

The Prospector.

VOL. 9.

FORT STEELE, B. C., SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1903.

NO. 11.

MINES AND MINING.

Conducted under the auspices of the Fort Steele Miners' Association.

JAS. T. LAIDLAW, Pres.

H. W. BOSS, Secy.

Southeast Kootenay as a Smelting Center.

Few mining sections enjoy the advantages and opportunities for successful smelter operations as does Southeast Kootenay.

Successful ore reduction must have cheap fuel and such a variety of ores as to be self-fluxing. This is why large reduction works have in many instances been established at points remote from mines.

A few years ago the people of Butte hailed with delight the advent of the Northern Pacific railroad because they could ship the ores of their mines to seaboard and thence to Swansea, Wales. The Coeur d'Alenes today, by reason of having but one class of ore, ship their product to Omaha, Denver, and points east of the Missouri river.

By the development of coal in Montana the smelting situation has changed and great prosperity to the mining industry has come as a result.

Until recent years the charges for smelting varied from \$10.00 to \$30.00 per ton. Coupled to this were transportation charges of an equal amount. These penalties naturally rendered unprofitable anything but the highest grade ores.

In this respect the Kootenays enjoy unusual advantages.

Ores are reduced at less cost in West Kootenay than any other place in the world; in some instances as low as \$3.50 per ton. Several conditions contribute to this result, but to the cheapness of coke may be given the greatest credit.

The largest item of cost, however, is the transportation of coke. This coke is shipped from East Kootenay, and with the cost of transportation eliminated and other conditions being equal it is plain that Southeast Kootenay offers an inviting field for the successful operation of smelters and ore-reduction works.

In the midst of the metal mines is the largest area of the best coking coal in the world; and, as to the other conditions, they are all that can be desired. In the matter of fluxes they are all at hand. In most instances they are contained in the ores, and where not, they exist in abundance in the locality.

Climate and waterpower are going to waste, whose use some day will work marvels in our midst. These latent resources only need the touch of the industrial genius to transform them into sources of great wealth.

Smelting as a Business.

No business has paid the profits on the capital invested as has the business of smelting.

The Boston and Colorado Smelting Company, of Argo, near Denver, Col., started with a small capital a few years ago, and has paid since then, dividends on \$1,250,000.

The Grant Smelting Company commenced with a capital of

\$100,000, and it is now paying dividends on \$3,000,000.

The Kansas City Smelting Company commenced with a comparatively small capital, and it is paying dividends upon several millions of stock.

About fifteen other such establishments have grown up in the west in the last twenty years and have been making money at an unusual rate.

The reason for this is not far to find. A custom smelter bears the same relation to the mining community that a well-conducted bank does to the business of a town; except, perhaps, the public knows less of the secrets of its vast profits. It is the mineral broker through which the wealth of the mines pass, at whatever margin it wishes to exact. In many instances only enough has been left the miner to allow him to work his mine.

Smelting companies that do a strictly custom business show unquestionably, for the amount invested, the largest profits of any industry in America. There are instances of capital invested in smelting companies being turned five times in one year, and each time the margin has been twenty per cent of the amount handled.

A smelter assumes no risk. It simply buys ores at a greatly reduced value, then attaches all sorts of penalties for smelting, deducting for moisture, assumed loss of values in reduction, discounts and commissions for marketing bullion etc. Yet, notwithstanding all these drawbacks the mining industry has enjoyed unusual advantages.

Ores are reduced at less cost in West Kootenay than any other place in the world; in some instances as low as \$3.50 per ton. Several conditions contribute to this result, but to the cheapness of coke may be given the greatest credit.

The largest item of cost, however, is the transportation of coke. This coke is shipped from East Kootenay, and with the cost of transportation eliminated and other conditions being equal it is plain that Southeast Kootenay offers an inviting field for the successful operation of smelters and ore-reduction works.

In the midst of the metal mines is the largest area of the best coking coal in the world; and, as to the other conditions, they are all that can be desired. In the matter of fluxes they are all at hand. In most instances they are contained in the ores, and where not, they exist in abundance in the locality.

Climate and waterpower are going to waste, whose use some day will work marvels in our midst. These latent resources only need the touch of the industrial genius to transform them into sources of great wealth.

Smelting as a Business.

No business has paid the profits on the capital invested as has the business of smelting.

The Boston and Colorado Smelting Company, of Argo, near Denver, Col., started with a small capital a few years ago, and has paid since then, dividends on \$1,250,000.

