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FERGUSON EAGLE.

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THE NETTIE L. HILL

Once Condemned By Experts But Now A Hummer.

RICH ORE FOUND WITH DEPTH

The Original Pool Group as it is To-Day.—Will be a Scene of Activity This Season.—Brief Mention of Properties Now Being Developed.

The group of claims originally staked by W. B. Pool in '92 consisted of seven full claims and are now known as the I. X. L., the Maybe, the Nettie L., the Ajax, the Brow, the Raven and the Glouse Cap No. 1. These properties were then known as the Pool group and were owned by Mr. Pool and by those he had staked in with him. Since then the majority of the claims have changed hands; in fact Mr. Pool only retains an interest by location in two claims, the Nettie L. and the Maybe. The writer will try to give EAGLE readers a general idea of the leading features of these claims starting at the I. X. L., on the north fork of the Lardeau. It is an easy matter to trace the Nettie L. lead right through the seven claims above mentioned. In fact one could practically walk on it the whole distance. The strike of the lead is n. w. and s. e. and for some distance down it has a strong dip to the n. e., but where some depth has been reached the dip is not so great.

The formation of the country is slate and schist cut by several dikes of diorite of varying thickness. It is one of these dikes of diorite which forms what is known as the Nettie L. lead. The only difference the writer can see between the dike where they find the marvellously rich ore of the Nettie L. and the other parallel dikes of diorite is that there is more quartz where the ore is found. It is the writer's opinion that a body of ore is likely to be deposited along any of the fractures caused by the intrusion of these dikes.

The I. X. L.

There has been considerable work done on some of these claims. The I. X. L., owned by T. J. Beatty of Vancouver, has an open cut about 40 feet and between 70 and 80 feet of tunneling has been driven. The idea when the tunnel was started was to crosscut the lead at a point where a splendid surface shewing of ore was exposed and then drift on the ore. The ore was crosscut and the drifting started, but only run a few feet till it ran out of ledge matter entirely and into solid diorite, there being a slight fault in the lead, but with a crosscut run a few feet, the writer is of the opinion that a body of ore second to none on the lead could easily be found.

The Maybe.

On the Maybe, which joins the Nettie L. on the n. w., and now owned by the Double Eagle Mining Company, considerable work has already been done with highly satisfactory results. Rich ore is now in sight in different places in the workings, but it is understood is mostly of a concentrating nature as yet. It is practically assured that with a concentrator this property would already be shipping a large quantity of exceedingly high-grade concentrates and there is scarcely a doubt but that with a little more development work the Maybe will expose large bodies of shipping ore.

The Nettie L.

The next claim is the Nettie L., also within a stones throw of Ferguson. The writer has no intention of attempting to describe this property. It has already spoken for itself. Great credit is due W. B. Pool the manager, for his rigid perseverence and the way he stuck to the property in spite of difficulties which would discourage most men. He stayed by it like a porous plaster, made it a success, and now has the horse-laugh on the yellow-legged experts who condemned it.

The Ajax.

The Ajax is the next claim, on the n. e. of the Nettie L. It is also owned by the Great Western Mines Limited. There is very little work done on it yet, but the company intend to develop it this season.

The Brow.

Then comes the Brow, owned by the Lampkie brothers. Considerable work has been done on it and it is the intention of the owners to continue its development during the coming summer.

The Raven.

The next claim is the Raven, owned by Messrs. Treanor, Snell and Gordon of Ferguson, and Dr. McGuire of Vancouver. There has been a lot of work done on it. One tunnel about 40 feet in length crosscuts the lead near the surface. Some ore was exposed by this tunnel and the ledge gave considerable value in gold. Another tunnel 130 feet in length has been run to crosscut the lead at a good depth. This tunnel has not reached the lead yet, but the owners will push work during the coming summer to tap the ledge at a good depth.

The Glouse Cap.

On the Glouse Cap but little work has been done yet. The claim has been surveyed and is bonded to an eastern company.

THE TOWSER DEAL IS STILL ON.

D. Ferguson and J. Knowles Will Meet J. M. Skeaff in Revelstoke and if Possible Make a Deal.

The Tower deal is now pending final decision. D. Ferguson received word from his partner J. Knowles on Monday, and left in the afternoon for Revelstoke, where they will meet J. M. Skeaff and arrange if possible new terms. The owners have lost no faith in their property, and it is thought that the Towser Mining syndicate will agree to almost any reasonable terms, as they too feel sure the property is all right, with further development. The EAGLE can only hope that the deal will result in the resumption of work with a large force of men at an early date.

SUB-OFFICE IS NOW ESTABLISHED.

The EAGLE has made a careful canvass among the property owners just over the summit, on the Duncan slope, as to their grievance in being switched off into the Kaslo mining division, where they must now go to do their recording, etc. The distance to the Kaslo office as compared with the office on this side is unreasonable. It costs a man at least $50 and the loss of his time to go round via the Slocan to do his business. There is not even a blazed trail down the upper Duncan slope. The following letter to Mr. Kellie, our representative at Victoria, explains itself:

FERGUSON, B. C., Feb. 26, 1900.
J. M. KELLIE, M. P. P.,
Victoria, B. C.,

Dear Sir: I would like to call your attention to the recent change made in the boundary lines of this mining division, and to the inconvenience it will cause to myself and a great many others similarly situated. Before this change we were within twelve miles of the recording office at Trout Lake City. Since the change we are compelled to go to Kaslo via Nakusp or Nelson, a journey which can not be accomplished without a very great expense of time and money, which a prospector can ill afford. It is the wish of all interested that the upper Duncan remain attached to the Trout Lake mining division. We think it very unfair that we should be caused so much inconvenience at the instigation of Kaslo. We feel confident that you will give this matter your careful attention, and take energetic measures for our relief.

I am, dear sir, yours sincerely,
JAS. A. LADE.

Whoever started this meddling with the boundaries had very little to do. It may have been done to try and help resurrect Kaslo, but this too is an impossible feat. Mr. Kellie did some tall wiring to the Kootenay Mail some time ago. He was getting the matter readjusted and that at least a sub-office would be created at Trout Lake City. Of course nothing has been heard of it since. The sub-office would not be satisfactory anyway to the property owners over the summit. They will insist on this mining division including their properties, and nothing short of this will satisfy them.

Since the above was written and a telegram sent, the following has been received by the EAGLE. The comment still holds good.

VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 28, 1900.
EAGLE, Ferguson,

Order-in-council authorizing the appointment of deputy mining recorder on December 30. Taylor notified on January 24th. Final order through gold commissioner issued on February 20th. Claims on Duncan slope may be recorded at Trout Lake City. Sgd.
W. F. ROBERTSON,
Provincial Mineralogist.

THE RAILROAD IS COMING SURE

President Shaughnessy Assures Mr. E. A. Bennet That the C. P. R. Will Reach Trout Lake This Summer.

Edgar A. Bennett, former manager of the Silver Cup, sends the following very gratifying and self explanatory letter to D. L. Clink:

WINDSOR HOTEL, MONTREAL,
February 15th, 1900.

Dear Mr. Clink: Mr. Shaughnessy tells me that their line will be built to Trout Lake City this summer.

Yours very truly,
EDGAR A. BENNET.

CANADIANS DIE FOR COUNTRY

The Slaughter of Men is Terrible on Both Sides, But the British are on Top.

LONDON, February 27.—Principal events of battle at Paardeberg on Sunday were fighting at a sacrifice of Highland brigade and the charge on Boer trenches by the Cornwalls and Canadians.

Lord Roberts reports to war office today: "British casualties in this battle were 771. Officers and men killed and wounded, including 63 Canadians and 273 Highlanders.

Lord Roberts has now notified war office that the number of prisoners is 4,000. His report of Cronje's surrender tells of the dashing attack made by Canadians, supported by the 1st Gordon Highlanders, and Shropshire regiments, resulting in our gaining a point 700 yards nearer enemy and 80 yards from Cronje's lines, where our men entrenched and maintained position till morning, which clinched matters, for at daylight Cronje surrendered.

