

MINERAL OUTPUT OF LAST SEASON

AN INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR

Report of the Minister of Mines Has Been Issued—Some of Its Special Features.

The report of the minister of mines for 1904 has just been issued. It is a very comprehensive report containing over 320 pages. The report is fully illustrated with half-tones, the work of the B. C. Photo-Engraving Company. These illustrations cover scenes from the mining districts of the province, and illustrate some of the companies' works. Among them is a view of the Portland cement works at Tod creek, near Victoria. A chapter on the stone quarries of the coast written by the provincial assayer, H. Carmichael, is well illustrated with half-tone views of the various locations, which produce building stones along the coast. Another view is that of the new shaft house at Nanaimo mine. The views are all reproduced in a most striking manner, reflecting the greatest credit upon the Photo-Engraving Company and the government printing office.

The frontispiece is a striking drawing. It is a view near the southern end of Atlin lake, looking down Hoboc creek from Laverdier group. This cut is a reproduction of a photograph taken by the provincial mineralogist himself, while in Atlin last fall.

In the preparation of this report the provincial mineralogist has followed closely that of the year.

The total production of minerals for the province during the year nearly approached 100,000,000, exceeded only by the year 1901. The comparative table of production year by year shows the following:

1852 to 1880 (inclusive)	\$ 71,981,624
1880	2,908,808
1881	3,521,102
1882	2,978,530
1883	3,838,413
1884	4,225,717
1885	5,643,042
1886	7,907,866
1887	10,455,393
1888	10,906,861
1889	12,388,131
1890	16,344,451
1891	20,088,790
1892	17,488,550
1893	17,405,954
1894	18,977,359
Total	\$28,201,851

The production, according to the mineralogist, is given as follows for the year: Gold, placer—37,793 ounces; \$ 1,135,800; Gold, lode—222,974 ounces; 4,580,908; Silver—3,225,481 ounces; 1,719,516; Copper—35,710,128 pounds; 1,478,037; Lead—36,646,244 pounds; 1,421,874; Coal—1,253,028 tons, 2,240 lbs.; 1,199,834; Coke—334,102 tons, 2,240 lbs.; 1,192,190; Other materials 600,000

\$18,977,359

This shows quite an increase over the preceding year. In placer gold \$1,083,420 was recovered in 1903, while in 1904 there was \$1,135,800 taken out. In the lode mines there was also a good increase, although under the production a slight reduction occurs. There were 222,974 ounces of gold valued at \$4,580,908 in 1904, compared with 232,831 ounces, valued at \$4,512,010 in 1903. In 1904 there was an increase of 8,147 ounces. There were mined 3,225,481 ounces, valued at \$1,719,516 in 1904, as compared with 2,908,808 ounces, valued at \$1,521,472 the year previous. In lode gold, the greatest ever made by our mines. In 1904 there was produced 36,646,244 pounds, valued at \$1,421,874, as compared with 35,710,128 pounds in 1903, valued at \$1,478,037. The copper production in 1904 was 35,710,128 pounds, valued at \$4,578,037; in 1903 it was 34,359,921 pounds, valued at \$4,547,535.

The coal production of the province in 1904 increased somewhat over that of 1903. Last year it totaled 1,253,028 tons, valued at \$2,700,854. In 1904 it was 1,253,028 tons, valued at \$3,504,822.

But the industrial life increased the coal production very materially. In 1904 there were 238,425 tons of coke produced, valued at \$1,192,190, while in 1903 there were 185,543 tons, valued at \$2,271,715.

Referring to the mining industry and the year's production the provincial mineralogist says as follows:

"The mineral output of the province for the past year shows, as to the gross value of the product, a distinct gain over the preceding year, and, as a matter of fact, is the greatest ever made by our mines, except that of 1901. This gross value for 1904 is \$18,977,359, and represents an increase over 1903 of \$1,481,405, or about 8.5 per cent.

"An analysis of the returns for the whole province shows, however, that this increase has not been general or equal in the various districts, or as to the various minerals produced. The placer gold output shows an increase of \$44,880, which is mainly attributable to one district, Atlin, the other districts only about holding their own; while in those districts where the placer gold is obtained from the river bars, exposed only at lowest water, there is this year a marked falling off in production, since the spring opened up early and the gradual melting of the snow in the mountains prevented any extremes of high or low water, so that the bars were not exposed and, therefore, could not be worked in the manner.

