds with one stone, and no doubt he thinks he has succeeded. He has secured a little free advertising for the company, and not a little for himself, but the cooking is yet to be done, and the broth may not be to his liking."

Was the letter you sent him intended for publication?

"Certainly not; it was of a strictly private character—the envelope was, to the best of my recollection, marked "personal," to indicate that the letter was intended for him alone. At any rate, there was nothing in the letter which would authorize or warrant its publication."

What does your company think of Sir Henri's course in this matter?

"I cannot presume to speak for the company without instructions."

Well, perhaps you have no objections to giving your own impressions in regard to it?

"As for myself, I have no hesitation in saying that the action taken by Sir Henri in this instance is without a parallel in the history of the mining industry of this country. I have been a reader of the *Montreal Witness* for many years and have always respected it for its independent course and its championship of what it believed to be right in the public interest. I can neither add to its reputation nor detract from it if I would. But neither the *Witness* nor Sir Henri is

least for once they have spoken without due knowledge and discrimination. They have assumed that the proposition to Sir Henri was in the nature of an attempt to secure his good name in support of a company which intended to make money by defrauding the public. They have taken for granted that the men who compose our company are sharpers who seek to live upon ill-gotten gains, and they have further assumed and even stated in other words, that in any event the lending of the influence and support of a prominent man to an enterprise without putting his hard cash into its treasury is wrong in principle, and that those who do business in that way are guilty of malfeasance and corruption. Now it may be true, and I have no doubt it has occurred, that rotten enterprises have sometimes been bolstered up by great names, and that people relying upon the probity of the directorate have sunk their money into a bottomless pit. If after investigation, Sir Henri had come to the conclusion that the company was one of this kind, one could understand more readily his action. But so far as I know, Sir Henri made no investigation of any kind in this case. With all due deference to Sir Henri Joly and the *Montreal Witness*, I submit that such enterprises or companies as these I have past referred to are the exception and not the rule. They do not appear to know or they affect to ignore the fact that upon the directorate of a large number of our strongest companies mining and otherwise, are prominent gentlemen who have never paid a dollar into the treasury. How did they get there? Was it by fraud and corruption and bribery? or was it upon a simple and natural and generally recognized business principle? Take a common example. Ours is a wide country. A company is formed in a remote portion of it. To successfully carry on their undertaking they must extend their operations; they must reach the centre of population. The scheme they propose to develop is legitimate, worthy and well devised. If carried out, it will evidently benefit all interested in it. But its promoters, who are they? They may be men of the highest moral character and business ability in their immediate locality. But they are not widely known; and in mining matters, people will not deal with those they do not know. How is the difficulty to be overcome? Briefly, by the addition of persons to the company who are widely and favorably known. Provided the company is what it ought to be, such a course would be virtually advantageous. In this way the essential bona-fide is supplied to the public who are thousands of miles from the company's principal field of operations. The company accordingly say to the gentleman they desire to be associated with them: 'Inquire into our scheme. Satisfy yourself as to its merits, and as to ourselves; then if you can persuade'

operate with us in developing the resources of the country, and in distributing its wealth to the population of the country, we shall be pleased to have you with us. But we are not a charitable institution. We do not go begging favors. We do not expect you to spend your time and give your attention to the business of the company and the administration of its affairs, to devote the accumulated wisdom and experience of many years in public matters to the company, as a gratuitous contribution. If, after looking thoroughly into our scheme, you can recommend it to your friends, answer their inquiries and promote the interests of all concerned, we are prepared to recognize your efforts and compensate you therefor?' Now it is considered that, with a production of this kind, it is the duty of any man, should he be disposed to carefully consider it, to satisfy himself that the enterprise is worthy of his support and that those who deserve his co-operation are men of the right stamp and character. It is further conceived that it is his duty, if he is not so satisfied, to reject the proposition. But it is not necessary that he should apprise the public of the fact and proclaim it from one end of the continent to the other. It is absurd to say he takes no 'risk' in accepting such a proposition even when he knows well the person he is dealing with. Because the risk is not 'financial,' is there no other kind of risk? Should misfortune overtake the company, as it sometimes does the best managed concerns, which would he feel more keenly, the loss of a few hundred or a thousand dollars, had he invested them in the enterprise; or the failure of an undertaking to which he had lent his name and influence? I leave it with the *Witness* to answer the question. Of course, a man will be careful, and it is well that caution should be exercised. But that does not prevent scores of business men from giving such enterprises their countenance and support. They have confidence in the resources of the country, they have confidence in the enterprises they endorse, and they have a little confidence in their fellow-men. It is upon confidence like this, properly safeguarded, that all our commercial relations are based, and the most far-reaching business undertakings are carried out."

