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General News Float

In and About the Slocan and Neighboring Camps that are Talked About.

LOCAL CHIT-CHAT.

Sandon has only 34 school children.

There is a touch of smallpox at Fernie and Moyie.

John Williams is selling rhubarb raised at Rosebery.

March "came in like a lion," but this does not indicate how it will go out.

It is said that R. I. Kirkwood will open a mining broker's office in Slocan.

Eat plenty of fruit and you will be happy. So will John Williams if you buy it from him.

Across the river from Nelson some daisies and violets are in bloom. This is one result of being close to a hot city.

Another phonographic concert company hit town Tuesday and played to a small house in Bosun hall that evening.

D. J. Robertson and family, of Sandon, moved to New Denver Saturday and have rented the Weir cottage on Slocan Avenue

The Halcyon Hot Springs is a good place to visit when the early spring causes that tired feeling to spread over the human frame.

Slocan City will soon be what its name implies. The citizens expect to read the lieutenant governor's proclamation of incorporation this week.

Ricardo Fraser, who set the first line of type on THE LEDGE, and is now editor of the Lillooet Prospector, met with a pleasant fate last week. He became married.

Some other name besides Slocan should be adopted by the town at the foot of Slocan lake. Now that it is about to put on pants why not get a name less confusing?

The case against Alex Sproat, Angus McInnes et al., brought by Jas. Marino and tried last week in Nelson, was finished last Thursday, but Judge Irvine reserved his decision.

Jas. Croft has put a water cart into service and the price of this commodity has come back to par. Milk is no cheaper and other liquids that quench thirsts have not lost any of their value

Wm Thomlinson thinks that the prospects for the Slocan dry ore belt are very promising He also wonders why the advantages of the Slocan river valley as a site for smelters have been overlooked.

Alder Bishop of Kaslo, has joined the Baden-Powell constabulary and will go to South Africa. He was there years ago. Alder is one of the oldest residents of Kaslo and will be missed by many friends.

A very enjoyable social dance was given Saturday night in Bosun hall in honor of Miss Rheo, the celebrated palmist, who is spending a few days in New Denver, enjoying the grandeur of the scenery about America's Lucerne, the guest of Mrs. J K. Clark

W. W. Beaton and C. W. Webster have bought the Kaslo Kootenaine Judging from a recent issue the editor has his knife into Nelson, and cannot see through the smelter smoke so thickly hanging over the burg in which his [illegible] to life every week.

There will have to be expended several hundred dollars on the Carpenter creek wagon road this spring to overcome the danger that threatens a team in crawling around the rock points where the road has slid away. It would be money well spent if the road at these points was cut ten feet farther into the solid rock.

In view of the action taken by the several boards of trade, endorsing the open door policy with regard to the Crow's Nest coal fields, it is evident that the people of Kootenay, and particularly the business men, know what this country needs, and are not to be stampeded by the cry that the Province will be ruined if Jim Hill is to be permitted to buy and cart away our coal.

SLOCAN MINERAL FLOAT.

Work has been resumed on the True Blue, near Kaslo.

Operations at the Neepawa were stopped Saturday.

The Enterprise company has purchased the Montezuma claim.

The force at the Athabasca, near Nelson, has been increased to 80 men.

The 12 tons of ore shipped from the Chapleau netted something like $80 to the ton.

Three carloads of ore was shipped last week by the Arlington, making 660 tons since the first of the year.

Owners of dry ore properties should pay more attention to the development of them They are in greater demand than wet ores.

R. C. Campbell-Johnson came in from Nelson this week to inspect the work on the Lake Shore group He is well pleased with developments.

Shipments of ore from Three Forks for February amounted to 269 tons, of which the Monitor shipped 145 tons, Corinth 40, and Queen Bess 84

The work of getting out timbers for the concentrator to be erected at the Enterprise is well underway, and the work on the building will shortly begin.

Thirty tons of ore went out last week from the Hewett. The ore body that is being opened up on the property is increasing in values as work proceeds, and with better transportation facilities a car load of ore could be shipped daily

The directors and shareholders of the Dardanelles Co. will meet at Sandon on March 28, for the purpose of considering the question of selling the claim and all assets to pay off liabilities, and to recapitalize under the name of the Dardanelle and Okanagan, with a capital of $150,000.

The friends of Mrs. R. Cameron have raised by contribution about $1,000. Mrs. Cameron and children attracted the sympathies of the people of the Slocan in their late bereavement, caused be the sudden death of Mr. Cameron at the Idaho some weeks ago, and the response for aid has been most liberal

The total receipts obtained from the ore shipped by the Arlington—3,400 tons—is given out at $107,000, an average of $1,000 to the car A car of extra good ore was shipped last month that netted $5200 The property is already enjoying the pleasant experience of paying dividends, and is fast climbing to the front ranks in importance.

Manager Sandiford received cable instructions the past week to stop operations at the Bosun, and on Saturday the entire force was discharged and the property closed down tight No cause is assigned for this action. One thing is certain, it cannot be because of any fault of the property. Only a few days ago the manager stated that the ore shoot had been caught in the lower workings, which, when properly opened up, would give more stoping ground than the property has yet worked

Mining in the Slocan is certainly in its infancy. If it were not so all these little trials that annually afflict the district would be thrown off with scarcely a passing notice. But, being young and untried, every adverse wind that hits the camp seems to take the breath out of things. At the first sign of trouble (99 per cent of which never comes) capital is so timid it withdraws to await better times. Not so with the sturdy prospector Every adversity is met with a deeper determination to "hit it harder," and with every stroke the hole goes deeper. The prospector is not only the father of the camp, but he is also the developer of it.

John Williams has a line of cigars for sale that are not surpassed in the Slocan Watch your smoke while you try one.

SLOCAN ORE SHIPMENTS.

The total amount of ore shipped from the Slocan and Slocan City mining divisions for the year 1900 was, approximately, 35,000 tons. Since January 1 to March 2, 1901, the shipments have been as follows:

	Week	Total
Payne	60	1172
Last Chance	35	385
Slocan Star	40	160
Ruth	84	215
Bosun		160
Hewett	30	450
American Boy	31	239
Ivanhoe	61	381
Trade Dollar		84
Sovereign		108
Wonderful		4
Arlington	60	660
Two Friends		40
Enterprise	40	120
Hartney		80
Black Prince	20	60
Goodenough		70
Miller Creek		20
Reco		38
Sunset		21
Queen Bess	24	367
Monitor	40	222
Corinth	20	64
Bondholder		20
Rambler		150
Surprise		20
Kaslo Group		10
Chapleau		15
Speculator		10
Total tons	515	5,405

The total shipments for February showed a slight increase over those of January and bring the total for the two months up to 5,400 tons. While this is a big increase over previous years for the same season, it is, nevertheless, several hundred tons below what it would have been had the difficulty with the smelter combine not come up. It is not to be expected that the shipments will be as heavy in March and April, partly because of the unsettled condition of the ore market, but more owing to the breaking up of the roads. However, there is no reason to doubt that the shipments for the year will reach a figure far ahead of that of the record year.

SCHOOL REPORT.

The following is the standing of the pupils attending the New Denver public school during the month of February.

SENIOR DIVISION

5th Class.—A I. McDougall, W. R. Vallance, C M Nesbitt, J. A. Irwin, H. Macdonald, E. G. Irwin, C. L. Irwin.

4th Class.—R. Blumenauer, H. L. Gibbs, F Dingman, E. Byrnes, C. Macdonald, F. Clark, C. J. Vallance, H C. Baker.

