per cent. of the assay contents of the ore or bullion exported, leaving a small amount which might be sold at home without payment of duty. The smelter therefore had, in addition to his freight and treatment charge, a profit on his lead over the price paid the Canadian miner based on the New York price less brokerage, and duty on the lead paid for and on the lead not paid for, *i.e.*, payment was made for 90 per cent. assay contents and duty charged on 100 per cent. When we sold ore to American smelters the brokers' price paid to the miner was always from 15 cents to 30 cents per 100 pounds less than what the refiner received in New York.

"To make clear the improvement there has been in smelter rates since 1896, I have taken examples of Whitewater product, for different periods, and made comparisons, showing on the one hand what we received, and on the other what we would have received if we had had the advantage of settlement on the basis of London price less $1 per 100 pounds and the present freight and treatment rate:—

OLD METHOD.

Date.	Per Ct. lead.	Gross Lead Contents per ton, lbs.	N. Y. Price Less 20 c. 90 p.c. of total	Value Lead in Ore.	Freight and Treatment.	Duty ¾c. per lb.	Net Value Lead per ton. Ore.
1896	30.8	616	$2.78	$15.41	$22.50	$ 4.62	$11.71 loss
Jan. 1907	33.7	674	2.84	17.23	18.75	5.06	6.58 "
						Duty 1½c	
Dec. 1897	33.7	674	3.50	21.23	18.75	$10.11	7.63 "
1898	30.9	618	3.58	19.91	18.75	9.27	8.11 "
1899	46.6	932	4.27	35.82	:20.00	13 98	1.84grain

NEW METHOD.

Date.	Per Ct. lead.	Gross Lead Contents per ton, lbs.	Average London price.	Equivalent in $ Less $1.00.	90 p.c. of total Value Lead in Ore.	Freight and Treatment.	Net Value Lead per ton Ore.
1896	30.8	616	11- 3-9	$1.417	$ 7.86	$13.16	$5.30 loss
Jan. 1907	33.7	674	11-15-0	1.539	9.33	13.74	4.14 "
Dec. 1897	33.7	674	12-12-6	1,728	10.49	13.74	3.25 "
1898	30.9	618	13- 0-0	1.809	10.06	13.18	3.12 "
1899	46.6	932	14-18-9	2.228	18.69	15.00	3.69grain

Mr. J. L. Retallack writes: "I regret that the data I have with me here does not permit of my answering your questions categorically. If my memory serves me the original freight and treatment rates charged by the American smelters (exclusive of the deduction for duty and marketing charges) were $27.50 per ton f. o. b. any steamer or railway.

"These rates have gradually been reduced by both American and Canadian smelters. The existing freight and treatment rates, plus the marketing charge imposed by Canadian smelters, or in fact by American smelters when treating B. C. ore, are, I believe, less than similar charges on similar ore in the United States. I have yet to hear the claim made by responsible people or sustained by irresponsible people that the Canadian smelters do not give satisfactory treatment and as low rates as foreign smelters."

Mr. A. C. Garde, of the Payne Mine, in a brief note, refers us to Mr. Cavanaugh's letter, which, he states, "explains the whole situation regarding lead from its early days," and adds, "I can only say that I fully agree with Mr. Cavanaugh and that he expresses my views."

Mr. J. Laing Stocks, business manager of the Duncan United Mines, and other companies, sends us the following letter, which was also published in the *Daily News*:

"I am not going to enter into a discussion about smelter rates, for I know enough about the smelting business to know how complicated the question is, and how many factors there are which affect the charge for any particular kind of ore, besides the cost of smelting the whole charge. I realize that rates for silicious ores, for limy ores, for irony ores, for lead ores, vary with changing conditions and are affected by the law of supply and demand. I hope to see lead smelters continue in business in Kootenay, because in my connection with two lead producing mines I have found it advantageous to sell my ore to a local smelter rather than to send it out of the country, and my companies have always received fair and just treatment from it, and I believe that in the development of a large and prosperous home smelting industry, dependent upon home lead mines for its supply of ore, lies the greatest probability of material reduction in freight and treatment charges; because I am connected with a quartz mine which has concentrates to sell, and those I can sell at home to much better advantage than I could to a smelter at a distance; because I am connected with a mine, the ore from which has been sold to the Nelson smelter at a freight and treatment charge which has been usually about $4.50, and sometimes as low as $3.12, and I hope and expect that this mine will soon be the producer of a large tonnage of ore, and without home smelters to take its ore the mine so far as can be seen at present could not be operated; because I have other