

RAILWAY MOVEMENTS.

A well informed gentleman, who has just returned from the Slocan lake district, gives some interesting information as to the probable outcome of the present active movements of the Canadian Pacific in that region. A special telegram from Nelson gave news of the beginning of the building of the C. P. R. line from the foot of Slocan lake down the Slocan river to Slocan crossing on the Columbian & Kootenay road running from Nelson to Robson.

The developments which will probably follow the completion of an all rail route from Slocan Lake to Robson, and a connection there with the Columbia & Western, now under construction from Trail, are much more far-reaching than they were at first understood to be. A very large tonnage is growing up along the east side of Slocan lake. There are now producing mines on Carpenter, Four Mile, Eight Mile, Ten Mile, Springer and Lemon creeks. All these creeks run into Slocan lake from the east. It is therefore a downhill haul from every mine on every one of these creeks to Slocan lake, and Slocan lake supplies the only means of outlet for the mines on all these creeks, except Carpenter creek, which is the furthest one north.

Should the present indications hold good and the Slocan lake mines be such producers as they now promise to be, the tonnage for the railroad which controls the situation will be enormous. At present the only way of shipping ore from the mines south of Carpenter creek is by boat up to Rosebery at the head of the lake, and thence over the Nakusp & Slocan railroad, under control of the C. P. R., to the Upper Arrow lake, thence by barge to Arrowhead, thence by rail to Revelstoke, on the C. P. R. main line. This is a very circuitous and tedious route. After the ore gets to Revelstoke it is taken east over the C. P. R. main line, and delivered to the smelting works at Omaha and other United States points.

The building of a line of road from the south end of Slocan lake and the establishment of an all rail connection between the Slocan lake mines and the Trail smelter is certain to lead to some big changes. It is generally believed that an understanding has been arrived between Mr. Heinze of the Trail smelter and the C. P. R. people, whereby the Trail smelter is to put in furnaces for the treatment of lead and silver ores. The C. P. R. people are building a large steamer at Rosebery, the point where their Nakusp line touches the upper end of the lake and also some barges. This steamer and these barges will be run between Rosebery and Slocan City, the latter point being the place where the new road running south from the Slocan mines is to start. These barges will carry freight and passenger cars just as the barges now do running between Arrowhead and Nakusp.

Another part of the plan is to lay a third rail on the Columbia & Western between Trail and Rossland, so that

standard gauge cars can be run over this line. With this done it will be possible by June 1 for the C. P. R. to not only deliver ore in cars from Slocan lake points at the Trail smelter, but to deliver at Rossland freight in cars lots, without breaking bulk, from all points in eastern Canada. In other words, the C. P. R. will then have a through line to Rossland.

But this is not all. When the C. P. R. gets into Rossland it will be within a few hundred yards of the Columbia and Red Mountain, and on about the same level. It will therefore be a very easy matter to make the connection between the two systems, and thus get C. P. R. cars right into Spokane. Spokane has long wanted a connection of this kind. She now has a chance to get it, and that in a manner altogether unexpected.

The bearing, therefore, of the building of the road from the foot of Slocan lake upon the development of the West Kootenay and the adjacent territory is hardly to be comprehended at first glance. It is one of the most important moves ever made in the history of the country.—*Rosland Miner*.

IN EAST KOOTENAY.

The North Star mine was discovered in 1892 by Joe Bourgeois and James Langell. The original locations are the North Star, O. K., Dreadnaught and the Buckhorn. This property was bonded to a Mr. Woods, of Quebec, who re-bonded it to the present owners. The resident manager for the company is Mr. Neil McLeod Curran. Mr. Isaac Williams is superintendent of the mine.

The mine has passed through the various stages of development, and now has hundreds of feet of tunnels, drifts and shafts. As a shipper and producer, this property, with the proper means of transportation, can compete with any mine in British Columbia. Last season the company shipped about 5,000 tons of galena, and we learn that 6,000 or 8,000 tons of rich carbonates will be shipped next season. The company at present owns, by purchase and location, some 12 claims.

The Midnight, located by Jay Usher, George Watson and George Hoggarth, is the first extension of the North Star on the north. Considerable work has been done on this property, and Messrs. Watson and Hoggarth are in Spokane completing arrangements for the sale of the mine to Montreal parties for the sum of \$20,000. The second extension on the north is the Big Chief, located by H. L. Ammie. There is a good showing of ore on this property; numerous cuts have been run and ore has been found in all of them. The third extension on the north is the Eureka, located by W. Van Aasdalen. There is also a good showing of mineral on this claim. Two cuts 30 feet in length, one shaft 10 feet in

depth show mineral in places, and the ledge on this property can be traced for 700 feet to the creek. The owners of these claims, Messrs. Ammie, Van Aasdalen and Grace, have a block of four claims, the Big Chief, Little Chief, Eureka and Geneva.

The Quantrell and Utopia have also a good showing of ore. These claims have lately been sold to a Scotch syndicate.

The Stenwinder is owned by D. D. Mann and Wm. Wade. There is a showing of ore on this property, upon which considerable work has been done.

There are some 35 claims located on the North Star hill, with indications of mineral on almost all. In fact it is the general impression among mining men that the whole mountain is a vast deposit of silver-lead ore.

Across Mark creek, and extending in a northerly direction for a distance of about a mile, we find a continuous line of locations until we reach the original locations of what is called the Sullivan group of mines. The first claims located were the Hamlet, Shyllock and Hope, located by Messrs. Smith, Clever, Sullivan and Burdett, who have bonded the property to Spokane parties. There is a large surface showing of steel galena on these claims. On the Hamlet a shaft is down 30 feet, passing through 6 feet of carbonates, and the bottom of the shaft is now in solid galena. Numerous cuts have been made in various places on this property, and it is no exaggeration to say that in every cut there is galena; and when it is understood that these cuts extend over an area of several acres, it would not be difficult for a person to realize that an immense body of mineral is underlying the glacial deposit on the surface.

On the Hope there has been uncovered a large body of rich galena.

On the Blucher, which is an extension of the Hamlet on the south, there is a good showing of mineral.

The Galore also has mineral in sight, and gives indications of becoming a paying mine.

The Gift is an extension of the Hope on the north. Kidney ore is found on this property, also a small seam of galena.

There are some 30 or 40 claims located on the mountain; in fact, the intervening ground between the North Star and Sullivan has all been located, and galena is found on many of these locations, and this vast silver-lead belt can be traced for a distance of about five miles.

Business is picking up, and the prospects are improving in this vicinity, a large number of mines have been sold and bonded on this mineral belt, and the indications are that many claims will become producing mines at an early day, and it is the opinion of mining experts that the Huckleberry and Sullivan mountains will become the largest silver-lead camp in Kootenay.—*Fort Steele Prospector*.