

ments from the camp this summer in spite of the deplorable condition of the waggon road.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Nelson, May 16.—The Windermere Mining, Milling and Development Company, with offices at Moyie, has been incorporated for the purpose of pushing development work on the Estella property, under bond to them, and all other mineralized claims from the base of the mountain to the Estella mine.

Nelson.—Ymir is situated 18 miles south of the city of Nelson, and about seven and a half miles north of Salmo, the Sheep Creek distributing point, on the Salmon River, in the very heart of a great mining district which contains nearly all, if not all, the precious metals sought after. Wild Horse, Bear, Porcupine and Hidden Creeks flow from an easterly direction and empty into the Salmon at or quite close to the town of Ymir. These creeks range from 10 to 17 miles in length, with abundance of timber, and numerous branches. It is over these creeks the now famous Sheep Creek gold belt extends, and beyond the question of a doubt by those familiar with the various ores and formations of the district these same gold producers of to-day, now found on Sheep Creek, will within the next year or two be found on or quite near the summits of the creeks just mentioned, which the quartzite belt, with its mammoth quartz and other dykes, traverses, and which in another month will be free from snow and available for prospecting. It is quite possible some strikes will be made this summer, for rich ores used to be brought to town from the heads of these creeks in the early days, to which no attention was paid owing to the narrowness of the veins. In

future more attention will be given these, as on Sheep Creek. These, with the veins already discovered in the vicinity and in the district at large, will sooner or later be made known abroad, the result of which can only be surmised.

#### YUKON.

Dawson, May 13.—The Yukon will be open for the season's navigation next Thursday, when a flotilla of six steamers and eight barges will start from Lake Lebarge for Dawson, Fairbanks and Iditarod, carrying 800 tons of freight.

Every steamer will be crowded with passengers rushing to the various camps, largely on the lower Yukon.

Many now at White Horse will walk across Lake Lebarge on the ice to catch the steamers.

The American boundary survey expedition, comprising 125 men and 150 horses, will catch the steamer Canadian at Yukon Crossing next week, come to Dawson, and transfer here to the steamer St. Michael, which will take them to the mouth of the Porcupine River, where they will transfer to the steamer Delta for Rampart House.

The first steamer from Dawson for Iditarod will sail May 30. It will be the packet Sarah. The Sarah will return immediately from Dikeman, bringing the first Iditarod gold and passengers this year for Seattle. It is due here on the return trip June 5.

The first steamer from Fairbanks this year will be the Schwarks, expected about the 24th.

A fleet of small boats with passengers for Dawson has passed Big Salmon.

The mails are now moving in canoes and launches.

## MINING NEWS OF THE WORLD.

#### GERMANY.

Germany is endeavouring by every means at her command to create an oversea market for her coals. Germany is the only country on the Continent of Europe which can, and does, raise more coal than is required for her inland consumption. Charters for carrying German coal to French, Italian, Egyptian and even South American ports were at one time of rare occurrence; now they are almost familiar. German coal agents, backed by scientifically organized efforts, have succeeded in forcing coal into markets at one time held exclusively by British coal exporters. What she is doing can be best illustrated by the statement that no fewer than 58 vessels cleared from Rotterdam last month with cargoes of German coal for Mediterranean and other ports. A notable increase in Germany's coal export trade will undoubtedly be shown this year when the statistics are available. The labour disturbances in British coalfields have been a powerful factor in favour of Germany's efforts to find markets for her surplus coals.

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

At the House of Commons, May 1st, Mr. Masterman, M.P., Under-Secretary for Home Affairs, received a deputation from various societies of colliery examiners for the discussion of provisions in the Coal Mines Bill affecting the duties and status of firemen and deputies.

Among other matters the deputation asked that firemen and deputies should have an opportunity of appealing to some tribunal in cases of arbitrary dismissal; that the eyesight test should be of a practical character; that men now satisfactorily performing the work should not be prejudiced by the introduction of the examination system, and that in the provision that firemen and deputies should, where practicable, devote their whole time to those duties, the qualifying words "where practicable" should be struck out.

On this last point, Mr. Masterman asked if the adoption

of the suggestion would not destroy the whole deputy system as it now existed in Northumberland.

Mr. Coulthead: That is so.

Mr. Masterman: The words "where practicable" were introduced to meet the case of Northumberland.

Mr. Williams and other members of the deputation contended against combining the duties with extraneous work.

Mr. Masterman said that if the amendment suggested was made they would have to rearrange the mines in Northumberland, and many deputies might be displaced. He suggested that the point was met by the provision that districts should not be too large. If there were other duties to perform the districts must be smaller accordingly. He promised, however, that the various suggestions made should be carefully considered.

#### SOUTH AFRICA.

Johannesburg.—At the end of December the reef-bearing area of the East Rand Proprietary was 3,417 claims, of which 266, or 7.8 per cent., had been exhausted. The company has submitted its calculations as to minerals underlying townships and bewaarplaatsen in the vicinity of its claims, but up to the present no notification has been received from the Union Government in connection with the matter. The total profit for the year figured at £1,269,935, out of which two dividends of 20 per cent. were paid amounting to £962,358. Profits tax absorbed £108,930, and the sum of £160,553 was appropriated for the redemption of capital expenditure. The total of the latter came to £864,932, the principal items being:—

Excess development and shaft-sinking .....	£430,683
Machinery, plant, building .....	314,070
Reduction plant .....	103,655
There were crushed 2,126,334 tons during the year of an average assay value of 7 dwts. per ton, yielding 691,860 ounces, equal to 6.5 dwts per ton. The value was £2,900,883, or 27s.	