

bodies of ore, both silver and gold bearing, as well as the well known mica deposits near Canoe River, that there can surely be little doubt that capital will be attracted to it, and when that comes, the rest is usually easy. At present anyone who wants to explore that great district must do so on foot, and the trail is unique, inasmuch as it is chiefly up hill both ways (at least that is how it appears to the writer.) With the opening of the Big Bend country undoubtedly other small towns will establish themselves on the road, but Revelstoke will even then remain a sort of base for all supplies.

Three of the men who have been working in the Standard Basin all the winter recently arrived in town, and after getting a few assays made (which turned out exceedingly well in gold) returned to camp. They report great progress in the lower tunnel, which is now some 300 feet in, and also report that in No. 2 tunnel some 600 feet distant from the lower tunnel, they have struck a body of copper ore  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick. Assays of this latter are not to hand yet, but the rock that carried well in gold was chiefly arsenical pyrites in diorite. Let us hope our British Columbia government will not promptly tax them \$100 apiece for presuming to find anything better than country rock! "But more of this anon."

#### BOUNDARY DISTRICT.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Steady progress continues to be the order of the day in the Boundary district. The three chief ore producers, viz., the Old Ironsides and Knob Hill group, the Mother Lode and the B. C. are now, together, turning out about 1,100 tons of ore daily. Of this quantity, nearly 650 tons comes from the Old Ironsides and Knob Hill group; about 350 tons from the Mother Lode and rather better than 100 tons from the B. C. At present no other property in the district is maintaining a regular output, although several other claims are approaching the stage of regular production. As, however, the total daily treatment capacity of the local smelters at work averages rather less than 1,000 tons, as yet nothing is lost by the output being restricted to the quantity mentioned. Of course, more mines could do as the B. C. is doing, and send their ore to Trail, but the general disposition appears to be to have it treated by one or other of the local smelters.

There is really little that is new to chronicle in connection with the Old Ironsides and Knob Hill group, the several mines of which are by far in the lead as regards output, and are likely to continue a long way ahead in this respect of all others in the Boundary country. Official announcement has been made that this group will, before the close of next summer, be required to maintain a daily output of about 1,200 tons, in order to supply the Granby and Ironsides smelter, which, by that time, will have facilities for treating that quantity daily. The reported offer of \$15,000,000 for the Miner-Graves properties, which include the Granby smelter, the Old Ironsides, Knob Hill, Victoria and Grey Eagle mines, and other interests, has emphasized the importance of these properties, and attracted fresh attention to them. The enormous quantity of ore already opened up in the mines, its singularly suitable nature for economical smelting, and the marked success that has attended and is still attending the operation of the Granby smelter, combine to greatly impress capitalists with the big possibilities of this industry. It appears, though, that its present owners fully appreciate its great promise, and are taking advantage of the opportunities it affords them for building up copper mining and smelting business of large proportions.

Some particulars of progress on the Snowshoe group, situate in the vicinity of Old Ironsides and Knob Hill, were given last month. There is nothing fresh to add just now, the work on this property continuing on similar lines of development to those followed for the greater part of the past year. Mr. Anthony J. McMillan, managing director of the British Columbia (Rossland and Shocm) Syndicate, which owns this group will probably return shortly from England, and it is expected that, as a result of his conference with his co-directors in London, development operations will be enlarged.

The Brooklyn and Stenwinder group is another neighbor of the Old Ironsides and Knob Hill that is not likely to suffer from either lack of capital or experienced, practical management. This group, which is owned by the Dominion Copper Co., Ltd., of Toronto, consists of the Brooklyn, Stenwinder, Idaho, Rawhide and other mineral claims near Phoenix. The company lately closed a contract with the James Cooper Mfg. Co., Ltd., of Montreal, Quebec, under which the latter has undertaken to supply a Corliss cross compound Ingersoll-Sergeant air compressor, steam cylinders, 18 inch and 31 inch diameter, by 36 inch stroke, air cylinders 18 inches diameter by 36 inch stroke; 10 Ingersoll-Sergeant  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inch drills, with double screw columns, hose and fittings complete; an air receiver 54 inch by 12 feet, and a feed water heater of a capacity of 200-horse power. This constitutes a 20-drill plant, and it is to be shipped in about three months. For immediate

