

The Mines in
Kootenay are Among
the Richest in
America.

THE MINER

The Ores are
High-Grade in Gold,
Silver, Copper,
and Lead.

NUMBER 125.

NELSON, BRITISH COLUMBIA, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1892.

\$4 A YEAR

RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT OF WEST KOOTENAY.

We have latterly been urging the need of a railroad policy of centralisation in West Kootenay, and reminding the officials of the C. P. R. that if they would think more of the business interests of their company, and of the economical development of this section, and less of real estate schemes of their own, they would be acting more in harmony with the interest of West Kootenay and of the C. P. R.'s shareholders.

Where is West Kootenay's natural railroad centre and distributing point? No question more easily answered by any one who has ever been in Nelson. Of course there are some people whose interest or prejudice induces them to deny that Nelson is presumably the capital point of West Kootenay. We imagine that an archangel from heaven could not convince the editor of the Kootenay Star of this fact. There are some men to whom prejudice is dearer than life or the hope of salvation. And there are also some few foolish persons in Kaslo; very few we are glad to be able to say, who hold the advantages of Kaslo so close up to their eyes that they can see nothing beyond. Their intelligence is exactly on a level with that of a man who would say on a cloudy day, "There is no sun."

But although the inhabitants of West Kootenay require nothing to increase their confidence there are outsiders before whom it may be as well to lay a few of our reasons for the faith that is in us.

In the first place, one has simply to take the configuration of the country. All the mineral yet found in West Kootenay has been discovered on streams tributary either to Kootenay or Slocan lakes. And Nelson is the point where the various water routes on this magnificent inland sea converge and find their outlet. From Nelson there is water communication to every point on Kootenay Lake, and from Nelson there is railroad and water communication with every point on the habitable globe. And just so soon as the Nelson & Fort Sheppard road is built, it will be possible to load ore on the cars and ship it to any point in the United States or Canada without a single transfer. Nelson is the point where all supplies that come into West Kootenay must converge before they are distributed through the country, and where all the products of the country must converge before they are distributed to their various markets. Coke for the smelters will bear the legend "via Nelson" on its shipping bills; and so with supplies for the miner and machinery for the mines. And copper matte from West Kootenay will be shipped from Nelson to Swansea, silver bullion from Nelson to Washington, and silver ore from Nelson to Tacoma.

In the second place, this is not merely a forecast of the inevitable future, it is to some extent already realized. Nelson is the terminus of our railway; within the near future it is destined to be the terminus of a second, and probably a third.

In the third place, Nelson has a few second rate mines directly tributary to itself. For one of these mines \$1,300,000 was offered by one of the most acute and far-seeing men in the United States. The Silver King is a mine requiring vast capital to handle, and as such its development has been long delayed. It cannot be delayed much longer. It is a mine of the calibre of the Comstock and the Anaconda, one of the Tritons among the minnows, whose output will attract world-wide attention and war the fortunes of thousands. Such is Nelson's position with regard to her own natural resources and with regard to those of Kootenay Lake. Does she occupy the same commanding position with regard to the ores tributary to Slocan Lake? Eventually she must, if the railway development of West Kootenay is carried out with a

due regard to economy and usefulness. But to point out the advantages of a railway up the Slocan River to connect with the C. and K. road at Slocan crossing, with the Columbia at Robson, with the Nelson & Fort Sheppard at Nelson, and with water communication on Slocan Lake at Slocan City will require a column to itself.

OPEN LETTER TO THE CITIZENS OF NELSON.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—The general impression abroad is that this has been somewhat of an off year for Nelson, and no doubt the excitement attending the opening up of the Slocan district has given some excuse for the opinion. But at the same time we should not allow the progress of the Slocan country to blind us to the advance made by our own town during the last ten months. Every day during this year the foundations of Nelson's prosperity have been becoming broader and deeper. Banks, wholesale houses and churches, all of which are evidences of the embryonic metropolis, have been added during this year to the features of our town. And the volume of business for them all has been such as to warrant their location in Nelson. More significant still is the fact that a second railway, making Nelson its terminus, might almost be described as in process of construction. And it is a fact beyond dispute that where two or three railways are gathered together, there will be the centre of a district. In mining, although but little actual work has been done on Toad Mountain, the indications are sufficiently satisfactory. Development work has now reached a point where it must wait for production, and from present appearances it will not have to wait very long.

