

*To the Hon. William Sloan,*

*Minister of Mines, British Columbia.*

Sir,—I beg to submit herewith a preliminary estimate of the mineral production of the Province for the year 1917, together with some notes on the progress of the mining and metallurgical industries during the year just closed; the information herein presented is, of course, subject to revision.

The object of this preliminary estimate and review is to give, as promptly as possible after the close of the year, an approximate statement of the condition of the mining interests, without waiting until the official returns from the mines have been received, and without the delay that of necessity must take place in carefully preparing the detailed information given each year in the Annual Report of the Minister of Mines.

The reviews herein given of the various mining districts have been submitted by the Resident Engineers of such districts.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM FLEET ROBERTSON,

*Provincial Mineralogist.*

*Bureau of Mines, Victoria, B.C.,*

*January 3rd, 1918.*