

Northeast of Baker City, Oregon, a day's ride as travel over the mountains goes, is the Cornucopia district. There the bright particular star is the Red Jacket. Louisville men have a mill plant of twenty stamps. The mill runs night and day, grinding out \$50,000 per month. The ore of the district is like that which abounds all around Baker City. There is some free gold, but the bulk of the product is sulphurets. To get the shining yellow out of the unpromising dirt requires elaborate and expensive machinery. There are half a dozen mines which the owners have opened up sufficiently to show the character and extent of the ore. While waiting for capitalists to come in and buy, these owners work along, shipping a car load of picked ore from time to time, as their needs press them. The sulphurets are found in veins from two and one-half to six feet thick, and the veins assay from \$20 to \$60 a ton. The opportunities which these mines present are not for bonanza mining, but for fair and sure returns on invested capital. The Red Jacket has tunnels of from 200 to 300 feet, and they show a vein six feet in thickness. One of the steady producers is the Sanger, in what is known as the Sparta district. The principal owner is C. M. Sanger, of Milwaukee. Interested with him are several California and eastern men. The yield is from \$45,000 to \$60,000 a month. The Sparta district lies between Baker City and the Cornucopia mines. The success of the Sanger has led to negotiations between eastern men of means and the owners of several claims. The Del Monte, Oro Dell, Little and Big Pittsburg are among the mines for which mills are likely to be erected this winter. Thirty miles southeast of Baker City is Connor Creek. In the stock markets of the country the Connor Creek Mining Company is never heard of. The plant consists of a twenty-stamp mill, which has been in constant operation for fifteen or sixteen years. It turns out \$75,000 a month. The mining company consists of Sim Reed, a Portland capitalist, and John A. Faull, a mining man of San Francisco. The Connor Creek mine is one of the few in the Baker City region handling free gold ore.

At the Baker City mint, so called because juleps are coined there, a very large collection of ore specimens is on exhibition. The samples from Connor Creek are finest of all. Gold, in threads and bands and little chunks, is imbedded in the purest of white quartz. The greenest tenderfoot knows that he has found the genuine stuff the moment he sees one of these specimens. But the tenderfoot can hardly believe that the fragment of rock which he holds within his hand, almost inclosed within his grasp, contains \$100. There are three pieces of the Connor Creek quartz, which together are about as large as a man's two fists. They contain \$300. Richer gold quartz than some of this Connor Creek is seldom found. On the 650-foot level the miners struck a spot of almost incredible richness. Eleven hundred pounds of the ore, a little more than half a ton, yielded \$44,000. There is some of the Connor Creek quartz in which no gold can be detected with the eye, yet when put through the mill it gives from \$10 to \$20 to the ton. No formation of sulphurets is found in this quartz. In the mint collection is a fragment from the Cornucopia ore, which, if there was enough of it, would give \$50,000 to the ton, but it has to yield first place to Connor creek.

Orcas island, the largest of the San Juan group, in Puget sound, is making quite a reputation as a producer of fruit. With a soil strongly impregnated with lime, phosphates and potash, with a climate warmer than that of the other mainland, it gives promise of becoming the most noteworthy place on the Pacific coast for fruit raising. At the present moment its apples and pears are known all over the coast as the finest fruit raised. Its

small fruits, like strawberries and blackberries, obtain the highest prices in the Victoria and Port Townsend markets, and its prunes rank as high as any raised in Oregon or Washington. Besides this, peaches, grapes, figs and apricots are easily raised and are of excellent size, color and flavor. The principal fruit growers have recently combined and organized a fruit growers' association. The association disposes of lands through its secretary, gives lectures and debates on fruit growing, inspects the fruit of members and looks after the market reports. Within ten years the island will be one vast orchard and fruit and vegetable garden. It is about the same size as the Island of Jersey, in the British channel, on which is a city of 60,000 inhabitants, and will become as famous for its fruits. Orcas is rapidly becoming the summer resort for Seattle and Tacoma, Port Townsend and Whatcom people. Its fresh water lakes with superb trout fishing, its inland harbors with cod and salmon, its mountains with deer and quail, and, last but not least, the bathing bay at East sound, where the water is so warm that bathers can swim about for half an hour and feel no chill, are attractions that no one other place can afford in so compact a compass. The growth of inhabitants during the past three years has been very large, the population having doubled in that time. This has been chiefly due to the recognition by experienced fruit growers of the fact that Orcas is to be the fruit garden of the northwest on account of soil, climate and formation. If the value of a thing is the price it will bring, then there are very few places where lands are selling to-day for so high a figure as the uncleared lands at East sound, which easily bring from \$35 to \$50 per acre. Fruit and dairy farming will pay big, and chicken raising is not to be despised, but grain will not pay. On the other hand, small fruits pay well, and, when care is bestowed, make big returns. One man who came to the island three years ago has cleared land, planted berries, and this year sold his crop for over \$1,700. Prunes pay even better, and pears and apples bring in good incomes. At East sound there is a commodious new school house, a very fine church (Protestant Episcopal), a nice Methodist church, a good hotel, postoffice, etc. At Orcas there is a good store, and various lime factories are dotted over the island.

Dr. Dawson, minister of mines for British Columbia, spent the first portion of the summer in West Kootenay, where the indications of the existence of rich mineral wealth are very good. Considerable development is being done, but the miners everywhere are looking for the good times to come when by railway communication the era of prosperity in mining operations shall dawn upon them. Where actual work is being done in mining and shipping ores, it is only the richest specimens that are sent away for smelting, while the other ores are left on the dump waiting until shipping facilities will make it remunerative to smelt them. In instances where the ledges, though extensive, are low grade, nothing is being done. Railway communication and increased shipping facilities generally are what are wanted to develop the whole mining of British Columbia. Owners of claims and prospectors are all waiting anxiously, though hopefully, for that time to arrive. Where the present facilities are sufficient to make mining pay, the owners of mines have not the necessary capital themselves and are unable to influence capitalists. The successful operation of one or two mines in the province, Dr. Dawson thinks, would result in a mining boom and give a great stimulus for mining operations. It would result in a rush of capital, and the province would be prospected thoroughly for new strikes. Very many new discoveries would be made as a consequence. At present