3rd Class.—M Avison, S. Carey, G Baker, E. Taylor, G. Sproat, V. Lawrence, J. Cropp, M. L. Nesbitt.

J. IRWIN, Teacher.

JUNIOR DIVISION.

2nd Class.—F. Burgess, E Gibbs, H Hill, G Williams, M Sutherland, G. Sutherland, W Clover, W. McDougall, H. Nelson.

Pt. II Class.—C. Nelson, A. Vallance, W. Nesbitt, L. Lawrence, A. Williams, B Baker, R. Blumenauer, S. Irwin, M Clover, D. Shannon.

Sr 1st Class.—L Burgess, N. Hill, E Burgess, M. Murray, N. Sutherland, H. Drewry.

Jr. 1st Class.—L. Cook, M Vallance, E. Baker, B Nelson, B. Williams, Ivy Sproat, V Cropp, E Shannon, F. Cook, C. Cook, I. Dingman.

MISS HEWTON, Teacher.

ALONG SPRINGER CREEK.

The force at the Two Friends is to be increased.

The Ottawa group is under bond, and will be developed.

Work will commence on the Hampton group about the first of May.

The Lily B is being steadily developed and will be in shape for bonding this spring.

The Arlington proposes to increase the bunk house accommodation and make other improvements

The Black Prince is under bond for $75,000, and much money will be expended in development this summer.

The eight hour bill for miners and smelter employees and foundrymen introduced in the Oregon Legislature has passed and become a law. Its principal provisions are that underground mining, wet mining, dredging, smelting, laundry work and all underground work, and all works for the redemption of ores, shall be deemed extra hazardous undertakings and injurious to the life and health of persons employed therein

In Palestine there are not 78,000 Jews.

ANOTHER FORTUNANE CANADIAN.

In the year 1862 Thomas Kearns was born of British parents in Woodstock, Ont., and when a boy in his teens he started out to seek his fortune, an older brother accompanying him. The father and mother of the boy were poor, and probably it was with a sigh of relief, even though sad at heart, that they saw their two boys going from the home roof. There was nothing for the boys to do in Woodstock, and it takes money to feed and clothe a couple of stalwart youngsters. They went to Nebraska, and there Tom began his life as a farm hand, and for several years followed the plow and helped to gather in the harvests. He kept track of what the world was doing by reading the weekly papers that were taken by the farmer for whom he worked, and became seized with the mining fever and started for the Black Hills. Fortune was not ready to bestow her favors on him, so he drifted from the Black Hills to Utah Less than twelve years ago Thomas Kearns began work in a mine at Park City, Utah, at $3.50 a day, and he was as handy with his fists as he was with the pick when it came to defending his rights. He was popular among his fellow-laborers because he was a good natured fellow. He saved his money, and when the opportunity came he and a few others leased a mine and devoted all their energies to developing it. In 1892 he became an incorporator in the Silver King Mining company, and today his stock in that concern is worth $4,000,000. He has large interests in other mining properties, and the man who twelve years ago began as a day laborer in a mine can now figure up his wealth by millions, and has been elected one of the United States senators from Utah. He lives in elegant style in Salt Lake City.

Thomas Kearns is now only in his 39th year, and all his good fortune has come to him within the past ten years. Give a bright young Canadian but half a chance in the battle of life and he will come out somewhere near the top. Three Canadians now have seats in the United States senate—James McMillan, a Hamiltonian, who represents Michigan; Dr. Jacob H. Gallinger, a printer boy who was born in Cornwall, Ont., now representing New Hampshire; and Thos. Kearns, born in Woodstock, lately elected to represent Utah.—Hamilton Spectator.

THE SPECULATOR.

Wm Thomlinson, who has been superintendent at the Speculator for some time, is in town on a short holiday. While not at liberty to make a general report upon the Speculator, he states that the second payment has been made upon the bond. Two months' supplies have just been laid in, and the force increased to 28 men. Development work will be vigorously pushed. The Speculator group is just north of the Arlington, and on the same vein. Its history will likely be similar to that of the Arlington, taking much time and capital before the heavy shipping stage is reached It is a group of great possibilities.

ST. PATRICK'S CONCERT.

The second annual concert of St Patrick's Catholic church of Silverton will be given in the Miners' Union hall, Silverton, on St. Patrick's eve., Saturday, March 16th, and it is said that it will be the most brilliant entertainment ever attempted by local talent in the Slocan. A high grade musical program, more varied and complete than anything heretofore given, will be interspersed with specialties, a feature of which will be the appearance of Mr. Alex Oliver in his famous French dialect recitations.

Announcement is made by President Scallon of the Anaconda copper mine of Butte, that beginning February 1 the eight hour system of work will be put in operation in all the Anaconda properties. With a half hour for lunch, the men who go to work at 8 o'clock in the morning will quit at 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon, making eight hours of actual work each day.

San Francisco capital invested in Alaska mines alone is estimated at $20,000,000.

Needs Government Help

The Smelter Situation as Seen by a Writer Who Knows Whereof He Speaks.

Probably the best article that has yet appeared anent the smelter question in British Columbia, was printed last week by the Trail Creek News. We quote from it: "Recent developments south of the border have brought the lead miners and smelters of Canada face to face with a difficult question. The public is familiar with the attempts which have been made to establish lead smelting in the Dominion on a stable basis, and have seen failures at Golden, Revelstoke and on Kootenay lake, while successful smelters at Trail and Nelson are only beginning to get on a firm basis, and there is no refining. In seeking for a reason for the failures, it may be said at once that they were not due to a lack of lead ore, nor altogether to costs of fuel or freight. As to ore, there are three or four mines which would be called big lead producers even in the Cœur d'Alenes. There are two reasons for the backwardness in smelting and the absence of lead refining plants, one of which may be called natural and the other artificial. Under the first head, is the lack, heretofore, in Western Canada of so-called "dry ores," such as are found south of the line in Colorado, Utah, Montana and Mexico. As there are doubtless many unfamiliar with technicalities of smelting, it may be said that an ore is called dry if it does not contain lead. The dry ores of the States are rich in gold and silver and cannot be smelted by themselves. In order to smelt them successfully they have to be mixed with high-grade lead ores as a flux. The lead collects the precious metals, which are subsequently separated by refining from the lead bullion produced. In Canada these rich dry ores are lacking, or at least undiscovered at points within reach of the lead ores. In order to smelt lead in Canada, only low grade dry ores are available These could be availed of to the extent of four tons of dry ore to one of lead concentrates, if the cost of lead smelting was so low, or the market so handy, that the lead smelters could afford to pay a better price for these low grade ores; such ores as are found in Rossland, for instance, and in other West Kootenay camps, carrying gold, but too low in copper to be smelted for that metal alone.

In the United States the rich gold ore is the most important and the lead ore considered a flux. In Canada at present the lead ore is the most valuable and the dry ore the flux. So necessary is lead to the southern ores that often no smelting charge is made on lead concentrates. The profit comes from the dry ore.

