

## BOUNDARY CREEK.

On several of the better known and more developed properties in the Boundary Creek district, work is now proceeding, and particularly favourable reports have been received from the Golden Crown and Winnipeg claims, in Wellington Camp. On the Winnipeg, a lead, thought to be an entirely different one from the two already known to cross the claim, was encountered in an open cut run near the line separating the Winnipeg from the Golden Crown. The width of the ore vein met with in this open cut has not yet been definitely determined, but it has already been shown that there is a large body of ore, chiefly solid pyrrhotite, an assay from which went over \$50 in gold. The occurrence of a big deposit of ore, returning so comparatively high an assay value close to the surface, is regarded as of much importance. It is stated that ore from this new find can be shipped at once, and that consequent upon this valuable discovery the Winnipeg Company's stock has been withdrawn from sale. On the Golden Crown a tunnel, cutting the six leads, has been driven for over 300 feet. Work is now being centered in sinking a main shaft which is already down to some depth. The Golden Crown is rightly considered one of the most promising properties in the camp. On the Old Ironsides operations have been temporarily suspended, owing to some mishap with the pumping appliance. A new pump has however been ordered, and work will shortly resume. The Snowshoe, in Greenwood Camp, is showing up well under development, and work will shortly be again started on the Sunset, in Deadwood Camp, the Last Chance, in Sky Lark, and other properties. Prospecting will be largely confined, this season, to the West Fork and the main Kettle River on the west side of Boundary Mountain, and to the Christina Lake section on the East.

## ROSSLAND.

To the operations of the B.A.C. in the Rossland camp, the present activity in this district is largely ascribable, and the increased demand for Rossland stock during the past month has been marked. Work on the principal properties acquired by this Company by Mr. MacIntosh, is to be commenced at once, and if the ore bodies are there it may be taken for granted that under the official direction of Mr. Carlyle and his colleagues, the Columbia & Kootenay, the Josie, Nickel Plate and Great Western, will ere long be placed on a shipping and dividend-paying basis. The property of the Iron Colt Gold Mining Company, Limited, which consists of the Iron Colt mine, situated on Columbia and Kootenay mountain, has been optioned to an English syndicate. The terms of the option are private, but it is said to be about \$100,000.

The War Eagle threatens to even rival Le Roi in the near future, so satisfactory is the present showing of ore in sight. This, according to the Rossland *Miner*, has trebled in the last six months, and the visible supply of ore is now perhaps rather sanguinely estimated as valuing in the neighbourhood of three and a half million dollars. The mine has been opened to a depth of 625 feet. Rich strikes are reported to have been made on the Jumbo and Iron Mask, and operations are proceeding steadily on the Sunset No. 2, the Deer Park, the Victory, Triumph, the Big Four, the Velvet, the Evening Star, and other properties. Important changes are taking place at the Trail Smelter, the old reverberatory matter furnaces being removed, to be replaced by new blast, with double the original capacity of 250 tons. Shipments are being made to the smelter from the War Eagle, but the furnaces will probably not be blown in before the 1st of July.

## YMIR.

This camp is beginning to attract a great deal of attention, and the fact has already been established beyond question that many of its mines are extraordinarily rich. The population has lately increased to 1,000, and the pay roll now exceeds \$20,000 a month. Another encouraging sign is the large amount of machinery that is being installed at the several mines, notably a 50-ton concentrator at the Dundee, a large stamp at the Ymir, and hoisting machinery and a 50-ton concentrator at the Tamarac, and a concentrator is to be erected on the Porto Rico. The Dumas is at the head of the north fork of Wild Horse Creek, and has a tunnel of 100 feet, which has been run on the ledge from the start. There are from three to five feet of quartz containing zinc, galena and iron. Four average assays gave 20 ounces of silver, 32 per cent. lead and \$40 in gold. Work of crosscutting has been commenced, showing the hanging wall to be in quartz and ledge matter. At present there are several tons of ore on the dump. Near the Dumas is the Elise, on which there are two shifts employed, and it is expected to tap the lead after running 100 feet more. On the Summit property, on the north fork of the Wild Horse, a crosscut tunnel of 175 feet is being run.

