

here have been so satisfactory that Mr. C. E. Foster who has purchased the control, will proceed to open up the veins on a much more considerable scale.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

With the exception of the continuance of the strike of the miners at the coal mines of the Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir), Limited, Vancouver island, and a reduction in numbers of men employed at two or three mines in Slocan district, where the miners had asked for higher wages, mining has been generally active in the province. Two metalliferous mining companies paid dividends during October, namely, the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, Limited, to a total amount of about \$232,000, and the Standard Silver-Lead Mining Company, with a total of \$50,000. The latter was the seventh monthly dividend the company had paid this year, and it made the aggregate of its dividends \$375,000, paid \$25,000 in April and \$50,000 a month since.

The following notes are on districts not producing ore to any considerable extent, but which are regarded as likely to eventually add considerably to the mineral production of the province:

LARDEAU DISTRICT NOTES.

The outlook for mining in Lardeau district is now better than for several years past, as will be indicated by the following items of mining news:

Ferguson Mines, Limited.—The prospects for shipping ore the ensuing winter from this company's Silver Cup mine are promising; it is stated that not for at least three years have conditions been so favorable as now. The development work done during last summer has resulted in the mine having been placed on a basis that will allow of profit being earned on mining operations. This is the more encouraging since it is expected that returns will be received showing a larger output of silver-lead ore and proportionate earnings.

On the company's Ajax claim, adjoining the Nettie L., distant about one mile from the town of Ferguson, a recent development is attracting much notice throughout the district. In raising from No. 1 level, at between 30 and 40 ft. up a body of galena ore was found. When the information was received concerning this, there was 12 ft. 6 in. of ore exposed, and ore still in the face of the working. The value of this ore is given as from \$80 to \$100 a ton. As little production of importance has been made from this part of the company's property in recent years, this find is regarded as one of the most important developments experienced for a long time past.

The Nettie L., which formerly was one of the largest shipping mines of the Lardeau district, has been leased to Messrs. S. A. Sutherland & Co., after having been unworked for about seven years. The lessees have been operating here about three months, and already have taken out a carload of ore of excellent grade, while conditions indicate that it will be practicable to continue production.

Noble Five Group.—Mr. Andrew M. Craig, of Trout Lake City, has exposed in a 24-ft. open-cut on one of the claims of his Noble Five group, a 7-ft. lead of quartz matter in schist. In this there is about 20 in. of solid shipping ore. A cross-cut has been driven 90 ft., and to get under the above-mentioned good showing of ore this will have to be extended about 50 ft. A depth of 85 ft. from the surface will be gained, and,

owing to the steepness of the mountain, the gain in depth will be foot for foot of driving, when the lead shall have been cross-cut and drifting into the mountain be done. A shipment of 17 tons of ore from this property gave a net return of \$83 a ton, after payment of \$41.50 a ton for packing, freight, and treatment, making the total value of the ore \$124.50 a ton. Supplies will be taken in to the claim shortly, so that work may be resumed before next spring.

The Noble Five group is near the head of Brown creek, a tributary of Ten-mile creek, and is on the southern part of Silver Cup mountain. It is some 2½ miles beyond the Winslow group, and is 8 miles distant from Trout lake.

Horseshoe.—Mr. Craig has had packed out from the Horseshoe, which is three miles by trail from Trout Lake City, a few tons of sorted ore estimated to run about \$300 a ton. Work will be continued in the winter, and it is expected that more ore will be available for shipment by the time the trail shall be good enough for packing. The Horseshoe adjoins the Lucky Boy, which latter, as well as the Ethel, has been a shipper in the past.

Other Properties.—Beside those above-mentioned, there are other properties in various parts of Trout Lake mining division that are having attention, so that from some of these, as well, good results are expected.

BIG BEND OF THE COLUMBIA.

French Creek.—Some placer-gold recently exhibited in Revelstoke has assisted in causing renewed interest to be taken in placer-gold mining on creeks in the Big Bend part of Revelstoke mining division. The heap contained between 40 and 50 oz. of placer-gold recovered by Mr. L. M. Remillard from his placer claims on French creek, situated immediately above the property worked in past years by the old French Creek Mining Company. Mr. Remillard has been working here for about two years, and is now well pleased with the results he is getting. The local water-supply situation is not favorable to the recovery of gold after the beginning of October, but he is continuing work in preparation for gravel-washing when conditions shall allow of its being done. He believes he has found an old channel through his ground and that it will pay him well to work it.

Higher up French creek is situated the Pioneer Placer Mining Company's ground, to which, it has been reported, a Keystone drill was taken lately for the purpose of testing the ground for prospective purchasers.

Below the Remillard group are three placer leases held by a Revelstoke syndicate, which has obtained a water record and intends to work this property next season. It is thought the old channel above referred to crosses the ground comprised within these leases, and that it will be found to contain good pay-gravel.

Smith Creek.—Chicago and Washington men have obtained an option from Mr. Harry Howard on his claims near the mouth of Smith creek and fronting on Columbia river. This ground formerly was held by the old Columbia Hydraulic Mining Company. The bonders have also secured seven placer leases up Smith creek to the westward, and they purpose beginning mining operations next spring.

Other Creeks.—Two placer leases have been taken up on ground on Eight-mile creek, and Mr. Raymond Allen has done a lot of work on Camp creek. Several placer leases have been taken up on other Big Bend creeks, so that altogether much activity in placer-gold mining next season is looked for.