

in the "Drum Lummon" property, now under development, on Douglas channel. There are also many zones of shearing action in the granites which have rendered the rocks open and porous, and thus suited to water-circulation and to the deposition of such ore-bodies as those found in the Belmont-Surf Inlet Mines Company's property on Princess Royal Island. A fourth characteristic deposit is the filled fissure in the granite; such veins as those of the "Dardenelles" group on Zymoetz (Copper) River and the "Outsider" group at Maple Bay, on Portland Canal, are examples of valuable deposits of this class.

Bordering the main granite-mass on either side is a broad belt of altered sedimentaries, with unaltered sedimentaries farther away from the contact, through which have intruded dykes of all kinds, spurs, isolated peaks, and short ranges from the main granite batholith, throughout which are ore-deposits of every description. This district includes the west contact-zone, from Bella Coola north to the mouth of Portland inlet, on the southern boundary of the Alaskan strip. The east contact belt extends from the Zymoetz (Copper) river, near Terrace, on the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, north to the Alaska-British Columbia boundary line.

The Coast range is penetrated to the eastern contact by the Skeena River, the Nass River, Portland Canal, and Observatory Inlet, and through the Alaska strip by the Unuk River, the Stikine River (with its principal tributary, the Iskut), and the Taku River, admitting of a lot of prospecting north of the Portland Canal. The value of the eastern contact has already been demonstrated by the discovery of such properties as the "Hidden Creek" mines of the Granby Consolidated at Anyox; the "Dolly Varden" and others in the Alice Arm country; the "Bush," "Big Missouri," and other of the Salmon River section of Portland Canal; and the "Engineer" mine in the Atlin District. It should be noted that, almost without exception, the ore-bodies occur in the greenstones or andesites, more or less altered where mineralized, and carry all the mineral-bearing metallics, such as gold, gold-silver, silver-lead, gold-copper, copper, and silver.

The total value of the lode mines of this district amounted in value to \$9,044,925.

The value of the mineral output of the North-Western District has increased from \$2,006,577 in 1914 to \$8,405,696 in 1917. The production for 1918 was 863,304 tons, producing 30,201,766 lb. copper, 48,462 oz. gold, 417,731 oz. silver, having a total value of \$9,044,925, an increase of \$639,229 over last year. The increase in copper production for this year was due to the greater output of the Granby Consolidated and the production of nearly 500,000 lb. by the Belmont-Surf Inlet Mines, Limited, whose output for the year was over 41,618 oz.

The outlook of the mining industry in No. 1 District for the future is exceptionally favourable; several properties have been proven to the shipping-point, and the coming year should show a marked increase of production. The adjustment of the Dolly Varden railroad difficulties will put the Dolly Varden Mines Company on the shipping list, together with several small shippers in that section. The Portland Canal Division will have a shipper in the Bush property from now on, with two or three other properties showing up well with development. The Engineer mine, in the Atlin Division, may also be expected to become an important gold-producer, probably within the coming year. The above-mentioned sections will greatly increase the silver-gold output.

With the war over and the return of many of the men who have enlisted from this north country, together with others who are well fitted for the life and are alive to the many opportunities of this particular portion of the Province, I look for an extensive revival of prospecting and mining activities.

The Skeena Mining & Milling Company, Ltd., has secured a working bond on the Victory and Coronado Groups, Hudson's Bay Mountain, Northern B. C.

The Consolidated of Trail has closed a deal with A. Grade of Prince Rupert for five claims on Sibola Mountain, about 50 miles from Dean Channel. The amount is \$250,000, and the first payment has been made.—Greenwood Ledge.

Stewart, B. C.—Advices from here state that very rich veins of silver ore have been encountered in the Premier mine on the Salmon River. Financial interests from New York, Butte, and San Francisco are making examinations of the mine.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Mineral Province of Western Canada

TO END OF DECEMBER, 1917

Has produced Minerals valued as follows: Placer Gold, \$75,116,103; Lode Gold, \$93,717,974; Silver, \$43,623,761; Lead, \$39,366,144; Copper, \$130,597,620; Other Metals (Zinc, Iron, etc.), \$10,933,466; Coal and Coke, \$174,313,658; Building Stone, Brick, Cement, etc., \$27,902,381; making its Mineral Production to the end of 1917 show an

Aggregate Value of \$595,571,107

Production for Year Ending December, 1917, \$37,010,392

The Mining Laws of this Province are more liberal and the fees lower than those of any other Province in the Dominion, or any colony in the British Empire.

Mineral locations are granted to discoverers for nominal fees.

Absolute Titles are obtained by developing such properties, the security of which is guaranteed by Crown Grants.

Full information, together with mining Reports and Maps, may be obtained gratis by addressing—

THE HON. THE MINISTER OF MINES
VICTORIA, British Columbia.