In the very successful attack this morning Major Teeples was wounded and nine men were killed and twenty-nine wounded. Twenty-nine Transvaal officers and eighteen Free State officers captured, als 75 Krupp guns and nine 1-pounders and one Maxim taken.

LONDON, February 28.—Capetown despatch to Daily Telegraph says: While General Roberts was holding Cronje at Paardeberg General French was moving towards Blomfontein.

The effect of Paardeberg victory will probably be a move northward of Boer forces on Orange river.

London theatres and music halls shews wildest enthusiasm everywhere. Morning papers jubilant, but press of other nations against over confidence. 10,000 additional troops will go out, giving effective force of 200,000.

LONDON, February 28.—War office has just received a despatch from General Buller announcing that the enemy's main position was magnificently captured yesterday and sixty prisoners taken.

CAPETOWN, February 27.—General Cronje's surrender was chiefly due to the gallant night attack upon his trenches by the Canadian forces.

LONDON, February 20.—The Queen has telegraphed General Buller as follows: "I have learned with deepest concern of the losses sustained by my brave Irish soldiers, and I desire to express my sympathy and admiration of the brave fighting qualities they have exhibited throughout these trying operations."

CAPETOWN, February 28.—There are 600 Boer prisoners at Modder river, most of whom surrendered on Friday and Saturday. They are kept under guide between barbwire fences.

OUR LAST REQUEST, MR. KELLIE.

IT IS a noticeable fact that nearly all the mineral claims being worked to any extent are located in close proximity to or easterly from Ferguson, and many of them are situate just over the summit some seven miles west of here, on the Duncan and west fork thereof. This important part of the district has been sadly neglected in the way of trails. J. W. Westfall, who represents several good mining companies operating almost entirely in this locality, has expended very nearly $3,000 in building trails to their properties, approaching from this side, but does not feel justified in now building more to the head of navigation on the other side, though badly needed. There are also many other well known properties just over the divide, though generally supposed by many to be on this side. The construction of this trail would fall partly upon R. F. Green, if the EAGLE judges aright. Now if Messrs. Green and Kellie would get together for ten minutes and jointly ask for an appropriation for this work at once, and secure it, they would give a wonderful boon to this highly mineralized and promising new section of the country. When private companies have seen their way clear to spend $3,000 on trails from this side surely the government can go another $3,000 for the other side, which would do for a starter. The money should be spent on a trunk trail, built on a wagon road grade, up the Duncan and west fork. The mining companies and other property owners would be quite willing to build the branch trails from their respective properties. This is surely a business proposition and a reasonable request.

SHOULD BE AN EYE OPENER.

The smelter returns of the recent Nettie L. shipment went $140 to the ton, or $21,000 for the lot. The company will transfer their head office to Ferguson as soon as they can put up a building.

THE LARDEAU'S PROPERTIES

What The Owners Have Already Done Are Doing and Will Do.

The Lade Group.

Probably there is not a group in the district which has been more talked of than this one. It will be remembered by many as having created a furore in the camp in '97, when the country round it was staked for miles. Without a grub stake, at midnight, anyway to get there first was the order when it leaked out that "the Lade boys have struck a mint." The assays obtained were marvellous; stringers of free gold in a dirty brownish-black sponge-like quartz was plainly visible to the naked eye. The shocking death of one of the owners in a terrific snow-slide at Silverton, lack of trails and more particularly a big deal pending, has kept back development more than otherwise would have been the case. This well known group consists of five claims, the Foundation, Olive Mabel, Ophir, Goldenville and Annie L. They are located on the little west fork of the Duncan, just over the summit from the headwaters of Gainer creek, about seven miles straight east of Ferguson, and are reached via the Badshot trail up Gainer creek, a distance of nearly fourteen miles. A 112-foot tunnel has been driven on the Olive Mabel, to tap the lead at about 60-foot depth. There has also been two short shafts sunk on the lead, from one of which two tons of ore were shipped in '97, giving a return of $440. The owners Messrs. J. A. Lade, V. F. Lade and A. E. Gunn, intend extending the tunnel to catch the lead, about 30 feet more, early this season, and expect to strike some very rich stuff. If surface indications go for anything they certainly have a good thing. One assessment has been done on the Annie L., with satisfactory results. Negotiations with a good English company are now in progress, and it is not improbable that this property will shortly change hands at a good round figure. "The company will, if terms can be agreed upon, commence extensive development with a large force of men," said Mr. Lade, who makes Ferguson his headquarters, "put in necessary machinery and provide better means of transportation between here and the property." One assay, made by Mr. Dedolf of the Kaslo sampler, went $11,343 in gold to the ton. Other tests made by different assayers range from $80 to $3,000.

The Rusty Axe.

This property is situate on Haskins creek, two miles from Haley creek. The Rusty Axe was located by Messrs. Bailey and Smith. Mr. Bailey says it has one of the finest shewings in the district, carrying three stringers of clean shipping ore varying from 2 to 4 inches in width. A Vancouver company has taken a working bond on this property and will commence operations as soon as the snow goes off it. The government has been asked for a trail up Haskins creek, which if granted will be a great lift to all claim holders in Haskins basin, where considerable ore will be taken out of this season.

The Josie.

W. Shannon and P. Nicholson came in from the Josie mineral claim, situated about 1¼ miles from Ferguson up the south fork on the south-west side, on Saturday last. They now have the tunnel along a big strong ledge of iron quartz and graphite, carrying silver, in 60 feet, and a 12-foot crosscut across the ledge at that point. W. Shannon has acquired a half interest in this property from F. Treanor, the owner, and later on this season they will continue drifting along the lead. They have not struck the ore chute yet, but the indications are good enough to warrant more prospect work.

The Idle Hour Group.

(Kamloops Group Restaked.)

W. H. Howard was down on Thursday, for more supplies, from the Idle Hour, a property restaked back of the Nettie L. last fall. Mr. Howard is working steadily on a tunnel drifting along the lead. He is now in about 12 feet and at 40 feet will crosscut. A deal is now on for this property and work is being pushed forward with that end in view. If the negotiations stick, work on a much larger scale will be commenced.

The Surprise Group.

This group is situated on Surprise creek, seven miles north of Ferguson. Of the Surprise claim D. Morgan says: "There is an immense surface shewing and it is an exceptionally promising property. Three leads pass through it, the middle one being 15 feet wide, shewing several stringers of pure clean silver-lead ore from 3 to 12 inches in width. The ledge matter consists of galena, zinc blende, magnitite and iron pyrites of iron, and also runs high in gold. A 14-foot shaft has been sunk on it, with a noticeable improvement in quality and quantity. Assays have been received going over $100 to the ton. The owners intend to do considerable work this season and very likely a trial shipment will be made."

The Cranky Jack.

This claim is located on Lake creek, three miles from the Lardeau river below the foot of the lake. J. Rady, the locator, says he has a shewing of 6 inches of clean ore and 4 feet of concentrates. A Cuoer d'Alene company has taken over this property and will commence extensive operations about June 1st. One contract has been let for a 100-foot tunnel to be driven on the lead, while another will soon be let for a crosscut.

HURRAH FOR THE LARDEAU!

The Government Will Rise or Fall on the New Distribution Bill.—Justice to West Kootenay.

The new distribution bill seems to have for its chief object to do justice to West Kootenay, and make as single constituencies thinly populated divisions which previously had two members. The total number of members will remain the same as now. Island will lose two members, while West Kootenay will benefit to that extent. Two constituencies of north and south Victoria are merged into one, to be called Saanich. As of course was only expected, Esquimalt is to be docked of one member. Nanaimo divisions are changed back to what they were before the gerrymander act of 1898. The two Lillooets are made into one, and Boundary Creek gains the member which the other region loses. Cariboo is divided into two ridings, and West Kootenay will send six members in place of four if the bill passes. These ridings are Revelstoke, Lardeau, Slocan, Kaslo, Nelson and Rossland. No change is made in Vancouver, Victoria, New Westminster, Dewdney, Delta, Chilliwack, Richmond, East Kootenay, Cassiar, Alberni and Comox.