"The districts showing an increased output this year, named in the order of precedence, were East Kootenay, the Boundary, the Coast and the St. Elias, while the greatest decrease was in the Rossland camp, this being accounted for by changes in the management of some of the producing companies, and by experiments as to the best method of treatment of the low-grade ores of the camp

being conducted; these temporarily retarded the output.

"The tonnage of ore actually being mined in the province has perhaps a more direct bearing upon the general business prosperity of the local community than have the values produced. Inasmuch as it represents the amount of work actually taking place, and in this respect the year 1904 shows a very greatly increased output of ore, amounting to 1,401,000 tons, an increase over the preceding year of 175,433 tons, or nearly 14 per cent.

"To say that this increase was made chiefly by the Boundary, East Kootenay and St. Elias districts, scarcely does these districts full justice, for not only have they made the increase shown, but they have also offset decreases in certain other districts.

"In discussing the increase in tonnage of ore mined it must be remembered that the tonnage mined in 1903, than which that of 1904 is greater by 14 per cent, was itself greater than that of the preceding year (1902) by about 29 per cent, so that, looking back two years, we find the present tonnage output has increased in those two years about 46 per cent.

"The number of mines shipping in 1904 was 142, as against 125 in 1903, an increase of 17, of which 15 were in the silver-lead district. These, however, shipped less than 100 tons each during the year. Of these 142 mines shipping, there were only 76 that shipped 100 tons or more in 1904, as against 74 in 1903, indicating that there has been no material addition to the larger shippers, such increase as has been made in the number of shipping mines being confined to the smaller high-grade properties, and being in reality largely due to the introduction of the tributary system of mining. The total number of men employed during the year in these shipping mines is almost exactly the same as in 1903, viz.: 3,904, compared with 3,803.

With respect to the coal production Mr. Robertson says:

"The Vancouver Island collieries mined 1,023,013 tons of coal, which was disposed of as follows: Sold, as coal, 784,169 tons; used by company, 135,034 tons; used to make coke, 81,170 tons; added to stock, 22,640 tons; total, 1,023,013 tons.

"The coke produced amounted to 19,371 tons, of which 12,434 tons were sold, and 6,947 tons were added to stock. "Of the coal sold, 53 per cent, was exported to the United States, practically all to California, while 20 per cent of the coke sold found the same market. The local market is slow of growth, and the export market must be looked to for any expansion of business. In 1902, 75 per cent of Vancouver Island coal went to California, in 1903 about 45 per cent, and in 1904 about 53 per cent, which would indicate that the worst is already known of the competition of the California fuel oil. The two companies have 'poached' their California sales from the selling agent, which stands steadily the ground.

"The local coast market in 1904 consumed some 35,000 tons more coal, but about 6,000 tons less coke, than in the preceding year.

"The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co. at its three collieries, Michel, Coal Creek and Carbonado, mined in 1904 922,985 tons of coal, of which there was sold as coal 287,168 tons, and of this 168,990 tons was consumed in Canada and 118,188 tons exported to United States. Of the remainder of the output, 24,871 tons were consumed by the operations of the company, and 850,000 tons converted into coke, of which there were produced 218,790 tons, and of this 118,094 tons were consumed by British Columbia smelters, and 97,690 tons exported to United States.

"The distance of these mines from the coast has as yet prevented any but the interior markets being available, and the three new coal companies have this past year begun shipping from mines just outside of British Columbia, in Alberta, these companies have shares in common with the C. N. P. Coal Co. with the result that these British Columbia mines show this year a decrease in coal sold of 22,791 tons, which is, however, more than made up for by an increase of 68,930 tons in the coke sales.

"The consumption of coke from these mines by British Columbia smelters has been about the same amount as last year, but the export of coke has increased from 27,758 tons in 1903 to 97,690 tons in 1904, chiefly by the opening up of markets in Montana through the completion of the branch of the Great Northern railway into Morrissey. The company's ovens have not been run at full capacity, nor all the time, so that the rate of production of coke in this district seems to have been reached, but there is every indication that it will be held during the coming year."

