

Vernon, the manager, is selecting ore with a view to commencing shipments very shortly. On the Hercules, also owned by the same company, a contract has been let for the further sinking of the shaft to the 100-foot level. The ore in the shaft is improving with every additional foot of depth. The present showing indicates the existence of a large body of high grade pyrrhotite ore carrying copper. It is understood that the wagon road to connect with this property will be commenced under Government supervision within a week. The same road will form a trunk road at the creeks and will fill a much needed want. It will be utilized by the Eldorado, Union Jack, Silver Lake and Big Horn companies.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LARDEAU.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

THERE has been nothing whatever of interest to report for some months, but as so often happens in a mining district, there is of a sudden a simultaneous occurrence of important incident, and this has been the case here of late. Perhaps the most important recent event was the practically complete transfer of the management of both the Great Western Mines and the Double Eagle Co. to the London shareholders, who intend, with the ample capital they have, to introduce machinery. So the first piece of mining machinery, in the form of a boiler and a five-drill compressor with the necessary adjuncts, has arrived in the Lardeau via the new Trout Lake and Argenta road, and has been duly delivered at the Nettie L. The Silver Cup, which is under the same management, is going to follow the example, but the first is building a rope tramway (double rope system) to make the hauling somewhat less expensive, both as regards the machinery now and the ore, etc., in future. In this district a rope tramway of some sort is an absolute necessity if a property is to be worked economically, as the hills are exceedingly steep and packing very expensive in consequence, but it stands to reason that a property must have proved itself worth the expense before the plant is installed, and this the Silver Cup has done. All the more or less developed prospects are being steadily worked on now, notably, perhaps, the Black Warrior group, though it is difficult to do more than just mention the names of the properties without attempting to describe them or give any idea of their values.

The Triune, of course, is being developed, and an aerial tramway put in there, the owners evidently intending to work their mine in such a way as to ensure them a supply of ore for their smelter all the year round.

It is of great interest to this district to know that the Ferguson smelter was actually blown in on the 12th inst., and most certainly appeared to be running very smoothly and well. The absence of the usual noise round a smelter was remarkable, and by no means disagreeable. Of course outsiders do not know what was charged into the furnace, either in quantity or value, nor what was the result, but to all appearance everything was working unusually well for a first start. Some alterations being found requisite to the machinery, the furnace was blown out the same evening and will so remain till the necessary work is done—it is said to be connected with the exhaust that causes the blast to the furnace, and certainly did not seem (to an outsider) to affect the working of the furnace itself. In any case, if this smelting plant shows it can save values at a fair cost, it will be of immense benefit in treating those very large quantities of ore which are of too low grade to stand the expense of shipping, and for that reason alone if for no other, its future performance will be awaited with the keenest interest.

MINING RETURNS AND STATISTICS.

BOUNDARY DISTRICT.

ORE shipments from this district to Aug. 31st are as under:—

Granby Mines, Phoenix	206,245
Snowshoe, Phoenix	2,042
Mother Lode, Deadwood	70,092
Sunset, Deadwood	4,520
B. C. Mine, Summit	2,718

Emma, Summit	1,067
Winnipeg, Wellington	785
Golden Crown, Wellington	625
No. 7 Mine, Central	482
Jewel, Long Lake	2,175
Providence, Providence	60

Total tons	291,351
Granby Smelter treatment, tons	192,498

ROSSLAND.

Production from Rossland from January 1st to August 31st, 1902, has been as follows:—

Le Roi	149,461
Le Roi No. 2	43,537
Centre Star	5,070
War Eagle	600
Rossland G. W.	2,400
Giant	1,430
Cascade	300
Columbia-Kootenay	30
Bonanza	90
Velvet	430
Spitzee	20
White Bear	25

Total	203,243
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THE SLOCAN.

According to the New Denver *Ledge* the ore shipments from the Slocan from January 1st to August 16th are:

Payne	850
Ivanhoe	295
Sunset (Jackson Basin)	703
Reco	322
American Boy	576
Arlington	2,549
Hewett	765
Bosun	730
Last Chance	150
Wonderful	151
Enterprise	1,380
Lavina	85
Bismarck	42
Queen Bess	160
Silver Glimmer	77
Whitewater	2,053
Ottawa	8
Capella	20
Florence	1
Trade Dollar	20
Slocan Boy	64
Neepawa	101
Hartney	25
Marion	80
May	5
Paystreak	7
Surprise	22
Monitor (for July)	765
Slocan Star	528
Duplex	7
Emily Edith	20
Wakefield	140
Prescott	4
Rambler	3,260
Molly Gibson	1,500
Washington	30
Folliott	2
C. O. D.	2
London Hill	115
Ruth	266
Antoine	20
R. E. Lee	60
Spectator	4
Red Fox	20
Antoine	20

Total tons	18,646
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Of this aggregate tonnage, the Slocan City mining division has contributed 4,041 tons.