

The principal vein is 38 inches wide, of clean coal, supplemented by another of four feet which appears to converge towards it. A test made gives 62. fuel carbon with 70 per cent. coking quality.

The Canada Pacific are now making a locomotive test with good results. The Coal Hill Kamloops Mineral and Mining Company, whose property is situated two and a half miles south of the town, near Guerni's ranch, have a similar property in which they have run a drift 110 feet, under the superintendence of Major Vaughan. The coal is a first-class article. In Nicola another company is also opening up veins of coal, which we hope will prove equally good. A very fine quality of cinnabar ore is found on Copper Creek, and should invite the attention of capital at once, as the working out of the New Alameda mines in California, has made the ore of mercury a valuable commodity. Large finds of mica have been made at the head of the Thompson, but these veins are very inaccessible at present; of more importance for the immediate purpose is the discovery and opening up of very good silver-lead properties at Mosquito Flats on the North Thompson River.

Messrs. Wood and Tunstall, of Kamloops, have bonded the Lone Prospector claim to American capital upon most liberal terms, but which have regard to that most important consideration, viz., the development of the property.

On Siwash Creek good ores have been discovered which will be heard from next season.

The Vancouver Hydraulic Co's work on Van Winkle Bar, opposite Lytton, promises to be an important factor in the resources of this district. The bold and aggressive work inaugurated under the superintendence of Jacob Holland and by the advice of so well known a hydraulic expert as Mr. Hobson, is proof of the enterprise of Capt. Tatlow and his associates. A pipe of 3,000 feet in length, varying from 16 to 18 inches, has been laid down to conduct the water under a pressure of 377 feet.

The bar is three miles in length and half a mile wide, with three benches, prospecting from a few cents to one dollar per cubic yard. The facility with which sluicing can be carried on at all seasons and free escape for the tailings make the working of the ground most economical, and we look for great results. Application has been made by Kamloops parties for leases on Tranquille Creek, opposite to the ground which Chinamen have made pay for so many years. A good head of water can be obtained for hydraulic purposes, and next season will witness a change about Tranquille.

In the Westminster district very active prospecting has been done by the Anglo-American Mining Co. at Douglas, Harrison Lake.

Mr. Tallyard reports many good finds of gold and silver ores, but does not wish to advertise the country until developments prove a success. In the Similkameen district some prospecting has been done at the head of Wolfe Creek and discovery made of peacock copper. This whole district has been sadly neglected, but its turn will come when other places have become overdone.

The Hydraulic company operating on the Tullameen River is actively negotiating at the present with English capital, with a view to sale. Increased capital will bring this property into a prominent place. In Okanagan district very little mining is being done, the country being largely devoted to pastoral pursuits.

There exists, however, one property which is most worthy of mention, viz., the Monashee mine, at the headwaters of Cherry Creek. The property has been developed in a most miner-like manner by McDonald McIntyre, one of the owners, and only needs the introduction of capital and mining machinery suited to the reduction of gold ore, which is in part free but where principal value will be found in the concentrates. The ore runs in assay value over \$20 to the ton in gold, one quarter of which is free. The veins have been well exposed by tunnels at various levels, and the situation of the mine is first-class. The district of Osoyoos has come to the front in a very remarkable way during the past year as a gold producer. The principal camp is about Fairview, in the vicinity of Rock Creek, and embraces the well known claims Ratler, Brown Bear, Silver Star and Wym, acquired by Geo. Atwood and E. D. Reynolds for the Stratheyre Mining Co. These properties were paid for in spot cash, and the direct amount of money transferred in payment for same exceeds any deal hitherto made in the interior of the province. Other very valuable claims exist, among them being the Silver Crown, owned by Messrs. Andrews & Fleming, of Seattle, and Stemwinder, Morning Star, Black Diamond, Wild West, claims by various parties.

Camp McKinney, also in the same district, has a good property in the Eureka claim, which is being operated by the Douglas Mining Co., other important claims being Carbonate and Cariboo locations.

Boundary Creek has some remarkably good prospects, which have been opened up by Mr. Atwood and the Spokane & Great Northern Mining Co. Trial shipments of ore have already been made and proved very high grade. Many varieties of both silver and gold ore occur in this district, the Mineral King and Mountain Chief being free milling ores.

Kettle River and Priest Lake have added to the known wealth of the district, and we look for a large development next year. The district of Osoyoos, like West Kootenay, is very easy of approach from the other side of the line and offers great inducements to prospectors, who find their field of operations too circumscribed south of the 49th parallel. The first continuous supply of gold bullion produced from quartz mined in this province promises to

come from Osoyoos, which is no mean distinction. Trail Creek is advancing steadily in the same direction.