But did Sir Henri take the trouble to inquire—to inform himself in this particular case—to ascertain anything about the personnel of the company who sought his co-operation?

"Not he; he did not care to do this; he had other purposes to serve. In that 'spirit of high chivalry' with which the *Witness* has invested him he takes a dreadful 'evil by the horns,' and, having rushed to the printer, he gives to a paper having one of the largest circulations in Canada a private communication. *Chacun a son gout*, and therefore I shall not complain or owe him any

to expect Sir Henri, or perhaps his confrere, to take a share in a legitimate mining enterprise. They probably regard them all as traps for guileless feet, as madcap speculations, or, worse, as organized robbery. But if they have the courage to do anything in this line, let me tell them that gentlemen who compose the company I have the honor to represent are among the most highly respected and enterprising citizens of Victoria; that the company is incorporated under the laws of the province of British Columbia; that it is prepared to do and is doing honest and effective work; that it offers a sound investment, and that the principal features of its scheme have received the endorsement of a number of prominent men in Canada, of whose support and influence any company might well be proud."

Mr. Dowler, during the entire interview, was calm and courteous, and spoke in a most earnest manner.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

EDITOR B. C. MINING CRITIC.

SIR.—Lillooet has presented quite a busy appearance for the last two months, numbers of prospectors and miners waiting here for the weather to improve. During the last fortnight winter has grudgingly given way to spring, the result being that prospectors and others have been able to get away to work without fear of snowslide or rockslide.

The hotel accommodation here has been taxed to its utmost. A large addition is being made to the Pioneer hotel, and shacks and houses are going up in every direction, showing the confidence the people have in the future of the district.

Development work is progressing steadily on the Golden Cache mines. Fifteen men are kept hard at work tunneling, cross-cutting and sinking. The character of the rock continues to improve, some specimens of that last taken out being very rich. There is sufficient rock already on the dump to keep the mill at work night and day for months. The result of the crushing mill, we are confident, astonish the world. It is believed that this mine will prove to be one of the richest in the world. The country for miles round the Golden Cache is all located, and the sample of rock generally prove the properties to be good. When the undoubted richness of the district is shown by the crushings at the Golden Cache, there will be an immense boom in this neighborhood.

Blackwater camp is attracting considerable attention from prospectors; it has been kept quiet for some time. From the samples of rock brought in, there is no doubt that a very large tract of mineral country exists, and of a very lasting character also.

Bridge river is also attracting prospectors, large parties going out there daily. A sample of rock brought in,

high result in gold. The Horseshoe Bend company of Bridge river, who are working on the Horseshoe bend, have a valuable property. They intend spending a large sum of money in developing it this year. The construction of the tunnel will enable them to flume the water from the bend, leaving a mile of the river-bed bare for working, besides enabling them to work the river-bed for miles by taking the water down from the mouth of the tunnel. Should the company require later to hydraulic the gravel benches, it will enable them to dump into the main flume and get rid of the tailings. Float asbestos has been found on the company's property in the serpentine formation, and an expert's opinion is that there is a vein of this valuable deposit under the Hog's Back.

LILLOOET CORRESPONDENT.

Lillooet, B. C., May 16th, 1897.

SMELTER AGITATION.