THOSE WATER RIGHTS.

The following reply received only last night by interested parties is at least reassuring.

VICTORIA, February 14th, 1900.

* * * * *

Dear Sir: In reply to your letter of the 7th instant, I do not think there is reason for any alarm as to the charter of the North Kootenay Water, Power & Light company. The power they may get to acquire water rights will be regulated by the Water Clauses' Act and unless they utilize the powers within a certain time they lose any privilege they may have obtained.

There are special powers given to municipalities to acquire water rights. It is difficult to refuse permission to anyone complying with the law * * *.

Yours truly,
F. CARTER-COTTON.

UNEXPECTED CALL TO THE FRONT.

H. J. Jackson, the blacksmith here, received a wire on Thursday from Col. Steele, to report himself at Ottawa as one of Strathcona's Horse. Mr. Jackson has seen eight years' service in the 1st Royal Dragoons. He is not only a good rider but a first class swordsman, and no doubt he will give a good account of himself, or get filled with lead, as the case may be. Owing to the short notice for him to get ready, nothing more could be done in giving him a send-off than what money was quickly raised, $36., $25 of which was sent down by the boys at the Nettie L.

THE SLOCAN MINERS' STRIKE IS OFF.

Last night's mail brought in reliable word that in special meetings the Slocan miners' unions resolved to lower the union scale of wages from $3.50 to $3.25 per shift. The miners are going to work in any mine offering this scale. The information does not say whether the miners' union has been recognized by the mine owners or not.

The scale in the Lardeau will likely remain at $3.50 a shift.

FIRST ACCIDENT IN THE NETTIE L.

Just as the EAGLE goes to press a messenger in post haste arrived from the Nettie L. for Dr. Wilson. The foreman, J. Doherty, has been badly injured by a falling rock this morning at about 10 o'clock. And it is feared with serious results. If possible he will be brought down the hill.

SHE IS A SHIPPER

Force Being Increased and Shipments Will Continue.

$25,000.00 PRODUCED ALREADY

The "Eagle" Visits The Nettie L. and Sees the Wonderful Progress Now Being Made By the Great Western Mines, Limited.

The Nettie L. mine has already received considerable newspaper space, but it is all that ever has been claimed for it. And the shareholders have good reasons for patting themselves on the back. It has shipped something like $25,000 worth of ore already, but this has only been an impetus for doubling their efforts. The Nettie L. is a good property for this camp in many ways. The owners, the Great Western Mines, Limited, intend to work every man they can find room for. They pay the standard wage. They have provided comfortable quarters for their men, and their cuisine service is much better than the average hotel. They buy their supplies from Ferguson merchants. And not the least, they have demonstrated to the outside world that this is a camp of high-grade ores, improving with every blast. The surface shewing was nothing marvellous, in fact the property was once condemned by yellow-leggers, but nothing daunted; Manager Pool knew his business and is now reaping his reward. He hammered away alone, then hired a couple of men giving them an interest in the property, and finally organized the company which now owns it. A larger force was put on with results already known.

The EAGLE took advantage of the best climate on earth, and on Thursday last visited the young mine,—for nothing less than a mine it is. The Nettie L. is located just overlooking the town of Ferguson from the east, on what is now known as the Nettie L. hill, formerly Mount Homer, about 1¼ miles by air line, or 3½ miles by the present rawhide trail. Reaching the mine just at noon we joined the miners and did ample justice to the well cooked wholesome food provided. Along with A. E. Kincaide we visited the upper workings of the mine. The amount of work done is surprising. The main tunnel crosscutting the lead, drifts both ways on the lead, shafts, stopes, everywhere clean shipping ore was hanging to the walls where the men were working. The EAGLE will not attempt details, its not necessary. Eight men working here are taking out on an average three tons of high grade clean shipping ore a day, which keeps Mr. Kincaide, the ore sacker, on the jump. Three men are busily engaged in the long lower tunnel, where they expect to tap the same lead at about 300 foot depth in a very few more shifts. Even now some ore is encountered. Since the lower tunnel was driven the upper workings have been drained, much to the comfort of the miners. Comfortable quarters are provided, and the ore house, blacksmith shop, powder magazine, horse stable, everything is under cover. The Nettie L. is going to be as rich a mine as ever graced the Slocan.

PROMISED RELIEF AT LAST.

Inspector Dorman Now Arranging For a New Service.—A Godsend To This District.

On the 23rd inst. the Ferguson people wired Postoffice Inspector Dorman at Vancouver as follows: "No mail here since 17th. Investigate at once. No excuse for delay. Writing." This bringing no reply, on the 25th the EAGLE fired another: "No mail still nor likelihood of any with present contractor. Craig & Hillman, Thomson's Landing, or A. P. Morrison, Trout Lake City, will bring it in immediately if wired to do so. Some action should be taken at once. Hundreds inconvenienced." This elicited the following reply, which speaks for itself: "Will proceed to Arrowhead to arrange service at once.—W. H. Dorman." The fact of the matter is that Johnson took the contract for less than it can be done for and apparently is putting up the "no ice" excuse as something to fall upon. The government is to blame in the first place for awarding the contract to a man who has no facilities for handling the task. They deemed reliable tenderers' figures too high. But this has proved a bitter mistake. However the EAGLE has played its part in securing an investigation. It will now await developments.

THE FERGUSON EAGLE

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To Correspondents: THE EAGLE invites correspondence on any subject of interest to the general public, and desires a reliable regular correspondent in every locality surrounding Ferguson. The bona fide name of the writer must accompany manuscript.

Address all communications to—
THE FERGUSON EAGLE,
Ferguson, B. C

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1900.

A TRAGEDY OF THE WAR.

"'Eavy fighting'! 'Ere y'are, sir,
Second Hextry Hevenin' Noos!"
Cried a ragged little urchin, boasting neither hat nor shoes.
I watched his perseverance as his shivered in the cold,
And tried to count the coppers for the papers he had sold.
He must have seen me standing, and came over with a run;
"'Ere y'are, sir! Second Hextry:
Yuss, the British troops 'as won.
Thank'ee, sir! its wort a penny, an' it wont go to the pub;
There's the kid and muvver waitin' till I bring 'em home the grub.
What, 'art a dollar? S'elp me; are you the Prince of Wiles,
Or maybe Barin Rofschild, what they writes about in tiles?
Gawd bless yer, Kernel, this 'ere means a bit o' fire for weeks,
And summat 'ot for muvver!" and the tears ran down his cheeks.
"The old gal won't think I've pinched it 'cos she knows I'm runnin' strite
Why, she'd git a fit of fright, sir, if I only stved out lite!
Battle, sir? Well, I believe yer! Here's a full list o' the dead;
My farver's out there fightin,' so I 'as to earn the bread.
Yus, I allus takes a copy 'ome, and muvver reads the list
Ter see if farver's number's in the wounded, killed or missed.
No, sir, I ain't no scholard, but I gets a pal to see
Before I tikes a paper 'ome, for seven-nine-sixty-three.
Would you mind just a-lookin' for me? 'Ullo! Wot mikes yer cry?
'Ave you found out you've lost a pal? Well, some as got to die.
Wot? You've got my faver's number! No! For Gawd's sike s'y you're kiddin'!"
He dropped his papers in the street, his little face was hidden,
Then lifting up his head, he cried, "Oh tell us it's anuvver!
I can't go 'ome and break the noos, its sure to settle muvver."

WHAT SOUTH AFRICA IS.

The Five East Coast Landing Places—Modern Conveniences.

You land in south Africa at the foot of a mouniain 3,600 feet high. They call it Table Mountain, and the veil of mist that, excepting on very clear days overhangs it, South Africans are pleased to term the "Tablecloth." Presenting a front of solid rock 1,000 feet in height, perpendicular as a wall, and for half a mile on top level, this mountain affords the best natural signboard on earth. Time and again have English firms attempted with fabulous sums, to secure it for advertising purposes, but, as yet, there has been no such defacement.

