

rocky beaches on both lakes, but less abundantly toward the head of the upper lake. The yellow pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) appears for the first time near the head of the Lower Arrow Lake, and is increasingly abundant thereafter, becoming the characteristic tree of the southward-facing slopes near the Deer Park. *Syringa* bushes (*Philadelphus Lewisii*) appeared, about half way down the lower lake, growing in quantity on rocky slopes and in full bloom on the 16th of June.

### *Kootanie River.*

#### **The valley.**

The lower reach of the Kootanie River, and the West Arm of Kootanie Lake, from which it flows, occupy an important and continuous valley which runs off from that of the Columbia at Sproat's Landing in an east-north-easterly direction. This valley lies almost directly transverse to the main direction of the mountains and to that of the wider valleys occupied by the Arrow lakes and Kootanie Lake. The distance from the mouth of the Kootanie at Sproat's Landing to the main, or north-and-south portion of the Kootanie Lake, by this valley, is thirty-nine miles, the river occupying about twenty miles, while the West Arm of the lake takes up the remaining nineteen miles. The recently laid out town of Nelson, is situated about two miles from the outlet of the West Arm and on the south side of the Arm. It is at present reached by a fairly good pack-trail from Sproat's Landing, the distance between these points by trail being about twenty-one miles.

#### **Sproat's Landing to Slocan River.**

On leaving Sproat's Landing, the bank of the Kootanie is reached in about half a mile, and the trail follows the north side of the valley for some distance. The river near its mouth is often bordered by rock on both sides and is very rough and rapid, and the trail for some miles runs along a rocky broken side-hill, but as the valley widens it leaves the immediate bank of the river and traverses terrace-flats, some of which reach a height of about 300 feet above the water. At about eight miles and a half from Sproat's Landing the Slocan River is reached and crossed by a good ferry. A large accumulation of heavy boulders occurs in the valley just below the mouth of the Slocan.

#### **Ward's Ferry.**

After leaving the Slocan, the trail runs for rather more than a mile across a level and wide wooded flat, when the Kootanie River is crossed by a second ferry in a wide and slack part of its course. From this point (Ward's Ferry) the trail continues on the south side of the river, at a variable distance from it. The valley retains the same uniform trough-like character, and, as in its lower part, is uniformly bordered by rather steep wooded or rocky mountain-slopes.

#### **Falls and rapids.**

Below Ward's Ferry, the river is almost everywhere swift and there are numerous rough, wild rapids, but the lowest fall occurs at about a