There is at present considerable excitement in Rossland and neighboring camps over the proposal made by the Le Roi and other mining companies to erect a smelter at Northport, some four miles below Waneta and the international boundary line, in American territory. Strong efforts are being made to induce the promoters to select some suitable point in the province for their establishment; but according to latest advices, the chances favored Northport. It is alleged that a suitable site can be procured for a smelter some four miles south-west of Rossland, in the direction of Christina lake and on the route of the projected Columbia and Western, as well as on that of the Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern railway, where abundance of water, fuel, lime and other necessary commodities for smelting purposes can be obtained. We sincerely hope that the people of Rossland will be successful in their efforts to induce the location of the smelter to be made in favor of some British Columbian point. Falling in this, efforts should be made to induce the federal government to impose a duty of from two to four dollars per ton upon all ores going out of the country. This would result in establishing smelters in our own province and build up large and important industrial centres, all of which would be of vast advantage to the entire community. So far, the Americans have been very generously treated by the government in allowing them to export into Canada mining machinery duty free; while the British Columbia government allows aliens to own and operate mining propositions without making any declaration as to their intention of becoming British subjects. The product of the mines should be treated in the country which yields it in such abundance as Kootenay does. We are pleased to observe that the local journals are almost a unit in favor of the smelters being established either there or elsewhere in

STOCK QUOTATIONS
In Vancouver of British Columbia Mining Companies.

COMPANIES.	No. OF SHARES.	PAR VALUE	PRICE
TRAIL CREEK.			
Alberta.....	1,000,000	\$ 1.00	\$ 0 13
B. C. Gold King.....	1,000,000	1.00	10
B. C. Gold Fields.....	2,500,000	2.00	40
Beaver.....	750,000	1.00	10
Big Chief.....	1,000,000	1.00	10
Big Three.....	3,500,000	1.00	12
Bluebird.....	600,000	1.00	10
Bruce.....	1,000,000	1.00	10
Butte.....	1,000,000	1.00	05
Caledonian Con.....	500,000	1.00	07
California.....	2,500,000	1.00	15
C. & C.....	500,000	1.00	10
Celtic Queen.....	750,000	1.00	04
Centr Star.....	500,000	1.00	25
Colonia.....	1,000,000	1.00	22
Commander.....	500,000	1.00	51
Crown Point.....	1,000,000	1.00	18 1/2
Deer Park.....	1,000,000	1.00	04
Delaware.....	1,000,000	1.00	12
Eastern Star.....	500,000	1.00	12
Enterprise.....	1,000,000	1.00	20
Erie.....	1,000,000	1.00	04
Evening Star.....	1,000,000	1.00	11 1/2
Georgia.....	1,000,000	1.00	16
Gertrude.....	500,000	1.00	08 1/2
Giant.....	2,500,000	1.00	15
Golden Dip.....	500,000	1.00	15
Golden Queen.....	1,000,000	1.00	10
Great Western.....	1,000,000	1.00	14
Hattie Brown.....	1,000,000	1.00	07 1/2
Helen.....	600,000	1.00	05
High Ore.....	500,000	1.00	04
Homestake.....	1,000,000	1.00	10
Idaho.....	500,000	1.00	10
Imperial.....	1,000,000	1.00	05 1/2
Independent.....	1,000,000	1.00	08
Iron Horse.....	1,000,000	1.00	20
Iron Mask.....	500,000	1.00	46
L. X. L.....	1,000,000	1.00	12
Jumbo.....	700,000	1.00	53
Knight-Templar.....	500,000	1.00	70
Kootenay-London.....	1,000,000	1.00	04
La Roi.....	500,000	5.00	7.50
Lily May.....	1,000,000	1.00	20
Mayflower.....	1,000,000	1.00	12
Monarch.....	700,000	1.00	18
Monta.....	750,000	1.00	14
Monte Cristo.....	1,000,000	1.00	07 1/2
Morning Star.....	1,000,000	1.00	08
Nest Egg.....	500,000	1.00	15
Northern Belle.....	1,000,000	1.00	06 1/2
Northern.....	1,000,000	1.00	28 1/2
O. K.....	1,000,000	1.00	06
Palo Alto.....	1,000,000	1.00	11
Phoenix.....	500,000	1.00	37
Poorman.....	500,000	1.00	15
R. E. Lee.....	2,000,000	1.00	10
Red Mountain View.....	1,000,000	1.00	10
Red Point.....	1,000,000	1.00	10
Rochester.....	500,000	1.00	15
Rossland Star.....	1,000,000	1.00	26
Rossland, Red M'En.....	1,000,000	1.00	06 1/2
St. Elmo.....	1,000,000	1.00	12 1/2
St. Paul.....	1,000,000	1.00	08
Silverline.....	500,000	1.00	20
Southern C. & W. C.....	500,000	1.00	10
Sultana.....	1,000,000	1.00	10
Trail Mining Co.....	2,500	100.00	1.00
Union.....	600,000	1.00	12
Virginia.....	500,000	1.00	1.33
War Eagle Con.....	2,000,000	1.00	27
West Le Roi.....	500,000	1.00	16
White Bear.....	2,000,000	1.00	06
Young British Am.....	1,000,000	1.00	
AINSWORTH.			
Belle.....	700,000	1.00	17
Ellen.....	1,000,000	1.00	07 1/2
BOUNDARY			
Old Ironsides.....	1,000,000	1.00	05
CAMP MCKINNEY			
Cariboo.....	800,000	1.00	40
CAMP FAIR VIEW.			
Ocidental.....	600,000	1.00	
NELSON.			
Exchequer.....	1,000,000	1.00	10
Hall Mines.....	2,000,000	\$1.00	6.10
NORTHPORT.			
Red Top.....	1,000,000	\$1.00	10
SLOCAN.			
Athabasca.....	1,000,000	1.00	25
Alamo.....	500,000	1.00	1.00
Bon Diablo.....	75,000	1.00	06 1/2
Bondholder.....	1,000,000	1.00	25
Buffalo.....	150,000	1.00	10.00
Cumberland.....	500,000	1.00	22
Dardenelles.....	1,000,000	1.00	11
Grey Eagle.....	750,000	1.00	
Idler.....	1,000,000	1.00	100.00
Kootenay-Columbia.....	450	100.00	1.00
Noble Five Con.....	1,200,000	1.00	