"While this silver cannot be considered as detrimental to the ore as a zinc ore, it is very difficult to separate and save the silver, and but a partial recovery can be made at the best; consequently, the price offered by ore buyers seems very low for the silver contents. For this reason it is not taken to the market, and the producers to throw as much zinc into the lead concentrates as the lead smelter will accept without a penalty, in which case the producer gets no pay for his zinc, but gets a fine for its silver contents, which more than recoups him for his loss of zinc. These conditions apply to zinc smelting as it is usually carried on. There are, however, two or three newer processes not very widely known, which are especially adapted to such ores, but operators of these concerns are naturally only prepared to give enough for the ore to outbid the regular zinc smelter. An electric process is being developed in Vancouver which has considerable promise, and which can be utilized in small units, and which has to solve the problem by the local treatment of the concentrates."

H. Carmichael, provincial assayer, contributes a chapter on the stone quarries of the coast. He deals with the character of the stone found at the works which are used from time to time for building material, describing the following quarries: Hamilton Island, near Courville, marble, Saturna Island, Gabriola Island, Brigs Point, Newcastle Island, Granite Island, Texada Island and the marble formations on the coast of Vancouver Island. Mr. Carmichael points out that with a limited demand for the stone the quarrying is carried on in a more or less profitable manner.

"The works for the manufacture of Portland cement at Tod creek are fully described in this report.

In this report Mr. Robertson has introduced charts this year which will be of great interest to the practical mineralogist. These are so deep as to present a general view of the industry of the interior.

WOULD NOT GRANT TRUSTEES' REQUEST

BOARD'S APPLICATION TURNED DOWN AGAIN

Discussion at Monday's Council Meeting on Park Improvements at the Gorge.

The most important business transacted by the city council Monday was a motion carried, refusing the application of the school trustees for a grant of \$30,000 needed for extraordinary expenditure, namely, for the building of a new school in Victoria West.

Secretary of the school board, had written asking what the council proposed doing in this respect, and one alderman asked if it would not be wiser to delay giving a reply, but that Mayor and council decided to inquire into the subject matter and report to the board of health.

The committee would also recommend that the purchasing agent be instructed to call for tenders for cutting and purchasing the grass grown in the vacant lots within the bounds of the cemetery.

Adopted. The fire warden asked for repairs to be made to one of the floors in the fire station at a cost of \$90. Approved.

The park committee reported that \$200 had been expended on the park at the Gorge, and asked that the work be continued.

Ald. Douglas explained that \$500 had been appropriated for the undertaking, and it would be well, he thought, to spend \$190 more.

This point raised quite a little discussion over the advisability of going ahead with further work until some definite plan of improvement had been decided on, the upshot of which was the leaving of the matter in abeyance until after the holidays. The work already done, however, was satisfactory.

The streets, bridges and sewers committee reported as follows:

"Gentlemen—Your streets, bridges and sewers committee have considered the undermentioned subjects, beg to submit the following recommendations for adoption by the council, viz.:

"The plans of building for the Mease Company Limited, to be erected on Foot street. That the building inspector be authorized to issue his permit for the building as shown on blue print presented and filed in the office of the building inspector, in accordance with the request of Mr. E. M. Rattenbury, architect, the work to be carried out to the satisfaction of the building inspector.

"That a pipe drain be laid on Rockland avenue, from St. Charles street easterly. Estimated cost, \$475.

"That a sidewalk be laid down on Ormond street. Estimated cost, \$84.

"That the building inspector be authorized to grant his permit for the erection of the 'Hanna' building on Yates street.

"That the condition of an alleyway between Third and Fourth streets be improved. Estimated cost, \$150.

"That the city clerk be instructed to write to Messrs. Helmsman & Co., asking them to communicate with the owner of the building known as the Old Grove tavern, near the Esquimalt road, with a view to having same removed back to the street line.

"That the local manager of the tramway company be asked to meet the committee to discuss the matter of the sprinkling of streets, by means of a special car constructed for this purpose, and supply any information he may have upon the subject to the committee.

The report was adopted.

"The finance committee reported accounts totaling \$3,654.55. Carried.

The city engineer submitted plans for and cost of permanent sidewalks to be laid on Queen's avenue, between Blanchard and Douglas streets, on Foot street, on Government from Esquimalt to Hillside avenue, and Douglas from Esquimalt to King's road. Received and filed.

Ald. Fell's motion with reference to the city solicitor taking the necessary steps having presented to the council, and as he has obtained the decision that he is holding any rights in the matter was next brought up and passed.

After the council decided as above regarding the application of the school trustees the meeting adjourned.

