

the world today, and has the advantage of excellent transportation facilities. The East Montserrat district near Nelson, and south of it, has a distinct gold, silver, and copper belt, the one being of that character known as "gray copper."

A number of free milling gold claims have been located near Nelson recently. Hydraulic is also carried on at Fairy Nose Creek with profitable results. During the summer of 1896

reasonable to expect a large influx of capital. The Provincial Mineralogist states that the value of the ore yielded by the mines in 1896, being the first year of the return, was \$7,149,125, against \$2,608,608 in 1895.

With the introduction of quartz mining, which must speedily take place, as the placer or alluvial mining becomes superseded, there will necessarily be the erection of large smelting works similar to those which are found at Pueblo, Denver, and other places in Colorado. In the Cariboo district there has already been a large expenditure upon hydraulic machinery, and great efforts are being made to reach the bottom of deep tunnels where surface workings have been carried on. The development of the mines has been retarded in the past by the lack of smelting works, but this want has been to a large extent overcome by the erection of such works at Pilot Bay, which alone have turned out about 200 tons of bullion per month. There is another smelter at Nelson, and smelting works at Trail, while the owners of other properties are building concentrators and constructing tramways to handle the huge output. In the treatment of ores by smelters, it requires on a general average 1 ton of coke to treat 28 tons of ore. The coke and the ore must be brought together at some convenient point where smelters can be erected. It is of course easier and cheaper to haul 12 tons of coke as to treat 28 tons of ore on the spot than it is to carry the latter a great distance to be treated by 12 tons of coke. One great collateral advantage is that a variety of ores are being discovered which are highly suitable for fluxing.

For the purpose of acquiring and developing thirty-six of what are believed to be the most valuable and promising mining properties in the province, and also to acquire from time to time, as opportunities offer, similar properties, the Associated Gold Mines of British Columbia, Limited, was incorporated on January 14th, 1898, with a capital of half a million. It is also intended to carry on the general business of transport and trading in machinery, tools, mining implements, food, clothing, and all the necessities of life and industry, the profits of which are likely to be enormous. The properties which have been acquired, promise, in the judgment of competent authorities, to yield extraordinary results. The most valuable claims have been selected, after a thorough inquiry and investigation by experts, spread over a lengthened period. The enclosed numbers on the sketch plan show the approximate locations. One important and promising feature is their proximity to mines like those mentioned below, which have yielded and are continuing to yield enormous wealth. Another is the abundance of wood and water, an absolute essential to profitable mining, and the lack of which so many ventures have failed. A third feature is that the ninety-six mines are spread over a considerable area, and that each district has its own special recommendations. The districts comprise Lillooet, Yale, Kamloops, Lynden, Kootenay, and the islands and inlets on the Pacific Coast above Vancouver. Many of the latter being close to navigable waters, the ores can be transported to the smelters at slight cost. Quartz developments are being made on claims situated on Texada Island, and from one of these shipments have gone out for several months. All these ores carry gold, and some of it is free milling.

One important and promising feature is the proximity of the Associated Mines to those which have yielded, and are continuing to yield, enormous wealth. Two of the mines, for instance, adjacent to the exceedingly valuable "Tanger" Mine, brought out by the Goldfields of British Columbia, Limited, and are contiguous to the "Waverley," another rich mine promoted by the same company. The Tanger was brought to such a state of development by the parent concern that at the statutory meeting on February 17th, 1898, an announcement was made of a shipment of fifteen tons of ore valued at about £500. It was also stated that numerous assays show the vein, of fifteen feet in width, carries 23 worth of gold and over one hundred ounces of silver per ton. The strong presumption is that this rich vein runs through the adjacent land owned by the Associated Gold Mines of British Columbia.

Another group of these are close to the famous "Silver Cup," which is said to be yielding 410,000 a month. Two others adjacent to the "Morning Glory," the assay of which is £200 per ton. Two more are contiguous to the successful "Lara" Mine, the "Waverley," and also the "Waverley." Another, the "Tahedah," in Cayash Creek, is next the "Golden Strike" and the "Eggsilver." Two others are near the "Lucky Strike," and seem destined to become famous in the annals of mining, for the "leads" have been traced 3,000 feet, and are workable all the year, and more adjacent to



IN THE MOUNTAINS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

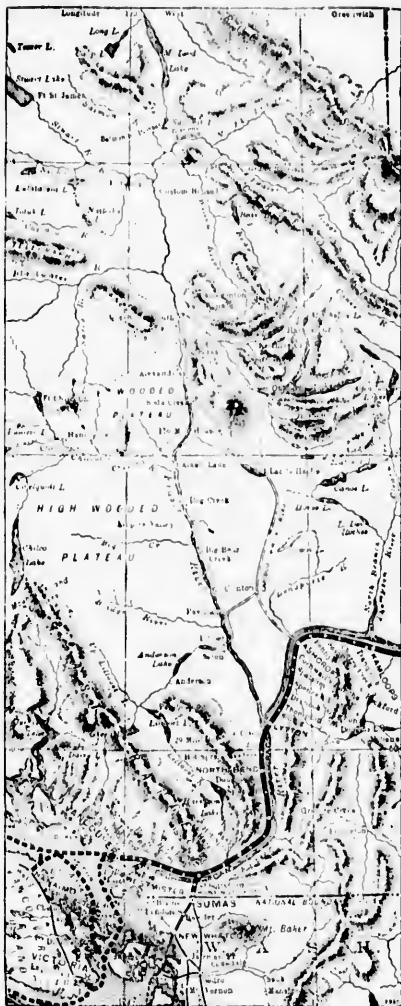
well-known "Raven" and the "Van Anla"; and, indeed, all the ninety-six mines forming the Associated are in the immediate proximity of other proved mines and are located on or near the Canadian Pacific Railroad, or in the vicinity of lakes and rivers, so that transport facilities are great.