COMPANIES.	No. OF SHARES.	PAR VALUE	PRICE
Reco.....	1,000,000	1.00	1.50
Slocan Star.....	1,000,000	.50	2.55
Sunshine.....	50,000	10.00	
Washington.....	1,000,000	1.00	25
Wonderful.....	1,000,000	1.00	08
REVELSTOCKE.			
Orphan Boy.....	700,000	1.00	
TEXADA ISLAND.			
Texada Proprietary.....	1,000,000	.25	\$ 0.25
Van Anda.....	5,000,000	1.00	05
Victoria-Texada.....	600,000	.25	25
ALBERNI DIST.			
Alberni M'En Rose.....	250,000	1.00	05
Alberni Con.....	1,000,000	1.00	12
Mineral Creek.....	500,000	1.00	05 1/2
Mineral Hill.....	750,000	1.00	10
Quadra.....	500,000	1.00	10
CARIBOO			
Cariboo Gold Fields.....	100,000		
Cariboo Hydraulic.....	500,000	5.00	10.5
Columbia & Cariboo.....	1,000,000	1.00	15
Horsely Hydraulic.....	200,000		
Horsely Gold M. Co.....	100,000	10.00	1.50
Slough Creek.....	500,000	1.00	50
LILLOOET DIST.			
Golden Cache.....	500,000	1.00	1.77 1/2
Lillooet Gold Reefs.....	200,000	.25	25

Dividends paid to date are as follows: Le Roi, \$385,000; War Eagle, \$187,000; Rambler-Cariboo, \$40,000; Reco, \$100,000; Slocan Star, \$300,000; Two Friends, \$20,000; Cariboo, \$141,410. It is estimated that the profits of the mines subjoined have returned the sums placed opposite their respective names:

Payne.....	\$250,000	Goodenough.....	\$5,000
Idaho.....	132,650	Noble Five.....	50,000
Poorman.....	50,000	Northern Belle.....	20,000
Ruth.....	50,000	Antoine.....	10,000
Whitewater.....	40,000	Surprise.....	20,650
Washington.....	20,000	Monitor.....	15,000
Slocan Boy.....	25,000	Last Chance.....	50,000

CONCENTRATES.

