HOT SPRINGS NEWS.

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AN ACT TO REGULATE MINING PARTNERSHIPS.

1. This Act may be cited as the "Mining Partnership Act."

2. This Act shall extend and apply only to partnerships formed or to be formed for mining purposes (hereinafter termed "mining partnerships"), and in the construction and interpretation of this Act the words "mining purposes" shall include the purpose of locating and recording claims or mines under the mining laws for the time being in force, or of purchasing or otherwise acquiring the same or any interest therein, or of working the same; and the word "working" shall include the developing the same, and also the obtaining thereout any precious or other metal (other than coal) by any mode or method whatsoever, whereby the soil or earth, or any rock or stone, may be disturbed, removed, carted, carried, washed, sifted, smelted, refined, crushed, or otherwise dealt with for the purpose of obtaining such metal: Provided, however, that when a mine is held as real estate, the owners thereof shall not be deemed to be partners until they proceed actually to work the same.

3. Every mining partnership shall be governed by the provisions hereof, except in so far as the same, or any of them, may in any case be repugnant to or inconsistent with the express provisions of written articles of partnership, or other agreement in writing. No such article or other agreement shall, however, in any way affect the dealings between partners and third parties, unless and until the same shall have been recorded with the mining recorder.

4. Nothing herein contained shall affect the terms of any agreement for a partnership into which parties may have entered previous to the recording of a claim or claims, or their rights under such agreement, or make an express agreement to become partners or to share the profits and losses of mining necessary to the formation or the existence of a mining partnership, but any such partnership may be formed with such incidents, and evidenced by such actions of the parties and customs of miners, as would heretofore suffice.

5. A mining partnership shall, for the purposes of the application thereto of the provisions hereof, be constituted when a claim or claims is or are recorded in the names of two or more, and the co-holding of a claim or claims heretofore or hereafter recorded shall constitute the co-holders partners: Provided, that the terms of this section may be excluded by a recorded written agreement between the parties.

6. A mining partnership shall, unless sooner dissolved by operation of law or act of the parties, be deemed to exist for the whole time during which a claim or claims is or are recorded in the names of two or more.

7. A mining partnership shall not be dissolved by the sale, assignment, or other disposition by a partner of his share in the partnership, nor by the death, bankruptcy, insolvency, or general assignment for the benefit of creditors, nor by the lunacy or other disability of a partner. In any such case, the person upon whom such share, or any portion thereof, shall legally devolve shall become a member of the partnership, and entitled to its benefits and liable to its burdens in respect of and in proportion to the share, or portion thereof, which in any such case shall become vested in him, and subject as respects a purchaser, to the provisions hereinafter contained.

8. A member of a mining partnership shall be deemed to have ceased to be a partner from the time of filing in the office of the mining recorder a notice of abandonment of his share or interest in the partnership, or of the dissolution of the partnership between himself and his copartner or copartners.

9. Notwithstanding anything in the "Mineral Act, 1891," the "Placer Mining Act, 1891," or any other Act contained, a mining partnership may locate and record in the partnership name, or in the joint names of the partners, as many mineral claims on the same vein or lode, or twice as many placer claims in the same locality, (but so that not more than one-half of such placer claims shall be creek claims) as there are members in the partnership. The name of every partner, the number of every free miner's certificate, and the partnership name shall appear on such record.

10. No free miner, being a member of a mining partnership holding by right of location a claim or claims, shall be entitled to hold by right of location, in his own name or as a member of another partnership, any interest in any other claim on the vein or lode on which, or in any other placer claim in the locality in which, such partnership claim or claims is or are situate.

11. Should any partner cease to be the lawful holder of a free miner's certificate, such failure shall not cause a forfeiture of any one of the partnership claims, provided there be at least one partner who possesses a valid existing free miner's certificate; but the share of the partner so in default shall become the property of the remaining partner or partners in the proportion of their several interests in the mine.

12. The claim or claims held by partners in mining, whether purchased with partnership funds or acquired by lease, location, and record, or otherwise, together with all tunnels, ditches, flumes, pipes, canals, aqueducts, water rights, mill-sites, machinery, tools, and all other things belonging thereto, or used in the working thereof, shall be partnership property.

13. Each member of a mining partnership shall share in the profits and losses thereof in the proportion which the interest or share he owns in the partnership property bears to the whole capital of the partnership, or the whole number of shares into which the same is divided.