In Nelson, then, at the present time, we have all the requisites for a town of considerable size and importance, an industry tributary to it, railways centered in it, wholesale houses doing business over a wide area from it, and the legal and financial business of the country carried on exclusively within its boundaries.

It becomes a question of pressing importance to the citizens of Nelson whether they should not take over the management of their own affairs. The advantages of incorporation are numerous and important. It would enable the citizens of Nelson to act as one on questions affecting the interests of the community, and it would enable them to handle for themselves the important questions of water supply, drainage and lighting. They would also be able to keep their streets in good repair and maintain good order within the limits of the town. The domination of a government seated at Victoria and represented by a single official, is repugnant to the idea of a self-governing community, which is the last outcome of our civilization, and while it is merely irksome so long as a town is in an embryonic state, it becomes more intolerable the more complex and important the interests of the community become. The citizens of Nelson should take time by the forelock and appoint a committee to carry the business of incorporation through for them. The largest owners of real estate in the town, the government and the C. P. R., would offer no resistance, and next year we would obtain adequate means to regulate and foster the growth of Nelson.

CIVIS.

THE NELSON AND FORT SHEPPARD.

Dr. Arthur has just returned from a visit to the camps of the surveying parties who are locating the line for this railroad. The cook in Bowen's camp was ill, and in spite of the doctor's care, died of hemorrhage of the brain. One of these camps is about 15 miles, the other about 25 miles, from Nelson. The line has been run to the summit of the Beaver, and about seven miles only remain to be located. The parties

have not been having a particularly good time, as during the last month, with the exception of two days, when it has not been snowing, it has been raining cats and dogs. In addition to the discomforts caused by bad weather, the parties have been threatened with a shortage of grub. The badness of the trail having prevented the Siwash packers from coming in on time. Altogether the survey is in a most advanced and satisfactory state, and the line will be in a condition, by the spring, to allow the more serious part of the work to proceed without delay.

WEST KOOTENAY WILL BOOM.

W. C. Ward, manager of the Bank of British Columbia, expresses himself as being extremely confident that our country is to cause a sensation in mining and money circles. Mr. Ward says that South Africa has monopolised, to a great extent, the attention of English capitalists for some years past, but that there is at present a vast amount of capital waiting for investment in other quarters. The brokers are looking for some place in which to place money to advantage, and are keeping their eyes on British Columbia. It is only necessary for someone "to start the ball a-rolling," and for one mine, owned in England, to pay a dividend, to cause an influx of capital to this country, which will equal, if it does not exceed that to South Africa. Mr. Ward predicts that within two years we shall be right in the centre of the most active and richest mining district in the world.

MINING NOTES.

Numerous snow slides in Slocan.

Nakusp sleigh road is progressing.

No late news of the Silver King deal.

New Denver is minus a mail service.

Five feet of snow on the Washington.

The Madison group in the Slocan has been sold for \$6,000 cash.

G. M. Sproat has gone to Kaslo on the town-site layout.

Kaslo road within two and a half miles of Bear Lake.

R. W. Rathbone has struck it rich on Four-mile creek.

Toad Mountain Mining Company will get to work in two or three weeks.

Mahon will work four men this winter on the Mountain Boomer, on Four-mile creek.

No meat in New Denver, no butter, no tobacco; pathetic letter from a man inspired by his last pipe. Supplies will be packed in via Slocan River.

E. A. Bielenberg came down from Kaslo yesterday. He has recently been through to New Denver, and reports that the place is very quiet. During the winter he means to do some prospecting on the borders of Arizona, returning in the spring.

ENTERTAINMENT IN NELSON.

Professor D. Martin, a ventriloquist and sleight of hand performer, will give an entertainment in the Carney Hall on Baker street, on Monday and Tuesday nights. He will then go on to Kaslo and perform two nights there next week.

HAVE CEASED TALKING AND WILL GO TO WORK.

The C. P. R. has applied for a charter to connect Revelstoke with the C. & K. Railway, and build branches. We expect it will get the charter; but care should be taken that general powers are not granted which will interfere with other railways anxious to extend their lines.

MINING NEWS OF THE WORLD.