At the Washington, in the Slocan, the concentrator is steeply at work with a large supply of water. Tons of ore are ready to be shipped from Lost creek as soon as the road is built. As it is reported that the snow has disappeared at Salmo, property owners are arriving there on every train. Large numbers of prospectors are camping in the Harrison lake district, waiting for the melting of the snow. This is reminiscent of the early days of California's mining development, in the days before '49.

It was reported that the Tacoma and Everett smelters are endeavoring to secure a contract to smelt the Le Roi ore. The Poorman mine, in the Nelson district, has been purchased by a syndicate headed by Hector McRae and J. Fredrick Ritchie, of Rossland, for \$100,000. The White Bear company have purchased a four-drill compressor plant from the Rand Drill company. It was used for four weeks by the Le Roi company and was delivered at the mine recently. It will be installed at once. A. E. Lindberg has conveyed to A. D. Williams the two mineral claims, Mountain Goat and Oakland, located on the south side of Kaslo river about nine miles from the city of Kaslo. Both these claims were located during the spring of this year.

coming to the front. It is to be hoped that prospectors and others will avoid the mistake made in some other places of holding their discoveries and properties at prohibitory prices. The man who finds the capital to develop a property must see that there is something in it for him, or he will not touch it.

As illustrative of the activity in prospecting in the Alnsworth mining division already prevalent, it may be noted that during the week ending May 12, 68 new locations were recorded in the office of the Mining Recorder at Kaslo. This, be it noted, is the condition prevailing while the snow still covers the higher mountains.

The Lillooet Gold Reefs Mining and Milling Company have started work on their property on Cayoont creek, and the directors have recently received some very fine specimens of the rock, which were sent down by Mr. Coulson, the president of the company. They are engaged in extensive development work, and the prospects are most encouraging.

It is easy to see the march of civilization in the north by the many new townsites being placed on the market. Already lot in Grand Forks, Wardner, Silvertown and Ferguson townsite have been purchased by local parties. There is no reason to doubt that many will make big money, even if only half the inducements made by those interested are as stated, while many, very many will drop their pile.

At an ore bin of 100 tons capacity is being erected on the Iron Mask mine, and a wagon road leading to it is in progress of construction. Work is progressing as usual on the rise to connect with shaft No. 1. About 20 feet yet remain to be broken before connection can be made. On completion of the rise stopping will begin and the output of the mine will, in a short time, be greatly increased.

In a few days, passengers leaving Vancouver one day will be able to reach Rossland and other Kootenay points the day following, as they now can do by going over the C. P. R. to Sumas, the Seattle and International to Snohomish, the Great Northern to Spokane and thence by the Red Mountain to Rossland. By the C. P. R. route there will be a saving effected over the present system of at least 24 hours, which the travelling community will duly appreciate.

The Magnet mineral claim in the Slocan country has been purchased by the Montezuma company. Adjoining this claim is the Bolander, whose pay streak eight inches wide of good ore, it is said, can be plainly traced across the company's new acquisition. Assays of this ore show from three to five hundred ounces of silver and sixty per cent. of lead. The development of the mine will be proceeded with immediately the snow has left the ground.

The Gold Bar company are sinking a winze on their claim six miles south of Rossland, near the boundary line. Work began on April 6th. Ten men are employed in three shifts of eight hours each. The winze is to be sunk to the fifty-foot level, whence a cross-cut will be driven to meet a cross ledge running to within fifty feet of the main lode. The superintendent, T. A. Helm, made an average sample of the ore in the shaft, which assayed \$19 in gold, silver and lead. It is probable that the company will put in their own concentrator during this summer.

Mike Flaherty has returned from a trip to the north fork of Salmon river. While he was at Craigtown, which is seven miles back from the railroad, the first lady made her appearance in camp. She was Mrs. Angus Beaton and the boys gave her a great reception. An evergreen arch was erected over the bridge across the river and she was presented with a big wooden key and the freedom of the city on her arrival. In the evening a banquet was given by Mr. Bringold in his new hotel, and Mr. Craig, the father of the town, delivered an address of welcome. — *Rossland Miner*.