14. Each member of a mining partnership shall have authority to bind the partnership by dealings on credit for the purpose of working the claim or claims, provided such dealings appear to be necessary, and are usual in the conduct of such business; but no member, manager, superintendent, or other agent thereof shall have power to bind the partnership by borrowing money, or drawing, accepting, endorsing, making, or otherwise dealing with bills of exchange, promissory notes, or other negotiable instruments in the name of the partnership, without express authority from the members thereof.

15. Each member of a mining partnership shall have a specific lien on the partnership property for all debts and liabilities owing and incurred by the partnership, and for all advances in money or money's worth made by him for the use of the partnership.

16. Any member of a mining partnership may without the consent of his copartner or copartners, contract for the sale of, and may sell, transfer, assign, or otherwise dispose of, in whole or in part, to a third party, or to a copartner, his interest in the partnership property and assets, but such partner, personally, and also his interest so dealt with as aforesaid, shall remain liable for all debts or liabilities of the partnership contracted or incurred before the recording of such contract, sale, transfer, assignment, or other disposition.

17. A purchaser of an interest in a mining partnership shall take and hold such interest subject to any lien or liens in favor of the remaining partner or partners for all debts due to creditors thereof, and for all advances in money or money's worth made for the benefit of the partnership.

18. The decision of the partners holding a majority in interest present at a duly summoned and regularly constituted meeting shall bind the partnership in the conduct of its business; and at every such meeting each partner shall be entitled to such number of votes as shall bear to the aggregate number of the votes to which the whole of the partners may be entitled the same proportion which his share or interest in the partnership property bears to the capital of the partnership, or to the whole number of shares into which the same is divided.

19. The votes of partners may be given either personally or by proxy. The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the appointer, and attested by at least one witness, but no particular form of proxy shall be necessary. Proxies may be either special or general. A special proxy shall be valid only for the matters and the time specified therein; a general proxy shall be valid until cancelled.

20. Every mining partnership may decide when, for what time, and in what manner to work the partnership claim or claims, and may determine the number of men to be employed, the amount to be levied by assessment to defray the partnership expenses, and the manner and times of levying such assessments: Provided that no assessment shall be levied while any portion exceeding twenty-five per cent of any previous assessment shall remain unpaid, except where the powers vested in the partnership by this Act for the collection of such previous assessment shall have been exhausted: Provided, further, that the assessments levied on any partner may be paid, in whole or in part, by work on the claim or claims, so long as such work shall be satisfactory to the partnership, and that in case of any disagreement in connection with such work, the same may be determined in a summary manner by the court having jurisdiction in mining disputes.

21. At least 30 days' notice shall be given of the amount and time of payment of each assessment.

22. Upon the failure of any partner to contribute his proportion of the annual expenditure required by the mining laws for the time being in force, or to pay the assessment or assessments levied upon him, his interest in the partnership property may be sold by the partnership for the payment of the debt, and any further assessment which may have become payable on or before the day of sale, together with all costs and charges occasioned by his failure as aforesaid. Notice of any intended sale shall be posted for 30 clear days before the day of sale in a conspicuous place on the mining property, and also on the court house or mining recorder's office nearest thereto, and shall be served on the defaulter personally, or left at or sent by post addressed to his last known place of abode; and if the partner so in default shall be without the province, such notice shall be posted as aforesaid for 60 clear days before the day of sale, and a copy thereof shall be published once a week for 8 weeks in a newspaper circulating in the district in which such mining property is situate, and a copy of the first issue of such newspaper containing such notice shall be posted to his last known address. Such sale may be conducted by the sheriff or any constable or auctioneer, and shall be by public auction to the highest bidder. The bill of sale executed by the officer selling shall be prima facie evidence of his authority to sell, and of the regularity of all proceedings up to and including sale, and shall confer on the purchaser such title as the owner had. Any surplus remaining after the satisfaction of the debt and charges as aforesaid shall be paid over to the defaulting partner.

PART II.

LIMITED LIABILITY.

23. Any mining partnership which may desire to limit the liability of its several members shall comply with the requirements following, that is to say:

(1.) Shall file with the mining recorder a statement containing the name of the partnership, with the addition thereto of the words "Limited Liability," the location and size of every partnership claim, and the particular interest of each partner. The said statement shall be verified by the statutory declaration of at least two partners:

(2.) Shall place upon a conspicuous part of every such claim, in large letters, the name of the partnership, followed by the words "Limited Liability."

