

In the meantime the publication of its intentions and the fact of the actual locations surveys being made have resulted in activity in the districts to be served from Newport to Lillooet. It is certain from our own knowledge of enquiries made that this spring will see great development, and the opening up of mineral, agricultural and fruit-growing areas which have, though well known, lain dormant owing to there being no transportation. In connection with this the position of the Company with relation to the Green Lake Mines may be explained. It had been hoped that the operations and expenditures by this Company would result in an exploitation by private individuals of the resources of the district. The public having no knowledge, however, remained apathetic, and as something had to move it was decided by several of the directors to undertake the development at their own expense. The result of this action will be proved in the spring, and from the many enquiries received an active mineral development of the district may confidentially be expected. From present reports and assays the Green Lake Mines will make a very excellent showing and its opening up will result in good times for the produce growers of Pemberton.

Passengers and general freight will be handled on the Squamish Section this spring as soon as the passenger coaches, already ordered, arrive. As soon as freight warrants it the Company will put on a car ferry service to Vancouver (30 miles). It does this in preference to the construction of a railroad over the intervening territory, which would cost \$3,350,000 (according to estimates obtained), and would be entirely barren of earning power for 5/7 of the way.

It will further put on a direct daily boat service with Vancouver, which will result in a 4 1/4 hours' run from Vancouver to Pemberton Meadows and 6 1/2 to Lillooet.

As regards the financial ability of the Company, I may point out that while a very considerable sum has been expended already no debentures have yet been issued, nor is the undertaking of the Company encumbered in any way. At the same time we shall in the near future have to issue bonds, and we feel that an invidious distinction, detrimental to our finances, would be made in the minds of our bond buyers if a purely colonization road, such as ours is, should not receive the same stamp of approval as is to be accorded by the Government to other roads of a like nature (g).

The Government will not only receive some \$2,000,000 stumpage tax on timber, which it can only receive by the construction of our road (h), but will be in yearly receipts of mineral royalties from the Green Lake Bridge River and Anderson Lake Mines, development of which will take place directly heavy machinery can be placed on the ground. The construction of the road has already increased

(h) The Government is already in receipt of considerable royalties as a result of our construction.

(g) This contention has been proved to be correct.