Mr. J. A. Macfarlane, F. C. S., Superintendent of the Golden Cache mines, and Mr. J. A. Mackinnon came down from Lillooet on Sunday. Mr. Macfarlane reports that everything is proceeding satisfactorily at the mine. The road is in good shape, and the machinery for the mill can be taken in without difficulty. Good progress is being made on the foundations for the mill. Mr. Macfarlane has just ascertained that the main vein on the Golden Eagle dips down rather more than at first thought. They are now following it up, and as far as they have gone, the ore is as rich as ever.

The statement is made that at least five new concentrators will be built in the Slocan this summer, and two of them will be in Sandon. The Reco expect to have their concentrator in operation some time in September. The Reed and Robinson will build a short distance below Sankon. The Galena Farm will build at or near Silvertown. The Lucky Jim on Bear lake and the Montezuma on Kaslo creek will also put up mills. All these mills will build tramways from the mines to the mills. The Payne mine will build a tarmway from the mine to the warehouse on the the railroad track, but do not need a concentrator as the ore is clean mineral. These mills will allow the mines to run all the year round, and will be a great addition to the wealth of the whole district.

Mr. C. N. Davidson returned from Fairview camp on Sunday.

A company of mining brokers intend to open a branch office in Japan, where they already have disposed of a large block of stock.

PERSISTENT ILL-LUCK.

Here is another story to prove that opals are unlucky.

A man threw up a coin in a tobacconist's to decide who should pay for cigars. He lost.

"No wonder," said his friend. "You're wearing an opal. You never will have any luck."

Four days later the wearer of the gem slipped in getting off a bus, and sprained an ankle.

This decided him. He gave the pin to a well-to-do Scottish friend of his, who was too hard-headed to be superstitious about anything.

Nevertheless, when a few days later he lost over £1,000 on wheat, he began to worry. He didn't care much for the pin anyway; and so one day, when a clerk in his office admired the "fire" in the stone, he presented it to him.

The young man overwhelmed his employer with thanks, who waited, with guilty knowledge, to see what would happen. He did not have to wait long. The very next week the employee was taken ill.

The Scotsman's conscience troubled him: so he wrote to his clerk, informing him about the opal pin and the superstition attaching to it, and the employee, after deliberation, decided that he would give the pin to his fiancée.

The opal did very rapid and effective work after it became the property of this young lady. On the second day after she began to wear it she ignited a curtain in attempting to light the gas. The curtain was destroyed, and the young lady burned both her hands in her attempt to extinguish the blaze.

Hearing of this, her lover felt called upon to apologize.

"Perhaps it was that opal I gave you," said he. "You know an opal is supposed to carry ill-luck with it. I didn't tell you, because I am not superstitious."

"I'll not wear the dreadful thing a day longer," she said; and she didn't. She gave it to her brother, who scoffed at the suggestion that a sparkling, glassy little stone could wield any influence, good or bad. Nevertheless, when he started for the city, and the train ran off the line and he was thrown out, he became converted.

Promptly he decided to sell it, and taking it to a jeweler, said:

"What will you give me for this opal?"

The jeweler looked at it but a moment before replying:

"That isn't an opal; that's a cat's-eye." — *London Daily Mail*.

The Slocan Pioneer is the latest addition to the weekly press of the mining districts. It is a presentable and well-written sheet, and would be a credit to any new town. The business manager is Mr. J. C. McEwen.

TROUBLE IN THE YUKON.

There is going to be serious trouble in the Yukon district. If the information contained in a private letter from Clondyke can be relied upon (says the *Victoria Times*). The peaceful Canadians who have claims on the Clondyke will likely be compelled to use guns to defend their property against unscrupulous Americans, who believe that in the far-off Yukon district they can set British law at defiance. There is no reason to doubt the reliability of the information contained in the letter, as the sender was once a prominent British Columbia merchant, who has always been careful about his statements. He is at present at Clondyke, where he holds one of those fabulously rich claims that yield hundreds of dollars to each bucketful of gravel. This very richness is the cause of the excitement.