24. After such requirements shall have been complied with, the words "Limited Liability" shall form part of the partnership name; and no partner shall be liable for any debts or liabilities of the partnership contracted or incurred thereafter and during its continuance as a lim-

ited liability partnership, beyond an amount proportioned to his interest in the same.

25. Every such partnership shall appoint a manager, by and in whose name it may sue or be sued and may defend in any action; and no action or suit at law or in equity shall be brought against any member of such partnership for any debts contracted for or by the partnership, unless such member shall be the manager thereof: Provided, that nothing in this section contained shall be deemed to apply to any particular contract which shall have been authorized by the person to be charged therewith. A notice of every such appointment of manager shall be filed in the office of the mining recorder.

26. All contracts within the scope of his authority, made by the manager for the time being for the purposes of the partnership, shall be binding upon the partnership and upon the assets thereof, and such assets may be seized and sold in any action against such manager for any debt incurred by him on behalf of the partnership.

27. The death, removal, or resignation of such manager shall not abate such action or proceeding, but the same may be continued and prosecuted in the name of the next succeeding manager for the time being of the partnership. And if such partnership shall neglect or fail to appoint such succeeding manager, then such action or proceeding may be continued and prosecuted in the name of the partnership.

28. Every such partnership shall keep a correct account of its assets and liabilities, together with the names of the partners, and the interest held by each in the partnership, and shall within the first three days of each and every month, prepare a balance sheet, showing (inter alia) the names of the creditors thereof on the last day of the month immediately preceding, and the amount due to each creditor, and shall file the same among the papers of the partnership; and such balance sheet, and all books on account and other books of the partnership, shall be open to the inspection of creditors at all reasonable hours.

29. No such partnership shall declare any dividend or make out of its profits any payment or advance of money to a partner while any part of its debts or liabilities remains unpaid or undischarged.

30. Should any such partnership make default in compliance with any of the provisions of this part of the Act, it shall, from the time of such default, cease to be a limited liability partnership.

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Hot Springs News.

MAKE YOUR ASSESSMENT WORK COUNT.

The following, clipped from a Montana paper, contains a few good points, but we hardly agree with the opinions expressed. We know of a good many prospectors in the camps of the Kootenay Lake country, who, when they do assessment work, try to make it count for developing their properties. The Montana paper says that those who have mining locations should be compelled to work them, get a patent, or give them up to persons who would make an effort at development. We can't agree in this respect. We believe that the mining laws can't be made too lenient for the prospector, for if it were not for him how many mines would be discovered today? And so far as patenting is concerned, that don't help the matter, for thousands of claims in the United States lie idle. Following is what the Montana paper says:

"There are hundreds, possibly a thousand per-
"sons, in Montana who have no permanent
"abiding place nor enough of clothing to protect
"them from the blasts of winter, yet each and
"every one of them have from five to twenty-
"five prospects, in as many camps, that
"they have owned from one to fifteen years.
"Many of these prospects contain good ore,
"but the limited amount of development on
"them precludes the possibility of any mining
"investor taking hold of them. Occasionally a
"man will come along who thinks he sees in one
"of these prospects enough to base the belief
"that he can develop it into a mine, and decides
"to make the attempt. He finds the owner and
"asks the price. One hundred thousand dol-
"lars, says he. The capitalist goes away dis-
"gusted and the owner, who cannot show ten
"dollars' worth of ore who has not spent ten
"dollars in development work, sits down and
"waits for a sucker. Of course he does not find
"a man green enough to pay an unreasonable
"sum for a mere prospect and as soon as the
"snow covers the ground he begins to "repre-
"sent." By continuing the shaft or tunnel?
"Very rarely. He picks around for an hour or
"two trying to find a place where the lead crops
"out where the ground is softer. He continues
"this for three or four days and declares that
"he has represented as the law directs. He
"continues this from year to year and then
"complains that no buyer is found. He will
"continue this course until he fills a pauper's
"grave. The time and labor thus expended is
"worse than thrown away, for he knowns no
"more about his mine at the end of the year
"than in the beginning. Had he expended even
"a few days time each year in systematic devel-
"opment he would have dug out the few pounds
"of ore in sight or demonstrated the fact that
"he had a mine—hence something to sell.
"Those who have mining locations should be
"compelled to work them, get a patent, or give
"them up to those who would make an effort at
"development. There would be millions of dol-
"lars of money spent in purchasing of mines
"every year if the holders of prospects would
"show up what they have or be more liberal
"towards the would-be purchaser."

THE MINING PARTNERSHIP ACT.

