

Rossland Notes.

THE citizens of Rossland are resolved to have the town incorporated without any further delay. The need of certain improvements and the growing importance of the place will not permit of its remaining longer under the care of the Local Government. It has suffered from neglect long enough. Rossland is going ahead with rapid strides. The erection of brick buildings has commenced, the annex to the Allan Hotel being the first on the list. A fine opera house is also being built and the machinery for a large brewery is on the way.

The incoming of the Red Mountain Railway means a new era of advancement for Rossland, and increased activity in the shipment of ore from the mines. It means also that a large portion of the town which hertofore has been mostly occupied by cabins and shacks will be covered with fine buildings. It will not astonish Rosslanders if before the end of the year 1897 the C.P.R. and other transcontinental lines are heading for Rossland. That it is bound to be a great railway centre in the near future is certain.

It looks as if Mr. Corbin is going to have some trouble in getting possession of the land he claims in Rossland. What the outcome will be no one can tell at present, but the uncertainty is not likely to last long as the erection of the railway station and other buildings in its neighbourhood will likely bring matters to a climax.

Around the mines matters have been active as usual. The Mugwump is fast developing into a great mine. The Mayflower is preparing to make large shipments and the Le Roi, which is now shipping about 150 tons daily, is likely to increase this quantity largely in the near future. It may be expected that the Centre Star will make some important moves soon, now that the annual meeting of the company has been held and the board of directors for another year elected.

Mr. Rufus Pope, before his departure for home the other day, deeded to the Big Three Company all of the Mascot claim which was found to cover Eldorado ground. He could hardly have done anything else. The object of Mr. Pope's visit to Rossland will probably be the booming of some more mining properties as soon as he returns home.

There now seems to be some hope that Mr. Heinze will succeed in procuring the necessary capital for the building of the Columbia & Western Railway. The extension of the road to the Kettle River and Boundary Creek districts would open up a vast and valuable mining region, and the enterprise would prove in the end a good investment for those putting their money into it. There is a very general desire to see Mr. Heinze succeed in his efforts to obtain the capital necessary.

The cuttings made in building the Red Mountain Railway disclosed several good veins on adjoining properties and the lucky owners are taking advantage of the discovery. Another unexpected find was made when the workmen were excavating the foundation for the Trail Brewery; they uncovered a fine ledge of iron having every appearance of being valuable.

The purchase of a large number of lots in Rossland by James F. Wardner for a Montreal syndicate was an important event in the history of the

town. It is said that some of the chief officials of the C.P.R. are interested in the deal, and if this should be the case it means that the C.P.R. has its eye on Rossland as an important point on its system. The parties who bought the lots are likely to make a lot of money out of the purchase.

There is great activity in building operations in Rossland, the sound of the hammer and saw being everywhere heard, and it is estimated that the value of the buildings in course of erection will not fall far short of \$125,000.

The C.P.R. has now completed its telegraphic line between Trail and Rossland, which is a great improvement on the telephone system we have had.

DRILL.

Notes from New Denver.

MORE business has been transacted in connection with the mines around Slocan Lake in the last three months than during any previous three years in its history. The country is simply swarming with people who are familiarly known as experts and others said to represent capital, foreign or otherwise. All kinds of properties are in demand, and last year's predictions as to the enormous richness of the country have been more than verified. Almost all of the good groups have been taken up by monied men, and will be actively developed during the winter.

Those which have been on trial are certainly fulfilling the best hopes which were entertained of them, and the development done on the Enterprise conclusively proves that the veins are true fissures descending to great depth.

This property continues to look as well as ever; the wagon road is all but completed to the mines and ore will be shipped as soon as the snow lies deep enough to permit of rawhiding it to the lake. This wagon road is destined to become the main artery through which the surrounding mines and claims will draw their supplies and take out their ore. A good trail has recently been built to connect with it from the Bondholder, and in consequence development on that group, which is reported improving rapidly, will be much facilitated.

The Neepawa and Baker Fraction claims situated right beside the Enterprise and directly on the wagon road were bonded during September to Dr. Bell-Irving, of Vancouver, for \$30,000. The ore found on this property is extremely high grade and consists of a mixture of fine-grained galena with arsenite, or what is here commonly known as black sulphurets. The upper tunnel has been driven fifty feet with a showing all the way, and a third will be started immediately to expose the ore shoot more effectively.

The Thompson group on Four Mile has also been acquired by the same company on a bond for \$40,000. This is a purely galena proposition, but the ore body is so large that there is said to be enough already in sight to warrant the erection of a concentrator at an early date. Three and a-half miles of trail have recently been built and when the cabins and other accessories are complete, work will commence on a large scale. A foot of clean ore has already been uncovered since the company took hold of the property, and