

men. The prospects are that a further increase in the total will take place the ensuing summer.

The *Nelson Daily News*, the leading newspaper published in the interior of British Columbia, takes an optimistic view of the future of the mining industry of the Kootenay and Yale districts, which include Boundary, Rossland, Nelson, Ymir, Slocan, Lardeau and East Kootenay mining camps. It makes the following comment: "The first quarter of 1906 shows the enormous total of 429,072 tons of ore produced in the districts of Kootenay and Yale, which is at the rate of 1,700,000 tons per year. That this rate will be maintained is more than likely and indeed the probabilities at this time in the year seem to indicate that a total tonnage of 2,000,000 tons will nearly be reached. At present there are 76 mines shipping over the whole of these districts." Incidentally, it may be mentioned that last year's total tonnage was rather more than 1,700,000 tons for the whole Province, the great bulk of the ore having been produced in the districts above mentioned.

Mr. John B. Hobson, for the past ten or twelve years manager of the hydraulic gold mining property the Consolidated Cariboo Hydraulic Mining Co. has been operating at Bullion, in the Cariboo district of British Columbia, has returned to the Province after having spent some time in New York in connection with the acquirement by capitalists of that city of the Consolidated Cariboo Co's property. He will shortly proceed to Bullion for the purpose of putting in hand the work of largely extending the water supply system so as to make provision for an abundance of water for gravel washing uses. The total value of gold recovered from this hydraulic mine during twelve years ending June, 1905, was \$1,233,936.51. During several recent years—1902-5—the water supply has been insufficient to admit of the continuation of washing without interruption throughout the respective seasons, consequently the recovery of gold has not been nearly so large as will be the case when an adequate water supply shall have been provided.

The new director of the Geological Survey of Canada has made an innovation in notifying through the medium of the public press that his department will shortly issue a preliminary report on the Rossland district, and of the intended gratuitous supply of copies to those who make application for them. Too often valuable information, prepared by specialists, does not reach more than a comparative few of those interested in the subjects dealt with, and the chief object that should be in view in having properties or districts carefully examined and correctly described is not attained, by reason of the general run of non-professional mining men not knowing where and how to obtain copies of publications that might be of assistance to them. We have little doubt that the director of the Survey will find a ready response to his intimation by numbers of residents and others interested in the Rossland district, and that it will be found that an

effective means of disseminating valuable information will thus have been adopted.

Hon. John P. Brady, late Governor of Alaska, has informed the *Engineering and Mining Journal* that the copper and smelting industry of Alaska is in a prosperous condition, and that it is likely to grow with rapidity. On Prince of Wales Island, two smelters, one at Coppermount and the other at Hadley, are in operation. The copper mines at Ellamar and Latouche on Prince William Sound are already making large shipments of ore to the Tacoma smelter. Other mines in the vicinity of these will soon be shipping ore. A great factor in the progress of these mines is the cheapness with which the ores may be transported, the mines being situated close to deep-water harbours. The copper mines of the interior are to be benefited by the railroads now under construction across Alaska. The sections drained by the Chityna River, which is the eastern tributary of the Copper River, are receiving the most attention, and a strong output may be expected from this region as soon as railroad facilities are secured.

Mining conditions at Rossland are decidedly promising. At all three of the larger properties the outlook for production is better than for years. Although recent reports of strikes of big bodies of ore in the Le Roi were greatly exaggerated, we have the general manager's assurance that on the whole the mine is looking well. Le Roi No. 2 has made important discoveries of new ore shoots or extensions of those worked in other parts of the mine, and having ore of high average value this mine is doing well. In the Centre Star group, which includes the War Eagle, there is general improvement, as particularized in the report of the directors of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. of Canada, printed on page 118 of this number. Several of the smaller mines are also stated to be looking well, so that altogether the outlook for Rossland camp may be regarded as satisfactory.

It might not be amiss for the proper Federal Department to direct the attention of those having to edit official reports that are published to the fact that eight years ago there was created an official Geographic Board to which "all questions concerning geographic names in the Dominion which arise in the departments of the public service shall be referred, and that all departments shall accept and use in their publications the names and orthography adopted by the Board." In the Report of the Department of the Interior, lately received, there are several instances in connection with places in Yukon Territory in which this direction has not been observed. Mention is here made of this matter, not in any carping spirit but with a desire to avoid unnecessary confusion. It is sometimes difficult enough to intelligently follow descriptive reports when single designations are generally adhered to, but when different departments adopt "go-as-you-please" methods the wayfaring man be-