

per ton on the lot. As the head of the raise comes out north of the good ore on the 375-foot east level, it is probable the main body of rich ore is south of the raise. The tunnel west of the shaft has been in low grade ore; 158½ tons shipped as broken assayed \$13.18, giving, by special smelting term, \$8.18, and 451½ tons shipped as broken from other portions, assayed \$16.40.

EAST RAISE.—This working did not discover any bodies of ore.

SOUTH DRIFT.—Nothing has been done here for the year, and the ore body, 50 feet long and 30 inches wide, assaying \$20 in gold per ton, with the same width and values in the face, remains intact. This drift was run 500 feet south, and an ore body 40 feet long, two to ten feet wide, was encountered, which produced, when driving through it, 192 tons, assaying \$18.47, \$3,546.25 gross value, and from the stope above the tunnel, 326 tons, assaying \$14.85, \$4,841.10 gross value. A total of 518 tons, averaging \$16.19, \$8,387.34 gross value; deducting cost of transportation and smelting, \$4,502.34 net value. There is yet 50 tons of the best ore piled in the tunnel. The ore body gave out going up, but is in the bottom of the tunnel.

SIX HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIVE EAST.—In running this drift 90 feet easterly on the vein from the south cross-cut from the main shaft on the 615-foot level, 347 tons of rock broken in driving, shipped without sorting, assayed \$14.10, \$4,892.70 gross value. No drifting has been done west on the vein at point of intersection by the cross-cut, it averaged six feet wide and \$25 in value.

ORE RESERVES.—There are large bodies of ore ready for extraction, of which the aggregate will run lower in value than the past product of the mine. I place it at 100,000 tons smelter's gross value, \$1,700,000; with the usual amount of development and shipping, what could be conveniently stoped, I would again place the cost of extraction at \$3.25 per ton. The ore estimated as available is between the 250-foot level and the bottom of the mine as developed.

SURFACE IMPROVEMENTS.—The present plant of compressor and hoist proved quite insufficient for our needs during the past year and the development has been slower than with a more complete plant. The new plant, consisting of an electrically driven double drum hoist with capacity for lifting 16,000 pounds at 750 feet per minute, a 24¼x48 so-called 40-drill compressor and a 20-horse power blower, will be in operation by the first of the year.

The new steel gallow's frame, 100 feet high from collar of shaft to centre of sheave, and iron shaft house 185 feet long, 40 feet wide, 120 feet high, with large ore bin capacity, crusher and sorting belts, is practically completed.

A water and drainage system, containing 6,000 feet of pipe, has been put in, and wooden tanks built to hold a domestic and fire supply of 75,000 gallons, 45,000 gallons of which has from 140 to 250 feet pressure above the buildings.

Commodious and substantial general offices, assay offices and stables have been built. The War Eagle Hotel Company has erected handsome board and bunk houses for our employees, easy wagon roads have been built from the railroad and the timber to the main shaft.

DEVELOPMENT FOR THE YEAR.—The following are the most important features: The making of a main incline shaft of the No. 2 winze by carrying the latter to the surface at an incline of 58 degrees from the 250-foot level upwards and downwards in triple compartment at 64 degrees. The 375 east and west drifts have been extended and stilled for stoping, and raises made from them to the 250-foot level. A raise, No. 6, has also been made from the 500-foot level to the 375-foot level. A raise, No. 5, in the east end of the mine from the 500-foot level to the 250-foot level. Large pockets have been put in on the 500-foot and 625-foot levels to load the skips from.

CROWN POINT.—A fair amount of exploiting was done on the mine above the main tunnel. The large surface ore body was found to gradually pinch out, and in view of the expenditures on the War Eagle, with your permission, I discontinued prospecting on the claim.

