

which will be finished within a month. A fifty-ton lot of ore is to be shipped to the Trail Smelter as soon as the snow flies. Work is also progressing on the Golden Hope proposition. It is likely that a couple of steam drills will be set to work on this property, power being obtained from the Silver Queen compressor.

YMR.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The Ymir Mines, Limited, an English company, has been gazetted with a capital of £200,000. The organization will take over one-quarter interest in the Ymir group, which is being operated here under the auspices of The London and B. C. Gold Fields Company. The latter company are now installing a forty stamp mill, a concentrating plant and an aerial tramway. Plans and drawings have also been prepared for a tunnel which is to be driven approximately 1,200 feet with the object of striking the ledge at a depth of about 1,500 feet, the group is being systematically developed under the management of Mr. S. S. Fowler, E.M., and from figures enough has been done to demonstrate the value of the property.

Since last month the Kenneth Gold Mining Company have let a contract for 400 feet of drifting and sinking work on the Tamarac. The contractor's tender for the work being \$7.50 per foot. Some very rich showing of free gold being encountered. The company is contemplating the installation of an adequate plant at an early date.

The work on the concentrator of the Dundee mine is proceeding apace. The machinery being now on the way from the east, and by December it is expected the mill will be in operation. The company is taking some very fine galena from the 250 foot drift, which assays gold, \$35.00; silver, \$18.00 and a good percentage of lead.

There is every reason to believe that the B.A.C. will take over the Wilcox. Messrs. Helm and Haskins, of Rossland, recently examined and reported upon this property, and I am in a position to state that they thoroughly recommend this purchase.

Messrs. Custean & Pellant, the owners of the Dumas and Alexandre mineral claims, situated at the head of the North Fork of Wild Horse Creek, have driven on this property a tunnel 150 feet in the face of which they have a fine mineral showing. The ledge is seven and a half feet between the granite contact. The ledge matters assays on an average as follows: silver, 20.5 ounces; lead, 21 per cent.; gold, \$40.00. I have personally visited this property and there can be no doubt regarding the promising nature of the mineral indications.

The splendid mineral specimens which were exhibited at the Fruit Fair, Spokane, Washington, excited considerable interest among many prominent mining men who visited the exhibition, in our camp. Such men as Mr. Patsy Clark and other well-known western operators remarking most favourably on the specimens shown and promising us in consequence a visit at the first opportunity.

Mr. Harris of London, Eng., is in Ymir visiting the Alf Gold Mining Company property, the Bullion group, and is greatly pleased with what he has seen, and while here he will make arrangements for placing machinery on the property.

Mr. A. L. Knox, a South African journalist, has assumed this month, the editorial management of our local newspaper, the *Ymir Miner*.

NELSON.

The Fern continues to make an excellent showing, the last clean-up on the 5th of October, amounting to, for the thirty-three days' run, \$6,650, and a car-load of ore shipped, together with the concentrates, are estimated at \$3,000. In consequence the shares are in great demand. A new 5-drill compressor is being installed at the mine. At the Poorman development work is proceeding, the south drift on the ore at the lower level being in nearly 150 feet, the vein averaging two feet in width and assaying \$30. At the first general (statutory) meeting of the Athabasca Gold Mine, Ltd., held in London on the 30th of September, a very encouraging account of the property was given by the chairman, the manager, Mr. Fell, cabling from Nelson that the 10-stamp mill was in running order, and that there was sufficient high-grade ore to continue crushing for six months.

SLOCAN.

The reports from this district are generally satisfactory, and heavy shipments are being made from the Payne, Ruth, Last Chance, Star and Reco mines. The Queen Bess is also showing up well, and during the winter months the manage-

ment expect to make average monthly shipments of 400 tons. At the Last Chance the new tramway is about completed. Ore has been accumulating at this mine at a great rate. A good strike is reported to have been made on the Ajax, where the No. 3 cross-cut taps the east vein, a pay streak of eight inches of clean ore having been encountered. The ore in the No. 2 tunnel of this mine assays 170 ounces in silver or 75 per cent., and there is now a stoping ground of 175 feet between No. 1 and No. 3 tunnels. No ore is to be shipped at present, but the property is to be systematically developed. The annual meeting of the Noble Five Company was held during the month, the directors presenting a report and submitting the plan to be followed in the future development of the property. It is proposed to continue the two cross-cut tunnels, one of which is now in 1,100 feet, and the other on the main lead 280 feet. These tunnels will gain a depth of from 800 to 1,000 feet on the two main leads. The report of the directors was approved and adopted, and a special resolution carried, confirming the action of the old board in raising money to discharge the former liabilities and to carry on development. Mr. James Dunsmuir, of Victoria, was elected president for the ensuing year.

SILVERTON.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The Vancouver mine is at present employing twenty-two men and preparations are being made to ship extensively this winter. Preparation is also being made for stoping in a new piece of ground between No. 1 and 2 tunnels, and already four carloads have been sorted and sacked. This company has a sleigh road to the mine connecting with the Silverton road some five miles up the gulch. An upraise has been started at a point 600 feet in, in No. 3 tunnel, this upraise will be 120 feet long by the time it is driven through to No. 2 tunnel, which it will strike at a point a little east of the raise connecting No. 1 and 2 tunnels. This upraise is started in ore, and as the ore chute has been prospected for forty-five feet below No. 2 tunnel by means of a winze, it will open up a new piece of stoping ground that is already known to be rich. The ore shipped by this company last winter, some 340 tons, gave returns of over 250 ounces in silver and 50 per cent. lead per ton. New ore houses, bins and blacksmith shop are being erected at the mouth of No. 3 tunnel.

The work of building a concentrator at the Comstock mine is being prosecuted as rapidly as possible, but it is doubtful if the plant will be in running order before early spring. The extension of the Silverton waggon road to the mine is about completed. This company intends to ship 100 tons of ore at once and not wait for sleighing. The force at present consists of fifty-four men.

The Congo group, a gold-copper property, on Red Mountain, has been compelled to close down owing to the management not having had time to prepare for winter work.

The Essex group, lately purchased by Mr. G. H. Dawson of Vancouver, is showing up well. Three tunnels are being driven on the vein, the two upper ones sixty-five and fifty feet respectively, have a paystreak of from four inches to a foot of ore that will safely go 200 ounces in silver and sixty per cent. lead per ton. The lower tunnel has just been started and has not reached ore yet. This group adjoins the Wakefield mines and there is little doubt but that they are working on the Wakefield vein, nine miners are employed at present.

A large amount of stripping has been done on the Condor vein, under bond to Mr. W. H. Sandiford, and a tunnel has been started to tap the vein. Buildings have been erected and preparations made to carry on work all winter.

A new rawhide trail has just been completed to the Wakefield mines to connect with the Silverton road, and ore bins are being erected at the foot of the trail. There are several carloads of ore sacked and on the dump, waiting for snow to be brought down. The management expect to ship 2,000 tons of ore this winter. At present only a force of twenty-five men are employed but the force will be largely increased as soon as snow comes so that shipping can be commenced.

LARDEAU.

At the Silver Cup group, in the Lardeau, there are now 350 tons of high grade ore ready for shipment or on the road to the smelter. The average value of the ore is about \$165 per ton. There are large quantities in the mine blocked out for stoping.

EAST KOOTENAY—FORT STEELE.

Preparation is being made at the North Star mine for shipping on a large scale next spring, when a branch line con-