

Besides the foregoing silver producing camps there are other mining camps in West Kootenay which carry more or less silver, for instance, Trail Creek which carries a few ounces in its pyritic gold ores, also some argentiferous galena deposits.

Boundary Creek country has some ores of silver, which run a high value. The telluride Hessite has been found in this district.

Cariboo Creek, mainly a gold camp like the foregoing, also carries considerable silver in places, yet not one of these promises to be a silver producer to any great extent at present.

With the exception of a piece of country west of the Slocan, and another between the Slocan and Trout lake, there is no great extent of country left unexplored by the prospector.

There is, however, a vast amount of mineralized country as yet not thoroughly prospected, besides the chance finds which always turn up after considerable development has taken place, even in old camps.

The accompanying illustrations do not show much of the mines themselves. The paraphernalia of a Slocan mine is not great, usually a bunk house, ore house, blacksmith shop and tunnel, and these are often too far up a steep mountain for the photographer or casual sight-seer to visit: Hence little is heard of them except in the matter of shipments and dividends.

EN PASSANT.

Mr. W. A. Carlyle, M.E., Provincial Mineralogist for British Columbia has issued in pamphlet form an exceedingly interesting sketch of the Trail Creek mining camp. This practice of prompt publication of official bulletins is to be highly commended and could well be emulated by the other provinces with advantage to the mineral development of the country. Perhaps Ontario will also take time by the forelock and give us in handy form Dr. Coleman's report on the new gold fields in the Lake of the Woods, Rainy River and Manitou regions. This report to be of service must be issued at once

Mr. A. Leofred, who claims to be a mining engineer from Quebec, but whose status in the profession, the REVIEW is unable to determine, appeared the other day in Ottawa to present his claims for a subsidy from the Dominion government towards his proposed Montreal Bureau of Mines. After a few incoherent remarks from the promoter, who appeared to have the haziest conception of the scope and direction of his own proposition, he was promptly "sat upon" by the Premier who informed him that when a "practical scheme" was submitted he would be pleased to give it his consideration. Mr. Leofred's philanthropy was "gilt edged" but a little too transparent and only served to give some amusement to the group of members of parliament and the few mining men who were present.

Apropos of a Bureau of Mines in Montreal there can be no doubt that such an institution, if properly equipped and operated on a business basis, would be of immense benefit to the mineral development of the country. As the outcome of the last meeting of the General Mining Association of the Province of Quebec, the Provincial government has been approached with a view to obtaining a grant for the equipment and maintenance of a Bureau having particular reference to the mineral industries of the Province of Quebec. The scheme in outline, is as follows:—

To provide suitable rooms in the business centre of the city where mining men and capitalists may meet.

To maintain a first-class collection of the ores and minerals of the Province and their manufactures.

To establish a reference library of mining literature.

To preserve and keep readily accessible to the public, data respecting the history of mining undertakings.

The Bureau it is proposed will be operated directly under the auspices of the Association in conjunction with the Hon. the Commissioner of Crown Lands. Such an institution is a necessity. Investors in mines are proverbially shy and do not go running about into out of the way corners shouting for opportunities to stake their money on the chances of mining. The capitalist has to be sought out and the arguments and evidential proofs in favor of the undertaking must be right at hand in order to secure attention. The Province of Quebec has had a hard struggle to maintain its mineral industries. Its iron furnaces have had to be fed with bounties and protected by tariff; its phosphate mines have been closed by competition with foreign production and as the markets for this mineral were abroad no protective tariff could help the industry and it bore the weight of the tariff against its own expenditure for supplies. The asbestos mines have, until lately, been depressed by low prices and limited demand. The mica mines have to contend with East India mica and manufactured scrap. The gold fields have seigniorial rights and doubtful titles to restrain them; and plumbago or graphite now claim consideration. There is much to struggle against but there is no doubt of the richness and extent of our mineral deposits. What is needed is to have the tendency of the age in the direction of large operations applied to the mining industries of Quebec, in order that the economies obtained by work on a large scale with the best appliances and skill may enable profits to be made where otherwise they would be impossible. Many of the attempts at mining have failed in this Province because they were undertaken without sufficient capital to provide either efficient appliances or competent management, and it is believed that if large capital could be appropriated to many of our mining undertakings, they would show successful results. The plethora of idle capital in the great money centres, notably in London, the enthusiasm that has arisen for gold mines, the fact that political troubles have turned enterprise away from South Africa and the evidence already accumulating that Canada is to receive a great share of attention, all these are reasons for the exercise of the most intelligent and progressive efforts to attract notice and cause the passing capitalist to linger long enough to investigate our resources and the prospects of producing mineral wealth. A Provincial Mining Bureau in Montreal operated by practical mining men is much to be desired and we are pleased to learn that just as soon as suitable premises can be secured in a first-class business centre, the Provincial government will lend its co-operation and assist it by an annual grant.

In passing through Toronto the other day we were pleased to observe at the Toronto Exhibition a capitally arranged display of quartz specimens from the new gold fields of north-western Ontario. The samples were of good size and characteristic of the mill-rock of the Sultana, Regina, Foley, Empress, Lake Harold, Crystal, Mikado and other mines in active operation. The exhibit attracted a good deal of attention and was very favorably commented on by all who saw it. Mr. Blue, the Director of Mines, is to be congratulated on this endeavor to interest the people of Ontario in the mineral wealth of their own province. Possibly before another year is over this popular Exhibition may be equipped with a permanent display of Ontario's mineral resources.

At a time when capitalists are seeking safe investments for their money, and when comparatively new and untried mining ventures in various parts of the globe are tempting fortune seekers, it may not be unreasonable to point out the superior claims of our Canadian gold fields. In Nova Scotia particularly, absolutely safe fields for investment await attention, fields certain of yielding large profits and entirely free from the character of speculation attaching to similiar pursuits in other countries. The area of the gold measures of this Province has been estimated by various authorities to be from 5,000 to 7,000 square miles or from one-fifth to one-third the area of the Province, yet the actual area