

opments usually do so with the idea that when the money first provided is gone they will get more. In this case, although I will not venture to make an estimate or even a guess, I foresee that a great deal of money would ultimately be required. Now, an additional and large expenditure may be worth while, but when we see others, who are farther ahead than we are, about to do the same thing—and I can say from my own knowledge that their intentions are serious, and that their financing, if not adequate, is at least considerable; also, in view of the great uncertainty of the outcome any way, I am of opinion that it will be wisest to await that outcome, which will not be long delayed, and let it then be decided whether or not any more money ought to be spent here in doing similar work. You will not be any worse off, save in a little loss of time and perhaps not even in that, and you may save a lot of money. This is my advice to the Department of Mines and to you.

Production of zinc in British Columbia for five years—1909-1913:

	Lb.
In 1909 (approx.)	8,600,000
In 1910	2,634,544
In 1911	4,184,192
In 1912	5,358,280
In 1913	6,608,088
Total for five years	27,385,104

Note.—Forest fires in the summer of 1910 caused destruction of Whitewater concentrating plant and several miles of Kaslo & Slocan Railway, and resulted in cessation of production from Whitewater and Lucky Jim mines. The latter, two years later, resumed production in a small way. The chief producers of zinc last year were the Standard (with more than one-half of the total output), Rambler-Cariboo, Van-Roi, Lucky Jim, and, in much smaller degree, the Surprise and Noble Five. All the mines mentioned are situated in Slocan district. Two others—the Slocan Star and Hewitt-Lorna Doone—are expected to be added to the list this year.

Nelson Board of Trade Supports Proposal of Grant for Establishment of Demonstration Plant at Trail.

Nelson, B. C., May 6.—

“That this board favor and support the proposal that a grant be made by the Dominion Government to the Johnson Electric Smelting, Incorporated, of \$25,000 on completion by them of a demonstration plant of 10-ton capacity in West Kootenay ready for operation, and a second government grant of \$25,000 upon a successful commercial demonstration of the operation of same by a continuous 30-day run under the oversight and to the satisfaction of the representative of the government,” was the substance of a resolution unanimously passed at a special meeting of the board of trade last night after a lengthy discussion of two proposals made by the Johnson Electric Smelting, Incorporated, for the establishment of a commercial demonstration plant in this district with the possibility of there being ultimately established in the district

a commercial smelter of sufficient capacity to handle the zinc ore output of this district.

Immediately on their return from Trail last night the Johnson party, composed of Byron E. Eldred, W. McA. Johnson, Dr. James Struthers and Dr. Barlow, attended the meeting and Mr. Eldred informed the gathering that after a long discussion of the process and their proposals with the Trail Smelter people that the promise had been made to them that they would be allowed to use a portion of the Trail smelter site for the erection of their demonstration plant, that they would be furnished with suitable ore up to 2,000 tons in quantity at the exact cost of mining, roasting and delivering at their furnace. They had been treated very fairly indeed, said Mr. Eldred, and at the present time he said that he could see no place that would be better for their demonstration than Trail. They would save considerable by going there both in the matter of obtaining roasted ore and power. Part of the equipment of the local government experimental plant could be used by them at their proposed plant at Trail. He also stated that they had a great many offers from other sections of the continent to encourage them to locate their plant, but he felt that they were bound to stick with one proposition and not jump before the completion of negotiations for better or for worse.

The members of the party will leave to-night for Victoria, where they will meet Sir Richard McBride on the recommendation of R. F. Green, M. P., for Kootenay, with whom they were in touch during their stay at Ottawa.

During the evening votes of thanks were tendered to the members of the Johnson party for their prompt response to the invitation from the board of trade and their businesslike manner of dealing with the board since their arrival here, and to George C. Mackenzie and E. Dedolph for the work which they had carried on at the government experimental smelter while it was in operation recently. Suitable replies were made by Mr. Eldred for the Johnson party and by Mr. Mackenzie.

The proposition of the Johnson people recommended by the committee provided that they should construct the demonstration plant at an approximate cost of \$75,000, being guaranteed the sum of \$25,000 when ready to blow in the plant and an additional prize of 25,000 being guaranteed on completion of a 30-day run completed to the satisfaction of government experts who would be appointed to watch the test. They would require that the duties on certain machinery that they required be rebated, and they would underwrite the whole smelter.

George C. Mackenzie, who had in charge, on behalf of the Dominion Government, the experiments just concluded in the local smelter, informed the meeting that a shipment of 40 tons of zinc ore from this district was to be sent to the smelter now operated by the Johnson people at Hartford at the expense of the Dominion Government, and a resolution passed at the meeting asked the Dominion Government if possible to send Dr. Stansfield, professor of metallurgy at McGill University, Montreal, to watch the trial there and that E. Dedolph, who has been conducting the experiment here for the government, be sent to assist Dr. Stansfield in his work.—Nelson Daily News.