

which takes in Portland Canal and the two important islands of Wales and Pearce, it seems to us is rather a victory than a defeat for Canada. The two islands which the United States gets are insignificant in size and barren. Strategically, it would be difficult to imagine what importance could be attached to them, especially as Wales Island intervenes between them and Port Simpson, the supposed terminus of a trans-continental railway. The boundary seems to follow the main and a natural channel to the Ocean. It is, therefore, unfortunate that, at the present stage of affairs, a feeling should have arisen in Canada to jeopardize the prospects of a closer union with the Mother Country, which would be of immense mutual advantage. We think that when the public have an opportunity of knowing more of the merits of the case they will be rather inclined to be pleased than otherwise with the result of the arbitration.

The mineral exhibit at the annual Interstate Fair, held during October at Spokane, Washington, was a good and fairly representative one, thanks largely to the display made by the Southern Kootenay and Boundary districts of British Columbia. It is frequently claimed for Spokane that it is a mining centre, having tributary to it parts of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana, on the United States side of the international boundary line, and the mining districts in the south-eastern part of British Columbia, on the Canadian side. Judging by the large proportion contributed to the mineral department of the Fair by parts of Southern Kootenay and the Boundary it would appear that either Spokane is entitled to make this claim so far as these districts of British Columbia are concerned, or that they attach considerable importance, from the point of view of advertising their mineral resources this way, to being well represented at this, the most numerously attended annual fair in the inland Northwest. That they had an excellent display of minerals this year is evidenced by the number of awards made in their favour; in fact nearly all the prizes for minerals were taken by these districts, Ymir securing first for nuggets and for a fine collection of free-milling gold ores, respectively; Poplar Creek taking first for gold in quartz; Greenwood, in the Boundary district, receiving a well-merited first for its excellent and comprehensive collection of gold, silver and copper ores; Slocan a second award for silver-lead ores, whilst the Nicola Coal Company and the North-east Crow's Nest Coal & Coke Company each obtained a first award for different kinds of coal. Whilst it is gratifying to find British Columbia mining districts doing so well outside the Province, regret must be expressed that they do not make similar good displays of specimens of their mineral products at the more important exhibitions held in the Coast cities of the Province. Possibly they do not receive sufficient encouragement to attempt this. Surely it should be practicable to obtain for the important annual exhibitions held at Victoria and New Westminster similar large and varied displays of ore to those sent to Spokane this year by Ymir and Greenwood, but these and

other mining districts in the Province must first be convinced that the Coast cities are really interested in their mineral products, and, if necessary, some monetary assistance must be given towards the cost of collecting and shipping the ores and the expense of having well-informed men in charge of the exhibits, as was the case last month at Spokane. The mineral production of the Province is now so comparatively large and the mining industry consequently is of such considerable importance that persistent efforts should be made to take advantage of every suitable opportunity to impress these facts upon all within reach.

The report of the directors of the Granby Company for the year ending June 30th, presented at the annual general meeting of shareholders early in October, is in many respects a model one. The Granby Company is the largest mining undertaking in British Columbia, yet the directors are able to intelligently summarize the results of a whole year's operations in a couple of economically worded paragraphs, supplemented by a few statements from the accounts. As we have said, the report conveys all the information that shareholders are entitled, or, so far as their individual interests are concerned, require to know; but from the point of view of the general public, curious for details it may perhaps prove disappointing. It is difficult, for example, from the figures as published, to form any very exact idea of the actual value per ton of the Granby ores, as while the output for the year is given, gross proceeds are not, and the smelter returns do not discriminate between ores and matte purchased and ore shipped for treatment from the company's properties, consequently there is no basis on which to make accurate calculation. From the facts at our disposal, however, it may be assumed that the average value of the ore at the mine is approximately five dollars per ton, this estimate being arrived at by dividing the net proceeds, from which the price paid for custom ores and matte has been deducted, by the tonnage. In the same manner the costs per ton may be estimated at about four dollars; and profits can therefore be reckoned at something like a dollar a ton. All things considered, the showing made by the Granby Company for the year may be regarded as reasonably satisfactory. While it is true that the profits earned only represented a little more than two per cent. on the stock issued, yet it must also be remembered that it necessarily takes time to develop fully an undertaking of this magnitude and the company's present secure position and freedom from indebtedness is as much a tribute to the judicious manner in which its affairs have been administered in the past as a warrant for the belief that its future promises to be a long and prosperous one.

The holding of the annual meeting of the American Mining Congress a few weeks ago at Leadville and Deadwood, the twin cities of the Black Hills district of South Dakota, was made the occasion for the publication of facts and figures relative to the well-known Homestake mine in particular and the Black Hills district in general. One widely-circulated mining news-