A word need only be said about the market As in many other cases, the artificial barrier at the frontier prevents Canadian leads from being marketed in the United States. The consumption in Canada probably does not exceed 3,000 tons annually of the manufactured metal, but Europe and the East can take all that we can produce, and we should be able to hold both of these markets if competition from the United States could only handicap our business through their import duty. But the import tax has fostered and made possible the lead trust known as the American Smelting and Refining Company. Before the formation of this trust our lead miners could sell their product for shipment to the United States, even when shipping facilities were much poorer, and there was active competition among rival buyers. Now there is but one buyer, which makes its own terms, and these terms have been recently made more onerous, if not prohibitory. Today the concentrates of the St. Eugene mine, for instance, must seek a market in Germany, Belgium, and even Italy, paying freight charges across a continent and 3,000 miles of ocean. Considerable of this lead comes back by the way, in the form of white lead, litharge, red oxide, orange, etc., as the lack of refineries in Canada and the small duty of five per cent. on white lead, etc., prevent the establishment of these manufactures in Canada. Were it not for the very high grade of the Canadian ores and the silver they carry these artificial conditions would prohibit lead mining.

"When it comes to refining of lead bullion produced here, under present conditions, and considered regardless of patriotic or national interests, the lead smelters of British Columbia could afford to pay freight on their bullion to Chicago, for instance and refine there, because of two factors usually overlooked in discussing this problem. If the lead were refined in British Columbia, the bullion before refining would carry about five ounces of gold and 250 onnces of silver per ton. Express charges on the silver to the New York market, at the rate of $8 per $1,000 of silver and of $3.50 on each $1,000 of gold, would make the cost of delivering these precious metals about $1.55 more per ton of lead bullion than would be the cost of freighting them to New York in the form of base bullion at say $16 per ton. But another and more important condition still further works in favor of the refinery in the United States. When the United States refiner imports lead bullion, to separate the precious metal in bond, he is required to export only 90 per cent. of the lead. This leaves him practically 10 per cent. which he can sell in the states at Chicago prices. A simple calculation will show what he gains—or any United States refining works would gain—under this government concession.

"On a certain day last week London lead sold at £16 5s. Taking exchange at $4.85 and remembering that the English quotations are at per ton of 2240 pounds, this price is equivalent to $70 per short ton, or 3.5 cents per pound. On the same day the price of lead in Chicago was 4.22 cents per pound. If we take freight and insurance from Chicago to London at say $8, this subtracted from the $70 makes $62 per ton, which the imported lead is worth in Chicago. Could this lead be sold for consumption at Chicago at 4.25 cents it would be worth $85 per ton. But as 90 per cent. of it must be exported, we have the following calculation: Ninety per cent at $62 per ton is equivalent to $55 80; ten per cent. at Chicago prices of $85 equals $8.50; total $64.30 But if all the lead had to be exported and sold at $62; the difference being gain to the refiner in the United States of $2.30 Add $1.55, express charges saved on gold and silver, and the advantage at present in favor of a United States refinery is $3.85 per ton, not considering nearness of market or cheapness of coal To effect this and to allow the possibility of a little profit until refining as an industry is established in Canada, it is proposed that a bounty limited in amount and in time and in quantity to which it is applicable shall be asked of Parliament.

"Once established, the Canadian refiners should be able to take care of themselves. Without assistance in the beginning, no one would dare go to the expense which the erection of a modern refinery would entail.

"The associations of the U. S. Smelter Trust are close with great railway interests, which can foster their industry to any desired amount, and their absorption of all the refineries in the United States but two or three, enables them to exact even a prohibitory toll from Canadians. Their recent amalgamation with the Guggenheims has brought to them not only additional smelters and refineries in the United States, but has given them a control of the chief lead mines and many of the smelting works of Mexico, and of other producers even in South America. While it is probably true that there

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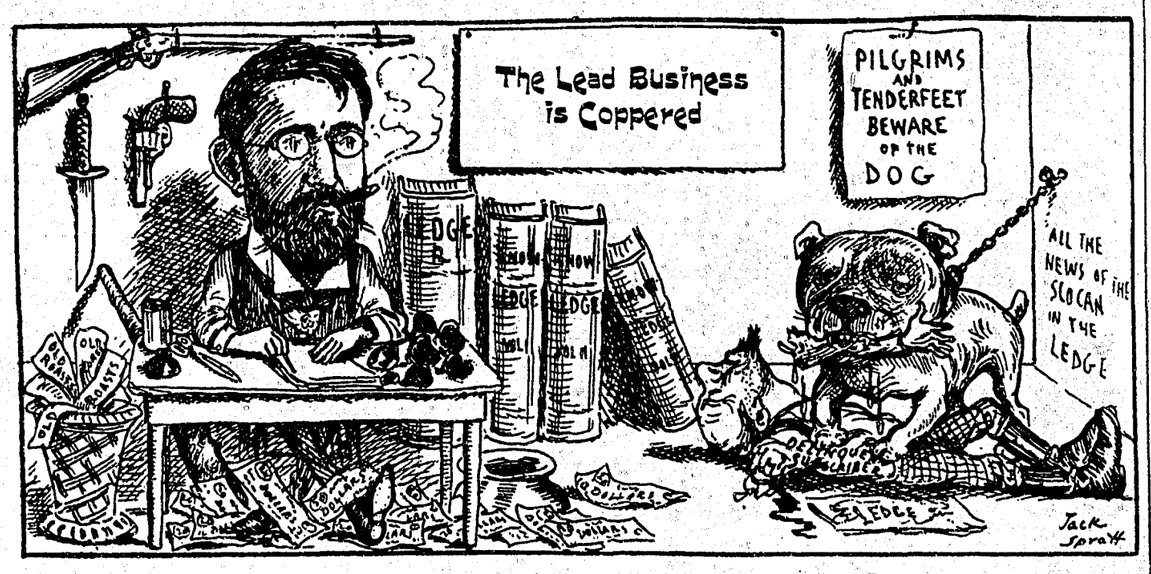

THE LEDGE is two dollars a year in advance. When not so paid it is $2.50 to parties worthy of credit. Legal advertising 10 cents a nonpariel line first insertion, and 5 cents a line each subsequent insertion. Reading notices 25 cents a line, and commercial advertising graded in prices according to circumstances.

FELLOW PILGRIMS: THE LEDGE is located at New Denver, B. C., and can be traced to many parts of the earth. It comes to the front every Thursday and has never been raided by the sheriff, snowslided by cheap silver, or subdued by the fear of man. It works for the trail blazer as well as the bay-windowed and champagne-flavored capitalist. It aims to be on the right side of everything and believes that hell should be administered to the wicked in large doses. It has stood the test of time, and an ever-increasing paystreak is proof that it is better to tell the truth, even if the heavens do occasionally hit our smokestack. A chute of job work is worked occasionally for the benefit of humanity and the financier. Come in and see us, but do not pat the bull dog on the cranium, or chase the black cow from our water barrel: one is savage and the other a victim of thirst. One of the noblest works of creation is the man who always pays the printer; he is sure of a bunk in paradise, with thornless roses for a pillow by night, and nothing but gold to look at by day.

R. T. LOWERY, Editor and Financier.

THE LEDGE.

A pencil cross in this square indicates that your subscription is due, and that the editor wishes once again to look at your collateral.

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1901.

FROM THE EDITOR'S UPPER STOPE.

All signs point to labor trouble in Butte within 60 days.

King Edward is a colonel eight times over. This beats any American record.

In the grand rush of smelter sites the world seems to have forgotten Slocan lake.

The thistle is at last being recognized. Its hay is being used as food for sheep and cattle.

Across the sea capital is pointing its golden finger at the natural resources of British Columbia.

A Virginia plover can fly 225 miles an hour. This pace keeps many of them from being killed.

Cannes is said to be the cleanest city in the world. Women sweep the streets with brooms, not dresses.

A Kingston barber gives free lunches to his customers. It is not stated how he keeps the hair out of the butter.

