

There are several mineral claims which have very good prospects, and, given better transportation and a fair price for copper, there is no doubt as to their being worked. As the timber is cleared off, new mineral deposits will in all probability be uncovered, such as has often been the case in the past.

If the smelting of iron ore by electricity reaches the commercial stage, Alberni offers a very favourable point for operation; there are good iron ores on the West Coast with suitable flux, there are large water powers in Alberni, and with railroad communication coal can easily be had from Comox.

OTHER INDUSTRIES.

Alberni will undoubtedly be the seat of many other industries: the combination of cheap power, cheap fuel, unlimited water and easy transportation will not long be overlooked by the manufacturer.

A word might be said for some point on the west coast of Vancouver Island becoming the port for rapid transit to the Orient: this will some day be a factor with the big transportation companies, and it remains with them to decide where such port shall be; but the development of the natural resources of the West Coast will build up one or more towns which will go a long way towards settling up the country and peopling this Island with a happy and contented community.

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