In this issue of THE NEWS is printed the text of "An Act to Regulate Mining Partnerships" introduced in the assembly by attorney-general Davie. It is well enough in its way; but its way is not what was wanted by miners and prospectors. There is no great necessity for a special act to regulate mining partnerships, more than for a special act to regulate blacksmithing or sawmilling partnerships. All that was needed was a clause in the Mineral Act making the recording of all prospecting agreements obligatory, to the end that prospectors could not be subjected to vexatious lawsuits by parties laying claim to a share of their finds because of furnishing grub stakes. The grub-staker would also be protected, because, before furnishing prospector's supplies, he would see to it that articles of agreement protecting his interests were first placed on record. Section 11 of the act is dangerous, for no sensible business man will enter into a partnership under a law that allows each member of the partnership to contract debts. The whole act is evidently based on lines that might work well in placer mining, but on lines that will be found unworkable in quartz mining.

Another Townsite Speculation.

The City of Kootenay Land & Improvement Company has been formed at Victoria with a capital stock of $100,000 already subscribed. The provisional directors are dr. Hanington, G. A. Keefer, and C. G. Ballentyne. A valuable tract of land situated at the proposed southern terminus of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway and the northern terminus of the Spokane & Northern railway has been acquired, and will be subdivided and improved. It is the intention to proceed with the survey as soon as navigation opens on the Columbia.

Kootenay Lake Telephone
CIRCUITS.

Nelson District---(Central Office Call, 1 Long Ring.)

No.	Names of Subscribers.	Call.
2	Nelson Sawmill Co. (yard)	1 ring
	Nelson Sawmill Co. (mill)	2 rings
3	Grizzly Bear Mine	2 rings
	Dandy Mine	3 rings
	Silver King Mine	4 rings
5	C. & K. Railway depot	1 ring
8	G. A. Bigelow & Co	1 ring
10	Houston & Ink	1 ring
12	Hotel Phair	1 ring
19	Carney & Barrett	1 ring
20	Bank of Montreal	1 ring
21	Silver King Hotel	1 ring
24	Applewhaite, Allan & Co	1 ring
27	J. Fred Hume & Co. (store)	1 ring
29	J. Fred Hume (residence)	1 ring
32	Wilson & Perdue	1 ring
36	W. F. Teetzel & Co.	1 ring
38	David B. Bogle	1 ring
40	Dr. J. R. Williams	1 ring
43	International Hotel	1 ring
45	Dr. E. C. Arthur	1 ring
46	Merchants' Hotel	1 ring
50	R. E. Lemon	1 ring

Ainsworth District---(Central Office Call, 2 Rings.)

52	United Mine	1 long and 2 short rings
	Halfway House (Mrs. Jackson)	1 long and 1 short ring
	Skyline Mine	2 long and 2 short rings
53	Club Saloon (McKay & Devlin)	1 ring
54	Ainsworth Hotel (Olson & Trenery)	1 ring
55	H. Giegerich	1 ring
58	Green Brothers	1 ring
59	T. J. Leadrum (mining recorder's office)	1 ring
96	Bremner & Watson	1 ring

BALFOUR SUBSCRIBERS.

C. W. Busk	3 rings
Balfour House (R. S. Gallop)	1 short and 1 long ring
Buchanan's Sawmill	4 rings

The central exchange at Nelson is in The Miner office and that of Ainsworth in Green Brothers' store, where all non-subscribers should go to send messages, as subscribers are not permitted to allow non-subscribers the use of their telephones. Messages for transmission by telegraph will be sent from either of the central exchanges. Messages between Nelson and Ainsworth, 50 cents; in either Nelson or Ainsworth districts, 25 cents. Rent of instruments $5 a month, payable six months in advance, and $5 for making connection if within one mile of central exchange and $10 per mile if more than a mile distant. Address all communications

KOOTENAY LAKE TELEPHONE CO., Ltd.,
Nelson, B. C.

HENRY ANDERSON, *Notary Public.* JOHN L. RETALLACK.

Anderson & Retallack,

Real Estate and Mining Brokers,
Conveyancers, Etc.

Crown Grants obtained for Mineral Claims.
Agents for Absentee Claim Owners.
Collections Made.
Correspondence Solicited.

Office in Townsite office, Sutton street, Ainsworth, B. C.

HENRY & ADAMS,
PIONEER DRUG STORE,
AINSWORTH, B. C.

