

surveyor. It is a divisional point, and large workshops have just been opened. Every year sees the accommodation afforded by the already extensive railway yard increased, and the importance of the place as a railway centre is even now well established and will continually increase.

Its Trade Territory: The Mines.

As a trade centre Revelstoke commands a wide territory, which, with the railway and steamboat communication now on the eve of being established, will become an exceedingly valuable one. There is in the first place the big stretch of rich mineral country, only just beginning to be prospected, lying north of the main line, up to the Big Bend of the Columbia, and further north up the wide valley of the Canoe River to the extensive and valuable mica deposits of Tete Jaune Cache. This immense district includes the famous gold fields which a little more than thirty years ago were the scene of the great "Big Bend stampede." The ground where the old miners worked is still rich in the yellow metal, and with the improved appliances of today will no doubt yet yield considerable wealth. There is one large hydraulic plant installed in the district now, and it is quite likely that other strong companies will follow the lead of the Chicago capitalists who own it, and put in plants to work the large area of gold bearing gravels found in this district. Besides the placer, the whole of North Kootenay is rich in gold and silver bearing quartz, and valuable finds of galena and gold-copper ores are being made every season, as the vast extent of the district becomes more thoroughly and systematically explored. East of Revelstoke lies the Illecillewaet district, the oldest mining camp in Kootenay, and one which is destined yet to come into prominence again.

South lie the Eardean and Fish Creek camps, then which there are no more promising districts in Kootenay today. As soon as ever the railroad strikes through this wealthy mineral country, there will be a dozen properties shipping at once, as indeed some even now are, in spite of the difficulties of transportation, and in a few years after the iron horse has opened the district up the Silver Slocan itself will have to look to its laurels. Several mining companies have their head offices in Revelstoke, such as the Lilloet, Fraser River and Cariboo Goldfields, Ltd.; the Carnes Creek Consolidated, Ltd.; the Great Western Mines, Ltd.; the French Creek Co.; the Stoneleigh Co., and the place is destined to be the financial point from which all the mining done in North Kootenay will be handled.

Agricultural Resources.

The agricultural possibilities of the Revelstoke district are considerable. The soil along the Columbia is rich and there are large areas, which if cleared would make first class farming land. The heavy snow fall keeps the frost out of the ground in winter, and vegetation begins to spring up as soon as, or even before, the heavy blanket of "the beautiful" provided by nature disappears. Summer frosts are unknown, and storms of a nature to damage crops almost equally rare. So far