The Chinese taught us the use of tea and gunpowder. In return we are teaching them the use of bibles and machine guns.

Petroleum has been found in Alaska. This should throw more light upon that land of ice, snow, gold and frozen grubstakes.

Captain Lighthall was recently found dead in a Washington hotel holding a $10,000 cheque in his hand. He was not an editor.

England's King never goes to races on Sunday, and probably does not play poker. He would hold too many royal flushes if he did.

A dishonest man is half fool. An honest man, with or without a watchman, has sense, even though his bank account is no thicker than an iron stain.

It is said that the steel trust has absorbed the works at Sydney, in Cape Breton. Its appetite is apparently not satiable, and not one of us are safe.

When the trusts get everything in America then will come a revolution that will make them look smaller than the soul of a man who beats the printer.

A scientist makes the startling statement that microbes are not the cause of disease, but are always found feeding on disease. Thus the mystery deepens.

It has been remarked by someone, we forget who, that it is as easy for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven as it is for a poor man to get out of purgatory.

Lions and tigers are so weak in the lungs that they cannot run more than half a mile. Their hearts are just the reverse, judging from many literary references that we have read.

Those who object to the weight of silver dollars ought to see the coins in Central Africa. Some of them are ten inches long and it takes a load of them to buy an ordinary Canadian breakfast.

When the prodigal son comes back again his dad falls on his neck and orders up the breaded veal cutlets. When the prodigal daughter wanders home again she is not given even a ham sandwich, but is told to keep moving. Thus does man's inhumanity to woman keep the scarlet flag waving.

Twenty years ago Charles M. Schwab was a freckled boy driving stakes for Andrew Carnegie at $1 a day. Today he is worth $40,000,000. This should be an inducement to brace up, and do something.

In England, one hundred years ago, men were hung if they only stole a few pennies. In America today a man can sometimes steal millions and only be sent to Congress. This is only one illustration of the advancement of modern times.

A salt trust has been formed in Canada. The trust has eight millions of dollars of capital, and say that they will not raise the price of salt. It is now 87 cents a barrel, and the production is 20,000 barrels a day. In the United States salt is $1.10 a barrel.

In time of war disease destroys more men than bullets. This is caused by wrong food, and lack of sanitary conditions. At present nearly all the men on active service in South Africa are lousy. Lice spring into life in a short time if the skin is not kept clean.

James Ross, of St. Martin, N.B., is 111 years old, and is in good health. The county council recently presented him with an address and an arm chair as a recognition of having attained what is probably the longest age of anyone living at present in Canada.

When the Royal folks from England visit Canada they should take a look at New Denver. Its surroundings are unsurpassed for beauty in America. There is an old saying, "See Naples and die." It is different with New Denver. See it and you want to live.

The devotion of women is sometimes carried to the point of insanity. Daily for 22 years a Cleveland woman visited the grave of her husband and prayed for the Lord to take her above. The other day she was found on the grave frozen to death. At the age of 79 her prayer was answered. Her kind of love is scarce in the United States.

The Saturday Post, owned and edited by a woman, has appeared in Victoria. It is to be hoped that she will never sit down on the ink barrel, or stand around the stone jeffing with the comps for chewing gum, and that her lily-white fingers will always be tired counting the dollars sent in by subscribers who are not delinquent.

Old London is built over the ruins of the older London of the Romans. Sink a shaft at Cheapside and a shute of Roman baths, coins, lamps, vases, etc., will come into the workings at a depth of 18 feet. New Denver has no ruins underneath it, except those caused by the ancient washing of the water from Carpenter creek.

It took seven years to make a handkerchief for which the Empress of Russia paid $5,000. She must be careful when she sends out the family washing, or it might become tangled with the lost. Vanity and *money* are soon parted, but some nations must have royalty even if it comes high, while millions have not the price of a breakfast.

Smallpox is doing business here and there in Canada, although a boycott is in force against it. It is worse in Sudbury, Ontario, than at any other point, so bad in fact that the Mayor and Chief of Police had a fight over the best way to stamp it out. The provincial constable had to stop the fight, and run in the town constable. The provincial officer now has the smallpox, and the citizens are holding their breath. It is not known whether the Mayor packs a gun.

We can live in water for months provided the temperature is between 92° and 95°. In China, a Chinaman was once discovered who spent his winters in a tank of water fed from a hot springs. He found this cheaper than buying wood, and only came out of the tank when he wanted to eat. In a Vienna hospital, a man once spent over 15 months in a bath, with only his head exposed. He had lost half of his skin by burning and was cured by the long bath. This will be interesting to those who take a 15-minute bath annually.

When King Edward takes the Coronation oath the Catholics do not want to be shut out as they have been in the past. They want recognition by royalty, and will use every influence they can between purgatory and Rome to have it so. The matter can be easily settled by cutting out of the oath all reference to religion. As the King rules over millions of people, among whom every shade of religion can be found, it does not savor of sound policy to favor one or two. It is high time the English people were rid of barbaric notions about any church.

There is considerable agitation just now about whether Jim Hill shall get a charter to the Crow's Nest Pass coal fields, or not get it. These coal fields are said to be able to ship 4,000,000 tons a year for 5,000 years before they are exhausted, which being the case, there will be coal to burn when we are all pushing clouds with the angels. It is to be regretted, however, that the people do not own these vast stores of wealth, and build their own road to the boundary. Let us acquire the C. P. R. and the coal fields. Then we can operate as many lines of railroad as we wish without fattening Jim Hill's pile.

In Kansas

All the press and its relatives have been harping on Mrs. Nation until the subject has become tiresome. W. A. White who runs a paper in the cyclone State sizes her up as follows:

"Psychic waves," says Mr. White, "political tendencies, economic movements that are in the air, find a natural lodgment in the quick mind of Kansas and there find the first crude action, the result of impulse rather than of reason, yet always of high impulse, has given the world the impression that Kansas is a state of cranks. John Brown was a crank in that sense, yet he was a voice crying in the wilderness."

Applying this to the liquor traffic and to Mrs. Nation's stormy outburst, Mr. White declares that for the past ten years there has been a general feeling among business men that a man drugged with poor rum was not a desirable workman. Hundreds of employers have prohibited the use of liquor by their employes. Especially is this true of railroads, which have seen the bad policy of intrusting lives and property to the care of men who are not fully themselves.

"These restrictions have shown the presence," says Mr. White, "of a general feeling all over the country against liquor and the liquor traffic. This feeling has been in the air—a sort of mental microbe. It has been indefinable, illusive, incapable of analysis. And now along comes Carrie Nation with her hatchet and chops the outward and visible sign of this sentiment in big wood-type letters into the everlasting marble of history."

In other words, Carrie is a materialized feeling of animosity.

When electricity feels around and finds the path of least resistance, it doesn't wait to apologize or to see if there is a law against lightning striking at that point.

The same is true of a new idea. It waits till it finds the path of least resistance, and by that path it slams around in an astonished world.

Carrie Nation is a sort of moral lightning stroke. She isn't nice, particularly, nor polite, but when she hits, there is a general crash. The moral weather bureau has still got the cyclone flag flying in Kansas.

COMMUNICATIONS

SOME MORE "ABOUT SUNDAY."

"Coward he who dare not choose
Hatred, scorning and abuse,
Rather than in silence shrink
From the truth he needs must think;
Coward he who dare not be
In the right with two or three."

Whatever people may think of you do that which you believe to be right. Be alike indifferent to censure or blame.—Pythagovas.

