

o shares still in reserve. Should the shareholders to the support of the directors in this crisis, it may be possible to retrieve the position and go ahead. Otherwise, there seems nothing before the company but reconstruction, which is certainly not a pleasant prospect.

GREAT BOULDERS.

It was only to be expected that Mr. Richard Hamilton, addressing the shareholders of the Great Boulder Property, would have much to say that was of interest to those who attended last week at the Great Eastern Hotel. He was certainly not disappointed. In introducing the general manager, Mr. G. P. Doolette, the chairman of the company, took the opportunity of stating that the twelve months which closed with December last had proved to be their record year. After payment of all expenses, a net profit of £336,000 had been made, out of which, after paying a dividend at the rate of 150 per cent., they would be able to carry forward to the reserve fund £40,000. In his remarks to the shareholders, Mr. Hamilton pointed out that he had been in charge of the Great Boulder's property for about ten years, and when he arrived at Kalgoorlie, a place then very dear and labour was scarce. Now, however, they had cheap water, better freight rates, and the workmen had become more efficient, which had enabled costs to be considerably reduced. Satisfactory results had been in this respect, Mr. Hamilton expected to see still greater reductions effected in the future. With respect to developments on the Great Boulder, as Mr. Hamilton pointed out it was, in view of the very detailed fortnightly reports published, which are given in our columns—as easy for shareholders to be conversant with the actual situation as it was for himself. Suffice it to say that the developments that have taken place during the past year have now rendered it necessary to increase the output to about 400 tons a day and by the end of the current year they hoped to have a portion of the mine started. Referring to the past, Mr. Hamilton pointed out that 2s. was paid in dividends during 1901, 2s. 6d. in 1902, and 3s. in 1903. As to the future, whilst he did not know exactly what the dividends would be, he stated that they would do their best to increase them, a remark which naturally met with approbation. On the motion of Mr. Trewartha, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Hamilton for his lucid speech. As many shareholders of the Great Boulder No. 1 were present, Mr. Doolette, prior to the meeting dispersing, informed them that a working arrangement had been entered into with the Great Boulder by which the finances of the Great Boulder No. 1 would be materially conserved and there would therefore be no immediate need for calling up any further capital, as they had ample money available for all purposes in the substantial balance they at present had on hand.

THE WHITAKER WRIGHT CASE.

ON Monday the hearing was commenced of the case of the King Whitaker Wright, before Mr. Justice Bigham and a special jury. The action is brought at the instance of the Official Receiver, and the indictment charges the defendant with certain offences under sections 83 and 84 of the Larceny Act of 1861. The defendant pleaded not guilty. Counsel for the prosecution are Mr. Isaac C. M. Hume, Messrs. E. C. Mr. Guy Stephenson, and Mr. G. A.

ECHOES OF THE MARKETS.

- The New Alburnia has at last been laid to rest.
- Another Emperor reconstruction is in the wind.
- Leading Westralians are cheap and are not likely to go much lower.
- The forthcoming Lake George action promises to be an interesting one.
- People are wondering which West-African is going to reconstruct next.
- The Etruscan Copper mystery ought soon to be solved one way or the other.
- Some unfavourable rumours are said to be floating about concerning Bibiani.
- The Colonials are still nibbling at Associated and evidently know something.
- The King Prempeh Treasure Mines, Limited, has been reabsorbed by the London Ashanti Syndicate.
- Great Fingalls, Oroya-Brownhills, and Sons of Gwalia are among the Westralian certainties for a rise.
- Several Egyptian wild cats are being prepared for public consumption, but a warm time awaits some of them.
- The Cosmopolitan achieved another record last month in the way of working costs, which were reduced to 15s. 10d. per ton.

ADVICE TO INVESTORS.

[Correspondents desiring a reply by letter to their inquiries must enclose a five of two shillings and sixpence, or they can have an answer in THE COLONIAL MINING NEWS free of charge. In the latter case only three questions can be answered in one week's issue, and these must be numbered.]

Sigma (Walsall).—Best left alone.

Subscriber (Rennes).—We have written you on the matters mentioned.

Phlox (Brixton).—Hold for the present and write again when the shares are 10s. higher.

Amico (South Walsall).—They are a fair speculation at the present price and that is all that can be said for them at the moment.

Pastoral (Hawick).—(1) A purchase to average should turn out all right. (2) Do not care to recommend. Try Randfontein or Rand Victoria.

Amico (Warrington).—We are not at liberty at present to give details of the deal, but it is one which we believe will ultimately prove beneficial to the company.

Subscriber (Loos).—(1 and 3) Taken right through the developments are not unsatisfactory and we think the dividend will be maintained. (2) Doubtful whether your limit will be reached, but they should go much better.

Querist (Coatbridge).—(1) Bleimfield House, E.C. (2) Everything has gone down, so that fact counts for very little. (3) The company has invested some of its money in a South African company. A report and balance-sheet will be issued next April.

