

erf ply to all the mining towns on the Kootenay Lake—Balfour, Hendryx, Ainsworth, Kalso, etc.

TOWNS.

REVELSTOKE, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, is the chief town of West Kootenay. It is a mining town between the Gold and Selkirk ranges, and is the chief source of supply for the country south of it. There are some smelting works at Revelstoke, and being the place of departure for the mines, does an important business. Another smelter at Pilot Bay has a daily capacity of 100 tons.

NELSON is a mining town on the Kootenay River twenty miles east of Robson, and from it, points on the Kootenay Lake are reached by steamer.

KALSO and AINSWORTH are rising mining towns on Kootenay Lake.

NAKUSP is a progressive town at the head of Upper Arrow Lake.

NEW DENVER is an enterprising mining town on the east side of Slocan Lake.

MINING LOCALITIES IN WEST KOOTENAY.

The principal mines at present in work are in that section about Nelson and Slocan. Amongst those near Nelson are those conveniently described as the "Toad Mountain," chief of which is the Silver King. Other mines in the vicinity of Nelson are the Dandy Mine, where considerable development has been done; the Last Chance, Iroquois, Union Jack, Ollie, Newmarket, Hidden Treasure, Goldendale, Jim Crow and Democrat. The general character of the ore is barnite or variegated copper and tetrahedrite or grey copper, and carries silver to a much higher grade than is usual with this class of ore. But in addition to this silver-copper belt, the Toad Mountain district has a distinct gold belt. Among the claims taken up in this latter belt are the Iron Horse, Victoria, Starlight and Gold King. West of Nelson is a gold claim known as the "Poor Man," and another gold property known as the Whitewater, lies some 20 miles off on Rover Creek. An extract from the report of the Government assay on the specimens of Toad Mountain ore shown at the World's Fair, reads:

"A few samples only were sent from this part. There was one fine ferruginous quartz specimen from the Majestic, carrying much free gold. The Silver King, argentiferous copper, with silver 444 ounces and 23.50 per cent. copper, requires no further mention."

The Blue Bell and Hendryx Mines are on the east side of Kootenay Lake, and in the Kalso-Slocan group are hundreds of claims which are being extensively and profitably worked, among them being the Idaho, Wellington, Blue Bird, Slocan Star, Dardanelles, Mountain Chief, Noble Five, Freddy Lee, etc.

New discoveries, however, are made every year, so that what during one season is the richest mine of a district may be surpassed in the following year. The way to these mines is by Revelstoke. (See page 12.)

Between the Gold Range and the Selkirks is the west side of the great loop of the Columbia River, that extends north above the 52nd parallel. This bend drains a gold region not yet well explored, but which has every indication of great mineral richness. Gold has been found in paying quantities at many points north of the Bend, and indications of it on the Illecilliwaet River and Beaver Creek.