Drugs and Medicines, Wall Paper, Paints and Oils,
Tobacco and Cigars, Fishing Tackle,
Stationery, etc.

TOWN LOTS FOR SALE

AT AINSWORTH.

2 lots corner Wright and Wharf streets; price $2000.
1 lot on Sutton street; price $1000.

IN NELSON.

Lots on Vernon, Baker, and Silica streets.
HOUSTON & INK, real estate agents, Nelson.

LAND NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that I intend to apply within 60 days to the chief commissioner of lands and works for permission to purchase the following described tract of land, which is situate in West Kootenay district: Commencing at the northeast corner post of lot 184, group 1, thence running 40 chains west along the northern boundary of such lot to its northwest corner post, thence 40 chains north along the eastern boundary of the Columbia & Kootenay Railway Company's block number 12, thence east 40 chains more or less to the shore of Kootenay lake, thence southerly along the shore line to the point of commencement; containing 160 acres more or less.

CHARLES WESTLY BUSK.

Balfour, February 20th, 1892.

NOTES FROM A NEW MINING CENTER.

The following rather readable sketch was printed in the February number of "Minerals," a New York publication, and was evidently penned last fall, about the time the Hendryx party were negotiating for the Hall mines:

You never can tell from market and real estate reports whether a western town has its future before it or behind it, but British Columbians take considerable stock in the new town of Nelson. It is on Kootenay lake, just where it tapers down into its outlet, Kootenay river, that joins the Columbia a little way north of our border. Until recently this was thought to be a country that would pay best for ranching and farming and a company with Baillie-Grohman at the head of it has been gathering up land and putting on airs in a way to make itself unpopular. It built a canal to join the headwaters of the Columbia and Kootenay, making an island of a tract 300 miles long, that is traversed by the snow-capped Selkirks, and now it is trying to drain the lake by picking the stones out of the channel below Nelson so as to give Kootenay river more headway. The lake may have gone down half an inch in consequence, but those who have watched it say not. The object of the Baillie-Grohman party being to dry the flats along the river between the international ~~boundary line~~ and Kootenay lake for gardening and pasturage, it will have to adopt more summary measures than that for bailing out the lakes, and until recently people have been asking what they were going to do with their farm produce if they raised any. Nelson, however, offers to eat it, for Nelson has got about 300 people of its own and keeps 14 hotels for other people. Sometimes as many as a dozen strangers arrive there on one train and the Nelsonians offer to let them have corner lots at from $3000 to $5000. Not many takers reported up to date. The reason for Nelson being there is mines, rich mines, big mines, but mostly mines that nobody knows anything about and that are being played with—not worked.

If you climb up through the bushes behind Nelson and look toward the southeast you will see a liberty cap shaped peak about 8000 feet high and about 5 miles away looming over the shoulder of a wooded hill. That is Toad mountain, and it is probably the richest mountain on earth—the richest, at least, that is known. Prospectors are scrambling all over the Kootenay country and a good deal of pay stuff may turn up in the next year. On Toad mountain, beside the Silver King, there are the Grizzly and the Dandy, and a half a dozen other mines hardly less rich. The silver is found in combination with copper, but there is some lead in the neighborhood, and platinum and cobalt are found not far away. Assays from the Silver King have shown as high as $10,800 of silver to the ton, and that is doing as well as could be expected. All this treasure, when it is taken out, has got to be carried down the trail to Nelson, and that is why Nelson is there and why it is so self-complacent. Some of its residents declare that it will be a San Francisco if you give it time, but this seems unlikely for the same reason that you cannot get a quart into a pint bottle—unless it is a quart of restaurant wine or Coney Island beer. In other words there is not room to put San Francisco where Nelson is. It looks half full now, for it has only a valley about a mile square to grow in and if it spreads any farther it must get up some pretty steep stairs, and build the stairs. The mountains shut it in on three sides, the Kootenay forms a bar in front and it's of no use to go across the river because the mountain there is so stony and steep that you want teeth and nails to climb it. And the prospectors and hunters are raising Ned with the woods. They have burned off about a million dollars' worth of timber so far this year, and hills that used to be covered with a growth of beautiful forest, with trees a thousand years old and over a hundred feet high, are covered now only with ashes and blackened stumps. Many of the fires are set from sheer carelessness, the men going away after cooking their breakfast without troubling themselves to stamp out the embers, the first wind that rises carrying sparks into the brush. The prospectors, no doubt, set fire to the woods on purpose, in order to get at the ledges better. To gain a possible dollar they destroy ten dollars. By day the air reeks with smoke and at night the mountains are outlined on a glare of red. There are severe penalties for destroying woods, but nobody goes around enforcing them.

