

Four Mile will soon take its place among the other actively producing creeks of the lake.

The dispute pending, regarding the ownership of the Two Friends has not yet been settled, but in the meantime the property continues working satisfactorily. Stopping has commenced, and in addition to the two carloads already shipped there are four more now awaiting transportation to the smelter.

The rich gold properties on Yuill Creek known as the Alpine group are reported bonded for \$60,000, but further particulars are not to hand.

The bond on the Arlington has been thrown up by Mr. Finch and his associates. The second payment, amounting to \$10,000, became due on October 1st, and as machinery would be required before further development could be done to advantage, the indications were not considered sufficiently good to warrant such a large expenditure. While this is no doubt a severe blow to mining in that locality, it is not really so great as one would suppose. In sinking the shaft to a depth of seventy-five feet it is estimated that somewhere in the neighbourhood of \$15,000 worth of ore has been taken out and placed on the dump. This in itself is evidence of vast mineralization, but when we consider that the ore is of a proverbially pockery character, and present in such large quantities on the surface, it is not at all surprising that it should show some signs of weakness on first sinking. However, we cannot accept this as representing the condition of all the mines in the district. The Arlington is absolutely unique as regards the character of the ore deposit, and although a year ago the throwing up of the bond would have been fatal to mining interests in that region, the success which is attending development on the Two Friends, Bondholder and others, need only be referred to in order to restore perfect confidence.

In addition, there are many practical mining men who firmly believe that the Arlington will yet prove itself a bonanza by the opening up of pockets of surprising richness.

On the Galena Farm the success of the Currie is more than upholding the expectations of the bonders. Within three months a splendid wagon road one and three-quarter miles in length has been constructed and four tons of ore sent to the smelter as a trial shipment. The development done so far consists of a seventy-five foot double compartment shaft, from the bottom of which a forty-foot cross-cut has been driven, and drifting continued in both directions along the ledges for a total distance of 110 feet. An inclined winze has also been sunk twenty-seven feet on the vein, so that the property has now been proven to a depth of nearly 100 feet.

An exploratory shaft was started about 400 feet west of the first and several tons of ore taken out in the twenty feet which it was sunk, this being the opening which supplied the ore sent to the smelter.

It is confidently believed at the mine that this is a continuation of the ore shoot met with underground in the drift, and if this is the case it is certainly one of the longest and best in the Slocan. It is the intention of the management to commence work at once on what is to be the main

working shaft of the property. This will be located about 350 feet from the present one and it is to descend vertically to a depth of 500 feet. With the present dip of the vein (somewhere between sixty and seventy degrees) it is estimated that the shaft will cut it at a depth of about 150 feet, and cross-cuts will then be driven at different points to connect the workings with the shaft.

Plans and specifications for a concentrator of about 150 tons daily capacity, to be erected near the mouth of this shaft, are now under consideration and sufficient water power has already been secured for driving all necessary machinery at the mine and working the concentrator. It is proposed to concentrate all the ore taken from the mine, in order to save hand sorting and obtain a more uniform product.

Apart from the tremendous size of the vein there are two interesting and highly gratifying points to be noticed about this property. One is the remarkable similarity of its ore to that of the famous Slocan Star mine, in that it carried considerable quantities of beautiful yellow copper pyrites; and the other is that, unlike some lower lake properties, the zinc blende, which is found at the surface and which in this case is non-argentiferous, disappears with depth and gives place to galena of a better grade than is found above. The development of this property is being watched with much interest, as this is one of the only real sinking propositions in the Slocan.

The country generally is showing every sign of rapid advancement; new boats are being constructed for increased traffic on the lake, trails and wagon roads are being built in all directions and fresh journalistic enterprises are in the field at Sandon and Slocan City, so that there is an air of bustle and excitement all round.

HOWARD WEST.

Co-operative Mining.

(Continued.)

I HAVE dealt so far with co-operation so far as applied to combination of individual efforts or the association of syndicates and joint stock companies with individuals. It has been pointed out and maintained that capital, as usually understood, on a large scale, is not so necessary as supposed for the development of mines. The immense capitalization of companies being formed and in operation is largely normal, not more than one-tenth at the outside being available in actual cash, and the greater part of the cash outlay is for labour. I have suggested the various ways that labour, by combination and co-operation, with, if necessary, the assistance of capital, may enter into the problem as a living, participating factor, and not so much machinery, or provisions or fluxing material, or ore to be smelted, the cost of which is a determinable quantity. If the wealth of our mines is shared by the people of the country and by those who do the actual work of raising it, the benefits to be derived will be infinitely greater and more wide-spread. The danger of the present craze for inflow of foreign capital, to attract and employ which, all efforts are strained, is that sooner or later the producing and profitable mines will all be in the hands of British and foreign syndicates,