Circle City, which is in American territory, has been infested with the worst characters in the United States fugitives from justice, who find there immunity from punishment for their past crimes. When the only discovered placer grounds were in the vicinity of Circle City, they were very jealous about their rights, and protested against any Canadian taking up a claim in American territory, where according to the law, twenty acres were allowed for a placer claim. When the discoveries were made on the Clondyke and adjacent streams, Inspector Constantine, of the mounted police, who acts for the Dominion government, allowed each claimholder to stake off 500 feet by 600 feet, or about six acres. For registering this he charged \$15—three times the ordinary fee.

These claims soon turned out to be enormously rich, and the news of the discoveries soon reached Circle City. The tough element soon crossed into Canadian territory, and, taking advantage of the liberal Canadian mining laws, which allow Americans to take up claims in Canadian territory, they prospected for claims for themselves. They soon found, however, that they were too late, because all of the ground had been staked off long before they left Circle City. Then these men began clamoring that too much land had been allowed for each claim, and boldly intimated that unless the resident authorities decreased the size of the claims, they would use force.

The letter stated that Inspector Constantine and his little band of police would be powerless to cope with nearly one thousand desperate characters, who are well armed. The miners in Canadian territory, however, were determined that whether they were justified in holding so much land or not, they would not surrender any in order to satisfy the unwarranted demands of unscrupulous foreigners. They hold that they paid a treble fee for registering their claims, and that they would retain

wise. If necessary, these miners would shoulder their guns to assist Inspector Constantine and his police in maintaining the law.

From what is known of Inspector Constantine, he will stand no nonsense, and cannot be frightened by the threats of unprincipled adventurers. If necessary, he would swear in special constables to quell any disturbance.

PERSONAL.

Warren Watkins, Howe sound, who owns a number of claims there, is in the city, where he will spend some time.

William Jones, who is deeply interested in Cariboo properties, left for that district on Wednesday morning.

Percy Whitworth and a party have left for the mountains beyond the head of Harrison lake on a prospecting tour. They will be gone for about four weeks.

W. Kent and party have returned from a prospecting trip up Stave lake and through the mountains toward Harrison lake. The party made a number of finds.

Mr. John MacQuillan, one of the leading mining men of Vancouver, accompanied by Dr. Carroll and others, left here yesterday for the Slokan, to be absent about three weeks.

Mr. John A. Veach, superintendent of the Fern Gold Mining and Milling Co., went up to the mine on the 15th inst., to take charge of the installation of the stamp mill and concentrating plant.

Samuel Hodges has taken up quarters at the Sherman house, and placed on exhibition a large number of samples of high-grade ore. He is accompanied by James Cannon. They expect to leave for Victoria on Sunday next.

The CRITIC office was favored this week with a visit from one of San Francisco's leading merchants, Mr. A. Repsold, senior member of the firm of A. Repsold & Co. While the gentleman is not directly connected with mining matters, he sought information which he proposes to disseminate among Californians, as inquiries are being frequently made of visitors to British Columbia concerning our mining prospects and resources. He considers that business is improving to a great extent along the north-western coast.

C. D. Rand returned on Sunday from a trip to Chicago, New York, Boston, Buffalo, Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa. He says that the interest taken in the Kootenays by the people in the east has largely increased since his last visit.

He thinks this is due to the proving up of several properties, and the good results obtained from the mines that are being actually worked. In New York, Boston and Chicago investors were waiting till the experimental stage has passed. Mr. Rand is assured that many leading investors of those cities will visit British Columbia during the coming summer. If they are as favorably impressed in proportion by what they see as they have been by what they have heard, large

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

Moodyville and North Vancouver Ferry—Leaves Moodyville: 8, 9:15, 10:45, 12, noon, 2, 4 and 5:45 p. m. Leaves Vancouver: 8:35, 10, 11:20, 1:15 p.m., 3:15, 5:15 and 6:25. Calling at North Vancouver each way, excepting the noon trip.

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