The Grant Smelting Company commenced with a capital of

issued the circular seems to have been to bring pressure to bear upon the government to remove the 2 per cent tax on output of mines, and enact a law giving crown grants to placer properties

Industrial Notes.

Recently a twenty-four dollar nugget was picked up in the sluice-box of the Thompson shaft on Perry creek.

The Kootenay Placer Mining Company on Perry creek, has purchased from Nils Hanson a sawmill to be set up near its property, to equip the mine with flumes and buildings. The mill was hauled to the mine during the week.

Option to purchase has been given by the owners of a group of claims on Wild Horse creek to eastern Canadian people. The consideration is said to be \$100,000. Included in the group are the Tit-for-Tat, owned by D. Griffith, and the Dardanelles, owned by the Banks Brothers.

There is a sawmill at the station consigned to Robinson and Company. It has been turned over to the Crow's Nest Pass Lumber Company who will set it up as an auxiliary to its plant at Wardner.

GOVERNMENT CAUCUS.

Are Confident of Being Able to Carry on Affairs of the Province.

A caucus of government supporters was concluded on Saturday last all the members were bound over to secrecy.

The ministers seem in very good spirits and there is little doubt that as a result of the conference they believe and know that they can carry on the affairs of the province exclusive of any other supporters but that of their avowed followers.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

Convocation of Rocky Mountain Chapter R. A. M.

The regular monthly convocation of Rocky Mountain Chapter R. A. M. was held Tuesday evening. Visiting companions from Fernie and Wardner were in attendance. The annual election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:

JAMES A. HARVEY, Ex-Comp.	Z.
R. L. T. GALBRAITH,	H.
A. B. GRACE,	J.
D. MCKAY,	S.E.
GEO. SCOTT,	S.N.
ALBERT GRIEZ,	S.
J. LUDICOAT,	J.

Installation of officers will take place Tuesday April 14.

Predicts Dissolution.

Hon. Israel Tarte, writing from Ottawa to La Patrie, regarding the political situation says:—"If the first minister's health does not improve, parliament will be dissolved during the coming fall."

Will Close Coal Mines.

The Extension coal mines near Nanaimo, are to be closed on April 1st. This will throw 1,000 men out of employment.

Vancouver Strike.

Vancouver, March 13.—No change in the strike situation. Prevailing reports are to the effect that it will be a long and bitter fight. City council delegation failed lamentably in an endeavor to mediate between the Company and the U.B.R.E. brotherhood.

DISTRICT NEWS NOTES.

Kootenay Central Railway Survey—Board of Trade Meeting—Will Entertain Delegates—Hard on Cattle.

Industrial Notes.

Recently a twenty-four dollar nugget was picked up in the sluice-box of the Thompson shaft on Perry creek.

The Kootenay Placer Mining Company on Perry creek, has purchased from Nils Hanson a sawmill to be set up near its property, to equip the mine with flumes and buildings. The mill was hauled to the mine during the week.

Option to purchase has been given by the owners of a group of claims on Wild Horse creek to eastern Canadian people. The consideration is said to be \$100,000. Included in the group are the Tit-for-Tat, owned by D. Griffith, and the Dardanelles, owned by the Banks Brothers.

There is a sawmill at the station consigned to Robinson and Company. It has been turned over to the Crow's Nest Pass Lumber Company who will set it up as an auxiliary to its plant at Wardner.

Kootenay Central Railway.

Surveying will soon commence on the proposed Kootenay Central railway, and there is every reason to believe that construction of the road will follow close upon the completion of the survey.

Board of Trade Meeting.

The regular monthly meeting of the Fort Steele Board of Trade was held on Thursday evening. The only matter of importance before the board was the election of delegates to the meeting of the Associated Boards of Trade, which takes place at Fernie on Wednesday next.

J. A. Harvey, A. B. Grace and L. W. Palmer were elected as delegates. With J. T. Laidlaw, J. C. Langley and H. Kershaw as alternates.

Upon motion of J. Walsh, seconded by J. C. Langley, J. A. Harvey, H. Watt, J. T. Laidlaw and A. B. Grace were elected as delegates, to attend the Fifth Congress of Chambers of Commerce of the Empire, which will be held at Montreal, Aug. 17th.

Hard on Cattle.

Reports received at Fort Steele from Tobacco Plains and other points in the Kootenay valley indicate that the weather for the past month has been most severe on cattle and horses than for several years.

Loggers' Association.