The ores from this camp contain as high as 7 per cent. copper, but gold is the principal value. Several very important properties are mentioned as promising to make big mines, viz: the Le Roi, Centre Star & I. X. L., O. K., Standard, Yellow Jacket, Josie, etc.

The Le Roi and Centre Star have been opened by tunnels over 200 feet long, and the development of the entire camp has been of the very best character. The future of Trail Creek is assured, and as wagon road connection is now had with Northport, on the Spokane Northern Railway, it is easy of access, which is no unimportant factor in the opening of a camp.

A very promising gold find was made on Salmon River late last summer, which gives high average returns in free gold. The country, a small amount of placer gold, has attracted the attention of Nelson men as a possible gold quartz field. On Toad mountain and in the district of Nelson no new discoveries have been made, but as it already has such properties as the Silver King, Dandy, Iroquois, Goldendale, Poorman, Whitewater and others, upon which a vast amount of work has been done, it is not necessary that new discoveries should be made in order to insure the success of the district.

So far as yet known the Silver King is without a peer, and when the hope which has been deferred so long is at last realized, this camp will at last take its proper place as a great mining centre. At Pilot Bay we have evidence of the enterprise of a gentleman who has done much for West Kootenay. Dr. Hendryx has made for himself the proud record of furnishing the Kootenay Lake district with the first smelter, which makes it possible to reduce the ores of the district into refined bullion. Mr. Farrell, who is associated with Dr. Hendryx, must be well pleased when he considers the great field which has been opened up by the discovery of Slocan and Lardeau.

The Blue Bell mine ore can now be mixed with the other ores of the district and a continual supply furnished without fear of interruption. The Pilot Bay smelter will cost when completed \$300,000.

The wharves constructed are of a very permanent character, and extend for a distance of 900 feet.

The office building contains nine rooms and is fitted with fire-proof vaults.

An assay office, 25x50 feet, with a wing, 25x25, has been completed. These are brick and iron, and are very substantial.

In addition to above are a warehouse, 35x65; blacksmith shop, 24x40; carpenter shop, 24x50; boiler house, 48x50; smelter building, 60x98; sampling works, 98x128; calcining furnaces in a building 98x170, working house, three stories and basement, accommodation for 100 men, refinery building, 120x245, all brick made in three drying houses, 36x50 each.

The Ainsworth camp is making fair progress, and will be heard from when the others get down to solid production.

A number of deals in properties have taken place, but the camp has suffered to some extent by the overshadowing influence of Slocan.

Development work has been proceeded with throughout the season, notably in Centre Star, where Mr. G. B. Wright has had eleven men employed driving a tunnel. The No. 1 and United are quiet. The Neosha has been continuously represented, and the Krao, Sky Line, Little Donald, Spokane, Tiger, Lady of the Lake, Mamie, Sultan, Bunker, Fourth, Eden and Crescent, Glamery, Tam O'Shanter, Kootenay Chief, Tenderfoot, Tariff, Libby, Highlander and others are still to the fore with excellent prospects for the future. We understand that the Sky Line will be worked this winter on a large scale.

The history of the discovery and subsequent opening of Slocan district is most absorbing to those who watch the march of events in this province. To give an extended report of the wonderful transformation which has taken place since we wrote on this subject a year ago, is to repeat an oft told tale, but one which cannot fail to be of interest to the general public.

Although less than a year has elapsed since the first transfer of mining property in Slocan was placed on record, \$220,934 in cold cash has been paid for mineral claims situate in the district.

There are now 750 locations on record in the office at New Denver. Assessment work has been performed on 120 locations, only twenty-five claims being abandoned. The records show that 300 bills of sale, agreements and contracts have been recorded, and that \$554,500 is still due on sales and bonds.

In most cases large prices have been paid and the following are some of the largest transactions: Two-third interest in the Reco group, \$50,000; Twin Lake group, \$40,000; Stormont group, \$6,000; Jardine group, \$75,000; Ruby Silver, \$25,000; Idaho, \$20,000; half interest in the California, \$8,000; one-third interest in the Best, \$10,000; Last Chance, \$10,000; Slocan Star group, \$25,000; Freddy Lee, \$20,000; Blue Bird, \$25,000; Lucky Jim, \$10,000; Great Western, \$15,000; Washington, five-twelfth interest, \$8,000; Washington, one-fourth interest, \$8,500; Washington, one-fourth interest, \$22,000; Dardanelles, nine-sixteenth interest, \$56,000; Mountain Chief, \$15,000; Montezuma, \$25,000. The lowest of these is \$8,000, and there are also a number of other sales recorded under \$5,000 and downwards. The total amount of the transactions reaches the immense sum of \$700,000, and an idea of the increased confidence in the mines can be seen from the different sales of portions of the Washington, a quarter interest having been sold for \$8,500, while shortly after another quarter interest was sold for no less than \$22,000.

