

having started at 48.8 cents in January and dropping to 47.2 cents in August, it increased to 54.97 cents in December.

The chief demand for silver comes from the Far East, and, as there were some disturbances in China, the demand was less than usual. Silver for use in the arts was less in demand in Europe than in former years, as a result of the war. On the other hand, there was a greater demand for silver for coinage purposes.

The approximate production of the various districts is estimated to have been as follows:--

| | Oz. |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Slocan and Slocan City | 1,799,002 |
| Fort Steele | 481,258 |
| Alnsworth | 331,408 |
| Boundary | 300,714 |
| Skeena | 169,382 |
| Trall Creek | 159,102 |
| Omineca | 80,165 |
| Coast | 69,240 |
| All others | 38,052 |
| Total | 3,434,303 |

Of these, Slocan, Fort Steele, Boundary, Skeena, and Trall Creek all show small increases, while all the others show slightly decreased productions. The heaviest falling-off is in the Nelson Division, which only produced about 14,227 oz. in 1915, as compared with 150,401 oz. in 1914. The silver production of this district in 1914 was mainly from the *Silver King* and *Molly Gibson* mines of the Consolidated Company, both of which were closed during the year 1915.

The Slocan District again leads all other districts, by a large margin, in silver production, having produced this year slightly over 7 per cent. of the Provincial output. The *Standard*, at Silverton, made the largest individual output, with nearly 850,000 oz., followed by the *Surprise* with nearly 300,000 oz., the Silverton Mines with 180,000 oz., the *Rambler-Cariboo* with 175,000 oz., and the *Mountain Con* with 90,000 oz. Many other smaller properties shipped, the total number of shipping mines in the district being about thirty.

The smaller production from the Alnsworth Division is due to the closing-down of the *Highland* mine and a lessened output from the *Bluebell*, which latter was only operated during the last half of the year. The largest producer in this section was the No. 1 mine, owned by the Consolidated Company, followed by the *Spokane-Trinket*, *Cork-Province*, and the *Bluebell*.

In East Kootenay the only important producer is the *Sullivan* mine of the Consolidated Company, from which 474,000 oz. was obtained. Small amounts come from the *St. Eugene*, owned by the same company; the *Monarch*, at Field; and the *Silver King*, in Wludermere.

Over 66 per cent. of the Boundary production comes from the Granby Company's mines at Phoenix. Other mines contributing to a small degree were the *Union*, in Franklin camp; the *Sally*, at Beaverdell; the *Mother Lode*, in Deadwood camp; and the *Jewel-Denaro*, in Long Lake camp.

The silver production from Trall Creek comes from the smelting of the gold-copper ores of Rosland camp, which carry about $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of silver to the ton.

The Skeena production comes almost entirely from the Granby Company's *Hidden Creek* mine, at Auyox.

The Omineca production shows a decline of about 40 per cent. as compared with the previous year, but a very considerable increase in the number of small shippers is an encouraging sign for the future.

Figures regarding the Coast production are as yet only approximate, but it is believed that a considerable decrease will have been made. The silver from this district is all obtained from the smelting of copper ores carrying low values in the precious metals, and is not, therefore, very important.