

British Columbia Copper Company's Mother Lode Mine, Boundary District of British Columbia.

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Copper mining in British Columbia has steadily advanced in importance during recent years, and this to such an extent that the value of the copper produced was considerably in excess of that of any other mineral included in the Province's total production of nearly \$25,000,000. While not the largest producer in the Province, the British Columbia Copper Company ranks second only to the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company as regards total production of copper to date. It is therefore fairly entitled to rank as representative of the copper mining industry of the Canadian West, hence the choice of its largest mine—

eral production—metallic and non-metallic—of the Dominion for the year. The respective totals were given as under:

	Value, 1906.
Copper	\$10,994,095
All metallic minerals	42,979,629
Total mineral production ..	80,000,048
Ten years ago the position stood thus:	
	Value, 1896.
Copper	\$ 1,021,960
All metallic minerals	8,030,633
Total mineral production ..	22,474,256



MOTHER LODGE HILL IN FALL OF 1896.

the Mother Lode—as the subject for an article illustrative of that industry.

Before giving information concerning the Mother Lode mine a digression will be made for the purpose of showing the relative positions of British Columbia generally and the Boundary district of that Province particularly as producers of copper in comparison with that of all the remaining parts of the Dominion combined. Incidentally, the proportion of copper in last year's total mineral production in Canada will be shown as under:

IMPORTANT POSITION OCCUPIED BY COPPER.

Next to gold among the metallic minerals produced in Canada is copper, the production of which in 1906 was, according to the preliminary estimate of mineral production made public last March by the Mines Section of the Geological Survey of Canada, in value more than one-fourth of the total of metalliferous minerals produced, and more than one-eighth of the total min-

These figures show that the production of copper has increased in much greater proportion than other minerals, in what ratio is easily calculated from the foregoing figures.

Another comparison shows that by far the greater part of the increase in the production of copper has been made in the Province of British Columbia. The figures for that Province and the remainder of the Dominion, respectively, are as follows:

	Value in 1896.	(1906. (Unrevised.)
Production of		
British Columbia .. .	\$ 190,926	\$ 8,675,100
Remainder of Dominion	831,034	2,318,995
Total .. .	\$1,021,960	\$10,994,095

These figures indicate most unmistakably that, in regard to the production of copper, British Columbia occupies a place of pride in the Dominion.

*Editor *British Columbia Mining Record*.