The Island Mountain Company's mill, which was at work crushing during the season, has closed down, but is expected to start again shortly. The sulphurets from this company and the Black Jack are being roasted and chlorinated at the Government test works, and the results will shortly be made known.

The Mines at Forks of Quesnelle, in this district, are reported to be doing well. Owing to the wet summer there was an unusually good supply of water during the whole season, which enabled the miners to work to good advantage, and although the mining population, chiefly Chinese, has decreased, yet the yield of gold has been quite up to the average. From the present outlook it is likely that some very good hydraulic mines will be opened before long in this section. A number of companies are engaged in making ditches and otherwise preparing to open up an old channel of the South Fork River, which promises valuable mines of this class, while on Keithly and Snowshoe Creeks, several claims are in full working order.

On Spanish Creek a company has been prospecting for the last twelve months. They have not struck anything very much yet, but have a small prospect and have not yet got to the bottom. They are driving in a tunnel. Two other parties are also prospecting in this vicinity.

The estimated amount of gold taken out of this district last season is $62,800. Of this amount $45,300 is from the Keithly division and $17,500 from the Fraser River in the Alexander and Williams Lake polling divisions. The average number of white men employed was about forty, and two hundred Chinamen.

Kootenay District.

The past year has been eventful in this district, the development of old claims having been carried on vigorously while new locations, some of great richness, have been discovered. The commencement of construction work on the Columbia and Kootenay railway and the prospect of an extension of the N P R.R. across the boundary into the Kootenay Lake district, together with the establishment of steamboat lines connecting with existing lines of railway, have done much to inspire confidence in the future of this part of the country. The completion of the smelting works at Revelstoke and the reaching out and bidding by that company for the ores of the district has also tended to give a good impression of the possibilities of the district, and in the current year, everything points to a remarkable development and an output of mineral that will far exceed any previously done. The total yield of gold in the West Kootenay district for the year 1890, including quartz with the placer yield, is $35,000, an increase of $5,000 over 1889. This is a remarkably good showing when it is remembered that the Big Bend district is this year thousands behind the yield of 1889.

There is a promising group of claims about three miles west of Nelson, assays from the ore taken out showing good paying qualities.

There has been some prospecting in the Lardeau Pass and five locations have been recorded. The assays are good.

A nickel deposit has been discovered on the west bank of the Kootenay. Assays return 30 per cent. of nickel, but the average would probably be 12½ to 15 per cent.

In Illicillewaet considerable development work has been done, and some of the claims are turning out well.

At Albert Canon, a few miles away, the Wild Fox is located. On this claim is a tunnel 47 feet. The vein matter is galena, 3 feet wide, with an assay value of 22 oz. of silver and 47 per cent. lead per ton. There are two other locations here on which assessment work has been done, the ore being of the same character as the Wild Fox.

In the Poorman mine at Eagle Creek, owned by Davenport and Harvey, the company are sloping from the 90 foot level. The upper tunnel is already in 100 feet and will be extended until the ledge is struck, another 400 feet, and beyond to the White Ledge, owned by the same company. A ten stamp mill is in operation, and about 1,200 tons of ore were milled last season, working about three months. The returns are private.

The Catamount, some two miles away, exhibits a large deposit of ore. A cut across the vein extended 16 feet without encountering the foot wall. The vein matter is in quartz, impregnated with sulphurets existing in a hornblende formation; the returns average from $15 to $30 per ton, gold. A tunnel is being run at a lower level, a distance of 115 feet. There are besides, the Wild Cat and Forrest, of similar kind. Further down there are other locations, the ore from which assays from $16 to $40 per ton.

About a mile from these latter is the Royal Canadian, on which claim there are two tunnels, each 90 feet. The ledge is 2½ feet wide, and the ore reported to be worth $30 per ton by the owners. An offer has been made by Australian capitalists to put up a mill and pay $15,000 for a half interest, provided the ore assayed $20 per ton.

Five localities exist on Rover Creek. On one, the White Water, a tunnel is in 90 feet and will, when completed, intersect the vein, 120 feet from the surface. The ledge is six feet wide and contains excellent high grade gold ore. The average of fifteen samples assayed gave a return of $80.17 in gold. One and a half tons were sampled at the Revelstoke works, and $110 in gold and 9 oz. of silver were obtained therefrom. It is the intention of one of the owners to remove two mills now on the Cottonwood Creek to a site in the vicinity of these mines.

