

recovered, the average value having been rather more than \$5 per ton. The installation of an air compressor and use of power drills in the mine, and the enlargement of the stamp mill, are having the consideration of the management of the company. The Beatrice shipped high-grade galena ore and did a lot of development work. The Silver Dollar obtained an air compressor, which is at the mine; a mill building has been erected on the property and the requisite machinery and other equipment is to be installed as soon as it can be got in. The Camborne Gold Mining Co. has been endeavouring to raise sufficient money to admit of replacing its buildings and aerial tramway destroyed by fire some time since and for development of the Goldfinch properties. The Mammoth, owned by the Edward Baillie Syndicate of Rossland, is being further developed and its shoots of high-grade ore opened up for shipping purposes.

The Ferguson Mines, Ltd., has for some time been engaged in a comprehensive scheme of development of its Silver Cup mines and has encountered high-grade shoots of ore apparently of good size. The Metropolitan Co. of Minneapolis last season continued the exploration of its Triune property. An undertaking that may lead to important discoveries of ore is the driving of a 4,000 ft. tunnel into Nettie L. Mountain at considerable depth. A Trout Lake syndicate commenced work late in the year on the Broadwater, one of the old Horne-Payne Co.'s properties.

The Chestnut Hill Co. has been continuing to operate the Lucky Boy, situated near Trout Lake. Other than the output of this property there was not much ore produced in his vicinity in 1905.

Several claims in Poplar camp had development work done on them, but production has not yet been commenced in this camp.

YMIER DISTRICT.

By Percy Gleazer.

YMIR DISTRICT made satisfactory progress, on the whole in 1905. The most striking event of the year in connection with mining was the important change in conditions at the Ymir mine. For about two years there had been little or nothing encouraging to report of this once profitable enterprise. Late this year, however, there has been much that is satisfactory of actual discovery and accomplishment, until now all doubt of permanency of operation is removed. The importance of this fact to the Ymir camp, and its influence on the mining industry of the province generally, can hardly be over-estimated. For on the London market the group of companies of which the Ymir Gold Mines, Ltd., is the best known, has always been considered representative of the conditions of mining in British Columbia.

Ymir.—The discovery of what appears to be an entirely new ore shoot was made in the 500-ft. level of the Ymir mine last September. Here, in the west drift, 5 ft. of \$20 ore was met with. The present manager, Mr. E. M. Hand, conceived the theory that if the vein contained ore-shoots other than the original one, these would be found to the west of the present work-

ings. This theory, although in antagonism to the expert theories upon which operations have been conducted during the last two years, was amply justified by the discovery in the 500-foot level, a discovery which was quickly followed by a similar one in the 600-foot level west. So far about 50 ft. has been driven in the 500-ft. level, all in ore. The place where the ore was encountered in the 600-ft. level is still 150 ft. east of the point at which it was discovered in the 500-ft., proving a very considerable length for the new shoot.

Most important of all, however, is the discovery of what is believed to be the same shoot in the 1,000-ft. level west. The uncertainties of mining are seldom more plainly exemplified than in this instance. Two years ago the then manager, Mr. G. H. Barnhart, was giving the same level when he received directions from his directors in London to cease this work and confine his deep developments to driving east on the 1,000-ft level, consequently the east drift on this level had been driven more than 2,000 ft. without any important result. After Mr. Hand obtained permission to drive west on this level, he commenced this work and had only driven a few feet when he reached pay ore. This ore is still a long distance from a point directly beneath the discovery in the 500-ft. level, and should it prove continuous so far west, and up to the 500-ft. level, the shoot will give many years' mill supply. At the time of writing the mill is temporarily shut down, undergoing a thorough overhauling, preparatory to starting up on the new reserves. The production for the whole year is not known, but for eight months it totalled 16,080 tons, valued at nearly \$80,000.

Wilcox.—The Broken Hill M. & D. Co., owning the Wilcox mine, went into liquidation last August. Stephen Bywater, the president of the company, is now operating the mine for the benefit of the creditors as liquidator. This financial embarrassment will probably be of short duration, having been brought about by over-expenditure on new plant. The mine itself is looking well and ten days' run of the 10-stamp mill resulted in a brick worth more than \$2,000.

Hunter V. and Standard.—About the middle of the year the B. C. Standard Mining Co. leased the Hunter V. mine to the Hall Mining & Smelting Co. The latter company has since operated the property continuously, the shipments averaging about 1,000 tons per month. The method of mining has undergone a change here, it having been found that the exposed situation of the property made the system of open quarrying impracticable. Underground mining is now the rule, therefore, and this system has resulted in the finding of what may be termed veins or paystreaks. As is well known, the calcite ore of this property is an immense deposit of triangular shape, on the ridge of a mountain. Under existing conditions the whole of this deposit, although very low-grade, can be shipped at a profit to smelters which need it for lime flux. Recently, however, a number of streaks of quartz have been found in the lime and these streaks sometimes carry higher than average values in gold and silver. A number of cars of this class of ore have recently been shipped. At present the ore is all going to the