

claim that great injury is done these camps, respectively, by recording their production as that of Fort Steele mining division; Texada Island does not take strenuous objection to its product appearing under the head of Nanaimo mining division, nor does Howe Sound protest against being included in New Westminster. Yet all these have stronger grounds for protest, if such be necessary, than has Hedley, which, by the way, seems to have been a long while in discovering that an injustice is being done its camp by the continuance of a custom established years before there was even one producing mine in the vicinity of Hedley.

While we are of opinion that changes in names of certain mining districts and divisions can be made with advantage, and in some instances should in justice be made, we think it improbable that, under existing conditions, the department of mines will accede to the evident desire of the Hedley board of trade that the production of its camp shall be shown separately in the published official returns. To do this when there is only a single producing mine in that locality would be, in our opinion, to violate the spirit of the law which while making compulsory the sending in periodically to the department sworn returns as to mineral production, etc., forbids the publication of the information thus obtained. Should there later be several producing mines in that camp, the existing difficulty will disappear; meanwhile, though, we think the government will not be justified in making any change that practically involves the disclosure of the returns of the Yale Mining Company which, if so inclined, may at any time supply the Hedley board of trade with the tonnage and value of its production and authorize publication of same. The Hedley board of trade will speedily ascertain the very proper attitude of the department of mines in this connection if it apply for the particulars it wishes made public, for they will not be supplied by the government.

A few words in conclusion as to a mis-statement made editorially in the Hedley *Gazette*—The *Mining Record* did not, as charged, ignore the fact that in 1906 the Nickel Plate mine produced in 1906 35,000 tons of ore. This information was in type last month, but the extract from the "Annual Report" in which it occurs was, with much other matter, unavoidably held over until this month. The *Mining Record*, it may be added, is too careful of its reputation for reliability to descend to such tactics as those of the *Gazette* when it takes improper advantage of a similarly misleading designation to that the local board of trade objects to, and thereby makes it appear that Rock Creek and Camp McKinney are in the Similkameen. This we regard as a deliberate attempt to show the Similkameen district, as generally understood, to be entitled to credit for the gold production of a district quite distinct from it. Anyone familiar with the situation will at once admit that Camp McKinney and Rock Creek are not in the Similkameen, and it is the merest quibble to use

the designation Similkameen *electoral district* as warrant for crediting the Similkameen proper with a production made outside of its well recognized limits. Suppose, for instance, we should claim that all the losses of mining enterprises at Camp McKinney—and the editor of the *Gazette* was in charge of one of the several that were decided failures—were evidences of the unproductiveness of mining in the Similkameen, would not the Hedley board of trade strongly protest—and it would be justified in doing so. Does it, then, approve the equivocation of the *Gazette* in the opposite direction? We give it credit for more honesty of purpose. The *Gazette* charges the *Mining Record* with "misrepresentation" in quoting what the local board of trade admits to be "bare facts officially correct." What about the "misrepresentation" of the *Gazette*? Is it not deliberately intended to deceive?

CLAY DEPOSITS OF ANVIL ISLAND.

By Herbert Carmichael, Provincial Assayer.*

ANVIL ISLAND is situated up Howe Sound, 23 miles from Vancouver City. It is a granitic peak rising to a height of 2,700 ft., and is three miles long by two miles wide. At its southern extremity there is an extensive deposit of glacial clay, which is being worked by the Columbia Clay Company, Ltd., under the management of J. A. Brownword. The clay bank has an area of some 90 acres and a thickness of about 100 ft. For a glacial clay it is uniform in texture, being practically free from stones. A floor has been run into the bank, slightly above the level of the mixer and brick machine, so that the clay is shovelled into small cars and run by gravity a short distance to the hopper; the brick machine is of the "soft mud" type. The bricks are burned in a continuous kiln, the draught being maintained by a fan and exhausted through a dryer, in which the bricks are dried before being burnt. The kiln is only a few feet from the water, the bricks being loaded direct from the kiln by small cars on to scows, which are towed to market. The plant has a capacity of 30,000 per day.

The following is an analysis of the Anvil Island clay, made by the Provincial Government assay office:

Loss by ignition	3.0 per cent.
Silica	58.6 "
Alumina	26.7 "
Oxide of iron	7.5 "
Lime	4.0 "
Magnesia	Trace.
Fusion point	2,000 Fahr.

The gross output of coal from British Columbia mines in 1906 was 1,899,076 tons of 2,240 lb., or 2,126,965 tons of 2,000 lb. After deducting amount made into coke the net output was 1,517,303 long, or 1,699,379 short, tons.

*In "Annual Report of Minister of Mines" for 1906.