

## Current Mining News.

Contributions from any part of British Columbia and the mining districts of a reliable nature will be published in these columns, and we request that mining men write us about the progress of the mines of their district. We desire to publish all mining news.

### THE DEER PARK.

This Rossland mine will shortly begin to make sample shipments of its recently discovered high-grade ore, some specimens of which have assayed up to nearly \$500 a ton, though the general average will of course, whilst good, be considerably smaller.

### WEST KOOTENAY'S ORE SHIPMENTS.

These continue to be fairly good, the shipments for last week being valued at over \$111,000. The Le Roi mine was, as usual, the largest shipper with 1,580 tons, the Idaho mine of the Slocan coming next with 260 tons, and the famous Payne mine, also of the Slocan, following with 240 tons. The English company operating the Queen Bess silver-lead mine shipped 52 tons. The West Kootenay shipments of the year to date represent a value of \$2,713,576, and show a good proportionate advance on the figures of 1897.

### YMIR.

Ymir is a growing mining centre and is stated to claim a present population of about 1,000. The local pay roll amounts to \$21,000 a month and \$17,000 have lately been spent on wagon road making in connection with the Dundee, Ymir and Porto Rico mines. The Ymir will shortly ship a good quantity of high-grade ore. This mine is owned by the London & British Columbia Gold Fields, Limited, a concern which stands well in the London money market. The Dundee mine stock, much of which is in English hands, is also regularly quoted in London.

### THE SLOCAN.

Greater activity is again reported from this district and the miners are spending more freely, any who were hesitating having wisely decided to stay by our great silver country in preference to taking doubtful chances of gold getting in the far and frozen north.

The Southern Chief on Lemon Creek will shortly ship a sample carload of fine ore from a 12-inch working measure showing, it is stated, a large body. A good strike, specially fine samples from which are stated to have assayed up to \$247 in gold and silver per ton, is also reported from the Columbia mine.

## EAST KOOTENAY.

Reports from Brewery creek indicate that the gravel carries gold in paying quantities. Hence the different companies having holdings on the creek will handle a large amount of gravel this season. The Polson-Jennings Company has lately added a large pump to its plant.

Mr. Wm. Vess has uncovered the main ledge on the Spirit claim, and found that the ledge has an average width of 30 feet. This is on the surface. It is also demonstrated by a tunnel 76 feet in length, and a cross-drift also 30 feet. The ore on this property is a gold quartz carrying gold, silver and copper. The total values will average about \$19 to the ton. This property is situate at Victoria gulch, a tributary of Wild Horse creek.

An English company has purchased a half interest in the following claims: Rebecca, Nettie, Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec, Point Levi, Silver Reef, and Hummer. The conditions of the sale are, that \$45,000 shall be expended during a period of three years, \$10,000 each year on the property, and \$5,000 in cash to the owners. Work will be commenced as soon as the season will permit.

The Fort Steele Prospector records a large mining deal. The Morris group of claims, situated on the divide between Wild Horse creek and Bull river, distant rather more than twelve miles from Fort Steele, has been sold to an English syndicate. The lead proper on these claims is supposed to be from 100 to 250 feet in width, the ore being gray copper carrying gold, silver and copper. It is now known that the mineral zone extends from Bull river north to Sheep creek, a distance of twenty miles.

### VERNON MINING.

The mining situation at Vernon has latterly been greatly depressed, comparatively little progress being made towards mineral productiveness. It is now stated that the Morning Glory and Ruby Gold Mining Companies may amalgamate with better practical results, as it is hoped. Genuine precious-metal mining development would be an immense gain to Vernon, which has for some time failed to make the headway once so confidently anticipated.

### FURTHER ROSSLAND SHIPMENTS.

In addition to the outputs previously reported, it is stated that the War Eagle's last week's shipments came to 640 tons and those of the Iron Mask to 320 tons. The War Eagle is now being at last busily worked as a shipper "for all it is worth," hence the increasing output. Recent War Eagle shipments have been made to the Nelson smelter for use in fluxing, though the mine's regular shipments will shortly be made to the Trail smelter.