

that the cost per ounce of producing silver during 1909 was only 61.31 cents per ounce, whereas the cost per ounce recorded in 1910 is 23.27 cents per ounce. A contributory factor in the larger net profits was the higher average selling price of silver. During 1909 the average for the fiscal year was 51 cents, while the average price for the period covered by the report under consideration was 52.261, a difference of 1.261 cents per ounce, aggregating a gross advance of \$39,974.05. This figure, however, is incidental. A truer basis of comparison is afforded by the total expenditure on production. In 1909 this expenditure amounted to \$475,562.53. During 1910, the sum of \$737,842.37 was expended. Of this latter amount, \$152,403.38 was spent in trenching and general development. Whilst the tonnage shipped during the year ended May 31st, 1910, was slightly greater than that shipped during the preceding period, the average silver content was also higher. The averages stand respectively 480.8 ounces per ton for 1909, and 491.05 ounces per ton for 1910. These averages are affected principally by the larger tonnage of ore concentrated—649.79 tons as compared with 31.62 tons—during 1910. The average silver contents of high grade, low grade, and concentrated ores are, respectively, 1181.98 ounces, 133.84 ounces, and 649.79 ounces.

As the third annual report is more completely itemized than is the previous report, it is possible to follow the distribution of expenditure. The largest item in mine operation is "development and exploration," which amounts to \$144,223.21. "Stoping" comes next with \$71,906.11. The charge for mine operation per ounce of silver mined was only 0.089 cent in 1909, whilst in 1910 it ran up to 0.1414 cent, an increase due almost wholly to development. In other charges there are only relatively slight changes.

During 1909 the total footage of drifting, raising, crosscutting, and sinking was 6,303 feet. The corresponding figures for 1910 are 10,059 feet. But in stoping and trenching the difference is most marked. The figures for 1910 are 18,789 cubic yards, as against 7,477 cubic yards for the previous year, and 5.16 miles of trenching as compared with 12,145 feet.

The Lawson mine enters as a producer for the first time, being credited with 173,730 ounces.

The Princess produced 113,146 ounces, whilst the output of the University is negligible, and the Fisher-Eplett does not appear at all.

Concentration as carried on by contract at the plant of the Northern Customs Concentrator, Limited, appears to be eminently satisfactory. An extraction of 79.12 per cent. is reported on ore carrying 28.58 ounces.

Ore reserves have been maintained. Their total silver content is 5,544,000 ounces, as compared with 4,968,418 ounces estimated one year before. However, the great bulk of this year's reserve is mill rock. Of the total reported reserves, 65,849.7 tons, only 2,876.7 tons is high grade. Close comparison with the previous year is not practicable, for the reason that only one

classification of ore in the mine is now adopted, namely "Developed and Partly Developed." In the former report, reserves were thrown into two categories, "Partly Developed Ore," and "Indicated Ore." We take it that General Manager R. B. Watson's present classification is less speculative than was that formerly used.

Whilst the general manager is to be congratulated upon the really excellent showing that he has made, it is a matter of regret that the annual report of so important a concern as La Rose Consolidated should not be more ample. Plans of the workings should be shown. Assay maps would throw much light upon points that are now necessarily obscure. We would suggest, therefore, that in future the annual report of this corporation be fittingly illustrated and greatly amplified.

### MINING OPPORTUNITIES IN CANADA.

The new fields of Northern Ontario and Northern British Columbia are so much in the public eye that other districts are overlooked. In fact, the foreign investor is prone to imagine that Cobalt, Porcupine, and Portland Canal offer the only sound chances for venture. This, of course, is far from the truth.

In an editorial that appeared in THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL, January 15, 1910, we alluded to a few of the sound ventures and investments that are open in unadvertised regions of the Dominion. The time is ripe to draw attention once again to these overlooked districts.

The full benefit of keen foreign interest in new fields cannot be felt if that interest is permitted to centre exclusively in one camp. Any one camp, no matter how meritorious it may be, is bound to bring disappointment and failure to many. The irrevocable law of averages holds in prospecting and in mining as in everything else. Hence it is unwise to place all of one's eggs in one basket. Furthermore, there has never been a better time for impressing upon the representatives of capital the desirability of investigating the merits of mineral deposits and mines in other parts of Canada. Any newly discovered bonanza should be merely a point from which increasing waves of activity radiate.

Advices are constantly reaching us of the revival of mining in places that have long lain dormant. For instance, the placer gold of Eastern Quebec, the gold-antimony ore of Nova Scotia, the iron deposits of Eastern Ontario, the gold mines of Lake of the Woods, and many almost forgotten metalliferous mines in southern British Columbia, are all receiving active attention. This is particularly true of Nova Scotian gold mines and of various non-metallic mineral deposits throughout Eastern Canada.

It is appropriate to point out here that in some respects British Columbia and Nova Scotia are still pre-eminently our mining provinces. In both mining has long been a leading industry. The development of transportation facilities has been influenced, therefore, very largely by the requirements and growth of mining.