There are penalties for all kinds of wrong doing, for that matter, some of them written, some of them agreed upon off hand. No lynching has been attempted in Nelson, and in copying the immoralities of the usual frontier towns the place hasn't got far yet—you can't expect a Leadville where people wear double peaked caps and checks—but the steadier citizens point to a row of one-story cabins, huddled like pariahs under the rocks at the north end of the town and say that they must go very shortly. One of the first decisive acts in the history of Nelson was a wholesale banishment of gentlemen who speculate in poker futures and keno turns. Said an old (sic) resident: "They wuz about 60 crooks here and we give 'em 24 hours notice to chassay. They weren't ugly, nowise, but they wuz no tellin' what trouble we might get into on account of 'em and we know the place wuz better without 'em than with. Well, sir, soon as they seen we meant business they sneaked—the whole 60. They aint no towns here but this, and they wuzn't no railroad, but in 24 hours they wuz out of our jurisdiction. Some others ha' come in though, and they's got to be another sneakin match in a few nights. The temper of the public on this point is illustrated in a peremptory circular, tacked along the Kootenay trails. Liquor is sold openly, but there is little drunkenness. Perhaps one of the most picturesque "jags" lately exhibited was that of one the Hall family. He rode into town one evening and gathering a willing party of assistants about him proceeded to drink a hotel dry. His thirst gave out before his money did, so with the remark, "I'm worth $100,000, and I'm going to spend it," he ordered unlimited beer, took one sip from each bottle—which cost him 50 cents—and flung the rest on the floor. Then he wanted to throw the bottles at the tumblers and through the windows, but he and the landlord had a misunderstanding about that and a night of unalloyed bliss was ended by his being ignominiously dumped into bed with his boots on. Nelson has a sawmill and a little steamboat that is pushed up Kootenay lake to Ainsworth by a stern-wheel; it has a bank and two or three stores and a dressmaker and a carpenter's shop and a newspaper, THE MINER, a "sassy" little sheet, printed on a kick press, and a labratory for assays and a real estate dealer, too, who isn't going mad with pressure of business. A philosopher in a flannel shirt said: "People who come here usually start hind end foremost to get rich. They lay out $200 on the mines and $1000 on real estate. As the value of real estate is determined entirely by the mines, it ought to be just the other way." Most of the people are willing to get rich, but they are quiet about it. Perhaps most of them are quiet, anyway, for they have knocked around the world enough to feel the need of a little rest. Like every new town, it gathers men of all sorts, and more than one of them could tell a story that would read like a romance. The justice of the peace is an old prospector and hunter who has been permanently lamed by scurvy, acquired in Alaska one winter, when he was chasing reindeer with the thermometer at 70° below zero and living principally on hope and scenery and invigorating atmosphere. Another "old timer" has been down the Mackenzie, clear to the Arctic, across Alaska, into Siberia, where he was arrested as a suspicious character, and he says that he penetrated into Tartary where no white man had been before him, with a band of 200 or 300 men for a personal guard—all this on prospecting tours. Then there are the dear old prevaricators, the stand-bys of every mining camp, who tell how much they used to be worth and how much they are going to be worth, and after bewildering you by talking in six figures will allow themselves to be led up to a common 25-cent drink, like mere gentlemen of leisure. What fish they have caught, and what game they have tackled! Bears, now, and especially grizzlies: what wonders they have done with them! But bears are realities about Nelson. The woods are full of them. One was killed there two rods from the largest hotel, and after a slaughter of butcher's meat you can rely on it they are not far off. They can smell a dinner as far as a tramp can.