Table Mountain marks the tip end of the dark continent. Below it nestles the city of Cape Town, a beautiful bay stretching out into the foreground. On the west the mountain breaks off very abruptly, and the railway skirts about it to the interior. On the east it slopes off into a hilly, picturesque formation, known as the "Lion's Back," and then gradually rising into the Drakenburg mountains. This is the only great mountain range south of the Zambesi, and by noting its location one may understand in a trice just what South Africa is geographically.

Steaming along the east coast from Cape Colony northerly, you have the Drakenburg in view nearly all the way to Beira, a distance of 2,000 miles. In Cape Colony and Natal the mountains in many places dip to the water's edge, and with a field glass one may see on their crags and peaks smoke curling up from the native villages. In Portugese territory the mountains recede slightly from the coast, and at Delegoa Bay there is an intervening stretch of lowland twenty miles wide. At Beira this has increased to 60 miles. At the Zambesi the Drakenburg terminates.

To get into the interior of South Africa from any of the five east coast landing places—Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban, Delagoa Bay and Beira—one must cross a short extent of lowland and then ascend steep mountains. Having arrived there, the traveller is conscious of little or no descent, five-sixths of the whole interior being a vast plateau that extends to the Zambesi on the north and to the Atlantic on the west, and varies in altitude from 3,000 to 6,000 feet above sea level. A fringe of tropical country, where bloom the magnolia and the rose, where flourish the banana, the cotton, and the tea plant; a long stretch of mountains running parallel to the Indian ocean, the highest peaks of which are capped with snow, and in whose valleys wave tracts of wheat and corn; a vast prairie, studded here and there with patches of scrub woodland, mission stations and vast farms with millions of sheep and cattle grazing thereon; a few thousand hamlets scattered like oases over a great landscape made black by the native Africans who live in thatched huts, and wear but a breech clout; a dozen large towns where is heard the clang of the American trolley cars and the clatter of the police patrol, and about which men cluster as flies gather to a jar of sweets; the remnants of a once mighty zoological garden, including many leopards, beautiful and lithe, baboons, antelopes, jackals and crocodiles and a less number of hippototami and giraffes; some iron ore, some coal, some copper, and a little silver; forty miles of gold and one hundred acres of diamonds. That is South Africa.

HOW BRITISH SOLDIERS DIE.

Among the battle accounts from South African war correspondents received by way of London, is a story from Bennett Burleigh, representative of the London Daily Telegraph, dealing with Col. Long's daring but unfortunate artillery movements at the battle of Colenso. It contains the following vivid portrayal:—

"As the men were being shot down very rapidly, Col. Hunt advised that it would be better to abandon the guns. He himself had just been shot through both legs. Long's reply was: 'We never abandon guns.' Subsequently Col. Hunt called attention to the fact that there was no use firing. There were scarcely any men left and next to no ammunition. After that an order was given to abandon the guns. They had for an hour been fighting in the face of the fiercest fusilade the battery ever endured. Yet, even then, all was not over, for four men persisted in serving two guns and remaining beside their cannon. One of either pair carried the shell, the others laid and fired their beloved 15-pounders.

"But two men were left. They continued the unequal battle. They exhausted the ordinary ammunition, and finally drew upon and fired the emergency round of case, their last shot. Then they stood at attention beside the gun, and an instant later fell pierced through and through by Boer bullets. Thus, I say, by the light of all my experience in war, these gunners of ours are men who deserve monuments over their graves, and even Victoria crosses in their coffins."

KRUGER'S TEN COMMANDMENTS.

I.

Thou shalt have no other president but me.

II.

Thou shalt not take unto thyself any Britisher: not on my lands, or under my lands, or by the waters above. I am a jealous man, but they hate me; and I shall show no mercy unto the thousands that surround me, and not keep my command.

III.

Thou shalt not take the name of Oom Paul Kruger in vain; for I am a jealous and upright man.

IV.

Remember to keep open the Sabbath day, by going to church; and take thy Bible with thee—even though thou dost all manner of work after—thou, thy son, thy daughter, nor thy Kaffir. Lord help a Britisher hanging around my gates: for this is my country, and I harrowed it.

V.

Honor Oom Paul Kruger, pay your taxes and see that the Britisher pays his, that thy days may be long upon the Transvaal, that I giveth thee.

VI.

Thou shalt do no murder—to thine own people—but if a Britisher crosses thy path, take your little Bible in one hand, your sword in the other.

VII.

Thou shall not commit thyself by any degree of malice or hatred—only when you show the white rag.

VIII.

Thou shalt not steal amongst thine own people—but when strangers come within our borders take all you can, for my sake and the government's.

IX.

Thou shalt bear false witness against thy neighbor.

X.

Thou shalt covet thy neighbor's house also his land, his mines, his ox, or his ass—or anything, if he is a Britisher.

A CURIOUS SPECTACLE.

A mountain, which has been on fire for more than a hundred years, is situated just west of Newcastle, Col. So close is it, says the Kansas City World, that its shadow envelops the town at 5 p. m. at this time of year, and yet the people hereabouts think no more of it than of the beautiful Grand river which washes the feet of the huge pile where the fire has burned so long. To the tenderfoot, however, the glittering patches of deep red fire, where it breaks out on the side of the mountain and is exposed to view, there is nothing in all the state quite its equal.

The fire is fed by a big vein of coal which the mountain contains. Just how the coal became ignited is not known. The oldest resident says it was on fire when he came, and the Ute Indians, who once lived there, say it was burning many years before the first white man crossed the continental divide. The supposition is that the coal was ignited by a forest fire at an early date in the present century. It has smouldered and steadily burned until this day. At night when the moon is dark is the best time to see the fire. Then it is that it resembles the regions of inferno as given us in the word-painting of Dante. The earth covering the coal is loosened by the heat and falls away, exposing the sheet of fire.

Efforts have been made to extinguish the fire. Some time ago a company which owns a large amount of coal land constructed a ditch from a point several miles above the mountain, into which it succeeded in turning the water which goes to form Elk creek.

Previously a shaft had been sunk in the mountain and into the shaft the water was permitted to flow. The shaft was soon filled, but the fire was above the level of the water, and the effort was a failure.

WORSE THAN HIM.

George A. Gouin, over in Calgary, last fall loved a married woman more well than wisely. The husband leaded George with a six-shooter one day. After George got well he moved to Inniefail. The male citizens of that town did not want him to stay; afraid of competition, probably, so they got up a petition asking him to leave the burg. The Free Lance says that John Thompson expressed himself as follows regarding the petition:

"It's nothing but a piece of impertinence," said the genial John, "and if a man handed that thing to me (referring to petition) I'd take no notice of it. There are plenty of men down on that petition worse than Gouin, and I can prove it."

"But Mr. Thompson, our four ministers have signed it."

"What in h— do I care for those ministers. Every one is a d—— sight worse than Gouin."

This is Gouin it pretty strong.

He Wanted the Breeks.

A leading citizen in a little town in the north of Scotland was asked to take the office of elder in the kirk. He seemed reluctant to accept the office till a wag, who knew his weakness, whispered to him that if he became elder he would get £5 and a pair of trousers at the end of the year. The year passed away and, when the promised garment did not appear, the elder went to the minister and said: "I haven't got the breeks yet." "What breeks?" asked the minister. The elder explained and the minister smiled and declared that the promise was only a silly joke. The elder expressed great disappointment about the trousers, and was turning away, when the minister said: "You seem to care more about the breeks than about the money?" "Oh, ay! the fi' pun," replied the elder; "I just helpt masel' to that fra the plate."

Too Pure for Use.