The camp at Hot Spring has kept some 125 men mining steadily all summer, besides 200 others at outside work and prospecting.

The Skyline has a 130 foot incline on the vein. The shipments the year before last were 15 tons of 325 ounce ore; last year, 95 tons of 280 ounce ore were sent out, and there are now 1,000 tons of 45 ounce ore on the dump. A new double shaft has been started, an engine and pump set up, and a fine shaft house 70×31 completed. Work on 200 feet of contract sinking has also been begun.

The United is down sixty feet, all in ore, and will have 1,000 tons ready for shipment on completion of the railroad. They will sink 200 feet more this winter. The steam works are nearly completed.

Over 1,000 tons taken from the Krao are ready for shipment on the coming of cheap transportation. They are down 70 feet and have a steam hoist pump nearly ready for operation.

At No. 1 the vein has been struck within 15 feet of the bottom of the old shaft. The ore is of high grade and averages nearly 4 feet of solid mineral. This will help the camp greatly, as hitherto No. 1 was the only claim that could be pointed out as likely to be a failure, while now it is among the best. The vein will be tapped near the tunnel and a large extent of ground prepared for sloping. Here also some 2,000 tons of ore are awaiting the coming of the railway, together with 50 tons of high grade assorted ore.

The Crescent and Eden, Tenderfoot, Vancouver, Old Timer and Neosho, have all struck new bodies of high grade ore carrying native silver, recently, and are taking it out and sacking it.

There has been more development of the surrounding region of late, while within the Hot Springs and Hendryx camps it has also amounted to a good total, that may be summed up as follows: The Blue Bell has 1,500 ft. of tunnel and drifts; No. 1, 1,200; Skyline, 490; Gallagher, 220; Krao, 350; Donald, 250; Spokane, 350; Maestro, 260; Dictator, 200; Highland, 150; Pataha, 120; Fourth, 100; and many others have between 25 and 75 feet.

Perhaps the most important camp formed in 1890 was the one at Trail Creek, which, moreover, gives promise of permanency and value. It is situated on the west side of the Columbia River, 18 or 20 miles from Sproate's Landing. The first find was made a year ago last summer, when a gold lead and silver proposition was discovered on the surface, the gold running into silver as depth was reached. At a depth of 25 feet an assay of $125 of silver has been obtained. The tunnel is in 30 feet with a 3 foot vein of galena ore. Between 50 and 100 claims have been recorded in the past year.

The Le Roi has a vein 25 feet in width with 15 feet of ore, and 7 feet of copper. The highest assay from this claim shows $5.00 per ton. Recently capital has been induced to take hold of the Le Roi claim, and a company has been formed known as the Le Roi Mining Company, with a capital $150,000. Enough stock has been paid in to enable the company to work three shifts during the winter, and the manager expects to sink 100 feet and drift another hundred by the time navigation opens in the spring.

Other claims also show very well and give indications of large returns. Several reports have been made, all of them favorable upon the district.

There is not a great deal to report on Toad Mountain beyond that assessment work has been done on the several claims. The tunnel on the Silver King is in over 300 feet and some 150 feet has yet to be run before the bottom of the incline shaft is reached. The Grizzly, a spur of the Silver King, is developed by a 65 foot shaft, and 72 oz. of silver per ton was got from an assay of an average sample of ore taken from this mine. The Iroquois is a parallel claim to the Silver King and shows a good body of ore. In addition to the locations above mentioned, there is also the Water Jacket, Toughnut, Jonah, Morning, Evening and Pacific, in all of which more or less development work has been done. The ore from the latter locations is low grade. The Toughnut shows a well-defined vein, varying in width from six to fourteen feet. The ore from this claim is of a refractory nature on account of the zinc carried, but the percentage of copper, silver and lead is high enough to make it very valuable. On the Jonah, cuts have been run on both ends of the claim, each uncovering the ledge and showing a width of five feet. As depth is obtained, the ore presents the same character as that found in the Toughnut.

CANADIAN COMPANIES.

The following is a list of the companies incorporated under the various Joint Stock Companies Acts, and also private concerns, for the pursuit of mining and kindred industries in 1890, together with the capital stock and chief places of business:—

NOVA SCOTIA.