shipment other plant has also been contracted for between the same parties, including a Bullock diamond drill equal to drilling a 1,000-foot hole, and 1,000 feet of rods; a 5-drill Ingersoll-Sergeant air compressor; a 60-horse power locomotive boiler; an air receiver, 42 inch by 8 feet; a boiler feed pump and a quantity of supplies. This latter plant is for the St. M. winder, there already being a plant of similar capacity, excepting the diamond drill, at work on the adjoining Brooklyn claim. The larger plant will be for the joint use of the Brooklyn, Stenwinder and Idaho. Very little information is available just now as to what development work is in progress on this group, which is reported to be employing from 100 to 130 men. When work was resumed two or three months ago the number of feet of development previously done stood thus: Brooklyn.—Sinking and raising (including shaft 268 feet in depth), 340 feet; cross-cutting and drifting, 2,050 feet. Stenwinder.—Shaft, 344 feet; cross-cuts, 115 feet; drifts, 50 feet. Idaho.—Shaft, 50 feet. Rawhide.—Tunnel, 450 feet. Cross-cutting at the 250-foot level in the Brooklyn was the first development work undertaken when operations were resumed, and later similar work was done in the Stenwinder. Now the sinking of a main shaft on the Idaho is in hand as well.

In the Wellington camp things now have a more promising appearance than for some time past. At the Winnipeg the winze from the 300-foot level is now down about 70 feet and is in ore that for quantity and assay value is very promising, but more than this, the mining manager, Mr. Nicholas J. Tregear, will not say just now, preferring to wait to see if further development and additional sampling will confirm present promise. Mr. Richard Plewman

of Rossland, managing director, states that the vein in the winze has now widened out to 10 feet, with eight feet of solid ore in the bottom. At a depth of 31 feet there was only two feet of solid ore in this winze. Furthermore, the values of the low grade ore have steadily improved.

From Rossland, where the head office of the company is situate, it is learned that a plan has been perfected whereby the treasury of the Brandon and Golden Crown Mining Co. will be restored, and which will, it is stated, enable operations to be resumed shortly, on an extensive scale. Owing to the slump in the mining shares in Eastern Canada, the directors were unable to dispose of any more treasury stock, and in consequence, operations were suspended last November. The reorganization just effected, has taken a different form from that usually adopted. Instead of the company being re-constructed, and made assessable, as is the practice, the original subscribers have entered into a written agreement, in virtue of which they have agreed to contribute or surrender to the treasury, 40 per cent. of their original holdings; and, as the subscribers' stock has been in pool since 1897, this arrangement was thus more easily accomplished. With the treasury on hand, the 40 per cent. contributed by the original subscribers will bring the shares in the treasury to 450,000. Negotiations for the sale of a large block of the treasury shares are said to be now in progress, and the proceeds will, it is expected, not only pay off the floating debt, but will provide sufficient funds for working capital, so that when ore shipping shall be resumed, it will be on a permanent basis.

Some ore is again being sent out from the Athelstan, also in Wellington camp, but until development below the 100-foot level shall have been done on a more extensive scale than any work yet done on this property, the Athelstan is unlikely to be anything more than an intermittent shipper of a few hundred tons at a time. It is understood that the management of the Standard Pyrite Smelting Co. is supplying the money for present work on the Athelstan, and that the ore is to be treated at its smelter near Boundary Falls.

The B. C. in Summit camp, is keeping up its ore shipments, which, by the end of March, will have aggregated about 28,000 tons. Cross-cutting at the 400-foot level is now in progress, the policy at this mine being one that is only to be expected from experienced and capable managers, of Mr. S. F. Parrish's type, viz: that of keeping development well ahead of stoping. The reports widely published to the effect that the B. C. had been sold, have been authoritatively contradicted. Other properties at work in Summit camp are the R. Bell and the Blue Bell. The former is deepening its shaft, now down about 270 feet, preliminary to cross-cutting the ledge in more settled country than where it was cut at about 80 feet down. The Blue Bell prospect shaft is now down about 100 feet, and it is stated that at 125 feet a cross-cut will be run. Some good grade ore has been exposed in this shaft, and the intention is to instal a power plant should developments at the greater depth appear to justify the expenditure, as it is confidently anticipated they will do. A little surface prospecting on the Oro Duenoro and the sending out of ore of a rather low grade from an open cut on the Emma are the only other items of mining news from this camp.

Deadwood camp grows in importance each month. The big hoisting engine and the ore sorting plant at the British Columbia Copper Co.'s Mother Lode mine, particulars of which were