And speaking of tramps, the place has been stirred up over a robbery—the first of its kind, and one that Nelsonians declare would never have happened if the United States border were farther off. One dark and dismal night—on account of the delay in getting the gas works started the nights are frequently dark and dismal—one of those nights the station agent at the terminus of the 28-mile railway, below the town, had his attention drawn, as the reporters say, to a gentleman who was leaning through his window and pointing two pistols at his head. This gentleman directed him to call in the telegraph operator from his cubby hole and when this had been done he caused him to tie the operator's hands so that he could be of no value to anybody. Then he requested him to open the safe and as the agent was an unconscionable time doing it, in the hope that some citizen might drop in with a howitzer and relieve him from his embarrassment, the gentleman who was studying his back through the window said that if the door was not opened in a certain number of seconds, he would feel called upon to damage him with lead. So the door came open and, in accordance with instructions, the agent handed out a wad. As there was another wad beside it the gentleman at the window asked what was the matter with his taking that, too. The agent said it was his own little fortune, and the gentlemen at the window said that in that case he did not want it; in fact, he was not after wealth, but merely wished to entertain himself at the expense of the railrord company which had done him an injury. All the same he took $400 that belonged to the conductor who takes the train over the road twice a week. Then he bowed politely and promising the agent a box of cigars in return for his courtesy he disappeared into space. At least, that is what the track hands say, who were chatting two or three rods from the station, all this time, for when the agent summoned them, and all hands started to beat up the brush, there was no sign of the gentlemen with the blackened face who had called at the window. This will be the talk of the town until corner lots go up to $5000—and that will be quite awhile.

"Stakes in the Snow Don't Go."

[Adapted from a Colorado paper.]

Yes! Slocan is a roaring camp, boys,
The best camp in our day,
So just turn up that lamp, boys,
And listen to what I say.
Let us start in right and straight, boys,
Give all men a fair, square show,
But stick to it early and late, boys,
That "stakes in the snow don't go."

CHORUS—

Stakes in the snow don't go, boys,
Stakes in the snow don't go.
You may take the trick
With a shovel and pick,
But stakes in the snow don't go.

The praise of the camp we can toot, boys,
'Twill grow better by-and-by;
But many a tenderfoot, boys,
Will pass in his checks and die.
And some of the Bitter Creek gang, boys,
"With their boots on" may have to go,
For I tell you again and again, boys,
That "stakes in the snow don't go."

CHORUS—

You know I'm a man of my word, boys,
And I never went back on my pards;
I read the news and I pay for my booze,
And I play a fair game of cards.
But a man who will jump a claim, boys,
Will not have a ghost of a show,
For without shout or yell, we'll drop him to—well,
He will never see any more snow.

CHORUS.

BREMNER & WATSON,

AINSWORTH, B. C.

PACK AND SADDLE HORSES FOR HIRE.

Contracts taken for hauling supplies, machinery, ore, etc., to and from mines in Hot Springs district.

ALL TEAMING WORK UNDERTAKEN.

Agents for Davies-Sayward Sawmill Company's Lumber, Moldings, and Shingles.

Telephone 96.

R. J. MOWAT & CO.

Contractors and Builders,

SEASONED LUMBER

always on hand for store fittings, desks, tables, etc. Will contract to erect all kinds of buildings and guarantee satisfaction. Shop: corner Josephine and Bluff sts.

Wright Street, AINSWORTH.

GREEN BROS.

Wright Street, AINSWORTH.

DEALERS IN

Miners' Supplies, Iron and Steel, Hardware, Groceries, Provisions, Boots and Shoes, Dry Goods, Clothing, Men's Furnishings, Etc., Etc.

N. B. Having bought the stock and book debts of the late firm of E. S. WILSON & CO., all parties having outstanding accounts are requested to call and settle them as soon as possible.

Telephone 58.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

A drainage dispute at Ainsworth resulted in the fining of a prominent Sutton-street hotel-keeper for using abusive language to her most gracious majesty's peace officers. Boys, you should settle your family troubles down on the Cultus Potlach mineral claim, where there is enough level ground for a 24-foot ring.

The Spokane brought in 15 tenderfeet for Kaslo, 8 mine owners for Ainsworth, and Billy McLean (a stowaway) for Nelson.

An enthusiastic meeting was held at Ainsworth to raise funds to complete the trail up Kaslo creek to the Slocan mines. It was estimated that $1500 would be required to do the work.

Joe Streit is the proudest man in all Ainsworth—now that he is able to walk without crutches.

A hearty welcome was extended the Spokane on her first trip by the people of Ainsworth, who see in her a means of reaching the outside without going through Nelson. A salute of 10 giant powder guns was fired.

The crib-work of the new wharf is above water, and good headway is being made with the work.

S. D. Taylor, editor of the Bonner's Ferry Herald, paid the lake country a first visit this week, coming in and returning on the Spokane. Mr. Taylor reports Bonner's Ferry growing and its business houses doing a good trade. Most of the buildings are being erected between the ravine and the site of Fry's hotel. He reported that the track of the Great Northern was to have been laid to Bonner's Ferry today, and that the east end was about 130 miles distant. The tracklayers are laying about 2 miles a day on each end, and connection will be made by May 1st. The Herald has been greatly improved since taking up its quarters at Bonner's Ferry, and it is now one of the best papers in north Idaho.