He who cannot reason is a dunce; he who dare not is a slave; he who will not is a fool.—Bacon.

EDITOR LEDGE: Dear Sir—

Like many others with whom your opinions appear to frequently clash, you are, I doubt not, earnestly endeavoring to reach and teach the truth; and your fearless original manner of working your claim encourages the hope that you will the more readily grant the indulgence of your space for a few remarks on the Lord's Day Alliance movement, which you so vigorously attack in your last issue.

In opposing this movement, we have no right or desire to doubt either your sincerity or disinterestedness. But, can you honestly claim to have extended the same generous treatment to Rev. Mr. Shearer? Candidly, I think not. As an educated gentleman, knowing whereof he speaks, he with many others, anticipates disaster threatening our great nation, by the encroachments of greed, and indulgence upon those rights and privileges which have materially aided our national growth and supremacy, and while he asks and receives no more right to advocate his religious beliefs than the editor of the New Denver LEDGE, he is employed by the Dominion Lord's Day Alliance, composed of the leading thinkers, both ecclesiastics and laity, in the Dominion for the procuring of a national rest day, the necessity for which the whole of your article tacitly admits. For this purely unsectarian reason the movement has received the endorsation of the Trades' Union of Nelson and elsewhere, because they feel that at last the church has begun to realize (and none too soon) that the time has come for them to amalgamate their forces with the masses, if the enalienable rights of society are to be retained by those who earn their living by the sweat of their brow.

I confess I was greatly surprised that you took up cudgels for the Adventists. On the same principle you might advocate the rights of all minorities. But as long as pro bono publico is recognized as the principle to guide the administration of affairs, and bestowal of liberties, you must recognize the necessity of the minority bowing to the will of the majority.

If as you say, and upon which premise there can scarcely be two opinions, that "all da s ar alike to the Infinite," does not the argument apply with even greater force to the case of the Adventists? The Lord's Day Alliance would only too readily adopt the Saturday instead of the Sunday as long as it were agreeable to all parties, but to revolutionize the whole conventionalities of centuries to oblige a mere handful of the community is as absurd as it is impossible. But a little reflection, and even a casual study of the objects of the Lord's Day Alliance movement, would convince you of the injustice you are doing the organization when you state that "his true aim is to close everything but the churches on that day and make people miserable by forcing them to listen to a lot of sleep-producing sermons, etc.", because, in the first place, no effort has been made either by action, word or implication that through the agency of the Lord's Day Alliance any man, woman or child will be "forced" to do anything of the kind, and, secondly, that the aim of the Alliance is such that they are endeavoring to educate public opinion whereby men and women will be enabled to go to church if they wish, or stay away from church if they so desire, but not to be compelled by modern task masters to "chase the dollar" on Sunday and thus be deprived of any choice in the matter. Apparently you would lend your influence in preventing people from being compelled to go to church, but would not lend a li e of your space in support of a plan to prevent the same people from being doomed to perpetual slavery. You do well to condemn the evils existing in the church, which many of the wicked parsons you so much delight in roasting, deeply deplore, but are powerless to remove or prevent. But when the evil, superstition and prejudice, which you rightly complain of, is eliminated from both sides of the controversy, the church you so fervently attack, will represent all that is good and exalted in man, and contain those principles of liberty, justice and worth which profess to be the principles which find ready advocates like yourself. One thing however strikes me forcibly as I write, which is that as rapidly as we are losing our hold on the teaching of our ancestors, right or wrong as it may be, we are in exactly the same ratio departing from our business integrity, national thrift, and the pastoral simplicity and prosperity of the days of the reformation and persecution. Expediency, commercialism and greed are the features of the new century accelerating us to a Parisian stagnation and decay.

If it can be shown that our manhood is forsaking the higher for the lower, and substituting gambling, drunkenness, lust and a mad militarism (sometimes called patriotism) for Sabbath observance and religion, then as a thinking man you must admit that it is better to retain them, however superstitiously they may have been established, until something better has been found to take its place, than that man should degenerate again to the monkey from which Darwins says he descended, and from which Drummond says he ascended.

After all, character is the only thing which can keep the world's machinery smoothly working, and that oil which best lubricates its cogs, centrifugals and shafts, is what we are looking for.

YEL D'AORB.

Kootenay, B.C., March 4th, 1901.

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We frequently have watches sent us by mail to be repaired. It can be done just as satisfactorily as if you brought your watch personally. Try it once. We prepay return charges.

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What you are, or where you are

WE KNOW we can interest you this week. We have just received a big stock of Wall Paper, that is absolutely the best we have shown in this section. You will agree with us that last year our Wall Paper was nice enough for any home. This season's patterns are even prettier, and are sure to please you. Let us show them to you and give you an estimate of what it will cost to repaper the rooms. Our friends and patrons in adjoining towns should be interested in this; it makes no difference how large or small the order.

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THE BOYS OF THE OVERLAND.

Long rails of steel in the sunlight glisten,
The winding trains through the valley roll,
The hardy settlers no longer listen
For Indian yells with a fear of soul.
The Concord kings of the olden highway
Now lie and rot in the storm and sun
In the old corral or the alley byway,
But battered relics of work once done,
And gone is the fearless, intrepid band,
The boys who drove on the Overland.

All dead are the echoes of long whips snapping,
Held firmly in drivers' buckskinned hands,
The great wheels over the boulders rapping
Or biting their way through the drifting sands.
No longer is savage foeman lurking
Behind a rock like a crouching cat,
His facial muscles with hatred jerking,
Near the quiet shores of the shallow Platte,
His strong bow held in a deadly poise
For a shot at one of the Overland boys.

Ah, those were the days that tried men's metal,
That tried the bottom of nervy steeds,
When the mustangs all were in silken fettle,
The wheelers, swings and the dancing leads,
A savage yell and a flight of arrows,
A driver up on the high box dead;
The team, with the speed of frightened sparrows,
Unguided into the station sped
To tell the tale of the relay band
Of one boy less on the Overland.

O'er the lines of steel now the iron horse dashes,
His hot breath blacking the hills and vales;
As eye of giant the headlight flashes
A shaft of light 'long the glimmering rails
The homes of the settlers in peaceful quiet
Now dot the valley in close array,
And the painted red man no more runs riot
As back in the bloodstained early day,
Sweet peace wields the scepter on every hand—
And where are the boys of the Overland?

Some lie 'neath the sod of the old Platte valley
In deathly slumber that knows no dreams,
Near the trail where they oft at an Indian sally
Threw cutting silk to their frightened teams
Some, bent with age and with hair all whitened
By hand of time, in the cities dream
Of the perilous days when their strong hands tightened
The lines o'er the backs of a flying team
When the reds were waiting on every hand
For the boys who drove on the Overland.
—Denver Post.

COLVILLE RESERVATION.

The north half of the Colville reservation, in Stevens county, Washington, is at the present time experiencing an unprecedented activity in mining circles. The most direct route to one's convictions is through the eyes, and all that is needed to prove the importance of the location of the Colville reservation mining district with relation to the other great mining camps of Northeastern Washington and British Columbia, is the actual view to be obtained, from the heights above Bossburg, of the most productive portion of the mineral belt in Washington, bounded on the east by the Columbia river, and the Kettle river on the west. What has been done on the edges of the great mass of mineralization shows what may be anticipated when the center is pierced and its vast ore bodies exposed.

The geological features of the many camps embraced in the Colville reservation are especially interesting and include most of the mineral formations common to the most productive camps in the United States, including the phonolite and fluorine as well as the solid sulphides.