DEATH OF MR. WHITELOCK.

It is with great regret that we record the death of Mr. Alfred Whitelock, at the early age of forty-five, from leucæmia, the result of long-standing malarial poisoning. We published, in our issue of September 25, 1902, an interview with Mr. Whitelock on the general progress of gold mining in the Kanowna District of Western Australia and on developments on the properties of the Ballarat and Prince Oscar, of which he afterwards became manager and returned to the colony. Subsequently Mr. Whitelock returned to England on account of his health and was elected to a seat on the board of the Ballarat and Prince Oscar, where his sound, practical knowledge and experience were greatly appreciated. A year ago he went out again for the company and having accomplished his mission returned to England, only to be prostrated at once by the malady that has carried him off—notwithstanding the highest skill and best medical advice to be had—and he passed away at his residence at South Norwood, on Friday last. Mr. Whitelock was a man of great ability in his profession and was possessed of a most genial disposition, being greatly liked by all who knew him. In his early days he spent a few years at sea in order to see the world, and then settled to gold mining at Charters Towers, Queensland, from which he went to the Kanowna District of Western Australia, when the discovery of gold there became so pronounced some seven or eight years ago. For the past two years he has been entirely connected with the Ballarat and Prince Oscar Company, in whose Ballarat mine he had the greatest confidence as to its future

He leaves wife + 3 daughters

Center His many friends at Kanowna and

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WHITE FEATHER MINES.

Interview with Mr. Whitelock—Bright Outlook for the District.

A SOJOURN of some six years in the White Feather district of Western Australia well qualifies Mr. A. Whitelock to speak as to the position of the mines. Prior to going to Western Australia, however, Mr. Whitelock had some twenty years' experience on the Queensland goldfields. As he has not long returned from the Golden West, a representative of THE COLONIAL MINING NEWS took the opportunity last week of having a short and interesting chat.

"When did you first visit Western Australia?" queried our representative.—"About seven years ago. I went on behalf of some syndicates in the eastern colonies. For a short time I stayed on the Norseman, where there are many low-grade mines. As to the suggested railway, of course it would cheapen the cost of living and there is but little doubt that some of the mines would pay if it were constructed. From Norseman I went straight away up to White Feather—or Kanowna as it is now called."

"There was, of course, no railway then?"—"Oh, no. That has been constructed since."

"You have witnessed some wonderful changes in the State?"—"Yes, but my attention has been mainly confined to the Kanowna district. I was there long before the famous Fitzroy lead was discovered on the Ballarat property."

"You are perfectly familiar with the progress which has been made by the various mines?"—"Yes. The White Feather Main Reef is, of course, the chief at the present moment. I say at the present moment, because there are such wonderful possibilities before some of the others that there is no telling what may turn up. The developments on the Main Reef are most satisfactory. The main shaft is down 763 ft., and a cross-cut is being put in at 750 ft. to strike the main lode. This should be met with at a distance of about 80 ft. from the main shaft, and will possibly take between two and three months. I need not tell you that the company is a steady gold producer and a fairly good dividend-payer, but it may not be so generally known that there is sufficient ore in reserve at the present time to last two years, and reserves are continually being added to. Another point worth mention in dealing with the White Feather Main Reef is the good fortune the company had in sinking their main shaft. This struck the reef at 500 ft., and has greatly facilitated the opening up of the property. The shaft could not have been put in a better place if the manager had been able to see into the ground."

"What of the White Feather Reward?"—"Well, its past has not been so rosy as that of the Main Reef, but in my opinion the future will fully atone for that. In the early days the White Feather Reward had some remarkably good crushings going over 2 oz., and I think the time will come again—and that perhaps sooner than many people expect—when we shall see a repetition of those good times. The shaft on the Reward is down 520 ft. At 500 ft. they are cross-cutting for the reef, and news that it has been struck may come to hand any day, for there is no doubt they will strike it. This will serve to put the Reward on a level with the Main Reef."

"What of the management of the Main Reef and Reward?"—"That is undoubted. Mr. Harper I have known a long time, and he can be thoroughly relied on to do his work well."

"The North White Feather is another property which you doubtless know something about?"—"Yes. That also has had its troubles, but it now seems to be shaping well, and I think it will do very well. It is fortunate in possessing leases north of the Reward and south of the Main Reef, thus securing the run of the lodes at both ends, for the lodes run almost direct from north to south. On the north leases a shaft is down 260 ft. on what is called the Extended reef and a shaft 180 ft. deep on the Reward reef, whilst on the southern lease the Austral shaft is down 224 ft. The company has a 20-stamp battery and is crushing, although not full time. It ought not to be long, however, before its present returns are improved on not only from the battery but also from the cyanide plant which the company has acquired and which is expected to be in operation within two months. This has a capacity of something like 1,500 tons per month. There are 11,000 tons of tailings at present available."