As visitors to Wildbad-Gastein may remember, says the London Chronicle, there is a spring in that watering place which enjoys the unenviable title of "The Poisoned Fountain." Though the fluid it supplies is clear and sparkling, and science can detect in it neither microbes nor deleterious minerals, the effects produced on rash or ignorant drinkers are highly unpleasant. A few draughts produce decided symptoms of gastric catarrh, and further indulgence may lead to serious illness, and even to death. Professor Koeppe has vouchsafed the explanation that the water is dangerous simply because it is too pure. Unless previously saturated to a certain extent with mineral or organic matter, water attracts to itself the salts contained in the cells of the mucous membrane, and this latter suffers deterioration, resulting in inflammatory mischief. This is why it is unsafe to drink the rills that trickle from a snowfield or a glacier.

Of the world's annual yield of petroleum, amounting to 5,000,000 gallons, the United States produces half.

The British empire has a papulation of 400,000,000; of this number 40,405,000 are in Europe; 368,300,000 in Asia; 45,000,000 in Africa, including Egypt; 7,100,000 in American colonies, and 5,500,000 in Oceanica.

The Pioneer Livery, Feed and Sale Stables

Thomsons Landing,
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Ten Mile.

General Freighters

to all points in the District. Light rigs for quick trips provided. Saddle horses at all stables. The traveling public accommodated at any time of the day or night. For any further particulars, freighting rates, etc. address—

Craig & Hillman,
THOMSON'S LANDING, B. C.

Smoke Royal Seal, Kootenay Belle, and Little Gem Cigars.

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Kootenay Cigar Mfg Co.,
Nelson, B. C.

See that the Blue Label is on each box.

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"The Eagle"
Victoria Avenue.

The Ferguson Eagle

Published at the office, Victoria Ave., Ferguson, B. C., every Wednesday.

Authentic Mining News of the Lardeau and Trout Lake Districts

will be its mission, and the interests of these districts will be its sole duty first, last and always. Properties now being operated will be visited and accurate reports of development given. Being published right in the centre of the present activity it will prove a valuable medium to advertisers. THE EAGLE will grow as fast as the promising district in which it is published.

Subscription, $2.00 per annum

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Commercial Job Printing

Of every description executed on shortest notice at moderate prices. Mail orders solicited.

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THE FERGUSON EAGLE,
Ferguson, B. C.

The Double Eagle Mining & Development Co. Limited.

Capital, $1,000,000, in $1 shares.

400,000 in the Treasury.

First Block of Treasury Shares now on the market for a limited time at 10 CENTS.

DIRECTORS:

WM. F. COCHRANE, Manager the Cochrane Ranch, Limited, Macleod.
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F. W. GODSAL, Rancher, Pincher Creek
GEO. S. McCARTER, Solicitor, Revelstoke
W. M. BROWN, Proprietor St Leon Hot Springs, Revelstoke.

The Double Eagle Company has been formed for the purpose, not only of [illegible]ining its present properties, but of acquiring promising claims and de[illegible]ping them to an extent that will justify their sale to English and other c[illegible]panies at a profit. The company already owns and has paid for in full, th[illegible]rilby and Old Saul properties in the famous Fish River district, and a th[illegible] quarters interest in the May Bee mine, in the Lardeau district one and a h[illegible] miles from Ferguson. Sufficient promoter's shares have been set aside for [illegible]e purchase of the remaining quarter.

he May Bee is the sister claim to the now famous Nettie L, which has brok[illegible]n all records in British Columbia for large bodies of phenomenally rich ore. The May Bee and Nettie L were located together in 1892 by Mr. W. B. Pool (who has been appointed manager of the Double Eagle Co.) Both claims carry identically the same rich ore on the surface and the same remarkable ledge runs through both, carrying high values in gold, copper, silver and lead. The promoters have already spent $4,000 in developing the May Bee, with excellent results, and in order to place the mine quickly on a shipping basis the company now offers the public the opportunity of investing to a limited extent in fully paid and non-assessable treasury shares (par value $1) at 10 cents each.

Shares will be sold in blocks of 100

and upwards.

The company reserves the right to withdraw the sale of shares from the market at any time without notice. Applications may be sent to the Secretary,

A. H. HOLDICH, Revelstoke.

Or to JNO. J. YOUNG, Herald Block, Calgary.

Ferguson, B. C.,

Reasons why The Eagle is in the District TO STAY

Ferguson (its nest) is not a "boom" town, or boomerang; but a steady growing mining camp since the season of '97. Its unique geographical position is by sheer force making it the commercial and social centre of Golden Lardeau.

It is situated at the point where the waters of the north and south forks of the Upper Lardeau River meet, is beautifully located on a spacious flat on the side of a mountain, which affords the only possible location for a town site for many miles in any direction. Planted as it is at the forks of the river, it commands the traffic of the mining camps on both the north and south branches of the river.

At least 20 mines are ready to ship ore as soon as the railway furnishes transportation in the vicinity. The railway experts have been quick to perceive the natural advantages which its geographical position has conferred upon Ferguson.

Both the C. P. R. and Kaslo, Lardeau & Duncan Ry have roads surveyed into Ferguson,

Thus making the place a competing point and insuring its future as an important railway and distributing centre.

Taking this fact into consideration and remembering that as soon as ever the cars reach Ferguson there will be, on a conservative estimate, 25 or 30 mines commencing to ship ore of a grade which is a marvel in Kootenay, the land of high-grade silver ore, there is no reason for doubt as to Ferguson's future prospects.

The pay-roll of the mines tributary to Ferguson will, within a very short while of the advent of the iron horse, begin to run away up into the thousands.

At present the following concerns are doing business in Ferguson: A saw-mill, three general stores, (which supply even the mining companies operating in the district, which speaks volumes for their just prices), four first-class hotels, (and two more to follow), two livery, feed and sale stables (good outfits for all purposes), an assay office, a blacksmith shop, a newspaper, a private school, (a public school to be established at once), a money order office, ore and supply houses.

All three store firms purpose enlarging their space and stock in the spring.

A town hall, fire hall and several residences are to be erected as soon as lumber is available.

Several owners of partially developed properties adjacent to the town intend moving their families to Ferguson in the spring, and will then devote their whole time to opening up their properties.

Three mining companies, now working full forces on high-grade propositions, which are shipping ore right along, will make their headquarters and offices at Ferguson at once.

Ferguson will be a smelting and railway point.

How to reach this promising camp.

Ferguson lies about 54 miles southeast of Revelstoke and the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is approached at present by taking the Arrowhead branch at Revelstoke to Arrowhead, 28 miles, thence by steamboat up the northeast arm of Arrow Lake to Thomson's Landing, 10 miles, and from the Landing to Ferguson, a distance of 16 miles, over the government wagon road by stage, team or horseback.

Soon, however, these conditions of travel will be changed very much for the better.

Railroad surveys hold out a promise of being able to reach Ferguson either from the south or north comfortably in Pullman cars.

The district is well worth seeing and will stand investigation.

6

A BARRACK-ROOM BALLAD.

W'y all this bloomin' fuss abaht poor Tommy?
W'y all this bally nonsense in the Press?
It's wery 'ard for me to understand it,
But my schoolin's been neglected, I confess.

They stand me drinks till I'm a blarsted goner,
An' puff me till my 'ead begins to swell;
An' makes me feel as if I was Sir Redvers,
A-drivin' o' the en'my dahn to 'ell.

The girls, too—bless their 'earts! I loves 'em dearly—
Are softer than they've been for many a day,
An' kiss me just as if I was a kiddie,
An' blest if I can tear myself away.

They 'opes I won't be shot by Kruger's Maxims,
An' sent with all my sins to "Kingdom come."
They'd rather I'd come back to dear old England,
An' make 'em 'appy in some little 'ome.

Still, I sometimes thinks this sudden bu'st o' glory
Is just a bit o' sentimental fad;
For in times o' peace I ain't no gallant 'ero,
But am looked upon as something o' a cad.

I ain't a-reckoned w'at is called God fearin',
Like some ov 'em Salvation Army folk;
In short, I's just a common private soldier—
A good-for-nothin', lazy kind o' bloke.

