IN THE MINING CAMPS. output to far above that of any previous

Much Work Done but No Boom This Season.

The summer season's work in northwestern mining camps is about over and preparations are being made for what winter work is to be done. Although a great deal of work has been done in many directions, and although important advances have been made, the season has had few startling features. In the face of this, therefore, the promise of quite exceptional winter activity is interesting and encouraging. It is true that in the last six months Rossland and the Slocan have been put on their feet once more after the blight of long labor troubles, the boundary has become a producer, rich new areas have been opened in the Coeur d'Alenes, the Buffalo Hump has been proved at depth and fitted for production, and Republic has given important new proofs of its permanent value.

It will be the coming winter that will tell even more than the summer, however. In another month the success or failure of the big Republic mill will be known, and in three months it is probable there will be railroad connections between there and Grand Forks. By that time also two more smelters will be ready to take ores from Boundary and neighboring camps and it is probable that plans for other large treatment plants in the Kootenays will have been made public.

Unless general confidence proves false, within four or five months the plucky fight that the operators of Republic properties have put up, the occasional doubt and distrust that still exis's, the difficult problems that have had to be met with nerve and patience, will all be of the past and the camp will be on its feet to stay, a large producer, its treatment problem solved for good and wealth at last returning to those who have faithfully paid out on its behalf.

In four months also the Big Buffalo and Vesuvius mine should have made a definite and substantial showing of actual returns for the large investments made there. The winter's work there will be important, though it will be largely in preparation for quite remarkable activity that is predicted for it as soon as spring opens.

In the same time also it is probable that important changes will have been made in the Palmer Mountain district-changes that will mean another large influx of capital there. This district is dependent to a great extent on the promised transportation facilities, the keynote to the success of several of the most promising camps. Even without this convenience, however, the district is to go ahead, for it is in the hands of men of resource and strength and it is rapidly nearing the time when it will be in a position to yield immense returns. The same is true of the upper and lower Methow and other Okanogan county camps, where the past summer has seen a greater amount of work than ever

year.

The same advancement has taken place in a dozen other districts and so other camps throughout the northwest this past season. Many smaller Washington, Idaho and British Columbia camps have good records of routine development to show and the same is true of the eastern Oregon sections. It has been a notable year because it has been without a boom and without sensations, but it has been a profitable year for all that, and it will surely be accounted a goodly step forward in the mining development of the northwest .- Spokesman-Review.

IRRIGATION PROJECT.

Kilimacue Lake on Rock Creek to be tapped by a Tunnel.

One of the most important irrigation enterprises that has been projected in eastern Oregon is that of the Kilimacue Lake Reservoir & Rock Creek Irrigation company, whose intention is to divert the waters of the large lake, on Rock creek, by tunnels, canal and flume onto the arid lands lying above and below the town of Haines.

This lake was caused by a great landslide from the steep mountain into and across Rock creek. It occurred in 1863 or '64, and formed a dam which is about as solid as the mountain itself.

The company, which is composed of some of the most substantial farmers in the valley, propose to run a tunnel 4x6 feet, 150 feet in length, to tap this body of water and then convey it around the mountain side by means of canal and flume to the lands desired to be irrigated. The reservoir, of course, will be supplied with gates to gauge the flow of water.

It is estimated that the reservoir can be so enlarged and regulated that the water therefrom will irrigate about 10,000 acres of land, and possibly more.

The company is now advertising for bids for running the tunnel, as will be seen by reference to the advertising columns of this paper, and expects to have the whole scheme in operation by the time water is needed for irrigation purposes next season. It means the bringing under cultivation thousands of acres which heretofore have lain idle, except to be used as pasture lands .- Baker City Democrat.

Fish Hatchery in the John Day.

Clay Todhunter, deputy fish commissioner for Grant county, stated to a News reporter yesterday that he had recently received a letter from State Fish Commissioner F. C. Reed, making inquiry as to the number of salmon caught in the John Day river and saying that he was desirous of establishing a fish hatchery somewhere on the John Day river. As to the number of fish caught in the river, Mr. Todhunter says that it is hard to tell, as parties sometimes fish without a license and of course they are a little cautious about giving away the number of fish which they catch. Mr. Todhunter has been down the river several times this fall in his official capacity, endeavoring to spot any evaders of the law, which necessitates the taking out of a state license. The law also provides that no seine or net shall be placed across a stream to exceed



before, and where promise of rich returns has been given in the results obtained in development.

The season in the Coeur d'Alenes has been chiefly notable for the commencement of shipments from the copper belt, the opening of several sections that have been passed over as worthless for years, and the large schemes of improvements inaugurated by several of the big companies. The district is too well established to see great change as a result of the work of one season, but haif a dozen or more new discoveries in the past season promise to add several to the list of shippers next spring, while the giant plans of development being carried out in a number of the representation of its name. A visit will big mines will help to swell next season's | convince you of this.

one third of its width. But one license has been issued this season, and that to Mr. Alex Bowsman. That the law is being evaded, Mr. Todhunter is quite certain and he is using every effort possible to apprehend and bring the guilty parties to justice .- Grant County News.

Lessons in Lace.

Mrs. Marsh, next door to MINER office, will give practical instructions in lace work. Materials and hundreds of patterns to select from.

"The Portland", conducted by Gus Woodward on Mill street, is fully a