James Annel was drowned in the outlet, at a point about midway between Balfour and Buchanan's mill, on Saturday last. He was at work at Rowe's wood camp, on the south side of the outlet, and had crossed to Brenner's camp on the north side with some of the men employed there. On returning he fell out of his dugout and was drowned, the body being found in about 20 feet of water a short distance from the shore. He was under the influence of liquor at the time. Mr. Annel was a native of Kildman, Manitoba, where his mother now lives. He was well known along the line of the Canadian Pacific, having lived for a time at Donald. In the absence of the coroner, G. O. Buchanan, who is a justice of the peace, held an inquiry; but there being no evidence that death resulted from other causes than drowning, the remains were buried at Balfour on Monday.

Henry Cody, Ed Becker, and Charles Kent will leave Ainsworth next week for Slocan, going in by way of Kaslo creek. They expect to be gone about 15 days.

Balfour is the only wholesale point on the lake. Retail merchants in towns like Nelson buy largely from its one wholesale house.

McAndrews & Murchison are applying for a hotel license at Kaslo City.

The Galena made a trip to Bonner's Ferry this week, returning to Pilot Bay on Thursday night. She brought no passengers.

W. J. Wilson, who intends putting in a stock of general merchandise at Kaslo City, was one of the arrivals on the Spokane.

It is rumored that the owners of the townsite of Ainsworth will incorporate under the "Companies' Act," and soon thereafter will begin grading streets and putting in water and electric light works.

The Spokane's cargo was principally coal oil, lard, and beans. A few potatoes were brought along, so that the people of Kaslo will not have to live on beans straight.

G. O. Buchanan is making preparations to move his sawmill from its present site on the outlet to Kaslo City, where he has valuable timber limits. The mill machinery will not be moved until high water, when it can be more readily handled. The mill when erected at its new site will be one of the most complete on the lake, as the latest and most-improved machinery will be added, including a new 60-horse-power boiler with sawdust-burning fire-box, a turning lathe, molding sticker, and jig saw. A dry kiln will also be built. Mr. Buchanan wants it understood that the old pioneer sawmill is "it it," and that it will not take second place for any outfit in inland British Columbia. Mr. Buchanan has also large timber limits on the Lardeaux, where loggers will be at work next week.

It is rumored at Ainsworth that G. T. Kane, the founder of Kaslo City, was married the fore part of the week at Fry, Idaho, to miss Julia, the third daughter of Richard Fry.

No one in the valley of the Kootenay was better known than "old man" Thompson, the ranchman, whose death is reported by passengers who arrived at Ainsworth on the Spokane. Jesse B. Thompson was a native of Illinois and an old-time pioneer of Montana, where he lived until the Black Hills excitement broke out. He put in several years in that country and finally concluded to drive a stake in Idaho, settling on the ranch on which he died 4 years ago. He leaves a widow and a grown-up son by a first wife. Although at times given to using emphatic language, his heart was in the right place, and his death will be regretted by many people along Kootenay river on both sides of the line.

Notes From a Balfour Correspondent.

There is neither smelter nor sawmill in this town, and we do not want either: we are not fashionable people. There is no railroad terminus here; but if it were not so close we could put up with that during the winter months, as steamboating has not been a great success lately and rowboats do not make good sleighs. Our residents who have gardens are getting them ready for the season's work, as the snow has all gone. The tunnel on the Outlet, a claim half a mile from the town, is in 27 feet. The vein matter is about 20 feet wide and carries gold and silver. Visitors, whether dropped by the royal mail steamer Idaho or the palatial Spokane, do not tarry with us longer than a day or two at a time; but all depart satisfied that Balfour's location is the most eligible one on the lake for a great commercial city.

March 17th.

H. GIEGERICH,

Having Purchased the Stocks Carried by The Lindsay Mercantile Co. and Fletcher & Co.

is prepared to supply Prospectors, Mining Companies, and the General Trade with everything in the line of

MINING AND MINERS' SUPPLIES,

Groceries, Provisions, Hardware, Tinware, Clothing, Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes, etc. The stock carried will be sold at Low Prices and on Favorable Terms.

AGENT FOR GIANT POWDER COMPANY.
(The best powder made for use in mines.)

Corner Wright and Sutton Streets, AINSWORTH.
TELEPHONE 55.