The executive of the Loggers' Association met at Vancouver last week, and decided to call a meeting of the entire association to counteract the efforts of millmen who they claim are trying to induce the Provincial Government to do away with the practice of issuing special timber licenses.

Canadian Mining Institute.

Eugene Coste, engineer of the Provincial Natural Gas & Fuel Company, was elected president of the Canadian Mining Institute. E. B. Kirby, Rossland; J. H. Tonkin, Fernie, and S. F. Harris, Eholi, were elected to the council. It was decided to hold the next annual meeting in Toronto.

Southeast Kootenay Reserve.

The following important resolution was carried at the mining convention at Victoria.

Resolved, that the provincial

government be urged to resist to the utmost the said claims of C.P.R. in the Elk River valley. And that the government should without delay open up the reserved areas, in Southeast Kootenay, to prospectors and settlers on fair and equitable terms, reserving, however, for the province a portion of the coal and petroleum lands, and retaining reasonable supervision and control over those granted to locators.

Advance in Price of Lead.

The advance in the price of lead is putting a new aspect upon the mining situation, which is likely to stimulate all branches of the industry, but it is probable that it will be some time before its effect will be felt. Some time ago the management of the St. Eugene stated that it would not resume operations until lead reached 13 pounds. This does not mean, however, that the

mine will be opened immediately.

Before a mine of the St.

Eugene's capacity can resume

operations, it will be necessary

to make contracts for its product

for six months or a year. If the

price of lead continues upward

it is probable that the company

will secure such contracts.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT MEET.

The Session Promises to be a Long and Busy One.

Ottawa, Ont., March 12.—Parliament opened this afternoon with the usual ceremonies. The session promises to be a long and busy one. In the first place the government has a long and important bill of fare for presentation and in addition to this a large number of public and private bills are to be introduced. Railway legislation, it is expected, will be the question of paramount importance, and the struggle between the Trans-Canada and the Grand Trunk railways will be watched with interest. Both companies will no doubt ask for public aid and the Trans-Canada people think they have rather the better of it. They already have a charter and added to this have the support of many of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's followers from Quebec.

The revision of the tariff is another matter that will demand much attention. The delegation that will be present from all parts of the Dominion will keep the grass on Parliament hill well worn, for the indications are that the session will extend far into the summer.

The redistribution bill will also be disposed of, and this requires much attention, for every member of the 200 constituencies in Canada that will be affected will have something to say about the measure. Among the other important government measures will be a bill providing for a railway commission, and a bill providing for the settlement of strikes by arbitration. The Alaska boundary affair will also be one of the important matters of discussion. On the whole, it is apparent that the members have an arduous session before them.

Will Entertain Delegates.

The Fernie Board of Trade are making extensive preparations towards entertaining the delegates of the Associated Boards of Trade, which will meet in convention at Fernie on Wednesday March 18.

Cheaper Postage.

Sir William Mullock has obtained the consent of the postmaster-general of England to reduce the rate of Canadian newspapers and periodicals posted in Canada for transmission to England to the same rate as if posted for delivery in Canada. The reduction took place on Saturday last.

In Southeast Kootenay aside from the big silver-lead mines, the mineral wealth of the Rocky and Purcell mountain ranges is now attracting the attention of mining men.

Market Conditions.

Lead advanced 7s 6d in London.

Spelter was higher in London and New York.

Copper closed in London at an advance of £1-10s.

A temporary rally in price of silver last week was maintained.

London manipulation is still a factor in both copper and lead.

An improvement is noted in the stock market.

A special feature is the activity displayed in lumbering.

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

Appointed to Canadian Counsel.

Kootenay Valley Lands—Mexico on Gold Basis—Market Conditions and Metal Quotations.

For Launch of Colorado.

Philadelphia, Pa., March 13.—Work on the armored cruiser Colorado, which is destined to outrank anything in the cruiser line in the United States navy, is being pushed with all possible haste by the Cramps and unless there is an unexpected hitch the vessel will be given its baptism in the waters of the Delaware early in the coming month.

The completion of the Colorado is looked forward to with great interest in naval circles as the ship is the first of a class practically new in the American navy.

Coupled with tremendous battery power, almost if not quite equal to that of the average battleship of the first class, she will have the speed of an ocean liner, and it is doubtless not too much to expect of her that she will bring the smoke of almost any of the so-called ocean greyhounds on the horizon at sunrise. She will have a length of 502 feet, and to fulfill the contract she must steam twenty-two knots for four consecutive hours.

Kootenay Valley Lands.

