

large that of necessity some promising properties will either have but scant notice or not be mentioned.

#### ABOUT TROUT LAKE.

The principal creeks flowing into Trout Lake are Lardo Creek coming in from the northeast, and Trout Creek, from the northwest, both entering the lake at its northern end. Others are Glacier, Five-Mile, Rock, and Abrahamson's Creeks, from the west, and Seven-Mile, Eight-Mile, and American Creeks from the east. Mineral locations have been made on all these creeks, and in many places on the mountains drained by them, but with the exception of the American, on American Creek, which has sent out a small quantity of silver-lead ore, none of the claims on these lesser creeks have yet become shippers.

**LUCKY BOY GROUP.**—Philadelphia men, represented locally by Mr. G. W. Stead, are operating the Lucky Boy group, consisting of the Lucky Boy, Horseshoe, X Y Z, Blue Jay and C. H. claims. These are situate about seven miles from Trout Lake City and at an elevation of 1,700 to 1,800 feet above the lake. Most of the development work has been done on the Lucky Boy and Horseshoe, from which some 3,000 sacks of silver ore were shipped during last spring and summer. The ore is stated to occur at a contact between lime and schist, and to contain a deal of tetrahedrite and carbonates. The lead varies from a few inches to about four feet in width. The shaft on the Lucky Boy is 180 feet in depth and from it drifts have been run on the lead. A tunnel is being driven on the Horseshoe to cut the lead at a depth of about 200 feet. The development work has been carried out under the direction of Mr. John Watson, assistant manager, formerly on the Brooklyn mine, in the Boundary, and on the North Star in East Kootenay.

The same owners have the Ethel, another good property, which they have been developing for some time. This mine is situate several miles south of the Lucky Boy group, and at a greater elevation above Trout Lake.

#### ABOUT FERGUSON.

The town of Ferguson is distant four miles from Trout Lake City, in a north-easterly direction. It is situate at the junction of the north and south forks of Lardo Creek. Its elevation above the sea is about 3,000 feet, or 820 feet higher than Trout Lake. Six or seven years ago the Lillooet, Fraser River & Cariboo Goldfields, Ltd., now in liquidation, owned lands and mineral claims in this vicinity, which the company made easily accessible by constructing a waggon road from Trout Lake. Its substantial log buildings, by the roadside just west of Ferguson townsite, are now unoccupied, but they are a reminder of the energy and enterprise of an English organization that did much to open up this part of the Lardeau district. Another evidence of profitless enterprise to be seen at Ferguson is the Vulcan smelter, thus described in the Report of the Minister of Mines for 1901: "The smelter appears

to consist of a small blast furnace with an air-tight V hopper at the top. The blast is induced by a steam injector, supplied with steam from a special boiler, which causes a partial vacuum above the furnace charge, making an inward draft through the tuyere holes." It was only given a short trial here—less than two days—and it was pronounced a failure.

**LADE GROUP.**—The officers of several mining companies are at Ferguson, namely, the Silver Cup Mines, Ltd., the Great Western Mines, Ltd., the Metropolitan Gold and Silver Mining Co. of B. C., Ltd., and the Ophir-Lade Mining Syndicate, Ltd. The last mentioned company has a group of seven Crown-granted claims, known as the Lade group, and situate about 14 miles from Ferguson on Granite Creek. From the prospectus of the Great Northern Mines, Ltd., a company recently promoted to acquire this group among other properties, it is learned that on them "a tunnel 112 feet long has been run, and a shaft sunk on the ore. Five tons of the ore shipped to the smelter gave returns of \$1,100.00 to the ton, in free gold," and that "the property is traversed by a main ledge 8 to 12 feet, and several smaller veins carrying high values in free gold and telluride." The further statement is made that on account of the distance from transportation and the altitude (more than 8,000 feet) the development of the property has been deferred until a more convenient season.

**TRIUNE GROUP.**—The Metropolitan Gold & Silver Mining Company has its executive office in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and its registered office at Ferguson, with Mr. John A. McCrossan as manager in British Columbia. The company owns the Triune and Metropolitan groups of claims, the former about nine miles southeast from Ferguson, and the latter about eight miles up the North Fork of Lardo Creek. There is no road to the Metropolitan group, only trails, so in the absence of transportation facilities, no development is being done on any of the eight claims comprising this group. The Triune group consists of the Triune, Silver Chief, Enterprise, Revenge, Kamloops and Kamloops Fraction. The location of the mine is not a favourable one, the workings being in the side of a mountain having an almost precipitous face. Tunneling and raising are the chief development work done, the Silver Chief having present attention. Two tunnels have been driven on a ledge about four feet in width. The lower tunnel is in 300 feet and the upper 250 feet, and these are connected by a 130-foot raise. Another raise is in ore for about 120 feet from the upper tunnel. Besides the foregoing some 600 feet of raising and cross-cutting have been done in development. The ore is silver-lead carrying from \$12 to \$18 in gold, about 250 ozs. silver, and 35 per cent. lead to the ton. It is treated at Trail and that shipped last year averaged about \$132 per ton after payment of freight and treatment charges. Ore to the value of about \$110,000 has been taken out of the mine and it is estimated that by the close of the current year the total value of the output will have reached \$140,000. A Hallidie aerial tramway, a mile and a half in length, was constructed down Triune Creek last year, to con-