RICHMOND GROUP.—The necessary assessment work has been done on the claims and they have been surveyed and advertised for a Crown grant, which, I believe, will be immediately issued. Acting on your instructions the Company's holdings have been increased by the purchase of one-quarter of the Summit, a contiguous claim, of which it now owns one half; and the purchase of the whole of the Mineral Hill and

Eureka; also contiguous claims, these last having the Slocan Star vein for about 800 feet.

COST OF MINING.—I believe these will be found to be minutely and comprehensively explained, as far as may be, in suitable compass, by the tables forming part of report.

CONCLUSION.—Finally, I will again call the attention of the Board, as it was my pleasure to do last year, to the capable and energetic services of John Fitzwilliams, foreman, and Charles V. Jenkins, accountant. I am, dear sirs, yours truly,

JOHN B. HASTINGS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions which may be expressed in this column. No notice will be taken of communications unless accompanied by the full name and address of the writer.

THE RESOURCES OF BOUNDARY CREEK.

TO THE EDITOR:—Of late very little has appeared in the columns of your valuable periodical, or in those of other Coast publications concerning the Boundary Creek mining properties. I crave permission to write briefly concerning some of the best.

The pride of the district are the Old Ironsides and Knob Hill, in Greenwood camp. On the Knob Hill a tunnel 360 feet has been run cross-cutting the ledge almost at right angles, and the farther wall has not yet been reached. Throughout the full 360 feet it is all pay ore without a pound of waste, and will all average \$18 in gold and copper. The same values are obtained in the Ironsides on which a shaft has been sunk 200 feet. The development machinery on this property consists of a 10-drill compressor, pump and two hoists. Besides these properties in Greenwood camp the following are being worked: Red Rock, Rawhide, Brooklyn, Idaho, Bullion and Pheasant.

The Wellington camp work is being actively prosecuted on the Winnipeg and Golden Crown. The Winnipeg shaft is down 225 feet, and it is intended to sink to a depth of 300 feet and cross-cut to the ledge. The Golden Crown is drifting at the 150-foot level. The Winnipeg ore, consisting of a pyrrhotite carrying copper pyrites, is the highest grade base ore in the district, giving as high as \$700 in gold value. Both of these properties are equipped with good machinery, and are well managed.

In Deadwood camp are the Mother Lode and Morrison. The first has an ore body of copper and iron-gold ore 200 feet in width, and has installed upon it the largest development plant ever brought into British Columbia. The ledge will average in value from \$16 to \$20 in gold and copper values. The Morrison machinery is upon the ground, but has not yet been set up. This property contains a large body of ore, but whose entire width has not yet been determined. Other considerably developed properties in this camp are the Sunset, Great Hopes, Marguerite and Buckhorn.

In Long Lake camp the Jewel is the only mine equipped with machinery. The ores are quartz, carrying free gold and tellurides assaying from \$5 to several thousand dollars per ton. Beside the Jewel there are in this camp the Dinero Grande, Enterprise, Lakeside, Silent Friend and Roderick Dhu, all of which have been extensively opened up, the assay values being generally high. I might name, among other properties in the district, the King Solomon, in Copper camp, from which have been taken the most magnificent specimens of native copper, and of the highest grade copper glance, and the Big Copper, in the same camp; the No. 7, City of Paris, Lincoln and Jack of Spades, in Central camp; the Skylark, Last Chance, Kan-ka-kee and Nightingale, in Skylark camp; the Strathmore, D.A. and G.A.R., in Providence camp; the Bruce, in Graham's camp; and the Golconda, Boundary Falls and Republic, in Smith's camp. All of these properties have been more or less developed; some have shipped ore to a limited extent, and the majority of them will, it may be confidently asserted, become producing mines directly, or very soon after the district enjoys the very necessary advantages of railway transportation.

It may not be out of place to state here, in conclusion, that the price of Boundary Creek stocks has advanced during the last two months very notably. For instance, Knob Hill has advanced from 16 cents to \$1, and at that point was all taken up; Morrison advanced from 5 cents to 18 cents; Boundary Creek Mining and Milling stocks from 1½ to 10