

The gold production of the various districts is estimated to have been approximately as follows:—

	Oz.
Rossland	141,970
Boundary	82,190
Nelson	9,338
Skeenn	5,080
Coast	2,860
Omineca	1,539
All others	1,374

The production in the Rossland District shows an increase of 3,411 oz. as compared with 1914, which is accounted for by an increase in the tonnage shipped.

The Boundary District shows a decrease of 2,700 oz. as compared with 1914. The Granby Company's mines made an increase of about 8,000 oz., but the British Columbia Copper Company, the *Jewel*, and the *Union* show decreases respectively of about 5,000, 4,300, and 800 oz.

The *Nickel Plate* production is expected to have been about the same as the previous year—viz., 38,000 oz. The other properties in this district only contribute small amounts, and of these the *Carmi* and *Dividend-Lakeview* produced less than last year.

A reduction of about 7,000 oz. is estimated for the Nelson District, or nearly 46 per cent. This decrease is mainly due to a falling-off in the production of the *Mother Lode* mine on Sheep creek, where the cyanide-mill was only operated a short time owing to the exhaustion of the developed ore reserves at the mine. The mine is at present closed and the future plans of the company are not known.

The *Queen* mine, on Sheep creek, made about the same output as the previous year, and it is said that development-work on the lower levels is proving satisfactory in showing the continuation of the ore-shoots.

The *Second Relief*, near Erie, milled more ore than in 1914, and the *Granite-Poorman*, near Nelson, again entered the list of producers, being operated by leasers.

The *Yankee Girl* mine, at Ymir, did not ship any ore, but a low-level tunnel was driven into the vein and drifting was commenced on it. This work is now progressing and good ore is being found. It is probable that a mill will be erected on the property in the near future.

The production of gold from the Skeena District is practically all from the *Hidden Creek* mine, at Anyox. The increased tonnage mined at this property accounts for the increased gold production in this Division of 72 per cent.

The Coast production shows a slight decrease due to the smaller output from the *Marble Bay* mine.

The Omineca production comes almost entirely from the *Rocher Déboisé* mine, near Hazelton, which is a new property that only commenced shipping this year. The ore is a high-grade copper ore, carrying low gold and silver values.

About 21 per cent. of the gold production of the Province comes from the milling of auriferous quartz ores and 79 per cent. from the smelting of copper ores carrying gold and silver.

Silver.

The quantity of silver produced seems to have been about 3,434,393 oz., worth \$1,621,033, a decline from the production of 1914 of 167,787 oz. and \$255,703.

Unlike the other metals, silver declined in price owing to the effect of the war on the market. Unfortunately for the producers, this metal is not used for munitions or war material of any kind. The decline in the price of silver is best seen by comparing the average yearly prices for the least three years, which were:—

1913	59.8 cents an oz.
1914	54.8 cents an oz.
1915	49.7 cents an oz.

It is encouraging, however, to see that the market price is now improving, as