K Z Galbraith

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WEEKLY CIRCULATION
375 Copies.

THE MINES OF EAST KOOTENAY ARE RICH IN GOLD, SILVER, COPPER & LEAD.

The Prospector.

Vol. 1. THE PROSPECTOR, FORT STEELE B.C. SATURDAY MAY 2 nd, 1896. No. 27.

The Treasury Department of the United States makes an absurd ruling on Lead ores.

A new ruling of the treasury department is announced which again gives an illustration of the delights of a "protective" tariff system in concrete form. The treasury department has ruled that the duty on all lead ores which are shipped into the United States shall be three fourths of a cent on every pound shipped, provided that the value of the lead in the ore exceeds the value of the silver. The duty on lead ore is three quarters of a cent per pound. Heretofore this has been considered to mean three quarters of a cent on the lead that is contained in the ores If the ore run 60% lead, duty was paid on 60% of the ton. But the department has notified the smelters that hereafter this will be construed to mean three-quarters of a cent for each pound of the gross ore tonnage, if the lead in the ore is of greater value than the silver.

This will make a decided difference with many of the mining properties on this side of the line. The Trail Creek ores are not lead properties and will not be affected. So with many others. The Slocan district runs high in lead and silver, and when the lead is of the greater value it will mean an additional duty of several dollars. There a few properties in each of these districts that will be affected by this ruling. A few in the Ainsworth camp and a few in the Fort Steele district. Some of the low grade properties must shut down for a time. These however, will only be few.

It is an injury to the poor man more than to any one else, said a prominent mining man. Many will be prevented or hindered in developing their properties where the ore is low grade. It will have the effect of starting smelting plants in different parts of British Columbia. When the ore is reduced there will be that much less duty to pay. But there will not be many properties affected. And advances in the price of silver will materially lessen the properties that must pay this additional duty. If the ore contains 60% lead and 50 ounces in silver, the value of the lead being $36. and the silver about $34. the duty is three-quarters of a cent on every pound in each ton shipped, or $15. per ton; $6. in excess of the charge heretofore made. That this will close many of the British Columbia mines temporarily is certain; and it will ultimately drive the smelting industry into British Columbia. The treasury department will grant a rehearing on this question and the North-western Mining Association will be urged to use its influence in having the decision reversed. Many mining men are confident that it cannot stand.

Dont forget the mining Association meeting to night.

Subscribe for the Prospector; If your subscription has expired, renew it.

THE St, EUGENE MINE.

Work has been discontinued for a short time on the St, Eugene. The developement of the mine has not progressed in a satisfactory manner for some time, and there seems to be a diversity of opinions as to where the lead in the lower tunnel is, and where to find it. Early last spring the Company run in a tunnel Several hundred feet following the lead, which is from 6 to 10 feet in width. And extracted some 3.000 tons of ore; the mine at this time was under the management of Mr. James Cronan, a practical miner of large experience. Unfortunately for the company, Mr. Cronan thought that a vacation was necessary, having some private business to attend to, and that the winter was the best time for him to leave the mine, as the company intended only to further develope the lower tunnel during the winter months. A new superintendent was appointed, and took charge of the mine late last fall; since that time the workings of the mine have not run as smooth as they did under the old regime. A new tunnel was started to tap the ledge at a distance of 100 feet lower than the No 1. tunnel. The new tunnel is in 275 feet and according to the views of many of the men at work in the mine, at least 150 feet of the tunnel is dead work. As near as we can learn the facts are, that at a distance of about 125 feet, the casing of the lead was struck, and then instead of cross drifting to the left, to ascertain the position of the vein, the drift was continued to the right, and ran parallel with the lead for nearly 100 feet, and then drifted still further to the right and away from the lead; it is hard to explain why this was done, for we learn that almost all the working miners thought the lead in the opposite direction, and so expressed themselves. The result is what many a good mine has had "a black eye" all for the want of a little common sense, and a knowledge of the formation outside of the lead; how a man could run to the west, when every indication pointed to the east, is beyond our ken.

Mr Cronan returned on Saturday to Fort Steele direct from the old country, having heard the reports from the mine; and on Monday went to the mine, and in a few days work will be resumed, and we trust that the mine will regain its prestige and become a shipper, as well as a producing mine.

