

ALL COMPARISONS NOT ODDIOUS.

The value of the output of Trail Creek ores during the month of September was, roughly speaking, about \$250,000, which is at the rate of \$3,000,000 a year. How does this compare with previous figures? It is not easy to make comparisons, because the output varies from month to month, and after August 31st, 1895, no regular data of the monthly shipments are procurable. But, taking the months of May, June, July and August of 1895 as a basis, we have their approximate total output as \$466,233, giving an average of \$131,166 for each month. It may be safely argued, therefore, that the rate of output has doubled. If the year's output from August 1st, 1896, to July 31st, 1897, be estimated on the basis of the September output as \$3,000,000, it would be about four times that of the output for the previous year. Mr. Carlyle gives the output to July 31st, 1896, from the beginning, as a little over \$1,000,000. But this is hardly a fair comparison, because, as the early days of the camp's history as a producer are approached the rate of output diminishes very fast. It is, by the way, an interesting fact that the net profits resulting from last year's work must have amounted to over 50 per cent. of the total output if allowance is made for profit sunk in machinery. We are, in Trail Creek mining the richest gold ore ever mined in large quantities. It is not to be expected, however, that this rate of profit to output will be maintained, because lower grade mines are rapidly coming into the field as producers and shippers. To get back to our comparisons. While a comparison of the years is not very reliable, a comparison with the average results of last year's four best months is, and it may safely be said that the output of Trail Creek is doubling up every year. This was foreseen early in 1895 by the Rossland Miner, which predicted that for some years to come the output of Trail Creek would increase in geometric progression. It is almost impossible, however, to doubt that the ratio of increase for the next year or two will be greater than that of two to one. The output so far has been from three mines, the Le Roi, War Eagle and Josie, with inconsiderable shipments from the Crown Point, Mayflower, Evening Star, Cliff and Kootenay. If we look at the three main producers alone we can see at once that they are in a position to double, perhaps more than double, their output immediately, while there are one or two others which, except for unforeseen accidents, should become large producers before the year is out. A new railroad is now within ten miles of the mines, and the Trail Smelter Company is contemplating a large increase in the capacity of their plant. Everything points to largely increased production. It cannot be put down as an exaggeration to estimate the year's output from August 1st, 1896, to July 31st, 1897, as \$5,000,000. In fact it will be found that this is an underestimate if anything. If the September output, however, be taken as representing our present output, Trail Creek is already, from practically three mines, producing 7½ per cent. of the total output of the Rand, and about 40 per cent. of the total output of Cripple Creek, and it must be remembered that Trail Creek is still in its infancy; that 60 per cent. of its known resources have not yet been developed. Why all this gold has been recovered from claims covering, all told, about eighty acres of land, a very curious commentary on the desire for full claims of fifty-two acres in size on the part of many inexperienced investors. The amount of ground so far exploited by the Le Roi represents about half an acre on the surface, while over \$100,000 in dividends was paid by the War Eagle out of a space whose cubical, not surface, dimensions could be condensed very easily twice over in any ordinary sized city block. This is a rather fanciful method of calculation, but it brings to light what an infinitesimal portion of this enormous gold-bearing area has yet been exploited and mined.

CUSTOMS COLLECTIONS.

Seventy per cent of the customs collections made in the various outports of Nelson are received in Rossland and Trail. Mr. Clute, the head of the department in British Columbia, is authority for this statement. Proper representations at headquarters can secure Rossland the position of a port of entry. These representations should be made.

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FORMATION IN BOUNDARY.

THE REVIEW regrets that demands on its space will not permit of its quoting all the really valuable article on the formation in Boundary Creek country from which the following is taken. It appears in the Boundary Creek Times of October 17th.

