

A. S. Embree

THE WEST FORK NEWS.

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GRANBY COMPANY CRITICIZED.

The Canadian Mining Review, published in Ottawa, contained an article some time ago criticizing the Granby company, operating the Old Ironsides group of claims in Greenwood camp, Boundary district, which was also published in some of the coast daily papers. Mr. E. Jacobs of Greenwood, who is probably the best posted person in B. C. on the mines of the Boundary district, has published a reply refuting many of the statements made in the Mining Review, one of which was that the Granby company intended to increase their capitalization from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000. It appears that the company has no such intention. In a paragraph of the criticism, and we believe the most important one, the Mining Review says: "If, as is currently believed by those in the best position to judge, the average gross value of the ore treated does not exceed five dollars, it is doubtful if operations are not being carried on at a positive loss." To this Mr. Jacobs' reply is: "Perhaps the most effective reply to this is contained in the following excerpt from a circular dated August 12, sent to shareholders with their stock in the new consolidated company: 'Instead of striving to pay dividends before your property was fully developed, it has been the desire of your directors, and to this end every effort has been made, to equip and put the properties and plant in a thorough condition to earn and pay dividends regularly. We have been spending nearly \$200,000 in new equipment during the present summer, which will more than double our present output and profits. All of this sum we are taking out of the ground, not having advanced one dollar for the past year to do this work.' It would seem that those in the 'best position to judge' state most plainly that operations are returning profits, thus directly contradicting the suggestion that they 'are being carried on at a positive loss'."

Perhaps the best arguments that could be used in reply to the criticisms of the Mining Review are that S. C. H. Miner, a practical business man, who is at the head of the company, is satisfied to continue operations in the mines and smelter; that the company, composed of men who have made fortunes in other lines of business, are apparently of the same opinion, and that whether the ore is worth \$5 or \$10 a ton it is being mined, shipped and smelted every day and at a profit. It may be that the members of the Granby company are anxious to throw money away in mining, but their records as business men would lead one to form an entirely different opinion of them.

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY.

The survey of the boundary line between British Columbia, Alberta and Assiniboine on the one hand, and Washington, Idaho and Montana on the other, has proceeded far enough to show that the old boundary line was laid down with substantial accuracy wherever the old monuments can be found. Altogether 161 of these were established in 1856 and 1861, extending over a distance of 410 miles. The trouble with them is that there are not enough of them to suit the conditions as they now exist. Laid down forty years ago, in a very wild region, devoted at that time to no other purpose than hunting and fishing, only the most important points were marked, such as those where rivers or trails intersected the boundary line. Consequently long gaps were left, which today when immensely valuable mineral deposits near the line have been found, have become a source of much friction between the two countries and of a great deal of vexation to miners who have experienced great difficulties in ascertaining with which

country they should register their claims. Especially is this true in the Mount Baker district, along the north eastern part of Washington and in north west Montana. The last session of congress authorized on behalf of the United States government four parties, one consisting of officers of the coast and geodetic survey and of the geological survey, who were to devote their attention to the mining districts mentioned, and three other parties of the geological survey, who were to conduct a reconnaissance of the entire boundary from the plains to the Pacific coast. For convenience the stretch of 410 miles was divided into three nearly equal sections. The parties are still at work and no complete report will be made for some time yet.

DE LA MAR LOSES CYANIDE SUIT.