BEACON HILL, AND CONSEQUENTLY THAT THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT TO THE PARK ITSELF.

I am of opinion that the objection is not well founded. Heywood avenue is a street, and is graded to the level of the abutting residential property, and affords the convenience of access to the resident owners. The street is in part sewer, water pipes are laid, and it is lighted at the public expense, some, if not all, of these public conveniences being outside of park purposes. The city must be deemed to have taken the road out of the park and made it a public street.

In my opinion, the lands abutting on Heywood avenue are assessable for local improvement if benefited thereby. The Municipal Clauses Act empowers the assessment for local improvements of abutting lands benefited in respect of any street, alley, public way or other place where any improvements are made, and these words are, in my opinion, sufficiently wide to conclusively settle the point raised by Dr. Helmecken.

Obediently yours,
C. DUBOIS MASON.

The report was received and filed. The committee reported as follows:

We, the undersigned, having had our attention called to the letter in Sunday's Colonist, signed H. L. S., referring to Ross Bay cemetery, beg to recommend that the medical officer and sanitary inspector be asked to inquire into the subject matter and report to the board of health.

The committee would also recommend that the purchasing agent be instructed to call for tenders for cutting and purchasing the grass grown in the vacant lots within the bounds of the cemetery.

Adopted. The fire warden asked for repairs to be made to one of the floors in the fire station at a cost of \$90. Approved.

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Purchasers and Smelters of Copper, Gold and Silver Ores.
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LADYSMITH, VANCOUVER ISLAND, B. C.
Convenient to E. & N. Ry. or the sea.

CLERMONT LIVINGSTON, General Manager
THOS. KIDDIE Smelter Manager.

RAILWAY AFFAIRS IN THE PROVINCE

AN INTERVIEW WITH SENATOR TEMPLEMAN

Why He Favors the V. V. & E. Hill Line to Princeton Will Be Built This Year.

Ottawa, May 23.—Your correspondent had an interview to-day with Senator Templeman in respect to railway affairs in British Columbia. The Senator complained about being misquoted in British Columbia in reference to the Grand Trunk Pacific, and asked to be placed right.

"I find it is a mistake," said he, "to permit inaccurate statements in respect to one's views to go uncorrected. Such statements are sometimes accepted as truths, and being repeated by persons who are generally careful in representing the opinions of others are accepted by the public as authentic."

"Mr. Mara, at a recent meeting of the Victoria Board of Trade, when discussing the V. V. & E. Hill now before parliament, is reported to have said that I might be mistaken in respect to the intentions of the company 'just as I had been mistaken before, when I said that the Grand Trunk Pacific would begin construction simultaneously at both ends of its line.'"

"While it may turn out that I am placing too much reliance in the plan of the V. V. & E. Company to construct its line in British Columbia, I cannot admit that that charge is sustained by the other statements respecting the Grand Trunk Pacific. I have never said that the Grand Trunk Pacific would begin construction simultaneously at both ends of the road, for the reason that I never thought that the surveys through the mountains could be completed simultaneously with the completion of the surveys through the prairies."

"My view as to the V. V. & E. application for an amendment to its charter is that it should be granted, and, if need be, unconditionally. Mr. Hill has stated, verbally and in writing to me as well as to others, that the company will build one hundred and sixty miles from Midway to Princeton this year. About fifty miles of that one hundred and sixty will be in the state of Washington, and will be located there, not for the purpose of developing the territory through which it will pass, but because by being so located it will better serve the mining districts of British Columbia by providing low grades and resultant low freight charges. Mr. Hill has also stated that as soon as a practical line to the coast has been located by his engineers he will build from Princeton to the New Westminster bridge, through Canadian territory. There is, it is quite true, some question of the feasibility of a low-grade line through the Lope mountains, all in Canadian territory, to the coast, but that point will be determined more quickly by the V. V. & E. engineers than by any other authority. And in connection with this point let me quote from a letter signed by Mr. J. J. Hill and dated May 17th, as follows:

"With reference to commencing work from Cloverdale east, we are quite ready to start this work within two years, and if the mountain conditions will permit, we would like to have the line finished within two years, i. e., two years from the coming fall."