Well, I may be that, and more, it don't much matter,
To battle for my country I'll soon go;
An' w'ere the shot an' shell is ragin' thickest,
It's there I'll be a-fightin' o' the foe.

The Boers may put a blessed bullet through me,
An' send me to the hangels in the sky;
An' if I comes 'ome they'll pin a medal to me,
Then in some wretched work-'ouse let me die.

Still, I'd rather fall a-fightin' for my country
In the trenches with my comrades, true and brave,
Than perish on a miserable pension,
An' be buried in a British pauper's grave.

FRUIT GROWING IN THE BOUNDRY.

Stanley Muir of Grand Forks, and Matthew Rurrell of Grimsby, Ont., have just purchased 150 acres of land from John Manly of the former town. The land formed part of Mr. Manley's ranch, and is four miles from Grand Forks. The object of the purchasers is to establish a nursery, where fruit trees, ornamental shrubs and flowers will be grown on an extensive scale, and sold to the residents of this part of British Columbia. They will go extensively into fruit growing, and general gardening.

The Grimsby district, from which Mr. Burrell comes, is noted for its magnificent peaches and other fruits, and it is probable that that gentleman is an experienced fruit grower, and also that he will be followed to the west by other fruit growers from the same district.

Parts of several of the other ranches in the neighborhood of Grand Forks have been subdivided into ten-acre lots, and these lots have found a ready sale, as it is considered that there will be an unlimited market for fruit, vegetables, etc., in this part of British Columbia. There will also be a permanent and immense market in Manitoba, Assiniboia and Alberta, for all the fruit that can be grown in British Columbia, and we have no doubt that all the good land in the southern part of this province will some day be devoted to fruit-growing. As the wheat growers and the cattle raisers of the prairies increase in prosperity and wealth, they will be able to pay for more and more fruit, and will gladly buy more. No peaches, pears, grapes, apricots, prunes or other fruits requiring a moderately mild climate can ever be grown on the prairies of the Northwest, and the land in the valleys of southern British Columbia will in time be very valuable for fruit-growing purposes.—Cascade Record.

What Rosy Says.

O. M. Rosendale said to a Spokane reporter recently: "It is an error to charge the shutting down of the Silver King mine at Nelson to labor trpubles. The fact is that the mine is out of ore reserves. Labor troubles have never hampered mining in the Nelson district, Beyond a little flurry at the Athabasca and a slight disturbance at the Ymir, we have no evidence of labor troubles. The Silver King has simply been gouged out to keep the big Hall Mines smelter furnaces going, and this suicidal system has had the result long predicted by mining men—namely, the closing down of the mine. The trouble is that the mine is managed from a London office by men who may be excellent financiers, but who are not fitted to run a big mine. When the mine passes into the hands of men who understand mining and smelting, it will become a big property and will make the name of Nelson famous. It has the vein and richness necessary to a great mine, but it needs some miner-like development. Meantime Nelson suffers a blow through the mismanagement. I want to emphasize the fact that the district is all right; that no other mines there are talking of stopping, and we have some very good ones, and that labor troubles should not be blamed for faults not chargeable to that account. I believe that the disputes that have hampered mining in the Slocan will soon be settled, and that we shall speedily see that district a scene of busy activity."

PASSING NOTES OF INTEREST.

Russia has 650,000 princes and other hereditary nobles.

To patent an invention all over the world costs about $15,000. This means in 64 countries.

An eminent American scientist claims to have discovered that the earth is 500,000,000 years old.

London has 13,564 policemen, or 19 to the square mile. Sixty per cent of them are on night duty.

The sun began shining 32,000,000 years ago, and it is estimated it is good for 2,000,000 years more.

In 1897 1509 tigers were killed in India, 4608 leopards, 2058 bears, 3142 wolves, and 105,000 snakes.

A fly so minute as to be almost invisible ran three inches in half a second, and was calculated to make 540 steps in the time a healthy man would breathe once. A man with proportionate agility could run 24 miles in a minute.

While you are hanging on by sheer doggedness and waiting for your town and business to improve, it is the gravest mistakes to withdraw your support from the local newspaper in order to economize. That paper is the window through which the passing throng sizes up conditions. If the panes be small and dirty, and an old hat has taken the place of glass in the sash here and there, no one will be tempted to look in. Make your local paper robust and healthy by giving it liberal support.

A SMALL BIT OF BUNTING.

'Tis only a small bit of bunting,
'Tis only an' old colored rag;
Yet thousands have died for its honor,
And shed their best blood for the flag.

It's charged with the cross of St. Andrew,
Which of old Scotland's heroes has led;
It carries the cross of St. Patrick,
For which Ireland's bravest have bled.

Joined with these on our own British ensign,
St. George's white cross on white field,
'Round which from King Richard to Wolseley,
Britons conquer or die, but ne'er yield.

It floats o'er Cyprus and Malta,
O'er Canada, the Indies, Hong Kong,
And Britons, where'er the flag flieth,
Claim the rights which to Britons belong.

It flutters triumphant o'er ocean,
As free as the wind and the wave,
And bondsmen from shackles unloosened
'Neath its shadows no longer are slave.

We hoist it to show our devotion
To our Queen, our country, our laws;
It's the outward and visible emblem
Of advancement and liberty's cause.

You may say it's an old bit of bunting,
You may call it an old colored rag;
But freedom has made it majestic,
And time has ennobled the flag.

GOT A LITTLE BROTHER.

Yes, I've got a little brother,
Never asked for him from mother,
But he's here;
But I s'pose they went and bought him,
For last week the doctor brought him;
Ain't it queer?
When I heard the news from Molly,
Why, I thought at first 'twas jolly;
'Cause you see
I just imagined I could get him,
And our dear mamma would let him
Play with me.
But when once I had looked at him
I cried out, "Oh, dear! Is that him?
Just that mite?
They said, 'Yes, and you may kiss him!'
Well, I'm sure I'd never miss him,
He's such a fright!"

He's so small it's just amasing,
And you'd think he was blazing,
He's so red;
And his nose is like a berry,
And he's bald as Uncle Jerry
On his head.

He's no kind of good whatever,
And he cries as if he'd never,
Never stop;
Won't sit up—you can't arrange him,
Oh, why don't father change him
At the shop?

Now we've got to dress and feed him,
And we really didn't need him,
Little frog!
And I cannot think why father
Should have bought him when I'd rather
Have a dog!

SILVERY RAIN.

Rain, silver rain,
Twinkling on the pane!
The earth drinks softly what it needs,
The gay sky lowers like a pall,
The bare twigs string the drops like beads,
And still the silver showers fall.
Rain, rain, rain—
Silver dropping rain!

Rain, pearly rain,
Gliding down the pane!
The fence rails have a crystal edge,
The brimming spouts pour fountains free,
The flowers on the window ledge
Are fresh and bright as they can be.
Rain, rain, rain—
Pearly, gliding rain.

Rain, sparkling rain,
Shining on the pane!
A bit of blue in yonder sky,
Swift signs of clearing all about,
Some broken clouds drift swiftly by,
And, lo, the sun is shining out!
Goodby, rain—
Shining, sparkling rain!

—Annie Isabel Willis.

The most continental region on the globe—farthest removed from an ocean—lies in central Asia, south of Tsian-Shan. It lies below the level of the ocean, and the Russian government has established a meteorological station there.

If you desire any Information

Concerning this district drop me a line and I will cheerfully give you any particulars I can.

Town Lots or Mining Properties

Handled on commission. If you have either to sell or wish to invest, write me.

There are some splendid openings

here for various businesses. Write for particulars.

R. P. PETTIPIECE,
Ferguson, B. C.

Big Watermelon Patch.

George Miller, proprietor of the famous "101" ranch in the Ponca reservation, near White Eagle, Okla., is said to be the most extensive watermelon grower in the world. His patch is 480 acres in extent, and in one corner of it is a sign which says: "Five Dollars Fine for any Man That Drives Past Here Without Taking a Melon." Miller shipped 200 cars of melons to northern cities last season.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RY.
AND STEAMSHIP LINE
AND SOO-PACIFIC ROUTE.