Name of Company.	*Capital Stock.*	*Head Office.*
Battye Freestone Co ..	$ 25,000	Wallace, N.S.
Bras d'Or Marble Co..	200,000	Halifax, N.S.
Central Rawdon Mining Co...	120,000	Windsor, N.S.
Colchester Coal Mining Co.	50,000	Truro, N.S.
Coldstream Mining Co.	1,000,000	Boston, Mass.
Dufferin Gold Mining Co....	500,000	Truro, N.S.
Halifax Mining & Prospecting Co.........	250,000	Halifax, N.S.
Mining & Development Co. of North America.	1,000,000	Boston, Mass.
Mooreland Gold Mining Co...	100,000	Halifax, N.S.
Napier Mining Co.....	120,000	Oldham, N.S.
Northup Mining Co....	200,000	Philadelphia, Pa.
North Star Mining Co.	40,000	Halifax, N.S.
Nova Scotia Syndicate.	£ 12,000	London, Eng.
Queen's County Mining Co	$ 1,000,000	Boston, Mass.
Rawdon Antimony Mining Co.	50,000	Halifax, N.S.
Rossignol Mining Co .	500,000	Boston, Mass.
Stanley Gold Mining Co................	40,000	Westville, N.S.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Windsor Gold Co.	100,000	St. John, N.B.

QUEBEC.

Beaver Asbestos Co. ..	$ 100,000	Sherbrooke, Q.
Brompton Lake Asbestos Co..	60,000	Quebec, Q.
Fleming Phosphate Mining Co.........	Private.	Ottawa, Ont.
General Phosphate Corporation.........	£1,000,000	London, Eng.
Montawa Gold Mining Co.	$ 24,000	Joliette, Q.
Portland Phosphate Co.	Private.	Ottawa, Ont.
Richmond State Quarrying and Manufacturing and Asbestos Co.	150,000	Richmond, Q.

ONTARIO.

Fairbank Consolidated Mining Co. of Ontario.........	$ 500,000	Toronto, Ont.
Frontenac Phosphate Co	£ 10,000	London, Eng.
Gravel Bay Mining Co. of Ontario	$ 100,000	Toronto, Ont.
Haliburton Mining Co.	100,000	Toronto, Ont.
Kaladar Mining Co....	120,000	Napanee, Ont.
Kingston Phosphate Mining Co.........	£ 5,000	London, Eng.
Kingsville Natural Gas & Oil Co	$ 43,750	Kingsville, Ont.
La Cumbre Mining Co. of Toronto.........	70,000	Toronto, Ont.
Milton Pressed Brick & Terra Cotta Co	50,000	Milton, Ont.
Ottawa Brick Mfg. Co.	45,000	Ottawa, Ont.
Ontario Gold & Iron Co.	100,000	Malone, Ont.
Portland Asbestos Co..	Private.	Ottawa, Ont.
Provincial Natural Gas & Fuel Co. of Ontario	500,000	Toronto, Ont.
Premier Oil Co.......	150,000	Petrolia, Ont.
Sebastopol Phosphate Syndicate.	£ 5,000	London, Eng.
Silver Centre Mining Co. of Ontario......	$ 300,000	Toronto, Ont.
Silver Glance Co......	£ 60,000	London, Eng.
Standard Asbestos Co..	$ 100,000	New York, N.Y.
Standard Oil & Gas Co. of Ontario.........	1,000,000	Stratford, Ont.
Vivian, H. H. & Co. (branch)..	£ 328,000	Swansea, Wales.

MANITOBA AND N.W.T.

Crowfoot Coal Co.....	$ 125,000	Winnipeg, Man.
Crown Point Mining Co.	Private.	Duluth, Minn.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Anglo-American Mining Co.............	$ 3,000,000	Yale, B.C.
Black Jack Quartz Mining Co.............	120,000	Barkerville, B.C.
British Columbia Pottery & Terra Cotta Co.	60,000	Victoria, B.C.
Columbia Mining Co..	500,000	Spokane Falls, Wash.
Crow's Bar Mining Co.	25,000	Vancouver, B.C.
Empire Consolidated Gold Mining Co....	500,000	Spokane Falls, Wash.
Golden Mining & Smelting Co. of Canada ..	400,000	Golden City, B.C.
Kokisilah Quarry Co..	100,000	Victoria, B.C.
New Eureka Silver Mining Co.........	150,000	Victoria, B.C.