A decision has been rendered at Boise, Idaho, by Judge Beaty of the United States circuit court in favor of the defendants in the famous suit brought nearly three years ago by Captain De La Mar against the De Lamar Mining company, Ltd., for infringement of what is known as the Walditein patent, owned by Captain De La Mar for the employment of zinc powder in a state of agitation for precipitating gold from a cyanide solution. The process in many particulars is such an improvement over the McArthur Forrest process, long employed in many portions of the world, especially in South Africa, that its adoption promised to become general. It was adopted at the De La Mar mill with the consent of the captain, pending negotiations with the company in London. When De La Mar failed to agree upon terms with the company for its use, the company kept on using it, and De La Mar brought suit, claiming \$1 per ton on 75,000 tons of ore reduced up to that date, and exemplary damages, bringing the amount of his claim up to \$300,000. The complaint and defendant's answer were filed some two years ago and considerable testimony has since been taken, attorneys' briefs filed, and for some time past Judge Beaty's decision has been awaited with much interest. The decision is an important one to the mining world in general, and it is now believed that the process as employed by the De La Mar company will be more generally adopted. It has been proven to be peculiarly adapted to the cheap reduction of ores carrying gold in minute particles, and will enable many mines to be exploited and worked which could not be made to pay under any other known process.

DONE BY GALLIHER

As is well known, the Boundary has been striving to secure a resident county court judge for a long time, and when the appointment of Andrew Leamy, of Greenwood, was reported from Ottawa, it was believed that the prayers had been answered through the mediation of our representative at Ottawa, William A. Galliher. Then it was ascertained that the appointment had been gazetted for Kootenay, and not for Yale, but this was quickly followed by the announcement that this was an error which would probably be corrected at as early a date as possible by the Dominion government.

Now comes the statement that the gazetting of Judge Leamy for Kootenay was no mistake, but was done intentionally, and that he has been instructed to take up his official residence in Roseland or Nelson.

Thus it appears that Mr. Galliher, knowing the great need of a county court judge in this part of Yale, instead of getting one appointed for this section, had it made for Kootenay or consented thereto. Doubtless Kootenay needs another judge, but as Boundary has none, this section should have been considered.—Phoenix Pioneer.

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**BEAVERDELL, B. C., NOVEMBER 2, 1901**

PROSPECTORS bonding their claims should be very careful as to the terms of the agreement entered into by them. This is especially so in reference to working bonds. There are of course a large number of mining men who bond a claim with the object of showing it up and selling at a fair profit. There are others who enter the business with a gift of the gab as their principal stock in trade. They will take more samples from a camp in a day than a dozen mining men would take in a year. These fellows usually want an option for ninety days without the payment of a percentage in cash. They propose to stock the claim for say 300,000 shares of the par value of \$1 each. Of these shares 100,000 goes to the claim owner, 100,000 to the promoter and 100,000 is treasury stock to

be used in developing the property. Out of the first sales of treasury stock the owners receive from \$100 to \$1,000 and is usually made foreman of the mine. To make the scheme go with a rush the treasury shares are placed on the market at 20 cents, and also the promoter's stock. The promoter becomes managing director of the company, his brother—an eastern counter-jumper—becomes superintendent, and half a dozen other relatives and friends fill the positions of treasurer, secretary, type writer, assayer, bookkeeper, etc. There are four miners besides the foreman developing the property. After a time the stock does not go as freely as at first, and to continue development the bank is asked to advance money on stock, not the promoter's stock, but the original owner's. The promoter has already sold his stock, and the proceeds from the sale of treasury stock has been squandered in salaries for useless officials. In a few months the bank owns the shares and the original owner is out of it, without anything to show for his claim. To many the foregoing may appear overdrawn, but one of the best properties in the West Fork district has been left in this position by a stock-promotion scheme of the kind outlined in this article, and only three of all the companies organized to take over Boundary creek properties have kept up continuous development on them. The others have gone through numerous processes of reorganization, owing to ignorance and extravagance on the part of the management. This is also true of a number of company promotions in the Rossland district. We would therefore advise the claim-owners of this district to have nothing to do with the gabby company promoter who cannot supplement his talk by a cash payment.

