

& Co. (formerly the Whitewater Group) should also be at work. It is probable, too, that work will be again done on several properties situated up the valley of the south fork of Kaslo Creek. In Slocan division, the Lucky Jim, near Bear Lake; the Rambler-Cariboo, Rambler-Cariboo Extension, and Rio, all in McGuigan basin; the Payne, Slocan Star, Ruth-Hope, and Richmond-Eureka, near Sandon; the Noble Five Group, Twilight, Reco, Sunset, and Surprise, all above Cody Creek; the Standard, Van-Roi, and Hewitt-Lorna Doone group, in Four-mile camp; the L. H., a few miles from Silverton; the Eastmont, the Lily B., and several other mines in Slocan City division; together with a number of other mines in different parts of Slocan, will all be worked, some continuously throughout the year and the remainder during such period as work shall be reasonably practicable. Then in Nelson division, the Molly Gibson, mine and concentrating mill, will be regularly operated by the Consolidated Company; the Granite-Poorman gold mines and 20-stamp mill are expected to increase their output; the Silver King and other mines of the Lennie-Rand Syndicate, are to have development work done on them; several mines in Ymir camp, and others at Erie, will be among the working properties; while about Salmo, the Emerald lead mine, and several promising prospects will also have attention. The gold mines—Queen, Mother Lode, Nugget, Kootenay Belle, and others—of Sheep Creek camp, also in Nelson division, should together make a larger production than in any previous year. In Trail Creek division, the several regular producers near Rossland—the Centre Star group, Le Roi, and Le Roi No. 2 group—with a small output from two or three mines in the South Belt region, may be expected to make a better showing on the whole than that of several recent years; and the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company's copper and lead smelting works and lead refinery at Trail, are likely to have a busy year.

The copper mines of the Boundary district—those of the Granby, British Columbia Copper, and New Dominion Copper Companies—will probably make the largest total output this year the district has ever made. The smelteries at Grand Forks and Greenwood, respectively, having a combined treatment capacity of between 6,000 and 7,000 tons of ore a day, are expected to turn out a larger total quantity of copper in 1912 than in any previous year in their history. The small mines of this district having high-grade ore are unlikely to add much to the production of the year, though several of them may be worked. The construction of the Kettle Valley Railway may not be far enough forward to allow of shipment of ore from several small mines up the west fork of Kettle River before next year, so these may hardly be regarded as probable producers in 1912.

Notes on several individual properties in different parts of the province follow. Taking all these mines, and the coal mines of Nicola and Vancouver Island, it would appear that, as has already been stated, there is good reason to look for much mining activity in the province.

Field-Golden Division.—The Mt. Stephen Syndicate, which commenced operating its concentrating plant early in January, was unable to make much concentrate that month, owing to the water freezing and power for driving the mill machinery being consequently cut off. In February, though, the mill was running practically the whole month. Two more jigs have been added to the equipment. The products are a lead and a zinc concentrate. The latter is nearly clean zinc, ranging up to 55 per cent. spelter, but averaging 45 to 50 per cent. The first car of zinc concentrate is ready for shipment; this will probably be sent to reduction works in the United States, prices and terms offered by zinc-buying firms in that country appearing more advantageous to the mine owner than those quoted by old-country buyers. It is expected that by the end of March the treatment capacity of the mill will be up to about 60 tons of ore a day, and that the daily output of concentrates will be 10 to 12 tons. There is a considerable quantity of ore available, and it is hoped that hereafter production will be regularly maintained,

operations in both mine and mill being supervised by experienced practical men. Mr. I. J. Crothers is mine superintendent, and Mr. Ed. Milward mill foreman.

Similkameen.—The Hedley Gazette reports an increase of tonnage of ore crushed and treated at the Hedley Gold Mining Company's 40-stamp mill. It is expected the company's report and statements of accounts for the calendar year 1911 will soon be made public. While it will doubtless be read with much interest, when it shall be published, its main facts are already known, namely, that approximately 57,000 tons of ore was mined and put through the mill during the year, and that between \$300,000 and \$320,000 net profit was made, of which \$300,000, being 25 per cent. on the issued capital of \$1,200,000, was paid to shareholders as dividends and bonuses.

Other properties in Hedley camp that are having attention are the Apex group, under working bond to Mr. T. A. Pickard and others; the Sacramento and Kingston groups, be operated by C. H. Brooks and associates; and the Oregon, on which more development is being done.

The British Columbia Copper Company is continuing the development of the Voigt Group, on Copper Mountain, a few miles from Princeton; The Princeton Coal and Land Company has been busily engaged installing a new coal-handling plant and making other substantial additions to its facilities for regularly maintaining an output of coal; and the Columbia Coal and Coke Company has been energetically preparing to make a considerable production.

Coast District.—The Britannia mine in larger and the Marble Bay mine in smaller degree, are the only producing metalliferous mines in the lower part of the Coast district. As some information of these is given under another head, only this passing mention of them will be made here.

A company known as the Surf Inlet Gold Mines, Limited, is developing the D. L. S. group of claims, situated near Surf Inlet, Princess Royal Island. Late in 1911 Mr. Fred. M. Wells took up a well-equipped part of men to do more development work, and has since extended one of the tunnels about 200 feet. During 1910 Mr. A. B. Clabon and Mr. Wells, with some associates, acquired the D. L. S. group, on the Bluff claim, of which two parallel veins had previously been opened, chiefly by adits and a shaft. The adit on the upper, or west, vein was driven 140 feet, while the length of that on the lower, or east, vein was 293 feet. The shaft was commenced at an elevation of about 265 feet above the lower tunnel, and it was sunk 60 feet, which left a distance of 205 feet between the bottom of the shaft and the lower adit. The difference in elevation between the two adits is about 100 feet. The veins are stated to run more than 6,000 feet on their course through the claims. The ore varies in width, usually between 18 inches and 4 feet, though in places it has been found of much greater width. It is quartz with iron pyrites containing gold and a small quantity of silver. More development work was done in 1910, additional to that first above mentioned. The reports of several mining engineers who have examined the property indicate that, with proper development and suitable equipment, a profitable mining enterprise should be established here.

In Portland Canal district, the Red Cliff is reported to be the only property tributary to Stewart on which development work was continued throughout the winter. The Portland Canal Mining Company did not find it practicable to operate its concentrating mill, so it was closed for the winter. On Observatory Inlet, the Granby Company employed a number of men doing underground development in the Hidden Creek mine, but no important progress could be made towards carrying out the extensive surface improvements the company intends to have completed as soon as conditions shall permit of construction work being proceeded with.