

From the Camps.

Contributions from any part of British Columbia and the mining districts of a reliable nature will be published in these columns, and we request that mining men write us about the progress of the mines of their district. We desire to publish all mining news.

EAST KOOTENAY

Mr. W. G. Mitchell-Innes, Manager of the Golden British Columbia, Limited, returned the other day from Windermere, where he has let various contracts for development work on the Company's properties on Toby Creek and Horse Thief Creek in that mining division. The Company will also commence operations on its properties in Prairie mountain district, in the Golden Mining Division.

The owners of mining properties are busy with development and assessment work all over East Kootenay. This season there will be much solid work done tending to make many of the properties shipping mines. Major Clohecy is out on the Bennison group which lies on the divide between East and West Kootenay, near the head-waters of the Duncan River. Extensive work will be done on this property this season. A tramway will be laid in the various tunnels to facilitate development operations. A new trail is being cut from Bear Creek station so as to give a new and better route to this and other properties lying up the Beaver River and near Prairie Mountain. The work on the trail is considerably advanced and will be finished to admit a portion of the supplies to go in this way this season. Mr. F. Deacon formerly of Spillimacheen, will have a packing contract for this mine this season and will build a corral at Bear Creek station for his horses.

The Golden and Fort Steele Development Company will resume its development on its properties on Kinbasket Lake, near the Big Bend of the Columbia, in the Donald Mining Division. Already they have a shaft down 80 feet and have reached the hanging wall of the lead, which will be crosscut. The shaft passes through mineral all the way. Two of its properties there, will be surveyed this season and Crown grants obtained. On the Mercier group, situated at the headwaters of Bugaboo Creek, about eight miles from the Duncan River and on the divide between West and East Kootenay, but lying in the Golden Mining Division, extensive development will be prosecuted. This group of properties is in a position to ship ores, and from a shipment of these ores sent last season to Messrs. Vivian and Sons, Swansea, most satisfactory results were obtained. More shipments will be made this season for further mining purposes. This group promises to be one of the best mining properties in East Kootenay. These properties will also be surveyed this season and Crown grants obtained. Assessment and development work will also be prosecuted on the Company's other properties.

SLOCAN.

The True-Blue group, near Kaslo, has been purchased by the Hall Mines Co., the price being \$65,000. The deal was made on behalf of the company by T. G. Procter, and the property is believed to be one of the best in the district. Mr. Procter has some beautiful samples of ore taken from the tunnel. Active development is proceeding.

PHILIPPS ARM.

Manager J. J. Lang of the Fairfield Exploration Syndicate, has about 50 men at work on the Dorothy Morton property. The erection of the stamp mill and the building of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles of wire tramway are being pushed as rapidly as possible.

The mill will be a 10 stamp Marison patent hydraulic lift pattern, and the one being erected on this property will be the first in the world to be built for working purposes. A full description of the mill will be found elsewhere in the CRITIC.

The extraction plant will follow the Cassel Cj's. Cyanide process. Twelve tanks are being built. These will handle 2,000 tons of ore per month, giving the ore a nine days vat treatment.

The ore of the Dorothy Morton is an ideal one for the cyanide process consisting of a hard bluish quartz, filled with fine iron pyrites. The gold contained is also very fine in grain and yields readily to treatment.

The ledge is about 100 feet wide and in this is contained a sharply defined pay streak of some 5 feet in width. This pay streak, is all that will be handled in the immediate future, but all indications are favorable that with proper facilities the entire product of the great vein can be milled and handled to a profit. In either event the property is one of the best on the coast, judging from present indications. About 600 of driving and cross cuts have been run. A four drill compressor plant is now in process of erection, and will, when completed, allow of much more rapid progress in the development work.

BRIDGE RIVER.

Late and very authentic reports from the Bridge River district appear to fully confirm the already favorable opinion formed on that section, by every mining man who has visited it. W. B. MacKinnon, M. E., who went up to examine and report on the Bend 'Or property has returned and expresses himself as being well pleased with the outlook generally.

On the Forty Thieves group a gang of men are at work driving, to strike the ledge which makes a most remarkable showing on the face of a bluff. The ledge dips into the mountain and has a strong and healthy look.

On Cadwallader Creek, development work is in progress on the Lorne Group. There they have a good vein, and every chance for success.

Beyond this is the Black Bird, Ida May, Bend 'Or, Bend 'Or Fraction, Countless and Pioneer claims. At this point the ledge can be traced across six claims, and is well defined all the way.

On the Little Joe claim the ledge has been stripped for 600 feet, showing 20 inches of very high grade white quartz. They are now driving in on the strike of the vein, and at a distance of nearly 200 feet in, and over 100 feet down the vein retains its characteristics as exhibited on the surface. Some remarkable assays have been returned from this quartz, and even the most barren looking specimens selected have never failed to return good values in free gold.

Another ledge on the same claim is about 14 inches wide and runs toward the main vein at a long angle. Work is now in progress to drift to the point of junction where a rich and strong ore body is expected.

The country is well watered and wooded and has all the necessary facilities for a successful mining camp.

Manganese iron ore is freely imported into the United States from various countries in Europe and South America. Extensive deposits of this ore exist in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and it would appear that Canada is losing a profitable trade which is laying right at her doors.