It is intended with all speed to bring out a series of subsidiary companies, to which single mines, or small groups of mines, will be sold, for the purpose of fully developing and working them. Within about a month, for instance, it is expected that this will be done with the "Robert E. Burns Mine," as the necessary arrangements are in a forward state. That property is situated in the Selkirk Mountains, near Golden, on the Canadian Pacific Railroad. Several veins outcrop on the claim, and one of them is from four to eight feet thick. Thirty assays made from ore on the ground showed an average of \$50 per ton in gold, and exceedingly favorable reports have been made on the property by three eminent mining engineers.

Besides the above, upwards of twenty of the Associated Mines have been so far developed as to prove beyond all question their permanent dividend-paying capacity, and arrangements are in progress to constitute separate companies for acquiring and working them. All the properties are so advanced that clean, good ore can be shipped in almost any quantity immediately, with what the responsible agents and experts in British Columbia state will prove to be huge and satisfactory results. Of course the profits on the proceeds of these mines and of the others to follow will accrue to the shareholders in the parent company.

Not a little of this great activity in mining is due to increasing facilities for transport which are provided by railway and steamboat companies. These, with numerous wagon roads, built or projected, will render any part of the Kootenay district easy of access all the year round. The Canadian Pacific Railway has complete extensions from Revelstoke to Arrow Head, adjacent to which is the Lynden district, rich in galena ore and gold quartz, and placer claims on which active work is being done. From this point to Trout Lake a good road has been built by the Provincial Government. The Crow's Nest Pass Railway will stimulate a tivity, for there is no doubt but that the rich mineral lands abutting will be thoroughly explored as the means of egress and ingress improve. One hundred miles of that railway are already built, and 150 more are expected to be finished by the end of the present year. Wagon roads have been made from various central railway points into the different mining districts, and many others are about to be built. Large fields of coal and oil are being developed. Cheap fuel will make it possible to treat enormous quantities of low-grade ores, which are now neglected. If the expectations formed from surface indications are realised, the oil-fields of East Kootenay will probably furnish an important and lucrative industry.

Kootenay is now easily entered from two directions, and almost any part can be reached with despatch and comfort—au

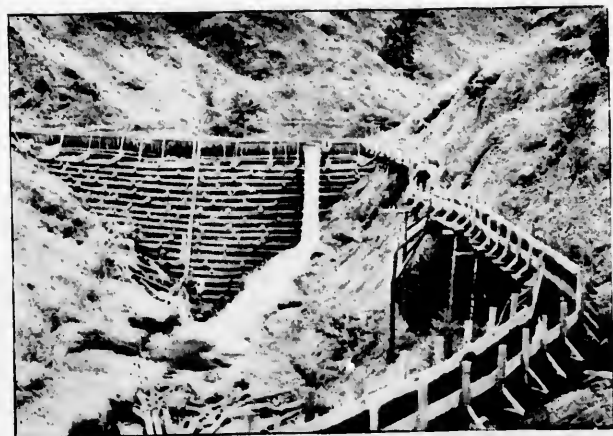


MAP OF CARIBOO DISTRICT.

some of the richest discoveries in the Kootenay were found in the Salmon River country, between the Lower Kootenay River and the international boundary. In the north, in the Hellelawat, Fish Creek and Trout Lake districts are rich properties which are being worked. Dr. Dawson says that the gold in Cayash Creek, in the Lillooet district, is worth \$18 per ounce. In this district are located the "Golden Carley," the "Golden Strike," the "Eggsilver" and other extremely rich mines. The well-known "Blue Bell" mine has reported assays of \$1,573 per ton. The "Waverley," on Duncan Creek, was recently floated for £100,000. "Le Roi," near Roseland, may fairly be ranked amongst the great gold mines of the world. It was opened up four or five years ago in a small way by men of limited means. Today it is paying £10,000 per month in dividends.

In the "Official Handbook of the Dominion of Canada," just issued by the Government Printing Bureau at Ottawa, it is stated: "There are no richer gold-fields than those of which Roseland is the centre. Several mines are already erected extensively, and are paying large monthly dividends, while new discoveries indicate that the full richness of this region cannot yet be even approximately estimated. Large shipments of ore are being made; and with increased home-smelting facilities the output will be immensely increased. On Kootenay Lake are the well-known "Answorth" group, which are large shippers of ore. There are a number of rich mining properties in this section, among others the "Silver King," purchased for \$1,500,000 by an English company, with its own smelter at Nelson."

Many such instances might be cited, but the above will serve to indicate the character of the whole district. All that is needed is the investment of British capital to remove the rocky barriers behind which lie this golden wealth. The total output since the first discovery of gold, even before new mineral districts were opened up by the engineering enterprise, the vast financial resources, and the administrative energy of the Canadian Pacific Railway, was estimated at \$60,000,000, but the work has been practically none scratching of the surface, and only superficial knowledge has yet been obtained. As all the conditions are fully realised, with the immensity and richness of the treasures below, and the important fact that they are entirely under British control, it is



HYDRAULIC GOLD MINES, BRITISH COLUMBIA.