

CANADIAN TARIFF ON LEAD.

Smelter Trust Said to be Butting in on Legislation at Ottawa.

The gentleman mentioned in the following, from the Nelson, (B. C.) News, D. C. Johnson, is well known to mine operators in eastern Oregon, he having been formerly ore buyer for the Everett smelter. Several months since he accepted a position with the smelter trust. The News says:

Local mining men, who read the interview with D. C. Johnson, which appeared in the Daily News of Sunday, describing the present attitude of the American lead trust to British Columbia mine owners, regard the matter entirely as a bluff to offset the movement for a raise in the tariff on lead and its products. They add that were it not for the tariff matter now pending, D. C. Johnson would never have made his appearance here at this juncture and this outlined program is merely part of the general scheme now being worked by the trust to effectually prevent any changes being made at Ottawa.

It is asserted that active steps have been started at Ottawa to influence the government against the proposals made by the lead men, and it is said that the opposition is not confined to eastern Canada, but is now endeavoring to influence the west as well. D. C. Johnson denies all these imputations, and says he is here to buy on a business basis, and that his principals, the American Smelting and Refining company, are not attempting to interfere with legislation in any way, as they have too much business to attend to in their own immediate territory to bother about Canadian affairs.

As against Mr. Johnson's statement, skeptical mining men here say that he has not made any contracts for ore which amount to anything, and that all he has attempted to do is to take a few small orders to give color to the statements that the trust is coming back into the Kootenays as a lead purchaser, and they say further that when Mr. Johnson can show a contract with the St. Eugene and the Payne for the total production of these mines on the old working basis, they may believe that the trust is in earnest in the matter. Meantime the price of lead is still rising on the London market, and the lead men are actively pushing the tariff matter at Ottawa.

Arrangements are now being made to send a strong delegation to the capital, at least a week previous to the opening of the house, and to remain on the ground until the tariff announcement is made.

That Coeur D'Alene Lead Deal.

D. H. Hyman, who is negotiating the big \$6,000,000 deal for the consolidation of the Coeur d'Alene mines, has secured an extension of his option until March 31. A. B. Campbell of the Standard and Hecla companies, who is perhaps as heavily interested as anyone in the properties, says: "I personally doubt whether the deal will be put through. If it does our properties will be bought for cash, although there has been some talk of issuing stock to those who prefer it. As I understand it, Mr. Hyman is dealing with people associated with the American Smelting and Refining company, but the smelting company as a corporation has nothing to do with the deal. The best man to see about this is Frederick Burbridge." Mr. Burbridge, late manager for the Bunker Hill and Sullivan, who made the examination of the properties states: "Mr. Hyman

has secured an extension of his option until March 31. The properties which he is dealing for include the Standard, the Mammoth, the Hecla, the Frisco, the Coeur d'Alene Developing company and the Morning. Neither the Empire State-Idaho company's mines, including the Tiger-Poorman and the Warden group, nor the Bunker Hill and Sullivan, nor the Hercules would be included. I see that \$26,000,000 has been named as the figure for the consolidation. I should say that it was much too high. I have no doubt that all of the mines in the district could be bought for considerable less than that amount. The consolidation would not affect the operation of the properties. I understand that the people with whom Mr. Hyman is dealing are interested in the American Smelting and Refining company.— Press dispatch from Wallace, Idaho.

MORE LAND OPEN FOR ENTRY.

Department of the Interior,
United States Land Office,
La Grande, Ore., Feb., 9, 1903.
Notice is hereby given—That the official plats of the surveys of Townships Nos. 7 S. R. 47 E.; 7 S. R. 48 E.; and 6 S. R. 48 E., have been received at this office and the same will be filed of record in this office on Wednesday, the 15th day of April, 1903, and that on and after that date this office will be prepared to receive applications for the entry of lands in said townships.
E. W. BARTLETT, Register.
S. O. SWACKHAMER, Receiver.

Miller cap protectors. T. G. Harrison agent for Baker, Grant and Union counties.

Timber and Homestead Filings.

Timber and homestead filings, as well as final proofs, can be made before Charles H. Chance, United States Commissioner, office in First National Bank of Sumpter building, Sumpter, thus saving applicants expense of a trip to La Grande.

Use Giant powder, fuse and caps.

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| HOSPITAL, Main 187.

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