

will be extended a considerable distance south of Calgary through the ranch country.

Both of these railways are of especial importance to your Company, from the fact that they will make easily accessible large areas of your lands now too far away from railways to be available.

To prevent the invasion, by foreign lines, of the Kootenay District, in British Columbia—a district rich in precious metals and other natural resources—your Directors have secured the control of the charter of the Columbia and Kootenay Railway Company, and agreed with the Provincial Government that the railway shall be built, about thirty miles in length, during the present season, to connect the navigable waters of Kootenay Lake with those of the Columbia River, thus opening a line of steamboat and railway communication of more than 250 miles. A grant of 200,000 acres of land has been secured from the Provincial Government in aid of the construction of this line.

Your Directors have agreed to a lease of the Shuswap and Okanagon Railway, a line about to be made from Sicamous Narrows, on your main line, to the head of Okanagon Lake in British Columbia, a distance of 51 miles, and to pay as rental therefor 40 per cent of the gross earnings of the leased line. This line, in connection with steamboats on the Okanagon Lake, will afford communication for more than 100 miles through a valuable mineral and agricultural district.

The two last named railways will make all parts of British Columbia south of the main line of the Canadian