

stoke a railway spur runs south to Arrowhead, where close connection is made with the lake steamers.

East of Arrowhead is the Lardeau section, including Fish River and Trout Lake. Though this has long been recognized as a mineral-bearing region, development was slow, until the



WASHING GOLD.

discovery of rich gold quartz near Poplar Creek, attracted both men and capital. Improved means of travel being desirable, a railway has been built from Lardeau, on Kootenay Lake, to the lower end of Trout Lake. Thence by steamer and waggon road the way is open to Arrowhead.

The Arrow lakes, two in number, are long and narrow. As mountains rise abruptly from the shores, there is little land fit for cultivation except what may be at the mouth of creeks flowing into the lakes, in the flats along the shores, or in the loamy slopes that here and there form the base of the mountains. Such fertile patches would be insignificant were