The Ymir, Dundee, Tamarac and Porto Reco all have ore on the dump ready for shipment. Several properties have been sold at good prices to English and American companies during the month.

## NELSON.

The most important happening at Nelson for April is, doubtless, the sale of the Athabasca to a strong English Company for the relatively large sum of \$750,000. The new owners propose setting aside \$100,000 to equip the mine with a plant which will consist of a compressor and stamp mill, besides the necessary pumps and hoist. The Athabasca was taken over by a joint stock company in 1896, and for almost a year a force of from twenty-five to thirty men have been employed. Ore taken and shipped out then paid running expenses, and about 600 tons is on the dump, ready to be crushed. Two shipments of 60 tons averaged \$107 to the ton. About 30 tons of ore are being daily crushed at the Fern, and the mine is on a most satisfactory basis. The installation of automatic sizers has been accomplished.

## AINSWORTH.

Some promising finds have been made near the new town of Kuskonook, on Kootenay Lake, and the Last Chance in the same neighbourhood is now shipping ore of fair value. The Black Diamond at Ainsworth is shipping regularly, and the No. 1 Mine has commenced shipments to the Hall Mines smelter.

## WHITEWATER.

A correspondent writing from Whitewater reports the strike of ten inches of clean galena—which has since widened to eighteen inches—at a depth of 1,000 feet on the Whitewater Deep. The importance of this strike cannot be overestimated.

## SLOCAN.

While business is generally in a somewhat depressed state at present in the Slocan, this is not due to mining inactivity, and shipments continue to be made from the principal mines. At the Noble Five operations have again been resumed, and the Slocan Star will again shortly ship heavily. It is stated that a large body of clean ore was recently struck in the lower tunnel of the Payne.

On the Dardanelles, a drift on the seventh level, at a depth of 340 feet, cut the ore chute last week and encountered a good body of ore. The ore is high grade, and contains less zinc than in the drift above, or at any other point in the mine. The lead is fully four feet in width, with good walls. The company is taking out an average of one car per week. Work is in progress on the Adams group, the Conductor, and other promising properties near Sandon. Encouraging reports continue to be made from Slocan Lake mines. On the Comstock, on Four-Mile Creek, a concentrator is to be erected. Two thousand feet of development work has been done on this property and a high-grade body of galena, running as high as from 100 to 300 ounces in silver, and from 60 to 80 per cent. in lead has been exposed. Claims on Fidelity Mountain, near Silverton, are also turning out well. The Enterprise, on Ten-Mile Creek, is working a force of fifty men, and 1,000 tons of high-grade ore has been carried down to the Lake for shipment. On Lemon Creek the Southern Chief is being opened up, and a shipment may be shortly expected. The Evening Star is also being worked, and the Bank of England has been leased for one year. A ten-stamp mill is being installed on the property of the British Canadian Gold Fields Exploration, Development & Investment Company, on Lemon Creek.

## MINING IN NORTH-EAST KOOTENAY.

(From our special correspondent.)

The prospects of this district have never been better than they are at the present time. Already prospectors from West Kootenay are coming into the district, the successful results of last season's work having demonstrated that this section of British Columbia possesses as good mineral resources as any other. A new feature of the situation, too, is the large number of men from Washington, Idaho and Montana, who are coming into the district. This is due to the fact of the Klondike rush, and hundreds of prospectors are crossing the boundary into British Columbia from the neighbouring states. The Kootenay, Columbia, Fraser, Parsnip and Findlay rivers form an almost unbroken line of water communication from the United States to the far north, and this remarkable valley of 800 miles in length has been referred to by Sir William Dawson, Sir Sandford Fleming and Mr. Moberley as affording a wonderfully easy route into the eastern portions of the province. This route to the north has also the great advantage that prospectors will be passing through a practically