THE NEW DRAW.

Work on the Draw is progressing rapidly, under the management of Mr Weller, the piles on the up river side of the are all drove; and the balance on the lower side will be completed in a few days

James Dibble the discover of the famous Dibble group of mines returned to Fort Steele last Sunday.

THE PROSPECTOR.

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The next regular meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday May 2nd,

All possible information will be furnished by the Association, upon application to
Thomas.McVittie,Sec,Fort Steele B.C.

TOOK HALF A LOAF.

The assessment bill was given its third reading and it will become law. The tax on mines is one per cent on the assessed value of all ore or mineral bearing substances raised,gotten,or gained from any lands in the Province,the assessed value to be based on the market price of the ore or mineral bearing substances at the mine as determined, in case of dispute,by smelter,reduction works,refining works,or other satisfactory returns,as the case may be;provided, that no ore or mineral bearing substances shal be taxed which is not sold or removed from the mining premises.

NOTICE.

We, call the attention of those who subscribed to the Prospector,for six months;that their subscription expires with this issue.

THE PROSPECTOR.

The Manager takes pleasure in announcing to the readers of the Prospector,and its many friends,that in a short time ,publish the paper in the rerular form of an up to date paper;an order having been placed for a new plant suitable for all kinds of printing,which is expected to arrive in about five weeks.

Now is the time to renew your subscriptions,

Dont forget the mining association meeting tonight.

LEGAL NOTICES.

TABLE, showing the dates and places of Courts of Assize, Nisi Prius, Oyer and Terminer, and General Gaol Delivery for the Year 1896.

SPRING ASSIZES.

Nanaimo.....Tuesday	5th May.
New Westminster.Tuesday	12th May.
Vancouver,.....Tuesday	19th May.
Clinton .....Monday	25th May.
Victoria .....Tuesday	26th May.
Kamloops .....Monday	1st June.
Vernon .....Monday	8th June.
+Nelson .....Monday	15th June.
+Donald .....Monday	22nd June.

+Special Assize.

EXAMINATION FOR CERTIFICATE IN ASSAYING.

Bureau of Mines,
Victoria B.C.April 8th 1896.

ON HAVING LEARNED that many who desires to obtain the above certificate do not feel sufficiently prepared for the examination it was proposed to hold here during the last week of this month, the Hon,the Minister of Mines has decided to postpone said examination until the autumn,when it may be held at two or three places in the Province for the better convenience of the candidates; due notice to be given of the time,places,and examiners appointed by the Minister.

An excellent book on assaying,embracing most of the best and latest methods for all the metals required for this examination, Furman's "Manual of Practical Assaying", $3.00. John. Wiley & Sons, New York,is strongly recommended.

WILLIAM.A.CARLYLE,
Apy,9. Provincial Mineralogist.

KOOTENAY INDIAN AGENCY.

A list of water privileges submitted for record,being the quantities of water required for irrigating purposes by the under-named bands of Indians.

THE St,MARY'S BAND.

(400) Four hundred inches from the St Marys river.
(100) One hundred inches from Cherry creek.

TOBACCO PLAINS BAND.

(200) Two hundred inches from a creek running through William Phillipp's pre-emption.
(200) Two hundred inches from a creek known as Reserve creek.

COLUMBIA LAKE BAND.

(100) One hundred inches from Marijeau creek.

SHUSWAP BAND.

(100) One hundred inches from Shuswap creek.
(100) One hundred inches from Lilac creek.

THE AGENCY, R.L.T.Galbraith.
Fort Steele B.C. Indian Agent.
April 15th 1896.

DIVINE SERVICE.

Divine Service will be held in the School Room at 7.30 P.M. Sunday Evening. All are invited.

The Rev' M.Coccola,O.M.I. has gone to Tobacco Plains to hold a mission.

It is reported that our friend, T.Love has been offered a good figure for his business at St,Eugene.

John Clever,came in from the Sullivan group, and reports the snow fast disappearing .

A NEW ENTERPRISE.

We learn, from good authority,that the Upper Columbia Navigation Co, intend running the Gwendiline as far as Island Pond on the Kootenay river,from there a road will be opened to Canal Flat,and in this way a large proportion of the ore from the North Star mine will be carried to Golden;where it will be smelted,thus saving the duty,and the transportation to the States.

