

# THE COMMERCIAL IN THE KOOTENAY

## YMIR AND NELSON DISTRICTS.

Ymir is about 17 miles south of Nelson on the Nelson and Fort Sheppard railway. It was staked in the spring of 1897, and although still a small place its prospects of becoming an important mining camp would seem to be very good, as it has tributary to it a large number of good mines. Already it is well represented by the different lines of business having several general stores, hardware, drug store, dry goods and clothing, fruit stands, etc., and newspaper.

The most important mine of the district is the Ymir. It is equipped with a 40 stamp mill, and it is the intention to double this in the near future. They crush on an average about 2,500 tons per month, the ore running between \$7 and \$8 per ton in value and occasionally they ship crude ore going over \$100 per ton. The total output of the stamp mill for eight months has reached \$200,000. The mine is developed by three tunnels, shafts and up-raises. The ore is conveyed to the mill by means of a Halladie aerial tramway which has a capacity of 100 tons a day. The principal development work now going on is the running of a long tunnel which will be about 2,800 feet in length, extending from a point near the mill to the main workings. There will be sufficient room in it for two teams and when completed will take the place of the aerial tramway. The ore is principally gold; the main ore body is about 30 feet wide, and the chute has a length of 500 feet.

The Porto Rico mine is owned by the Canadian Pacific Exploration Co., of London. They have a 10-stamp mill running, in which they crush about 500 tons of ore per month, averaging in value about \$20 a ton. The average width of the vein is about 21 1/2 feet. The mine is developed by four tunnels, all run on the vein. It has also a Halladie tramway, which is about 1,600 feet in length. An additional 10-stamp mill is contemplated.

The Tanagrae is owned by the Kenneth Gold Mining Co. The ore consists of iron and arsenical pyrites and the vein is about four feet wide. An inclined shaft is down 185 feet, from the bottom shaft a drift has been run a distance of 340 feet. An added tunnel has been run in from the surface to meet the bottom shaft, making a continuous tunnel of 650 feet. In this tunnel an ore chute has been exposed for a length of 500 feet; the average values of which are calculated at \$13. There has been no output so far, but experiments are now being made as to the best method of treating the ore. There are about 2,000 tons of ore on the dump.

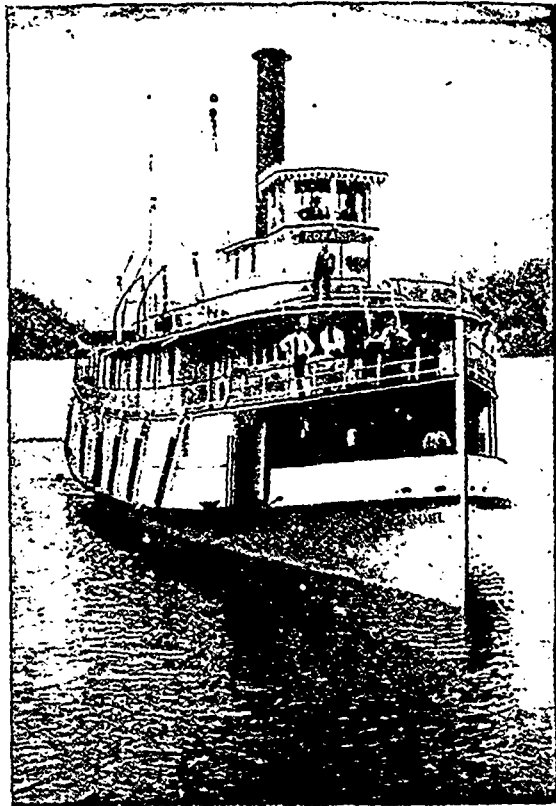
The Dundee mine has a shaft down 265 feet. From the 200 feet level drifts have been run east and west for 150 feet and from the 260 feet level drifts have been run east and west 200 feet. The vein has an average width of 16 feet, 10 per cent. of which is high grade shipping ore, averaging about \$10 to the ton, the balance being a concentrating ore averaging \$8 per ton. A concentrator with a capacity of 75 tons per day has been erected and is connected with the shaft head by a gravity tramway.

The Black Cock mine is now shipping and one of the last carloads went \$40 in gold and \$1 in silver. The mine is developed by two shafts 185 feet and 100 feet in length and a tunnel is now being run on the vein to top the larger shaft. The ore at present being shipped is from the 50 feet level where 16 inches of high grade ore and about 5 feet of milling ore is exposed. The company intend erecting a plant this summer for treating this milling ore.

The Wilcox adjoins the Black Cock and is developed by three tunnels in 300 feet, 360 feet and 250 feet and a 200 feet shaft. The ore is principally free milling and averages about

## NELSON.

Nelson is situated on the south shore of the western arm of Kootenay Lake. It is built on the mountain side, the portion occupied by the business houses being near the lake and more level than that occupied by the residences, but in no place is the hill sufficiently steep to cause inconvenience. On the other hand the benefits derived from this location are numerous, not the least of which is the view that is to be had of the lake and opposite range of mountains. This spot first received a name in 1887 when it was called Salisbury, to be changed in 1888 to Stanley. It was known by the two names until a post office was secured, it was given its present name in honor of the lieutenant-governor of the province. The first sale of lots was made in 1888 and soon a couple of stores and a hotel were started, to be followed in after years by other and larger business places until now as good an assortment of merchandise is found



Steamer on Kootenay Lake.

\$11 per ton. It is intended to erect a stamp mill as soon as possible.

The Big Horn are drifting a cross cut tunnel to tap the rich ledge which crops out at the surface of a width of 12 feet. Assays of this ore gave \$270 per ton.

The Good Hope is a rich but small vein of free milling ore. About 100 feet of work have been done and it is the intention to erect a stamp mill this summer.

The Nevada ledge is about 8 feet wide. This is principally a concentrating ore and it is the intention to erect a concentrator this summer. This is a silver lead proposition. Other claims in this district are the Bullion, Union Jack, Silver Lake, Rainy Day, Roanoke, Ymir Belle, etc.

here as in almost any city of the Dominion. The log cabins at first erected have given place to large and handsome buildings. During the last year a great amount of building was done and on the main street alone brick blocks to the value of \$65,000 were erected. These comprise the blocks of the London, B. C. Gold Fields Co., Ltd., Bank of Montreal, Oddfellows, Hudson's Bay Co., Madden, P. Burns & Co., Hall, Malone & Houston block. In addition to these A. MacDonald & Co., and J. Y. Griffin & Co., have just built large warehouses and offices.

While Nelson is the supply depot for a number of good mines it is not entirely dependent on these for its support as from its location it is the na-