The country rock is trap, granite, schist, gneiss, etc., the veins being found in true fissures and contacts, with well defined walls, the general trend being in a northwesterly and southeasterly direction. Crossing the formation are several andesite dykes, standing out prominently, and it is in the contact between these dykes and the mineral veins that the best values are found. In nearly all the hills porphyry dykes traverse the country, having the same general trend as the veins, much of the porphyry being mixed with quartz. The vein matter is as yet undecided in many cases, some of the workings not having attained sufficient depth to show the solid ore bodies, but hematite, porphyritic quartz, spar and clear white quartz are present. In all of these forms of mineralization, however, the presence of sulphides is apparent, and there can be no doubt that as depth is attained solid sulphide ore bodies will be found. Copper is found in greater or less quantities [illegible] and as actual development is attained the results are more than satisfactory.

OLD-TIME GAMBLING IN ENGLAND.

Until the passing of the Gaming Acts in 1845 the passion for high play was almost the greatest social vice in this country. The one diversion most characteristic of London from Anne to Victoria was gambling. It was carried on openly and everywhere. Some of the most famous clubs and coffee-houses existed solely for high play. The Court encouraged it. The games principally played, hazard and faro, are now forgotten. Hazard was played with dice, and there is a tradition that when the floor of the hall of the Middle Temple was taken up for repair it was found that no less than a hundred pair of dice had accumulated through a few holes in the boards. Many anecdotes arising out of the passion for play have been preserved for our delectation. Oliver Goldsmith, for instance, tells a story —probably however invented—of a lady who played on her death bed with the parson, won all his money and expired in the act of dealing for a final game in which her funeral expenses were at stake. There was, too, that other lady who, being admonished by her pastor on the evils of gaming, including waste of time, replied that there was indeed a prodigious deal of time wasted in dealing.

The losses at one sitting were often appalling. It is recorded that young Mr. Harvey, of Chigwell, lost at one throw £100,000 to Mr. O'Birne, an Irish gamester. "You can never pay me," said O'Birne. "Yes, my estate will sell for the money," was the spirited reply. "No," said O'Birne, "I will win but ten thousand, and you shall throw for the odd ninety." They did so, and Harvey won, lived to become an Admiral, and to fight under Nelson at Trafalgar. The high play and other vices of Charles James Fox, the great statesman, are notorious. Walpole records that Fox lost £11,000 at a sitting which began on Feb. 4th, 1771, and ended at five o'clock in the afternoon on the following day. On the morrow he delivered a speech on a religious question at Westminster, having prepared himself for the effort, as Gibbon pointed out, "by passing 22 hours in the pious exercise of hazard." Fox and his brother lost in three sittings the sum of £32,000.

The frenzy of losers at the tables occasionally took astonishing forms There is good authority for the story of a ruined man seizing the edge of the table in his teeth and dying in the act. A Frenchman rammed a billiard ball down his throat so furiously that it had to be extracted by a surgeon. Men would sometimes weep standing like statues without a muscle of the face moving, and nothing to show they were alive save the tears running down their cheeks. An overjoyed winner of a large sum straightway made arrangements for food, clothing, washing and lodging for ten years, so that he might look forward to that period of gambling undisturbed by any anxiety. Not lacking in humor, too, was the epitaph written by Lord Alvanley for the tombstone of a notorious gamester, "Here lies ——, waiting for the last trump."—Manchester City News.

WANTS TO TRAVEL.

San Francisco, Cal., Feb. 17.—Oil strikes in California are making poor men millionaires as in the old days in Pennsylvania. One of the strangest of these freaks of fortune came to John A. Bunting, a former freight brakeman on the Southern Pacific road, who has just ordered a $30,000 private car.

Ten years ago Bunting was keeper of a railroad water tank on the desert near Tucson Ariz. Then he was advanced and finally became freight brakeman. He loaned a friend $170 and took as collateral a watch and a mortgage on 40 acres of land in Kern county. The friend did not pay, so Bunting sold the watch and foreclosed the mortgage on the land. He tried to sell the land, but could not get anything for it. Recently, oil was struck near his place. He resigned and began to develop his property. He struck oil and is now rated as a millionaire.

Bunting came into the office of General Manager Fillmore yesterday and sent in his card. Fillmore sent back a reply that he was sorry, but he had no job. Bunting sent back an answer that he was not looking for jobs, but wanted to buy a private car. Fillmore congratulated him and advised him to order a car with all the latest improvements, which would cost him $30,000, and meanwhile to rent a car from the Southern Pacific. This he did. Bunting has no expensive tastes, except a strong desire to travel in his own car and to have that car as luxurious as it is possible to make it.

Precautionary Contraction.

"If we will all pull together, brethren," said the pastor of a church which was in financial distress, "we can do something."

Thereupon the wealthiest man in the congregation hastily drew his leg in out of the aisle.—Detroit Free Press.

He Was All Fixed.

This story is said to relate to Miss Caroline Bartlett, pastor of the People's Church of Kalamazoo, Mich: She was called to the door of the parsonage one day, and saw there a much-embarrassed young farmer of the German type. "Dey said der minister lifed in his house," he said. "Yes," replied the fair pastor. "Vell —m—I—I vant to kit marrit." "To get married? Very well, I can marry you," said the ministeress, encouragingly. "Oh, but I got a girl alreaty," was the disconcerting reply. —Brooklyn Life.

To Whip the Editor.

"What are you crying about?" asked a kind-hearted stranger of a lad standing in front of a newspaper office, weeping as if his heart would break.

"Oh, pa's gone upstairs to whip the editor."

"Well, has he come down yet?" pursued the gentle Samaritan.

"Pieces of him have," said the boy, with a fresh burst of tears, "and I'm expecting the rest every minute."

The largest electrolytic plant in the U. S. is that of Levissohn Bros. at Perth Amboy, N.J. It has a capacity of 160 tons of copper per day.

This Trade Mark [HEALTH TRADE MARK] stamped on every garment, insures you genuine
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the most perfect, most healthful, most delightfully comfortable underwear made. Endorsed by physicians.
For Men, Women and Children.
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PRICES OF A FEW OF THE LEADING GRADES:
John Hancock, 21 Jewels, the leading railway watch........ $35
New Railway, 17 ruby jewels, adjusted........ $30
Dueber Grand, 17 jewels, adjusted, a specially good watch for good time and hard service........ $15
Dueber Watch Co., 15 jewels a good time piece; satisfactory for a little money $9.50
Champion, 7 jewels, warranted satisfactory, $6
These prices will compare favorably with any legitimate jewelery house, east or west. I have suitable cases in nickle, silver and gold filled. from $1.50 to $15.00.
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The cost is no greater than the low-grade work that inferior offices will give you

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THE MANSFIELD MANUFACTURING COMPANY are now prepared to supply builders and contractors with all the above building materials. Our products received First Prizes and Medals the last two years at the Spokane Exposition. The Lime that we are now manufacturing is not excelled. Special quotations to contractors on application.
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General Draying: Mining Supplies and Heavy Transportation a Specialty.
Our Baggage wagons meet all Sunday trains.
Saddle Horses and Pack Animals.
Feed Stables at New Denver.

NOTICE.

To F. A. DEVEREUX, C. E., the owner of an undivided one-eighth interest in each of the mineral claims, "Pansy," "Violet Fraction," "May," "Flower" and "Rosedale," situated on the Seaton Creek slope of Payne Mountain, in the Slocan Mining Division of West Kootenay District, British Columbia.