T. G. Proctor has again taken up the management of the Kootenay Valley Land Company with which he was connected for several years. The Company's lands are principally situated in the Kootenay valley from Canal Flat to Tobacco Plains.

Canadian Counsel.

T. C. Wade of Winnipeg has been appointed as one of the counsel to prepare Canada's case for presentation to the Alaskan boundary commission.

Mexico on Gold Basis.



North Star Lodge

NO. 30.

A. F. AND A. M. G. R. B. C.
FORT STEELE, B. C.
Regular meetings—1st Tuesday in each
month at eight o'clock. Visiting Brethren are
cordially invited.
B. C. River Lodge: Fernie, regular meetings
held first Friday of each month.
Cranbrook Lodge: Cranbrook, regular meetings
held on the third Thursday of each month.
H. L. MATHER, Secretary.

Rocky Mountain Chapter

NO. 125. R. A. M.

FORT STEELE, B. C.

Regular meetings—2nd Tuesday in each
month at eight o'clock.Sojourning Companions are cordially
invited.

R. L. T. GALBRAITH, Scribe E.

Professional.

Geo. S. McCarter. J. A. Harvey

HARVEY & McCARTER

Barristers, Solicitors,
Notaries Public,
Conveyancers etc.

FORT STEELE, B. C.

REVELSTOKE STATION and GOEDEN
COLLECTIONS PROMPTLY MADE.

W. R. ROSS

Barrister. Solicitor
NOTARY PUBLIC
CONVEYANCER.

Fort Steele, B. C.

FORT STEELE DEVELOPMENT SYNDICATE LTD
139 Leadenhall Street, London, England.N. A. WALLINGER, FORT STEELE,
POST OFFICE BOX 3.THOMAS McVITTIE
P.L.S. & C.E.

Fort Steele, B.C.

J. G. CUMMINGS
CIVIL ENGINEER
PROVINCIAL LAND SURVEYOR

FORT STEELE, B. C.

GRASSICK & DEMPSEY,
CONTRACTORS
AND
BUILDERS.

Fort Steele, B.C.

Fort Steele
Diamond Jubilee
HospitalMISS B. MOSS,
MATRON
Graduate of St. Luke's Hospital
Vancouver, B. C.This Institution has been recently
enlarged by a new wing which is now
open for reception of patients. For
terms apply toMISS B. MOSS, or J. F. SMITH, Sec.
Matron. Fort Steele, B.C.

GEARY & DOYLE.

Livery, Feed & Sale Stable.
Fort Steele, B.C.Regular Daily Stage meets all
trains at Fort Steele Junction.

SADDLE & PACK HORSES

TEAMING OF ALL KINDS A SPECIALTY

Shaving & Hair Dressing Parlor

Next to Oriental Hotel

FORT STEELE, B. C.

All Kinds of Hair Work a Specialty

A. J. GREZ, PROPRIETOR.

MASONIC HALL
FORT STEELE, B. C.

Weekly Bulletin.

Monday evenings Ping-pong Club.

Tuesday and Thursday evenings

Dancing School for pupils only. Competent lady teacher in attendance.

This hall will be available for other entertainments Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings.

Apply to J. LINDGREN, Manager,
Fort Steele, B. C.

J. TAENHAUSER

WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER

Engraving

Riverside Avenue,

Fort Steele, B. C.

The Prospector

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1903.

LOCAL NEWS.

A. Doyle was at Cranbrook on business Friday.

M. King, a Cranbrook lumberman was in town Tuesday.

The streets are a little slippery in some places.

H. Arnold, a rancher, was in town Wednesday.

Dr. Hugh Watt left Steele Tuesday on a visit to Ottawa.

Miss Couzens, Fort Steele Junction, was visiting Miss Annie Durick this week.

The new Miners' Association at Fort Steele is in operation.

Miss Watson was visiting Mrs. Geo. Gilpin at Cranbrook during the past week.

Government agent Armstrong visited Fernie Thursday on official business.

Walter McNeish was visiting at Fish Lake ranch during the past week.

There are 500,000 feet of logs piled on the bank of the Kootenay river near Fort Steele.

George Scott, Fernie, was shaking hands with friends at Fort Steele Tuesday.

Nuts, candies and Figs at KERSHAW'S.

Mrs. A. C. Nelsen returned from a visit to Cranbrook Tuesday.

Southeast Kootenay has been a storm center of considerable energy during the past week.

Bert Ward and N. Hughes came up from Little Bull river Wednesday.