"This bare statement, it is true, is not a binding guarantee; it is simply the promise of a very prominent and successful railway builder. I accept it for precisely what it is worth—that is an expression of an intention that it will be carried out if no insuperable obstacles intervene. I take no stock in the wild talk about Mr. Hill's intention to make Everett the terminus of the V. V. & E., or about draining the resources of British Columbia into Washington territory. According to my view British Columbia should welcome the building of railways, no matter by whom they are built, and its people should doubly welcome a railway that is not asking or expecting financial aid. That is a new thing in British Columbia, and it is probably because it is unprecedented that some prominent members of the Victoria Board of Trade are incredulous enough to doubt the bona fides of the promoters of such an extraordinary enterprise and try to defeat it."

"The effect of the announcement that the V. V. & E. would this year go to Princeton is already apparent. The C. P. R. I am credibly informed, will build this year from Spence's Bridge to Nicola. There is a subsidy from the Dominion for about forty-five miles of this road, whereas there is not one dollar of subsidy for the V. V. & E. extension to Princeton."

In an unbroken nocturnal flight the European bird known as the northern blizzard has been known to travel from Central Africa to the German ocean, a distance of 1,600 miles, making the journey in nine hours.

Mr. and Mrs. Barronches (nee Mrs. Snowden) are expected back very shortly from their honeymoon trip to England.

Colonel A. W. Jones, Mrs. Jones entertained several of their young friends at dinner on Wednesday night at their house on Cook street.



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If you have a chronic cough, or are 'rundown,' try our Ferrated Emulsion. Makes the weak strong. \$1 bottle.

Cyrus H. Bowes, CHEMIST.

98 Government St., near Yates St. WANTED—A ranch worker and good milker. Five weeks. Address Jas. Dougan, Cobble Hill, E. & N. Railway.

Notice is hereby given that, 60 days after date, I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described land, situated on the Coast District, Range 6, commencing at a stake at the north-west corner of Lot 191, marked W. D. McIntosh, Th. Chase running westerly 40 chains, then south 18 chains to the northern boundary of Lot 193, thence east 40 chains along the northern boundary of Lot 193, thence north 18 chains to place of commencement, containing 72 acres more or less.

W. D. MINTOSH, JR.
March 21st, 1905.

Our Offer—For One Month Only.

To introduce our new stock, we will by mail prepare one of our \$15 AMERICAN REMINGTON-UMC .22 CALIBRE .38 S&W. Genuine German silver case, warranted for 29 years; movement warranted for 5 years. Positively only 1 week to all customers. Send money order or registered letter; cheques not acceptable. The Montreal Co., 428, Carleton Street, Vancouver, B. C.

REPORTS FROM LINEVITCH.

Russian Commander Tells of Fighting—Speculating on Rojevstevsky's Movements.

St. Petersburg, May 22.—Gen. Lievitch, in a dispatch from the front, dated May 21st, announces that two Russian detachments occupied the valleys of the Kaak and Khanda rivers on the Mandarint road, after dislodging some Japanese cavalry and infantry.

The dispatches add that Gen. Martynoff's detachment from Tadu also drove back the Japanese advanced cavalry outposts. Gen. Linevitch also reported fighting near Shabots May 18th, but did not give the result. He said a Russian detachment east of the railroad approached the village of Shabots and was attacked by a force of Japanese from the coal mines south of that place.

May Enter Pacific.

Paris, May 22.—Much attention is given here to the news of Admiral Rojevstevsky's probable passage into the Pacific north of the Island of Luzon, and suggestions are made that the reported intentions of the Russians to rendezvous at the Island of Babuyan will give the American authorities in the Philippines the same difficulties in preserving remote points against the incursions of Admiral Rojevstevsky that the French authorities experienced in the waters of Indochina.

The naval expert of the Temps lengthily points out that the information brought by various steamers to Chinese ports confirms the previous view that Rojevstevsky is skirting the north of the Philippines into the Pacific, thus avoiding the possibility of Japanese torpedo attacks and the mines in the straits of Formosa and the subsequent concentration of the Japanese fleet in the straits of Korea. Further, Rojevstevsky, by his means, will be able to make a long detour and reach Vladivostok through one of the northern straits of Japan.

It is pointed out, however, that the presence of the Russian fleet north of the Philippines places the Russians only a few hundred miles from the Japanese naval base at Klung (in the northern part of Formosa), and that a fight is still possible before the detour commences.

Mrs. Richardson and her daughter, Miss Muriel Richardson, who have been in England since the death of the late Capt. Richardson, have returned to Victoria.

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