

stage from Golden. The North Star was the only shipping property in the district—no Fernie coal mines, no St. Eugene, no Sullivan, no Marysville smelter, no lumber mills, no other towns, and no means of transportation into the country except by stage or boat or cayuse, and this was only ten years ago. Now take a cursory glance over the district today. Cranbrook and Fernie each with a population of about 3,500, and several other thriving towns; one of the largest coalfields in the world, and the biggest silver-lead property on the American continent, both in active operation, not to mention the other mining properties now working, and the Marysville smelter; railway divisional point; lumber mills too numerous to mention; valuable timber resources, iron deposits, water power, fire-clay deposits, farm lands and fruit land of the very best."

### CANADIAN MINING INSTITUTE SUMMER EXCURSION.

**P**RELIMINARY NOTICE has been given by the secretary of the Canadian Mining Institute that the council of the institute has arranged for a summer excursion, which will be participated in by the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy; the Iron and Steel Institute; the Institute of Mining Engineers and other important British and European mining and engineering societies, and, too, by members of the Canadian Mining Institute.

The excursion as a whole will include visits to most of the important mining regions of the Dominion (exclusive of the Yukon), but for the convenience of members whose time may be limited, will be divided into stages, and members may participate in any or all.

A special train of sleeping and dining cars will, if possible, be engaged for the whole excursion, which will start from Quebec on or about August 24, next.

The several stages are as under:

#### Stage I—Nova Scotia and Quebec Excursion.

Quebec to Sydney (including, in Nova Scotia, visits to the Pictou and Glace Bay coal mines, to the Sydney iron and steel works; and in Quebec, the asbestos and copper regions of the Eastern Townships). Time required, approximately, nine days.

#### Stage II—Ontario Excursion.

Montreal to Toronto, the Cobalt and Sudbury districts (including visits to Niagara Falls, the silver mines of the Cobalt area and the nickel-copper mines and metallurgical works at Sudbury). Time required, six days.

#### Stage III—Western Excursion.

North Bay to Victoria, British Columbia, and return (including visits to the Fernie and Bankhead coal mines, the St. Eugene silver-lead mines at Moyie, and metallurgical works and copper-gold mines of Rossland and Boundary, the Bonnington Falls power plant, etc.) Time required, twenty-five days.

The secretary of the western branch of the institute has been informed that the time table, as at present arranged, provides that those joining in the western

excursion shall reach Winnipeg on September 10 and leave the same morning for British Columbia. From Dummore Junction the party will journey over the Crow's Nest line, arriving at Fernie on September 13, and Rossland at midnight of the 14th. Three days will be occupied in visiting mines, etc., at Rossland, Bonnington Falls and Nelson, whence the party will go to the Boundary, leaving Nelson on the morning of the 18th. Returning from the Boundary, West Robson will be reached on the night of the 20th, Revelstoke the following afternoon, and Victoria on the evening of the 22nd. Two or three days will be spent at the capital, where the institute will hold a business session, and then the visitors will start on their return journey, going from Vancouver to Banff, where a stop-over of one day has been arranged for, and thence east.

The itinerary has not yet been finally adopted, but it is probable it will follow closely along the lines above indicated.

The correspondent at Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, of the *London Mining Journal*, states that "Australian shareholders in the Lloyd object to the publication of the manager's reports being delayed in the Commonwealth until they have reached London. They think it is rather hard that they should have to wait over a month before they are allowed to know what has transpired at a mine a few miles out of Sydney." A similar complaint might be made in connection with several British owned mines operating in this Province. But perhaps we should be thankful that we get information even a month old, for that is much better than in the case of some companies having headquarters in the United States, which seldom publish results excepting at the time of their annual meetings of stockholders, and then they more often than not restrict themselves to giving the merest outline of the year's work and results. However, so long as a majority of the stockholders shall be content with a continuance of this custom of non-publication of information no reasonable objection can be made, for the general public has no rights in the matter. There is, though, a steadily growing sentiment in favour of the larger mining companies publishing more information—not necessarily such particulars as for good business reasons are better withheld, but general information, the disclosure of which would not occasion loss to the company, or place it at a disadvantage, in the carrying out of its business affairs. Those who are familiar with the custom of many mining companies, in Australia for instance (not the British owned ones), know the considerable amount of interest taken in the numerous extracts from mine managers' weekly or monthly reports of progress in the mines that are published in the larger metropolitan newspapers, and would fain see similar information in degree made available here so that official statements might be substituted for the "hot air," miscalled mining news, that so often is given space in newspapers.