R. D. Mather returned from the Cherry Creek logging camp Friday. He reports a cut of 350,000 ft at that camp.

Ping-pong at Fort Steele is a relic of the past. Several young ladies are now engaged in learning to play pool.

Herbert S. Clark celebrated his 23rd birthday Thursday. Mr. Clark has resided at Fort Steele for the past 22 years.

John Corrigan came down from Six-mile Friday. He reports that logging has ceased at that place.

A. L. Macdougall who has been sick at the Fort Steele hospital for some time, is now recovering.

Marked interest now centers about the plans of the big silver-lead mining companies in this district.

Owing to the storm which prevailed during the early part of this week the Kootenay river has been rising.

Rev. Father Coccola, St. Eugene Mission, who has been visiting West Kootenay, has returned home.

The clerk of the weather put pressure on and sent the thermometer down to zero Thursday night.

A. B. Fenwick and family are expected home from an extended visit to the Old Country. They sailed on February 25th.

Effect of the recent storms is noticeable, no mails from the east having been received for two days, and mail from the west did not arrive Thursday.

The regular semi-annual congregational meeting of the Presbyterian church will be held next Sabbath morning at the close of the regular public worship. The pastor earnestly requests ALL in any way connected with the congregation to be present.

The Kootenay Indians have cut 300,000 feet of logs during the past two months, on the Indian reserve.

To get acquainted with Southeast Kootenay you should subscribe for THE PROSPECTOR.

Imperial Bank of Canada

CAPITAL AUTHORIZED	\$4,000,000
CAPITAL (paid up)	\$2,923,866
REST ACCOUNT	\$2,485,288

Head Office—Toronto.

T. R. MORRITT, President; D. R. WILKIE, Vice-Pres. and Gen. Mgr.
AGENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN: Lloyds' Bank, 52 Lombard St.,
London.

A General Banking Business Transacted.

Savings Bank Department—Interest allowed on deposits.

Cranbrook Branch, F. H. MARSH, Manager.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

HEAD OFFICE—TORONTO.

Paid up Capital \$8,000,000; Reserve Fund \$2,500,000;

Aggregate Resources Over \$75,000,000.

London Office: 40 Lombard Street, E. C.

New York Office: 16 Exchange Place.

And 80 branches in Canada, the United States and British Columbia.

Cranbrook Branch,

F. C. MALPAS, Manager.

The Steele House

Fort Steele, B. C.

Offers a pleasant substitute for home to those who travel.

The best and cheapest meals in the country are to be found in the dining room. No Chinamen allowed in the kitchen. The house is run upon Cosmopolitan principles and the prospector with his pack is just as welcome as the millionnaire with his roll.

Every guest receives the best care and protection.

The Liquors are the best in town.

D. McNEISH
MANAGER.Fort Steele
Brewing Co.

FORT STEELE, B. C.

MANUFACTURERS and BREWERS OF EXTRA FINE

BEER PORTER

SOLD BY THE BARREL, KEG OR BOTTLED

Bottled beer for family use a specialty

OUTSIDE ORDERS GIVEN STRICT & PROMPT ATTENTION

P. O. BOX 812
TELEPHONE NO. 1

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Mutz & Scott, Prop's.

Kootenay
HotelBoundary Line
Tobacco Plains
B.C.

JULES HUREL, Proprietor.

GOOD ACCOMMODATION FOR TRAVELLING MEN

A First Class Home

Stage line leaves Kootenay Hotel for Elko on Monday and Friday at 8 a.m. Leaves Elk Hotel on Tuesday and Saturday at 8 a.m.

Monte Carlo Restaurant.

THE MOST
UP-TO-DATE
PLACE IN FORT STEELE.

WM. ROBINSON, Proprietor

CARLIN & DURICK
GENERAL MERCHANTS

Fort

Steele,

East

Sole Agents for the Canton Steel COMPANY

This Steel is guaranteed to be equal to Jessop's or Births in all Hard Rock Work.

SOLE AGENTS CROW'S NEST COAL COMPANY

SOLE AGENTS GIANT POWDER COMPANY.

Mining Supplies a Specialty.

Agents for the MASSEY HARRIS CO., Limited.

Farming Implements.

Because it is the best quality.
Because it is the most lasting chew.
Because it is the largest high grade plug.
Because the tags are valuable for premiums until January 1st, 1905.
Because we guarantee every plug and and
Because your dealer is authorized to refund your money if you are not satisfied.

THE EMPIRE TOBACCO CO., LTD.