OCCASIONALLY the editor of a newspaper, like other business men, is compelled to tell the truth. Not because of any desire to make a record in his particular line of business, but because the public interests demand that certain frauds should be exposed or that the action of individuals in their relation to the community as a whole should be criticized. The News has been accused of untruthfulness. As the accusation has been made in general terms, and does not designate any particular untruth or untruths which the editor has doubtless been guilty of, it is fair to presume that we have unwittingly and without "malice aforethought" published a single truth or a number of truths in the interests of

the district as a whole. In a newspaper experience of a number of years we have never known a subscriber become angry at untruths in reference to him or his business, for they usually flatter, but have known hundreds to become indignant at plain truths.

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BEAVERDELL, B. C.

THIS AND THAT.

Dr. Simmons, dentist, Rendell block, Greenwood.

Gorman West returned from Greenwood Monday last.

An extra force of men were put to work on the Bell this week.

Third street is being graded under the superintendence of A. S. Embree.

The Winter supplies for the Rambler were packed up this week from Beaverdell and Carmi.

Painless extraction of teeth. Dr. Mathison, dentist, Naden-Flood block, Greenwood, B. C.

F. C. and Mrs. Boles of Carmi returned Friday last from a week's visit with friends in Greenwood.

Two shifts are now at work sinking on the Carmi. The concentrating plant will be started next month.

A. W. Strickland, accountant in the Greenwood branch of the Bank of Montreal, is visiting friends in Carmi.

R. Parry is doing assessment work for Pittock & Werner of Greenwood on the Extension, a claim joining the Washington and Idaho.

The work on the Butcher Boy shaft in Carmi camp is showing up splendid ore, the richest that has yet been taken out of that camp.

The cabin on the Highland Chief, Wallace mountain has been completed and work commenced on the 90-foot tunnel which is being run to crosscut the ledge.

Eric Jackson, who has been in the West Fork district all summer, prospecting and doing assessment work on his claims up Beaver creek, left this morning for Phoenix, where he will work during the winter.

J. M. Cropley of Greenwood was a visitor to the district this week and left for home Thursday. Mr. Cropley intends coming back and spending the winter working on the Wellington group of claims, in which he is interested.

For some reason the townsite representatives did not arrive in Beaverdell the past week, although they had notified the owners of Beaverton lots that they would be here on the 28th October for the purpose of adjusting all claims. They will probably be here the coming week.

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THIS AND THAT.

Dr. Mathison, dentist, Naden-Flood block, Greenwood, B. C.

The first fall of snow at Beaverdell this season occurred Wednesday night.

Jas Cameron left yesterday for Greenwood, where he intends starting in the blacksmithing business. He intends coming back to Beaverdell in the spring.

J. R. Brown, of Fairview, one of the deputy assessors for the East Riding of Yale, paid an official visit to the district this week having come over the trail from Pertuisa. He left for Rock Creek Tuesday morning.

C. E. Shaw, C. E., has completed the survey of the Sally group of claims on Wallace mountain and will in a few weeks issue a blue print of the claims in that camp. He is at present surveying the Hard Cash group near Beaverton.

Hugh Cropley completed the cabin on the Wellington and Homestake the past week and has commenced development. These claims lie west of the Sally group on Wallace mountain and about half a mile east of Beaverdell. The nine leads of the Sally group run through the Wellington and Homestake. A shaft about 15 feet in depth has been sunk on the Wellington, exposing a lead of galena 12 inches wide and giving good values in silver. On the Homestake the work consists of open croscuts. The ore in this claim is higher than that of the Wellington, assaying as high as 1,000 ounces in silver. Work will be continued all winter on the claims.

D. M. Wilkins of the West Fork stage line had a slight mishap on his trip up from Greenwood Wednesday evening, breaking an axle of his hack. Mr. Wilkins was trying to make the trip in eight hours, but at Cranberry creek darkness overtook him and it was impossible to make time and dodge all the stumps on the government wagon road between here and Cranberry. He got fairly well until within a mile of town, barring an occasional upset, which is not considered a serious setback by drivers on the West Fork road. However he struck a stump that was more substantial than his hack and broke an axle. Owing to the accident he was unable to make his regular trip to Carrol Wednesday.

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