

statutes on the other, the latter being considerably more stringent."

"BRITISH COLUMBIA.

"The Metalliferous Mines Act' of British Columbia prohibits the employment of boys under 12 years of age and of women and girls underground. Boys under 16 may not be employed underground for more than 10 hours a day or 54 hours a week. A person in charge of hoisting machinery must be a male of at least 18 years of age. A register must be kept of all boys of the age of 12 and under the age of 16, and of all such young persons under the age of 16 employed underground, and of all women and children employed above ground (R.S.B.C. Chap. 135, Sees. 12-14).

"The provisions of the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act' of British Columbia with regard to the employment of child or female labour are more stringent in a number of particulars than the above. The employment of boys under 12 years of age in any capacity in or about a mine is forbidden, and women and girls of any age may not be employed below ground (R.S.B.C. Chap. 138, Sees. 3 and 4).

"A boy of the age of 13 and under the age of 14 may be employed below ground, but only in mines in which the Minister of Mines, by reason of the thickness of the seams, considers such employment necessary. In any case the boy may not be so employed for more than five days in any one week, nor for more than six hours in any one day (R.S.B.C. Chap. 138, Sec. 5). A boy of 12 years of age and under the age of 14 is not allowed to be employed underground for more than 30 hours a week, or more than six hours a day. Moreover, there must be an interval in the employment of boys or young persons of not less than eight hours between the period of employment on Friday and the period of employment on the following Saturday, and in other cases of not less than 16 hours between each period of employment. Employment is deemed to begin at the time of leaving the surface and to end at the time of return to the surface, and a week is deemed to begin at midnight on Saturday night and to end at midnight on the succeeding Saturday night. No boy under 14 years of age is allowed to work below ground for more than six hours in any one day (R.S.B.C. Chap. 138, Sec. 7.) As to the employment of women, young persons and children above ground in connection with mines, it is explicitly provided that no child under the age of 12 years may be so employed; that the regulation of the Act with respect to boys under 14 years of age shall apply to every child so employed; that the regulations of the Act with respect to male young persons under 14 years of age shall apply to every woman and young person so employed; that no woman, young person or child be employed between the hours of nine at night and five on the following morning, or on Sunday, or after two o'clock on Saturday afternoon, and that intervals for meals be allowed to women and children amounting in the whole to not less than half an hour during each period of employment which

exceeds five hours and not less than one hour and a half during each period of employment which exceeds six hours. The provision forbidding employment after two o'clock on Saturday afternoon may be waived by the Minister of Mines in writing; (R.S.B.C. Chap. 138, Sec. 8). A register of boys and male young persons employed in mines must be kept, (R.S.B.C. Chap. 138, Sec. 9). The immediate employer of any boy or male young person under 14 years of age must, before employing such boy or person, report the fact to the manager of the mine or his agent (R.S.B.C. Chap. 138, Sec. 10). Young persons under 18 years of age are not to be employed about hoisting engines or machinery, but where such machinery is worked by an animal, the driver may be 12 years of age or over (R.S.B.C. Chap. 138, Sec. 11). Penalties for the contravention of the above provisions and for misrepresentation by parents or guardians are provided (R.S.B.C. Chap. 138, Sees. 12 and 13).

"SASKATCHEWAN AND ALBERTA.

"Prior to the creation of the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, the 'Coal Mines Regulations Ordinance' of the Northwest Territories forbade the employment of boys under 12 years of age and of girls and women of any age in the workings of a coal mine (O.N.W.T., 1899, Chap. 1, Sec. 1). A register showing the age and address of employees in such mines was required for production at any reasonable time when requested by a mine inspector. Persons in charge of any engine or machinery used about the shaft of a mine were required to be males of at least 18 years of age. Penalties for non-compliance with these provisions and for misrepresentation as to age by parents or guardians are added (C.O.N.W.T. Chap. 16, Sees. 3-7).

"These provisions still remain in effect without amendment in the Province of Saskatchewan. In Alberta, however, a 'Coal Mines Act' was passed in 1906 which, in addition to the provisions cited above, prescribed an educational test in the case of boys over the age of 12 and under the age of 16. In order to be employed in or about a coal mine in Alberta, boys under 16 must be able to read and write, and must have an elementary knowledge of arithmetic under certificate of a Provincial school teacher, provision being made for the holding of examinations by the latter without fee with a view to the granting of the certificate in question (Alberta Statutes, 1906, Chap. 25, Sees. 6 and 7)."

According to the *American Mining Review*, the Calumet and Hecla, Lake Superior district, crushed 8,250 tons of rock daily in June, and from this obtained but 34 lb., or 1.7 per cent., of copper to the ton. Of 16 other producing mines none yielded higher than 27 lb. of copper per ton of ore. In one case the yield was but 11.6 lb. of copper to the ton.