TAKE NOTICE that I, Daniel E. Sprague, the owner of an undivided three-fourths interest in each of the above named mineral claims, have expended the sum of $102.50 in doing the annual assessment work required by section 24 of the Mineral Act on the said mineral claim "Pansy," and for recording the certificate of work issued therefor for the year ending the 29th July, 1900; and the sum of $102.50 for doing such work on the said mineral claim "Violet Fraction" and recording the certificate of work issued therefor for the year ending the 9th August, 1900; and the sum of $102.50 for doing such work on the said mineral claim "Flower" and recording the certificate of work issued therefor for the year ending the 12th August, 1900, and the sum of $102.50 for doing such work on the said mineral claim "May" and recording the certificate of work issued therefor for the year ending the 12th August, 1900, and the sum of $102.50 for doing such work on the said mineral claim "Rosedale" and recording the certificate of work issued therefor for the year ending the 23rd October, 1900.

And, take notice further, that I, the said Daniel E. Sprague, require you to contribute and pay your proportion of such expenditure, being one-eighth of the amount expended in respect of each of the said mineral claims, together with the costs of this advertisement, and that if you fail or refuse to contribute your said proportion of such expenditure, together with the costs of this advertisement, within ninety days from the date of the first publication of this notice, I will at the expiration of said ninety days claim to have vested in me, as your co-owner, your interest in such of the said mineral claims, as you shall have failed or refused to contribute your said proportion of the said expenditure in connection therewith, together with the costs of this advertisement, pursuant to section 4 of the "Mineral Act Amendment Act, 1900."

The address of me, the said Daniel E. Sprague, for the purposes of payment hereunder, is care of McAnn & Mackay, Barristers, Kaslo, B. C.

Dated the 27th day of November, 1900.
DANIEL E. SPRAGUE.

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENT

DENVER, CHIEF, LAKE SHORE, OLD MAN and KELPIE Mineral Claims.

Situate in the Slocan Mining Division of West Kootenay District. Where located: About one mile southeast of New Denver.

TAKE NOTICE that I, John McLatchie, of the city of Nelson acting as agent for R. C. Campbell-Johnston, free miner's certificate No B 26,985, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of each of the above claims.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificates of Improvements.

Dated this 23rd day of February, 1901.
JOHN McLATCHIE, P. L. S.

ORA GRANDA Mineral Claim.

Situate in the Arrow Lake Mining Division of West Kootenay District. Where located:—On Mineral Creek, about three miles from its junction with Cariboo Creek.

TAKE NOTICE That I, F. C. Green, of Nelson, B. C., acting as agent for William H. Burtt, F. M. C. 32,476, George H. Dorr, F. M. C. 32,452, and George M. Annis, F. M. C. No B 30,949, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvement, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this 20th day of October, 1900
2-7 F. C. GREEN, P L.S.

CODY FRACTION and JOKER FRACTION Mineral Claims.

Situate in the Slocan Mining Division of West Kootenay District. Where located: On the Freddy Lee Mountain near the Freddy Lee Mineral Claim, about a mile from Cody

TAKE NOTICE That I, W. A. Gilmour, as agent for William Murray Botsford, free miner's certificate No. B 11838, and John MacQuillan free miner's certificate No B 17051, intend 60 days from the date hereof to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements for the purpose of obtaining Crown grants of the above claims.

And further take notice that action under section 37 must be commenced before the issuance of such certificates of improvements.

Dated this 2nd day of January, 1901.
W. A. GILMOUR.

Miners, Attention!
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS
BENNETT'S "CROWN BRAND"
TRADE MARK
Gutta Percha Water-proof Fuse has been proved and not found wanting
No miss-holes. No running.
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A. JACOBSON & CO., Props
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To and from [illegible] and American lines. [illegible] sailing dates rates, tickets and full information to any C. P. Ry agent or—
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W. P. F. Cummings, G. S. S. Agt., Winnipeg

NEEDS GOVERNMENT HELP

[Continued from first page.]

still exist in New York and San Francisco two independent refineries, it can easily be imagined that these refineries will be absorbed, whenever it becomes worth while to fulfill the conditions necessary to their acquirement. Not only has all competition ceased for Canadian lead ores, or lead bullion requiring to be desilverized, but charges have been increased to a point making it necessary to export bullion to Europe or abandon the smelting of lead ores rich in silver, or as a last resort, sell out to the Trust.

It is not necessary to indulge in recriminations or to say that the smelting trust has done more than to take advantage of the power derived from Government and from consolidation, but the results are disastrous for Canada. Of course a bounty should not be given to any one refiner, but allow "pro rata" upon the total tonnage of refined pig lead, produced from the smelting and refining of Canadian ores, wherever and by whomsoever it be done, and the Government should be assured that no monopoly will be created, either east or west. We must not lose sight of the incidental benefit which would accrue to other mining, if lead refining becomes a settled industry in Canada.

"Let us repeat: A refinery will help that class of mines most needing assistance in Canada, the low grade gold mines containing too little copper to justify their treatment by themselves. There are millions of tons of such ore. Again we say: For every additional ton of lead concentrates smelted, four or five tons of these dry ores can be utilized The miner of lead ores has a very limited market at present. With the tariff-dam on the south, the long haul to Europe, and the necessity of accepting the lower English price for lead, the limit of profitable assay is easily calculated. If he smelts himself, or sells to Canadian smelters, the price he receives is regulated by the profit to the smelter. If it does not pay to refine in Canada under existing conditions, the circle is completed, and the miner suffers as well as the smelter. If on the other hand a bounty enables the refiner to obtain a foothold in Canada, the miner is in direct line to benefit from the market of refined lead.

It should not take long, with conditions of water transportation so favorable, to take the Japanese and Chinese markets, as well as to successfully enter the European field. The competition with the states is not likely to grow less.

"If the Government fails to act at once in this matter, no refinery can be built for a year at least. Our rivals across the line are refusing to contract for a short term even at their present high charges. They will get further entrenched and by the economy of their combination, by their power to control freights in the states and their ability to refine wherever the costs of fuel and labor are least, can take away from us our legitimate markets of England and the continent or close down all our lead mines not most favorably situated, and incidentally some of the low-grade copper and gold properties of British Columbia and other provinces.

"Even when charges warranted the shipment of ores to the United States, Canada "did all the rough work," and assumed the risks of the mine, while the United States reaped more than half of the profit—the smelters and refiner's half—and could determine safely what its profits should be. Those that are most familiar with copper mining and smelting are predicting the early fulfillment of the expectation that this metal will reach the European consumer from Canada in the form of refined ingots, wire bars, or even in wire and sheets. We are headed in that direction and moving at a rapid rate. No longer are copper ores shipped in quantities to American smelters. With the exception of one smelter near the border, the product is now going east to market in the form of matte containing 50 per cent. of copper. The large works are preparing to bessemerize this matte in Canada before the year is out. The product then will be marketed as pig copper, 98 per cent. fine. The next and last stage will be a copper refinery, for which capital is all ready, and some of our magnificent water powers will be supplying the electric energy to separate from this pig copper the pure metal, and the gold and silver. This copper industry will require no protection and can take care of itself at prices now established. But unless Canada is to see its lead mining limited to those mines exceptionally well situated, and lead smelting handicapped, and is willing to depend upon United States brands for its refined lead, the industry must be fostered by a bounty.

IRON AND STEEL MAKING.