An important strike was made a few days ago in the Jay Gould mine, situate about four miles east of Chewelah, Idaho. Several years ago a 50-foot working shaft was sunk in the ledge and crosscut, which showed the ledge to be 16 feet wide at the bottom of the shaft. This year it was decided to sink in the ore chute about 15 feet northeast of the 50-foot shaft, the result being that there is now over five feet of high grade concentrating ore in sight on the footwall. As he did not cut to the hanging wall he thinks there is more and better ore in that wall than there is in the foot. The ore has been thoroughly tested and assays from 20 to 400 ozs. in silver, 10 to 20 per cent. lead and some gold.

A big mining deal, embracing all the coal and iron mines of Cumberland county, N. S., has been consummated by a syndicate composed of Montreal and New York men. The new company will be known as the Canada Mines and Coal Company, and will have a capital of \$1,500,000. Wilkins, a New York banker, is the financier.

J. W. Sutherland, representative of the American capitalists who are bonding the Texada Island mining claims, has returned from Texada. He is more than pleased with all he saw, and says that in his 15 years' experience he has never before seen anything to equal the mineral riches of Texada. He has bonded the claims of C. R. Miller and Hugh Kirke, and is under negotiations with the Minerva Mining Company for their properties. He has also obtained several adjacent claims, including the Blue Bell. Operations on an extensive scale will be commenced by the first of the new year.

The Anaconda Mining Company, of Cripple Creek, recently signed an agreement with G. de la Bouglise, representing a wealthy French syndicate, to furnish 15,000 tons of milling ore to him as soon as the mill could be put in operation for its treatment. The mill company agrees to put in mills and reduction works capable of handling 100 tons of ore per day, the mill to be in operation as soon as it is possible to get the machinery in place. The articles of agreement have been signed by D. H. Moffat, president of the Anaconda company, and by Mr. de la Bouglise on behalf of the French syndicate. This comes as somewhat of a surprise to many, in view of the fact that Anaconda stock has within a few weeks slumped from 68 cents to 10 cents, and that the officers of the company have placed it in the most unfavorable light possible.

Mining interests about Colville are looking up. At the Dead Medicine mine a large ore body is in sight and a concentrator is being erected. The assays there average about \$70 in silver. The Old Dominion is working a gang of 32 men, and turning out four tons of concentrates, besides some smelting ore. The concentrates are now shipped to Tacoma, but they will be sent to the Spokane smelter as soon as it is ready for work.

The opening of the Spokane smelter is looked forward to hopefully by all miners of that region. At the Young America and Bonanza mines the concentrator is turning out something more than four tons of concentrates, which are shipped to Tacoma. At the Eagle mine they are working a gang of ten men, and the development shows up well. A new and good find was made this season in the Bruce Creek district, about 13 miles northeast of Colville. The ore is of the same character as the Old Dominion, and averages 100 ozs. of silver. Messrs. Williams and Sterns have discovered a fine prospect about 11 miles northeast of the Eagle mine and near Chewelah. The ore is essentially dry and assays 826 ounces of silver. The new discovery is important, in that the formation, instead of being lime, as at the Eagle, is slate and granite.

Mr. E. C. Davis, general manager of the Black Wonder Gold and Silver Mining Company, has recently returned from an extensive tour of the mines of Hinsdale county, Colorado, wherein are located both the Creede camp and Black Wonder at Sherman. Mr. Davis says that one-half of the truth has not been written about the phenomenal deposits at Creede, which exceeds in value the wildest expectations of old prospectors in the mountains. Mr. Davis adds that the Black Wonder promises to equal, if not surpass the Holy Moses mine at Creede. The latest assay from the former shows a prospective value of \$1,447.05 per ton—a figure that has seldom been equalled in the State.

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Tenders are invited for the purchase of the following two lots of property: (a) An undivided one-tenth of lot 96, group 1, Kootenay district, British Columbia, (except lots 31 and 32, block 2; lot 4, block 3; lot 35, block 4, and lots 27 and 28, block 9, and acre lots in blocks 16 to 25, both inclusive.) (b) Another undivided one-tenth of the said lot 96, except as aforesaid. Tenders for each lot of property must be sent before the 13th day of November, 1892, to the undersigned, from whom further particulars may be obtained. The highest, or any tender, will not necessarily be accepted.
Dated, October 13th, 1892. CHARLES E. POOLEY,
47 Langley St., Victoria, vendor's solicitor.

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