Assays show a range from 100 oz. to 2,000 oz. per ton, averaging nearly 200. A 10-ton shipment from the Dardanelles averaged 500 oz. per ton: Freddy Lee shipments, from 100 to 200 oz. The producing mines being worked this winter are the Young Dominion, Freddy Lee, Washington, Best, Idaho, Blue Bird, Cumberland, Mountain Chief, Mountain Boomer, Dardanelles, Montezuma, Solo, Alpha, Bonanza King and Wellington. In addition to these are the Yosemite, Reco, Monte Christo, Sunset, Scottish Chief, Stranger, The Noble Five, Lucky Jim, Payne, World's Fair, Beaver, Lincoln, White Water, Echo, Ajax, Tam O'Shanter, Revelstoke, Lucky Boy, Porcupine, Greenhorn, Robert E. Lee, Ruby Silver, Great Western, Grizzly Bear, Slocan Star, Honeycomb, and many others included in the Bremen and Jardine camps.

At least 1,500 tons of ore will be delivered at Kaslo this winter, by George Hughes, from the Freddy Lee, Blue Bird and Idaho, besides the ore which is being shipped by McMahon from Four-Mile Creek to Nakusp.

The town of Kaslo has sprung into existence with the opening of Slocan and is, perhaps, the most important representative mining town in the Province. The citizens are public spirited and not afraid to venture a few dollars when funds are required to promote the interests of the town and the country around it. The construction of a wagon road to Bear Lake and sleigh roads to the various mines from that point, is an evidence of the sort of men who have established themselves at Kaslo.

Next year will see this town advance to the rank of a city, with banks, warehouses, Board of Trade and other metropolitan improvements, such as electric light and waterworks system. This place may have a rival later on in New Denver, but any rivalry between Kaslo and Nelson is absurd, as the latter place occupies a position which does not enter into conflict with the other points.

Transportation facilities will, no doubt, have a marked effect upon the future of all towns in West Kootenay, but so far, both Nelson and Kaslo have secured a vantage ground in their relative situations from which it will be hard to dislodge them. The future of New Denver is most hopeful, but it is at the mercy of those companies who build railroads and their connections, though its situation is more favorable for securing all the trade tributary to Slocan Lake.

A novel object to be found in Slocan is a boulder of galena weighing 122 tons, which lies below the Slocan Star and is supposed to have come from that vein. It weighs 122 tons by measurement and assays 186 oz. silver, which makes its assay value over \$20,000.

Another interesting feature of the district is the carbonated mineral springs, discovered by Mr. Kemp and situated about four miles back of Kaslo on the road to Bear Lake.

The temperature is 38° F., and constituents:—

Lime Carbonate.....	83.50 gr. per gal.
Magnesia	12.85 " "
Soda	5.50 " "
Potash	4.40 " "
Carbonate of Iron.....	0.56 " "
Sodium Chloride.....	1.20 " "
Silica Allumina and Phosp. Acid.....	3.20 " "
Lithia	Not determined.

It may be interesting to know that the ore chute on the Bonanza, one of the group of Noble Five, is 10 feet 7 inches wide—4½ feet chlorides, 3 feet of galena, and biggest showing in the district, but there are other properties which also have enormous ore bodies. The quality of ore is more remarkable than the quantity, and it may be said, to the lasting credit of this camp, that it is the richest in general average ever discovered in any country Slocan owes its phenomenal development.

The old adage says, "When it rains it pours," and with mining discoveries.

No sooner had Slocan become a standard topic, when a new district was heard from, viz., The Lardeau. The way, because of its accessibility and usefulness as a rail-road route from the north arm of Arrow Lake to the head at various periods, which made the district known to unknown.

The Lardeau country stands relatively in the same position as Slocan, one year ago. The discoveries were made too late for large developments to take place this season, but the size of the lodes and extent of their ore assured, and next season will no doubt add richly to the discoveries already made.

The centre of the district is Trout Lake, and having for fishermen and hunters. At both ends of the lake are the mines are approached from these points, and as predict that towns will spring up there next year. The True Fissure, discovered by Messrs. Downs, Walker, Holton and Stobard—this is a bonanza; C. F. Black-claims; Poole & Crockett, two claims; Ben. Raimie's group, with extensions owned by others. These are all situated on the north fork of the Lardeau and directly accessible from Arrow Lake or Trout Lake.

On the ridge between the South Fork and Trout Lake are situated the Abrahamson Bros.' group of three parallel