Recent advices from Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., say that the Michigan-Lake Superior Power Company will build two 800-ton charcoal furnaces, which will be probably the largest in use. They will be located on the Canadian side of the river, about a mile northwest of the company's pulp mills and canal, and near where its Bessemer and open hearth steel plants are now going up.

These furnaces will absorb a portion of the company's Michipicoten ore and in so far aid in giving it a home market, independence, and the profits of the entire enterprise, something that seems the fashion of the present. They will enable the company to take fuller advantage of the Canadian bonuses, will permit it as well to utilize its own raw materials in timber and will give its electrical works at the Sault more material upon which to work, for the saving of by-products is to be carried to an extent not yet reached in any completed charcoal works in the world. Much of this will be by the use of new processes and original methods. These new charcoal furnaces, taken in connection with that to be built at Marquette by the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company and which is to be of from 150 to 175 tons daily capacity, and in connection with some projects for additional charcoal iron works at other points on Lake Superior, are an interesting development.

The construction of the Algoma Central Railroad through a thickly wooded country will give the company very large reserves from which to draw its supplies of charcoal.

There are now at the Sault some 200 carloads of machinery, etc., for the Bessemer plant the Clergue interests will construct, and the erection of the machinery has begun The walls of the massive buildings of the steel works are now rising and the steel structures will soon go up. The latter are to be erected by the Riter-Conley Company

A large force of men is at work at the Helen Mine, Michipicoten, taking out ore for spring shipment, and the output for the year is expected to reach 3,000 tons of crushed ore daily. By Mr. Clergue's recent association with the Midland furnace and the Collingwood steel project, together with the Sault furnaces, a very considerable share of the output of the Michipicoten District will find its disposition at new works in Canada.

MACKENZIE RIVER COUNTRY.

Capt. John J. Healy, for the past 43 years a miner and prospector, 16 of which have been spent in the great northwest, and who, although an American, is perhaps better posted on the northern mineral zone than any man in the country, has the following to say in regard to the opening up of a portion of Canadian territory which has hitherto been practically undeveloped and a great deal of it unexplored.

"You Canadians have certainly one of the finest portions of the West. You have the timber and the fuel and the mines. You have got a country that you won't prospect all over for the next 100 years. You have the whole of the Mackenzie river, and I believe it is as good as the Yukon, and within 150 miles of the Yukon. If it was within our country there would be 50,000 people there next year.

"There are the brightest prospects for mining up there, and I believe there will be a million people there within the next ten years. There was a good deal of bad feeling against the royalty in the Yukon, but that is rapidly disappearing, and the people are satisfied.

"This is shown by the fact that thousands of those who went from Dawson to Nome are returning to the former city again, and by the fact that hundreds of miners at Dawson have brought in their wives and families, and intend to remain their for some years at least. While there are some richer claims at Nome, I believe the Klondike country will yield more gold in the end."

THE GREAT DIVIDEND PAYER.

The Standard Oil company still keeps to its record of being the best dividend payer on earth. This month sees a 20 per cent. dividend on the $100,000,000 capitalization of the company, just as in February of 1900 Wall street was surprised with the same kind of a dividend This 20 per cent. dividend, which is payable March 15, to stockholders of record Feb. 15, is a quarterly dividend of the company. Thus the stockholders of the Standard Oil company will receive $20,000,000 in dividends with the certainty of having three more dividends during the year, each one of which may reach the same figure Over and above all this there is also the playful little habit of the Standard Oil directors of surprising their stockholders with extra dividends every once in a while. During 1900, for the full year, 48 per cent. was paid in dividends to Standard Oil shareholders. In 1889 they had 33 per cent., in 1898 30 per cent., in 1897 33 per cent., and 31 per cent. in 1896. During each of the five preceding years 12 per cent dividends were paid annually. It is interesting to note that since 1882 the company has paid in dividends more than twice the amount of its capital stock. It is no wonder that the stock is selling around $815 for a $100 share. At this time the stock is selling for nearly twice [illegible] a year ago.

THE OPENING OF PROSPECTS BY TUNNELS.

Some practical advice to prospect owners is given by D. W. Brunton in the Engineering and Mining Journal of New York. He says, in part:

"In the early stages of mine development when work is necessarily prosecuted from the surface down to shallow depths, prospect tunnels, though often used, are seldom successful, and if the experience of the past has proved anything in mining, it is that the proper way to open up a new mine is to search along the outcrop for the richest and strongest ore shoot and begin work upon it, never losing sight of the ore, no matter how irregular the early workings may become. When the ore zone or vein runs at right angles to the drainage system of the country, especially where the valleys are deep and the mountain slopes steep and precipitous; the canyons may practically be treated as an immense natural adit opening up the property to a depth as great as from the highest outcrop to the bottom of the canyon. If from the sides of these great natural openings, drifts can be driven in at regular intervals along the vein to provide for the removal of ore, water and waste, we have the ideal conditions for cheap mining. Unfortunately, however, the course of the veins or ore zones is often parallel to, instead of across, the drainage system; in which case during the first few years of development the mines must be opened by vertical or inclined shafts. As depth is gained in the openings, the expenses of mining steadily increase, but unless large volumes of water are encountered, the rise of mining expenses due to increased depth is rarely so great as to call for any change in the method of operating. With a heavy influx of water comes not only an increased expense for pumping to the surface, but the necessity for expenditure in the form of a duplicate pumping plant to reduce as far as possible the risk of accident, and the consequent disaster of flooding the property. Under these conditions when a mine or a number of mines have been developed to a sufficient depth to prove beyond any reasonable doubt, that the ore bodies will continue on their course downward into the earth to a sufficient depth to justify the expenditure, it is time to consider the question of tunneling from the level to the nearest available valley."

One of the richest of the gold mines near Butte, is the Metz claim. It is said to run as high as $100,000 per ton, but the vein is very narrow, not over six inches at the widest. The Metz is located in the vicinity of the Colorado company's old concentrator and is probably a source of much of the placer gold taken from the bed of Silver Bow creek several years ago

The miners of the Yukon district, Alaska, employ 5,280 men, who receive an average of $1 an hour.

CONDENSED ADS.

[Condensed advertisements, such as For Sale, Wanted, Lost, Strayed, Stolen, Births, Deaths, Marriages, Personal, Hotels, Legal, Medical, etc., are inserted when not exceeding 20 words for 25 cents each insertion. Each five words or less over 20 words are five cents additional.]

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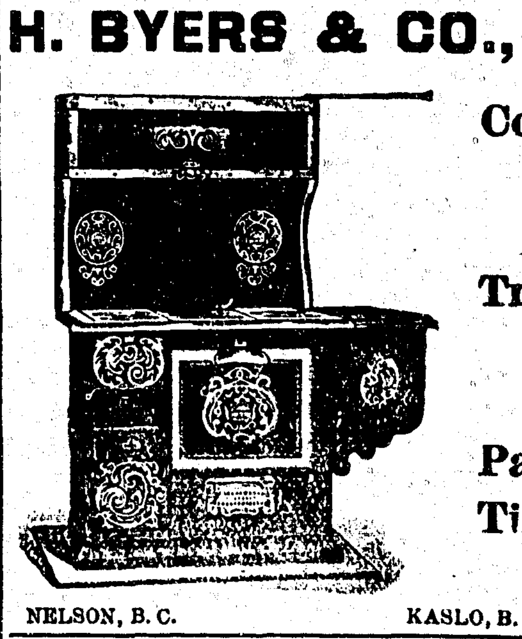

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