

surpassed the older "camps" in the matter of development and interest on the part of the mining world. Its deposits of auriferous pyrrhotites are probably unique; the veins as far as developed are of extraordinary dimensions and frequency, and several mines have even now reached the stage of paying handsome monthly dividends. The town of Rossland, in Trail district, is estimated to have a population exceeding 3,000, though but a few months old.

For these several mining centres, although so young, railways have already been built, mining machinery of all kinds has been introduced, several large smelters, both for reducing silver-lead ores and for matting have been established, and from them the output is daily increasing. Perhaps a better idea of the amount of activity in prospecting and mining (although the latter is not more than in its initial stages) may be given by quoting a few figures. Thus, in 1895, over 3,000 new mineral claims were registered in West Kootenay alone. About fifty properties in all have become "shipping mines" on a greater or smaller scale, from which the aggregate output in 1895 is valued at about \$2,100,000, comprising silver to the value of \$739,000 and gold \$679,500, followed by lead and copper representing smaller amounts. For the first six months of the present year the value of the output is estimated at over \$2,200,000.

Time does not serve to allude individually to the several "camps" of West Kootenay, nor to more than accord mention to the large district of East Kootenay, which has been to some extent outstripped for the moment, although everywhere the most hopeful spirit prevails, and in a large number of cases important deposits are being opened up, wherever that confidence leading to the investment of money can be gained. Other notable districts in the southern part of British Columbia are Boundary Creek, from which remarkable ores containing tellurium with gold and silver come, and in which immense deposits of copper ores are found, Okanagan, noted chiefly for free-milling gold quartz, Similkameen in which placer gold and platinum are being worked, and Cayoosh Creek with rich gold-bearing quartz-veins.

On the coast, from Alberni and other points, most satisfactory reports begin to come, although but little in the way of actual returns has yet been achieved. To the north, and as yet some 200 miles distant from any railway, Cariboo, which in early years proved to be so rich a find for the placer miner, has come to the front again as the site of extensive hydraulic mining operations, dealing on the large scale with comparatively low-grade auriferous gravels by methods already perfected by practice in California. The rapid and full-fed rivers of the district prevent the occurrence here of any questions of damage to cultivated lands from such mining opera-