

NICOLA MINING DIVISION.

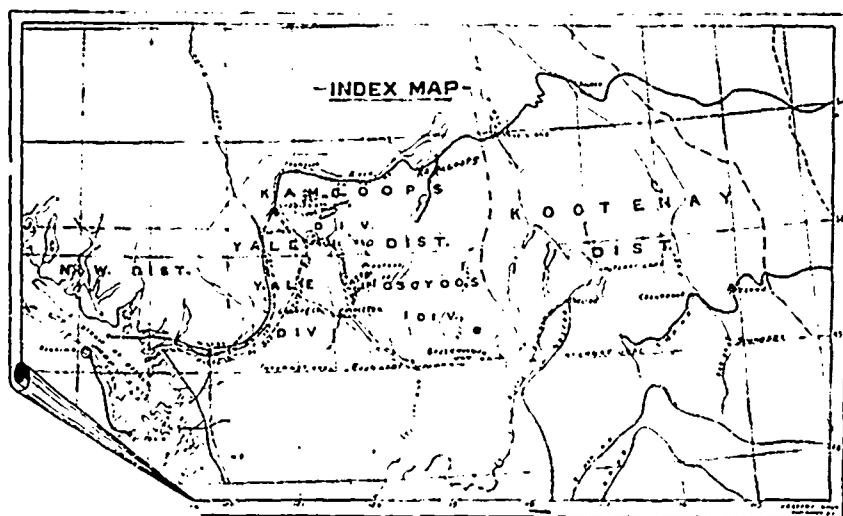
Official Reports on Mining Operations in 1907.

NICOLA MINING DIVISION made substantial progress during 1907 in the opening up of some of its coal resources, though the development of the metalliferous ore deposits of the district was not similarly advanced. The following official reports have been taken from the "Annual Report of the Minister of Mines" for 1907:

FROM REPORT OF THE PROVINCIAL MINERALOGIST.

MINERAL CLAIMS.

The Peacock group, consisting of three Crown-granted claims, the Boulder Cap, Peacock and Banner, owned by Thomas Hunter, of Nicola, is situated on Clapperton Creek, about six miles up from Nicola.



The showings upon which the properties were staked occur in the creek bed, having been exposed by the washing of the waters of the creek. The country rock, a volcanic rock, granitic in character, has been faulted, and a crushed zone follows this fault-plane, along which the creek has worked its way. There is a rather indistinct quartz vein following the course of the creek—connecting several large outcrops of quartz which occur in the granite and have been laid bare by the creek. The vein along its edges carries more or less copper sulphides and carbonates, but the mineralization does not appear to enter the larger quartz bodies; one of these quartz bodies exposed is 100 ft. long by 36 ft. wide. The hills rise abruptly on both sides of the creek, and such development as has been done is confined to the narrow gorge of the creek. On the Peacock a shaft has been sunk about 50 ft. and a drift set-off for 20 ft. to the north, with the intention of cutting, at a depth, a large body of quartz exposed in the bed of the creek. These workings appear to have cut several small stringers of quartz, but not to have reached the main body, although it is reported that the face of the drift is showing an increasing amount of mineralization.

On the opposite side of the creek from this main shaft, and 100 ft. farther up stream, there is a smaller shaft sunk about 10 ft. on a fissure in the country rock, in which were seen a number of narrow quartz veins, mineralized with copper pyrites.

Still a little farther up the creek bed is the pump shaft, 4x6 ft., sunk some 20 ft. on a showing of quartz carrying copper sulphides. A sample taken of selected ore gave, upon assay, 4.1 per cent. copper, with small quantities of gold and silver.

NICOLA COAL FIELD.

During the year 1907 a new producing coal field was opened up in the Nicola Valley, where the Nicola Valley Coal and Coke Company began shipments of coal from its Middlesboro Colliery, situated a few miles south of the town of Coutlee and on the bank of the Coldwater River, while another company, the Diamond Vale Coal and Iron Mines, had, by the end of the year, so far progressed towards the

producing stage as to be deserving of notice. The whole field has been the subject of a report by Dr. R. W. Ells, of the Geological Survey of Canada, from which report extended extracts were copied into the Report of this Bureau for 1905. The collieries above mentioned are both in the area designated by Dr. Ells as the Coal Gully area.

Nicola Valley Coal and Coke Company.—The Coal Gully coal seam, now included in the area held by the Nicola Valley Coal and Coke Company, had for many years been mined in a small way to provide for local wants. The opening from which this coal was taken had been run-in on an outcrop of coal so far up the gully as to be inaccessible by a railway, consequently, the company drove a new tunnel at a convenient height above the general level of the valley, and succeeded in striking the coal at that level, after driving 20 ft. through surface wash. This adit level is now known as the No. 1 mine, and had been, in July, only driven into the coal about 50 ft., but since that time it has been extended to intersect the old slope from Coal Gully at a depth of about 800 ft. on the slope, and various rooms have been set off. The tunnel was driven 8x8 ft. in the clear,