"Are these the only mines of value at Kanowna?"—"Not by any means. They may be the best known here, but there are many others of which a good deal will be heard later on. Among these are the Ballarat and Prince Oscar and the Last Chance. The Ballarat was one of the first properties sold at Kanowna and when the shaft was put down it struck extremely rich quartz. This is one of the leases at present owned by the Ballarat and Prince Oscar. On the west of the Ballarat is the well-known Sunbeam lease—that is, well known in Western Australia—from which 1,100 oz. of gold has been

boundary. Throughout the whole length of the drive the lode which is sulphide—averages about 8 ft. and goes, I should from 4 oz. to 5 oz. In the Last Chance the London and Coolga Explorers have undoubtedly a splendid property, and a good one more will be heard of it."

"Are you of opinion that the Last Chance lode enters Ball lease?"—"Certainly. On the Last Chance the lode is a permar and well-defined body of ore, and there is every reason to believe that in the Ballarat lease it will prove equally as rich as in the Last Chance."

"The outlook for the Ballarat and Prince Oscar is, then, a good one?"—"Undoubtedly. With the dip of the Sunbeam reefs the run of the Last Chance lode the company ought to do well. The past management has not been all that it might have been, but I understand that those now in control intend persevere with the development work, and prospects certainly justify further expenditure. It is not too much to say that the Ballarat is quite as well to-day as did the White Feather Main Reef at same stage."

"There are, I suppose, many other companies working Kanowna that we here know nothing about?"—"Yes, very many. They are owned by South Australian syndicates and are doing well."

"You are, then, satisfied that we shall hear a good deal about the White Feather Mines?"—"Yes. When the White Feather Reward strikes the reef in the crosscut and the Last Chance battery gets to work on its sulphide ore—as it will at the end of the year—you will hear a good deal more of Kanowna."

"Are you returning to Western Australia?"—"Not just yet, but I have, however, great hopes of the White Feather district and I shall not be surprised if I turn up there again some day."

LATEST WESTRALIAN MAIL NEWS

THE HANNAN'S GOLDFIELD.

KALGOORLIE, August:

THE Ivanhoe management report that the east lode has been struck with in the cross-cut at Patterson's 700 ft. level, and at a point 270 ft. from the shaft. The true width of the ore body at this depth is not yet known, but the borings for 8 ft. give the very satisfactory average of 1 oz. 1 dwt. per ton. At the higher levels the same averages about 6 ft. in thickness, and is composed of good quality milling ore. The drillings at the 700 ft. level show that it is evidently consistent at that depth, and the development may be regarded as a very gratifying one.

The Great Boulder main shaft is down 1,600 ft., and it is timbered preparatory to opening out at that depth. The eleventh and twelfth levels continue to yield exceptionally well. The other workings are also furnishing stone of a good average grade. With the exception of a few minor parts, all the machinery required for the erection of the six Weston furnaces has been delivered on the mine. It is expected that these furnaces will be in operation at the end of September.

Driving north at the No. 8 level on the Oroya's north block is in progress, but so far the cutting of the shaft at this depth has not been announced. At No. 6 level the diamond drill is going west of the shaft to try an ore body previously met with in the west of the eastern cross-cut. The rise and winze from No. 6 level still in rich ore. Development work on the south block is proceeding as usual, and some of the stopes are showing capital ore.

Prospecting with the diamond drill below the seventh level of the Associated Northern is still in progress. Nothing of value has been cut. A bore is now being drilled eastward from the end of the west cross-cut. Splendid ore is being broken from the rich lode in this mine at the third, fourth, and seventh levels.

The only work now in hand on the Brownhill Extended is the sinking of the main shaft, which is now well below 600 ft. The next level driven will be at 700 ft., and it is also likely that a very long level will be run out at 500 ft.

Some splendid stone is being broken from one of the lower levels of the Associated mine, but the manager is reticent as to what the mine the rich stone is being taken from.

A parcel of 33 tons from the Hannan's Proprietary Stanley at Mount Monger has been crushed for a return of 24 oz. 12 exclusive of tailings.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTICES.

THE Stock Exchange Committee has appointed Thursday September 25, a special settling day in: Consolidated Austral Copper Trust, Limited—Further issue of 115,000 vendors' shares of £1 each fully paid, Nos. 172,501 to 285,000 and 295,001 to 297,000; Gold Coast Prospectors' Syndicate, Limited—2,000 vendors' shares of £1 each fully paid, Nos. 4,501 to 6,500; Peak Hill Gold Mining Company, Limited—Further issue of 11,000 shares of £1 each fully paid, Nos. 289,001 to 300,000; and Roodport United Main Reef Mining Company, Limited—Further issue of 45,000 shares of £1 each fully paid, Nos. 250,001 to 295,000; and Wednesday, October 1, a special settling day in: Ivory Coast Finance Syndicate (Limited)—30,000 shares of £1 each fully paid, Nos. 1 to 30,000.

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