

to become one of the greatest mining centres in the world. Gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, aluminum clays, etc., are all claimed to exist in almost fabulously liberal quantities. If half that has been told of the wealth of the country is true, the mineral wealth of the country is simply marvellous. The scenery of the region, particularly about Christina Lake, is said to be enchanting.

WHAT IT MEANS.

The construction of the Columbia & Western railway means that within a short time we will have a through line of railway by the most direct route, piercing the heart of the famous mineral sections of southern British Columbia—through East Kootenay by the Crow's Nest road, on through the older mining centres of the Kootenay country by the Columbia & Kootenay road, and thence still onward to the more recent but already famous Boundary Creek country by the Columbia and Western railway. This will mean great development in the districts served by the new roads, as well as increased trade with other portions of our country. It is evident that this portion of British Columbia, at least, is entering upon an era of development such as has not yet been experienced in the mining history of the country. By this development Winnipeg, Victoria, Vancouver and other trade centres will be benefitted, and the farmers and ranchers of the prairie country east of the mountains will gain by the increased demand for their produce. The coke and coal of East Kootenay will be in demand for the smelters which are sure to be established. It is understood that the Canadian Pacific Railway company contemplate establishing a large smelter at Cascade City or some other point on the railway.

While the country to be served by the Columbia and Western railway is pre-eminently a mineral region, there are some valuable timber areas, and also some valleys and bench lands suitable for agricultural settlements. The valley of the Kettle river affords quite extensive areas of arable land, admirably adapted to fruit growing in particular. Apples, plums, peaches, pears, prunes, etc., can be grown in this region to good advantage. The country therefore, has other attractions than that of its mineral wealth. The accompanying map shows the Columbia & Western railway as projected through to Hope station on the main line of the Canadian Pacific railway. Nothing is being done, however, at present towards building the road west of Midway. It will no doubt ultimately be extended to Pentteton, at the southern end of Okanagan lake. Steamers run on this lake making connection between Pentteton and the Okanagan branch of the Canadian Pacific railway which terminates at the northern end of the lake. The extension of the road beyond Pentteton to Hope is a matter for more distant future consideration.

Discovery has been made of the systematic robbery of a number of leading Montreal business establishments by employees. Goods were carried off in almost wholesale quantities from some of the houses and disposed of through an accomplice.

"Verena, you told me that you were a good cook, and now I find that you can't even make bread!"

"No, mum. Where I lived before I came here, they were always able to buy their own bread."

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