The only direct route from

Kootenay Country to all points East & West

First-class Sleepers on all trains from Revelstoke and Kootenay Landing. Tourist Cars pass Revelstoke Daily for St. Paul; Tuesdays and Saturdays for Toronto; Thursdays for Montreal and Boston. Same cars pass Medicine Hat one day later.

Daily train to Arrowhead from Revelstoke on main line. Daily steamer connecting for all Kootenay points and Crows Nest branch. For Boundary country via Robson, leave Arrowhead daily except Saturday.

For rates and full information address nearest local agent or—

JOE McCREERY, Agt Arrowhead. T. W. BRADSHAW, Agt Revelstoke.
W. F. Anderson, T. P. A., Nelson. E. J. COYLE, A. G. P. Agt. Vancouver

SMOKE CIGARS

And at all times insist on the box bearing THE BLUE LABEL
It helps manufacturers to see the force of paying fair and honest wages
NELSON CIGAR MAKERS' UNION.

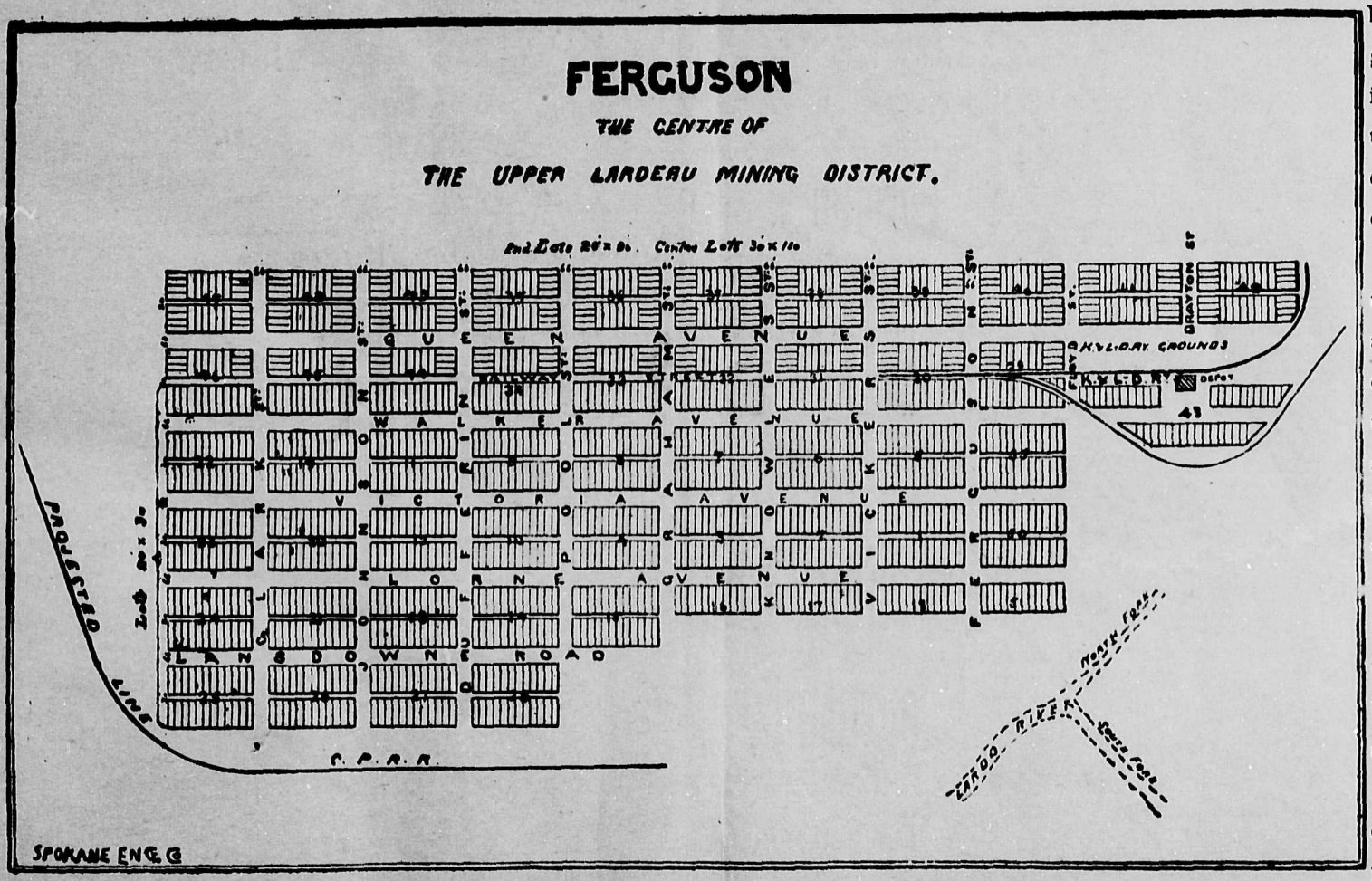
FERGUSON, The Centre of the LARDEAU MINES

The Sandon of the Lardeau. The destination of both the Canadian Pacific and Kaslo & Lardo-Duncan Railways, which will provide the long-looked-for transportation for ore to places of treatment. **High Grade Ores,** silver, lead and gold, now being shipped, even under present conditions, at a handsome profit by a few companies operating. Conveniently situated on an ideal bench at the forks of the North and South Lardeau. All the roads from the many developing claims and working mines lead to Ferguson. Plenty of timber and abundant water power. Capitalists come straight through to Ferguson, put up at the comfortable hotels and from there walk to personally inspect prospective purchases. The miners come down the hill into Ferguson to get their supplies.

Over 100 men now working under ground and many more will be in a short time.

No labor trouble on in the Lardeau or Trout Lake Mining Divisions. Blest with practical men, bona fide mining companies.

Plenty of room for legitimate investment.



Lots in Ferguson are going steadily through the quietest time of year.

Ferguson is the natural and commercial centre of the Lardeau and will be the headquarters for wholesale houses, corporations and banking institutions.

The mines' direct supply point.

The starting point for all mining operations on the North and South Forks of the Lardeau River. Ferguson is well represented with business houses, hotels, etc and many have purchased lots with a view to establishing businesses of various kinds as soon as the coming season properly opens up. An A1 location for market gardening. Special inducements offered and a splendid field and opportunity for manufacturers.

For further information, apply to—

W. N. Brayton,
General Agent.

Henry Floyd,
Local Agent.

THE LOCAL FIELD

A. C. Cummins was down at the hub yesterday.

C. R. Scott is busy making cedar "shakes" for his new house.

An acknowledgement for $116.70, from the citizens of Ferguson, has been received here.

—Use Bland's Dyspepsia Tablets! Cure indigestion, etc. 50c. a box at ABEY'S DRUG STORE.

Wm. Snell, barber, who went to Greenwood at New Year's, is expected back in a week or two.

P. Ferguson is recovering from a severe attack of lagrippe. Dr. T. A. Wilson is attending him.

The saw mill will be started up about the 15th, when the urgent local demand for lumber will be supplied.

A social and dance is on for to-morrow night at the Landing. Ferguson and Trout Lake City will be represented.

J. E. Pleming will conduct service at 3 a.m. on Sunday next in Laughton's hall. There was a fair sized audience last Sunday.

S. F. W. Gainer, watchmaker, will be here with his family some time in April. Mr. Gainer has already arranged for a shop.

I. W. Livingston of the Golden Bug, is sojourning at the Halcyon Hot Springs, which is a great resort of mining men for a brief holiday.

Nothing has been heard of poor Andy Ward since last issue. The search party have as yet failed to make any new discoveries or get any trace of him.

J. McKinnon, of the firm McKinnon & Sutherland, and the EAGLE man will pay the Silver Cup mine a visit on the 7th. A walking record will be established.

Henry Floyd, local townsite agent, who with Mrs. Floyd and family are spending the winter in California, will return in a few weeks, and Mr. Floyd will reopen his office.