Of course the scheme is an experiment,which we hope will succeed,as it will keep a large amount of money in the country. Capt'Armstrong and his company deserve to succeed in this new venture.

THE INVICTA COMPANY.

The Invicta Co,have had their ditches cleaned out,and are getting their property in good shape for work; We understand that the Iron piping has been shipped,and will be pushed forward to Wild Horse creek, without delay.

THE NIP AND TUCK.

The preparatory work on this property is being pushed forward as fast as possible,and everything will be in readiness for piping as soon as the water raises.

THE TOWN DITCH.

The Town Ditch is being cleaned out and repaired, and water will shortly be on our streets to lay the dust.

ROUND TOWN.

A pleasant surprise awaits the guests of the Steele House, on Sunday next;"So Boys" put on your store clothes and your pleasantest smile and be sure to be there for dinner.

The "Saw Mill" is running full time,and orders pouring in daily.

Mr.Curran the new superentendent of the North Star mine,and a Mr Adams came in on the White Swan.

Judd.Langley is doing the assessment work on the "Empire", a property belonging to a "Macleod Syndicate."

M.Phillipps S.M. paid his usual visit to Fort Steele,and after attending to his official duties returned home to Tobacco Plains on Monday.

Dont forget the mining Association meeting tonight.

Mr.Fred.Baimore,of Montreal,came in on the stage on Saturday; He will have charge of the Upper Columbia,and the International Navigation Companies business.

Harry O:Donaghee, has made a discovery, and located it, which he thinks is the best in the district,the ore is a Grey Copper.

It is rumored that the Neoshe Mine is bonded,

Ben Pugh,has a gang of chinamen at work on the Town ditch; Ben is boss, but Gibbons carries the level,and tells the chinamen and Ben what to do.

Renew your subscription for the Prospector.

PLACER MINING.

We learn that eight applications have been made,by different parties,for the leasing of placer ground on what is known as Palmers Bar; It has been known for many years that good pay could be found on the bar, but there was but very little water that was available ,and not enough for extensive working,the applicants have applied for a half mile each of bar diggings; and intend to pool their interests,and form a company to work the several claims, it will require a large amount of capital to accomplish the undertaking, and do it successfully;water will be brought to the diggings, by a ditch,for a distance of five miles,through a low pass from the Moyea river. There is no doubt that the bar is rich in gold,but the lack of water has been the reason that it has not been worked to any great extent, and with improved mining machinery it will become a paying investment to those interested; We wish the parties success in their enterprise,and trust that they will find gold galore.

THE DIBBLE GROUP.

The company holding the bond on this property, are still engaged in running a tunnel to strike the Last Chance lead. They are in 240 feet,and in running this distance, have cut several leads one of three feet in width has a rich pay streak a foot wide; another 15 feet in width,there is no doubt but that this property will prove a bonanza to the owners.

THE LITTLE HORN.

This property is situate near Wasa, and has a lead of 8 feet in width,at present the owners are prospecting the claim; and at an early day will put on a force ,to develope the property.

THE INTERNATIONAL PLACER CO.

The tunnel on this property is in 350 feet, and the company expect in 30 feet to strike the old channel of Wild Horse creek.

Mr.John Clever brought in some good looking ore from the Gem mine;this is one of the Sullivan group of mines.

A.McKenzie.Leitch, has gone to Butte Montana, to arrange for the opening up of a copper property on Bull river.

In the Kootenay,and other mining districts of British Columbia,there is a class of men who endure toil and often hardships in their efforts to discover the hidden treasure. They are the pioneer prospectors,and without them our mineral wealth would remain hidden. They should have their reward,but it too often happens that they place such extravagant value on their findings, that it frightens capital away. This not only prevents the prospector from realizing a return for his labor,but it tends to retard the active development of the district. The wise thing for the prospector to do is to place a fair valuation on his claim in the first instance;a valuation which will bear inspection,and the result in the end will be to his advantage. On the other hand, capitalists should not haggle over a fair price when a really good proposition is laid before them.

NEW YORK QUOTATIONS.

Silver, 68¢. Copper, $10.75.@11.50.
Lead $2.90 @ 3.05.

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