

exposes several fine prospects, rich in silver. Next comes Conconully, which, like Loop Loop City, is the center of its camp. It is quite a pleasant town, and may be said to be the valley town, having a concentrator with a capacity of fifty tons per diem. Among the most celebrated mines here are the Tough Nut, Homestake, Launa, Columbia, Lone Star and others. Conconully is about six miles north of Loop Loop City. When Ruby mountain shall begin to render up her immense deposits of silver and gold to the persistent miner, and the mountains around Conconully shall do the same, then this valley and the adjacent mountains will count their population by thousands. Farther to the north and east are the Wannicut Lake, Lime Belt, Pine Creek and Similkameen mines, in all of which good prospects are found, and those are receiving much attention.

Conconully is the oldest town and takes the lead at present. Ruby City is not a mining camp proper, but has been a diverging point for prospectors, and expects to become the center for ore reduction. A great deal of money is being expended in opening mines, constructing roads, building steamboats, opening business and other enterprises, and everything points to a rapid development and great prosperity. The leading routes to the mines are from Ritzville, Sprague and Spokane, on the southeast, and North Yakima and Ellensburgh, on the southwest; also a steamboat from Port Eaton to the Okanogan, the result of the enterprise of Ellensburgh. The present railroad survey or proposed route from Spokane west will pass about twenty miles south of the mouth of the Okanogan. The road from the railroad, when built, will cross the Columbia a short distance from the mouth of the Okanogan, and be the most direct route to the mines. The steamboat now enters the Okanogan a short distance from its mouth and comes up near the ford. From this point, as also from the point below the mouth, the road to the upper country passes up the west side of the Okanogan.

Unlike the majority of mineral districts, this region offers great inducements to the farmer, stock grower and lumberman, admitting of a complete and well-balanced development. The grandeur of mountain, hill and dale is no more striking and pleasing to the eye of the traveler in these limits of territory than are the great possibilities the entire landscape affords to the industry of man. If stock ranges are wanted, they are here. If hay is wanted, it may be had for the cutting of it. If farms are sought for, profitable locations are at hand. If timber is desired, here are the yellow pine, fir, tamarack, alder, etc. The extremes of climate are not objectionable. The currents of heat felt during the early part of the day in summer are forced along by refreshing winds

in the after part of the day. Nights are cool. The winter climate is not as severe as is generally supposed. Snow falls to the depth of three feet, but the average is less. It drifts from the hillsides, and the friendly Chinook drives it away. Stock lives out all winter. The country and climate are well adapted to stock raising, and localities for its protection are abundant. The winter of 1887-8 is known to have been the coldest for years, and yet the stage from Spokane to Conconully, a distance of one hundred and sixty miles, did not miss a weekly trip all winter, nor were teamsters on the route obliged to forego their business during winter. Winters are of short duration. Commencing in December, they find relief in February. Miners are looking after their prospects in these mountains in January on horseback, three or four thousand feet above sea level. Winter does not retard the work in the mines. These ranges afford good beef and milch cows. Ranchmen bring in a good supply of "garden stuff," poultry and eggs. The peach, melons and other fruits are found in several localities. As for game and fish, deer and grouse are numerous, and trout and salmon are in the water courses.

Population is scattered, but increasing with those seeking mines or desirable agricultural or stock locations. It is only a question of a few years when this will be a thickly settled region. This grand section is a make-up of high, bare or rugged mountains, deep canyons, picturesque coulees, rolling hills, plateaus, valleys, lakes, rivers, springs, creeks and mountains richly timbered.

A GREAT LUMBERING ENTERPRISE.

THE lumbering enterprise of the Northwestern Lumber Co. is one of the most extensive on the Pacific coast. The company has its place of business in San Francisco, and operates large mills at Knapp-ton, on the Columbia river, and at Hoquiam, on Gray's harbor. A. M. Simpson is president, Samuel Perkins is treasurer, and George H. Emerson is general manager of the extensive mill and mercantile interests on Gray's harbor. Mr. Emerson was for twelve years manager of Simpson's large mill at Gardiner, on the Umpqua river, Oregon, and in 1880 went to Gray's harbor to investigate the question of establishing a mill there. He found a wilderness of magnificent timber as yet untouched by the ax and saw, a good harbor, splendid mill sites, and everything that could be desired for the most extensive operations. The next year he built a large mill at Hoquiam, bringing all the timber necessary for the purpose in a vessel, actually importing the very material which he was