"The Boundary Creek mining district covers an area extending north from the international boundary line about fifteen miles and lying about fifteen miles on either side of Boundary Creek. No careful geological survey has ever been made of the district, so that the rocks have not as yet been identified with any particular epoch. Here, unlike Trail Creek district, altered sedimentary and metamorphic rocks occur quite abundantly along with the eruptives. A considerable area of eruptive granite occupies the basin of the creek in the center and upper part of the district, through which run several small high grade quartz veins. At the south, on the west side of the creek, occur shales and sandstones, extending westward to Rock Creek, in which veins of very good coal have been found. Lying on both sides of the creek are belts of quartzites, schists and crystalline limestones, with intrusions of porphyry, granite and basic eruptives of the diorite series. Numerous veins traverse these quartzites and schists—as in the case with many of the well-mineralized veins of White's camp on the south and those of Long Lake camp on the north—while associated with the basic eruptives are veins of copper ores and of pyrrhotite and copper pyrites. Several important ore bodies occur, seemingly as contact deposits between crystalline limestone and the eruptive and metamorphic rocks. This seems to be the case with the deposit of copper oxide and glance at the Copper camp and also with the Mother Lode deposit in Deadwood."

THE MASCOT LOOKS WELL.

The Mascot Eldorado, one of the properties now being developed by the Big Three Company, has a splendid showing both in the tunnel and in the shaft. The tunnel, which is a continuation of the tunnel started on what was supposed to be the Eldorado, is now in 87 feet. The face shows very good ore and lots of it. It occurs in seams and bunches all through the rock, the widest being eighteen inches. It is being run to intersect the shaft at a vertical depth of between 150 and 200 feet. The ore being now taken out differs very materially in appearance from that in the croppings at the mouth of the tunnel. This was a dark colored coarse-grained sulphide of iron and did not carry pay value. The ore in the face is perceptibly finer grained and is mixed with calcspar showing very similar characteristics to the Kootenay ore. In the shaft above, a magnificent showing of ore is uncovered on the bottom. It has widened out as depth was gained until it is now six feet wide. It is similar to what is found in the face of the drift. It is, however, not yet solid ore, but shows a considerable admixture of country rock and calcspar. There appears to be little doubt that a big chute of ore similar to that of the Kootenay mine has been located in this property and the future of the mine will depend on the extent and richness of this chute, which has yet to be determined by development. A good road has been made to the tunnel site and buildings have been erected. Every thing is in ship-shape order. The work that has in so short a time shown up so much has been at once economical and skilful and lucky. It will be almost impossible from now on to make a mistake or waste a dollar in the development of the property.

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Gold only	1 50	Iron	..... 2 50	Nickel	..... 10 00
Silver only	1 00	Zinc	..... 3 00	Cobalt	..... 10 00
Gold and Silver	2 00	Sulphur	..... 3 00	Coal Analysis	10 00
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DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY BETWEEN SPOKANE AND NELSON.

Leave Going North, 1 10 p.m. Arrive Going South, 12:45 p.m. NORTHPORT.

Passengers for Trail creek mines connect at Northport with stages and steamer daily. Close connection at Nelson with steamers for Kaslo and all Kootenay lake points. Passengers for Kettle river and Boundary creek connect at Marcus with stage daily.

COLUMBIA & WESTERN RAILWAY

Time Table in Effect July 1, 1896.

No. 2, PASSENGER, Daily except Sunday—	
Leaves Rossland	7:00 a. m.
Arrives at Trail	7:45 a. m.
No. 6, PASSENGER, Sunday only—	
Leaves Rossland	8:30 a. m.
Arrives at Trail	9:15 a. m.
No. 4, PASSENGER, Daily—	
Leaves Rossland	3:00 p. m.
Arrives at Trail	4:00 p. m.
No. 2, PASSENGER, Daily except Sunday—	
Leaves Trail	10:30 a. m.
Arrives at Rossland	11:50 a. m.
No. 1, PASSENGER, Daily—	
Leaves Trail	5:00 p. m.
Arrives at Rossland	5:45 p. m.
No. 5, PASSENGER, Sunday only	
Leaves Trail	11:00 a. m.
Arrives at Rossland	11:45 a. m.

Connection made at Trail with ALL STEAMERS, both up and down the Columbia river.  
For freight rates and further particulars, write to F. P. GUTELIUS, Gen'l Sup't, Rossland, B. C.