

Lardeau and Revelstoke.—Small shipments of ore are being made occasionally from the Ajax and another property of the Ferguson Mines, Ltd., but outside of these there are few productive mines in this district now being worked. The reports of a discovery of tin-bearing ore on a tributary of Fish river, 20 miles above Camborne, has been confirmed, but when the claim was visited the snow still covered the ground, so little could then be learned of the value of the find. Reports from the Big Bend of the Columbia, north of Revelstoke, are to the effect that a number of men are employed on one of the gold-bearing creeks and that prospects are favorable for good results being obtained.

Boundary.—There is little change in mining matters in this district. The Granby Co. is maintaining its output of between 3,000 and 3,500 tons of ore a day from its big copper mines at Phoenix. The British Columbia Copper Co. is stated to intend shortly closing its smelting works at Greenwood, but so long as it is keeping some of its furnaces in blast, local people are hopeful that operations will be continued despite reports to the contrary. Ore is being hauled to Lynch creek in wagons and thence by rail to one or other of the smelters; this ore is from the Union mine in Franklin camp, North Fork of Kettle river, in which part of the district prospecting is again active, and several finds of ore giving high assay returns have been reported lately. The Jewel gold mine maintains an output of about 1,400 tons of ore a month, and keeps its 15-stamp mill going continuously. There is some activity in the West Fork country, about Beaverdell and Carmi; ore is being treated at the Carmi mill and fair results are reported.

COBALT, SOUTH LORRAIN, GOWGANDA

The outbreak of the general European war has had a most serious effect upon the Cobalt camp inasmuch as it has materially affected the price of silver. For a time, indeed, there was almost a panic here, but gradually as the worst effects were realized more sanity prevailed.

Three mines have closed down ostensibly for reasons connected with the war, all the others will remain open for a month or six weeks at all events, by which time the situation should have cleared and markets should again be available.

The reasons for the closing down of the Kerr Lake mine are not apparent. The Kerr Lake mine has made greater gains underground than any other property in the first six months of this year, and it has a good surplus. The action of the directorate in closing down is not connected with the camp in any way. The Drummond Fraction, which is partly under their control has also closed down. The Crown Reserve is keeping on all married men and gave single employes a week to find work, during which time they could stay in the company bunkhouses at the company's expense.

The Beaver has also closed down by order of the president, Mr. Frank Culver. Other mines have restricted operations, but none have closed down, and the situation now is much easier. There are, of course, many idle men around town.

The reassuring news that the British Government would take over and pay for all the silver that was in London and the resumption of quotations from London did much to bring the camp back to equilibrium. The United States is also taking a million ounces a week

for two weeks, which will help the situation greatly. A market is being sought and has been found via San Francisco to China. Two hundred thousand ounces was sold at current quotations via this source. There is also a project to arrange operations through New York. The scheme which has been outlined is that the ore should be treated in the camp at one of the custom smelters and shipped to New York, where it would be stored at the customer's disposal. In the meantime the banks concerned would advance the companies 25 cents an ounce, or a little better than working expenses for the silver, charging the current rate of interest. When quotation resumed or the markets opened or at the call of the customers they could get the bullion and sell it.

Probably the development which most alarmed the camp was not the cessation of the shipping of bullion, which was generally believed to be temporary, but the refusal of the one big smelting trust operating in the camp to take ore or concentrates. At first this trust stated that it would take the silver, pay 25 cents an ounce and settle for the rest when quotations were resumed. This was not entirely satisfactory to the producers, but all consideration of it was stopped when a message was received next day that the trust absolutely refused to take either ore or concentrates, and cancelled their contracts. The Canadian smelters at Thorold and Deloro are not taking on any further contracts, but they are carrying out those they have made already.

The Huronian Belt Company, which is taking over the Keeley on an option basis is pleased with the results obtained there to date. This last of the producers in the South Lorrain camp has six ore shoots underground ranging from a few feet long to 200 feet. A shoot from 150 to 200 ft. long has been developed on the Josey Wood's vein. The vein varies very materially both in width and values, but it is all high grade ore. It is in places six inches wide. A surface discovery has also just been made in the extension of an old trench. The vein had shown only cobalt ore with a low silver content in the old trench, but when it was followed up it was found to be quite rich and of considerable length. There was little doubt before the war broke out that the Huronian Belt would have taken advantage of the option. It is not quite known what will be done now. In spite of the fact that the Huronian Belt has large interests in Russia which will be materially affected the company has so much confidence in their investments in the north country both at the Keeley in South Lorrain, and at the North Thompson at Porcupine, that it has decided to keep the work going, though operations will be confined to places where it is most likely to be immediately productive.

The ore shipments from the Cobalt camp for the first week of the war, ending August 7, did not show any material decrease from the average, but they will be low this week. Bullion shipments have ceased altogether.

The Cart Lake Cobalt Mining Company working under the direction of the General Assets Company has let the sinking of a shaft on the Gould lease on Cart lake. This shaft is being sunk on the east side of the lake in ground which is quite unexplored as far as the Gould is concerned.

The Cart Lake company has cut the vein at the 332 ft. level, where it is an inch to an inch and a half wide of high grade ore. 741 pounds of high grade ore has been shipped to the Nipissing for treatment purposes.

Casey—As a part of the general scheme of develop-