

so important and substantial as that it now occupies, is a matter for which we have every reason to feel proud, and it is far from our intention that these prefatory remarks should be construed as intended to excuse an unsatisfactory state of affairs, but rather that they should serve to emphasize the fact of the industry's material development and growth.

In reviewing the operations of the past year, it is gratifying to note an increase over the 1901 production of probably twenty per cent. in the output of the copper-gold producing mines. This large increase is attributable to greater activity in the Boundary Creek District, and to the continuous operation during the year of the more important British-owned mines in the Rossland District. In the Boundary the capacity

none of the Boundary mining companies have yet commenced to pay dividends, we can authoritatively state that profits are being made, and these very properly, re-invested in necessary improvements and mine development. Among other important work accomplished here during the year, may be mentioned the completion of the installation at Cascade Falls, for the transmission of electric power to the mines, the effect of which will be to further cheapen mine-operating costs.

The outlook at Rossland last spring was far from promising. Intentionally or otherwise, gross misrepresentations, it was discovered, had been made in respect to the position of the Le Roi mine. Production was suspended at the War Eagle and Centre Star,



The Kettle River at Midway.

of both the Granby and Greenwood works has been doubled, and such alterations and additions made to the smelter at Boundary Falls as to admit of the treatment there of a large tonnage. The mines themselves have been extensively developed and costs, both of mining and smelting, have been further reduced. As we have previously noted, a significant point in connection with mining in this district this year is that, notwithstanding the decline in the price of copper, representing a difference of nearly twenty-five per cent. in the value of the copper contents of the ore, it was not found necessary or expedient to suspend operations at any of the mines on that account, but on the contrary, production has increased. Although

and all three mines were known to be heavily encumbered with debt. It is pleasing, therefore, to note that in the interim the situation has vastly changed for the better. Since May last the Le Roi is reported to have earned net profits approximating seventy-five thousand dollars a month, new bodies of high-grade ore have been developed, while in consequence of the satisfactory arrangements effected with the railway company over whose system the ore is carried to Northport, and with the Crow's Nest Coal Company, both the costs of haulage and fuel have been so appreciably lessened as to make a considerable difference in the profit-earning capabilities of the property. The mine now, too, being under most capable local man-