"Your EAGLE has lit here and I must say it is a peach. Put me on the list and here's $2. Congratulations and well wishes for your prosperity. —O. D. Hoar, Revelstoke."

J. Black, "Dad," is going up to the Nettie L. on Tuesday. If he can possibly find time away from his business he will go down to Trout Lake City the next day, with samples.

D. McCarthy, builder and contractor at Revelstoke, has purchased a lot on Victoria avenue, where he intends to erect a workshop and residence. He will arrive here about April 1st.

Thirteen of the miners at the Nettie L. mine have shown their appreciation of the EAGLE in a tangible manner, by doing the annual assessment of $2. each, to be sent to their friends elsewhere.

J. W. Westfall, superintendent of several mining companies operating just over the summit east of Ferguson, intends moving here so as to be handy to his work: as soon as he gets a house built.

THE EAGLE will venture to say that it reaches more people in this district now than all the rest of the newspapers in North Kootenay put together. This statement may appear rather premature, but is a fact just the same.

The Ferguson literary and debating society meets to-morrow evening as usual in Laughton's hall. R. P. Pettipiece will give an address on "government ownership of public utilities." Everybody, including ladies, invited.

John Laing, who has been working on the Towser all winter, left for Nelson on Friday to put in a month or two previous to the opening up of the season here. Mr. Laing is well satisfied with this camp, and intends to stay by it through thick and thin.

THERE is really no telling what Mr. Kellie will do next. Local tonsorial artists have invested in foot-rules and the way they size a man up is annoying. The introduction of J. M. Kellie's bill regulating the length of hair a miner shall wear is the cause of it all. "What about the whiskers?" asks the lucrative-seeking barber.

Messrs. Sims & Co., of the Kootenay Cigar Manufacturing Co., Nelson, B. C., are reaching out for a share of the cigar business in this camp, as will be seen from their ad. in the EAGLE. Their cigars speak for themselves and in the interests of those who interest themselves in our field, these cigars should be called for and insisted upon by men of all classes in this district.

Four men are busy cutting wood on the townsite, and are thinning out the trees in good shape. In fact already a magnificent view of the great Ethel glacier the other side of Trout lake is given. Ferguson is one of the most natural sites for a town in British Columbia. It commands a unique position from every quarter, and has the mines surrounding it to make it a town of no mean importance.

REDISTRIBUTION.

The redistribution bill now before the local legislature is a measure of considerable local interest to people in Lardeau, since it cuts off the whole of the Lardeau, Trout Lake and Arrow Lake mining divisions from the Revelstoke riding and forms a new and separate electoral district, to be known as the Lardeau riding, out of them. This is as it should be. The government proposes dealing justly by us it is quite evident. This extreme measure may possibly save Kellie's bacon. But thank heaven that is nothing to Lardeau people now. If the bill goes through we are well rid of him any how and at liberty to make our own undisturbed choice of some fit and proper local man to represent us at Victoria.

Down there things are badly mixed. So badly in fact that it is almost impossible for any one to say exactly how the opposing parties will range themselves in the election so close at hand. The labor party, which once gave promise of being a decided factor, is split up so as to almost put it out of count as likely to make much of a shewing. Any effort to place Mr. Turner and his old following pure and simple back to power would certainly be doomed to failure. Rightly or wrongly the taint of a too strong alliance with monopoly clings to them, a taint fatal to political success, as politicians will doubtless be beginning to find out bye and bye. A straight fight on Dominion party lines would meet the views of some people, but there is not the least chance that such a contest could be brought about in all the constituencies of the province. The live-long Grits and dyed-in-the-wool Tories may be ready for it, but the great mass of the electors, who are not politicians, rather fail to see the sense of introducing entirely foreign issues into our provincial affairs for the sole and avowed purpose of giving a boost up to one or the other side of politics at Ottawa.

It seems then to the EAGLE that the policy of LARDEAU FIRST is dictated to the electors of this proposed new riding, not alone by considerations of the best interests of the district, but actually by the condition of political chaos prevailing in the province. Our hands are free and we can without blame follow the only course, which seems open to us, by selecting a representative, pledged to no party in particular, but simply elected to forward to the best of his ability the business interests, progress and development of the Lardeau first and foremost and generally of British Columbia as a sequence. This is at once our most reasonable course and the one actually forced upon us by the exigencies of the present political situation in the province.

FEW people outside of a mining camp have any idea of how little ore, in bulk, it takes to make a ton. Small ore sacks about 18 inches high by 6 to 8 inches in diameter hold from 90 to 160 pounds of ore. These little sacks, then, filled with say 100 lbs. of ore running $150 to the ton, as much of it in this district does, are worth $7.50 apiece. One rawhide alone, at this rate, often brings down nearly $200 worth at a trip, while a four-horse team and sleighs easily takes out a $750 lot. This soon counts up. At the Nettie L. on Thursday last the EAGLE sized it up this way: Each miner is taking out besides the development work, about 700 lbs. of clean shipping ore a day, which gives the Great Western Mines company $52.50, while the miner gets $3.50 for his work. Of course the mine owners are not always so fortunate as in this case, but it helps one to get a slight conception of how so much development work can be done, and still pay dividends. Ore worth 5 cents a pound (a piece not much bigger than a marble) is well worth looking for. Others have found it in this district. And there's lots more. Outsider come in help us and help yourself.

THE EAGLE'S claw must not be mistaken for a cat's paw. If you must backcap and hold personal, petty, narrow-minded spitefulness against your neighbor, go to the aggressor and settle your grievances, like a man. The EAGLE has no friends, nor does it want any in this kind of poppy-cock. Its sole mission is to advance the interests of this district, with a monetary consideration for the publisher on the side. This mischievious backcapping is only fit for gutter-snipes to indulge in. Therefore we lift our wings, close our columns, and set our claws upon such tommy-rot once and for all.

THE silence of the EAGLE sanctum was interrupted yesterday by a miner, sober too, who had just drew a $174 cheque, walking in and in all earnestness asking us to cash it. The shock was more than we could bear. We will admit having a swelled head and lots of other faults, but such an opinion as this of ourselves we never for one moment entertained. What a change the climate must make.

A small batch of mail arrived here last night. More will arrive—?

STRICTLY LOCAL

J. Lebeau was up from his line of traps, near W. Glenn's "wiggy," yesterday, and reports fairly good catches.

Postmaster Batho has been notified by Inspector W. H. Dorman that a money order office will be established here on April 1st.

W. B. Pool is expected here any day now. Fergusonians are anxiously awaiting the exact results of the last shipment from the Nettie L. Some of the miners, working at this property bought shares from the company, a very good indication in itself. And of course they are jubilant. They have reason to be.

Messrs. Craig & Hillman have three four-horse teams drawing ore from the Nettie L. ore house, where W. Glenn rawhides it to, to the Landing. The big C. P. R. boat has several trips in to make as soon as the ice is broken on the Arm. S. Daney has also a lot of Silver Cup ore awaiting shipment at the Landing.

Ferguson is the supply point for nearly all the properties now being worked in this camp. The number is increasing and with it the volume of business is growing. Nelson is Ferguson's only competitor for the trade of the upper Duncan and northeast portion of the Trout Lake mining division. The business west and around Trout lake, which is considerable, goes to Trout Lake City. There will be plenty of business and room for all. The field is a large one, and none but a school boy would think different.

J. Laughton's hall was comfortably filled on Thursday night to hear S. Shannon's address or rather explanation of the different minerals found in this district, which was very instructive and possibly will aid many in their future prospecting. A. J. Gordon also read a paper on deep mining which brought out many practical hints, shewing clearly that when a camp reaches the deep mining stage it is just in its prime. The Ferguson debating and literary society meets every Thursday evening and the programme is well worth an hour of a person's time.

BIRTHS.

JACOBSON—At Trout Lake City on the 20th inst., to Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson, a son.

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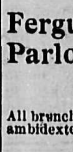

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