

the Jumbo by Messrs. Finch and Galusha; the Gold King by Mr. Stussi; the Georgia by Messrs. McArthur and Kelly; the North Star by Messrs. Kelly, Stack and Jeldness; the R. E. Lee and Maid of Erin by Messrs. Stewart, Welch and Larsen; the Lily May by Messrs. Bowles and Raymond; and many others, representing in all several millions more of capital invested.

It is impossible to give any adequate idea of the dividends earned by all these undertakings, but one or two instances will suffice to show the paying qualities of the mines. The Le Roi paid last year \$125,000 in dividends and ever since has paid at the rate of \$25,000 per month, and is expected to pay \$50,000 from this on. The War Eagle paid \$157,000 last year, and it is estimated to fully rival the Le Roi as a dividend paying concern. We could give a number of other instances of big paying investments but these two will serve as samples of others.

It is expected that over 5,000 men will be employed during the coming season in these mines, and this means an immense trade to Rossland. The rise of this wonderful camp seems like a fairy tale especially when it is considered that all this great development may be said to have taken place within the past eighteen months.

Rossland is now connected with Trail, where the smelter is, by means of a narrow guage railway and before the end of the summer there will be at least three railways running into it. The people of the town are law-abiding and there is none of that recklessness and disorder so prevalent in western mining camps across the border. There are several churches, Methodist, Episcopalian, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic, with resident clergymen, and other denominations are said to be preparing to follow suit.

The fourth estate is well represented by the Record, Miner and Prospector, three newspapers creditable in appearance and well edited. There is a good school and an opera house which has been so successful that the proprietors propose to enlarge it. The town is lit by electric light and pure water is brought in from Strong Creek in the neighborhood, the reservoir for containing it being 300 feet above the town, so that ample protection from fire is afforded, which is increased by the presence of an efficient fire brigade. The character of the buildings is improving as new ones are erected, and as steps are being taken towards the immediate incorporation of the town, one of the first steps of the council will probably be to fix the fire limits which will still further tend to improve the condition of Rossland. We must not forget to mention that already two of the principal banks in Canada, the Bank of Montreal and the Bank of British North America, have branches here, to be followed probably by others at an early period.

As soon as incorporation is affected the grading of the streets, the laying of a proper system of sewers and sidewalks will be actively carried on. This will add much to the appearance and comfort of the town which already is a most pleasant place to live in. The Dominion Express Company, which has an office at Rossland, handled during the past year over half a million dollars in cash, and while in 1894 the shipments of ore amounted to about \$125,000, in 1895 they had increased to over a

million and a quarter. But so actively is development going on that a conservative estimate puts the production of 1896 at not less than \$5,000,000. Is it any wonder, then, that the people of Rossland look forward to their town being a great mining centre in the near future?

We cannot close this article without referring to a very useful publication recently issued by M. J. A. Kirk on the Trail Creek Mines. Those who desire to obtain useful particulars in detail regarding the district and its resources should send for a copy of the work and the map that accompanies it.

Kaslo.

KASLO IS beautifully situated on the west shore of Lake Kootenay, about 20 miles from Lardo, at the northern head, and a like distance from the point where the Kootenay River leaves the lake proper to join the Columbia on its way to the ocean. The city is built on a series of terraces, or mesas, which rise from the lake with a grad-



KASLO, B. C.

ual ascent, giving it a perfect system of drainage, which from a sanitary point of view leaves nothing to be desired. The altitude of the city is only about 1,700 feet above sea level, ensuring it a mildness of climate that is hard to realize by any inhabitant of any eastern community who resides as far north. In this connection it is only necessary to say that Kootenay Lake never freezes, and the thermometer has only once registered below zero since the organization of the city. There is never much snow in the city, and the little that falls does not remain any great length of time. The mountains, however, which rise up majestically—abruptly from every point on the shore of the lake—are snow-capped the greater portion of the year, and the Kasloites can look out in the hottest months and see the verdure shaded away into the glistening white, and feel the refreshing breezes that come down from the summits of the snow-clad and rocky peaks, and wonder how people can exist in any country where the thermometer is erratic enough to climb up to 90 or 100 in the shade.

But aside from the poetry and pleasure which comes of residing in so pleasant a situation, it is the solid advantages it offers from a business point of view which