

ization and strength of the mines inspectorate throughout the country that he thought best to wait for the deliberate opinion of the Commission before anything was done.

In the recently issued report under the Explosives Act it appears that the number of accidents by fire or explosion in British coal mines last year was 379, which is considerably above the average of the last ten years. The greatest number of accidents were due to sparks, flame, etc., while next in order were accidents from ramming or stemming the charge, and striking unexploded charges in the removal of debris.

#### YUKON.

The Yukon Smelting and Power Company are planning the erection of a smelter and electrical power plant at White Horse. As the haul to the railway is now \$4 per ton and railway and steamer freightage and smelter charges \$7 per ton, when copper ore is sent to the Coast smelters, the new concern will keep a great deal of money in the district. The Puebla and Arctic Chief mines have many thousand tons of ore in sight. The Grafton and Arctic Chief are producing about 50 tons of ore per day.

#### FRANCE.

It is estimated that the new 8-hour law applicable to coal mines will cause a considerable reduction in the production of coal, and necessitate the provision of 16,000 additional miners to make up for this deficiency in the output.

#### SPAIN.

General interest has been aroused by the report of the existence of large deposits of iron and copper ore in Galicia, to which representatives from various syndicates both British and of other nationalities are now flocking.

#### INDIA.

The coal production of India (chiefly Bengal) for the year 1906 is estimated in the Administration Report on the Railways in India to have been 9,261,714 tons, or an increase of about 800,000 tons over the output for 1905. Of this, the Indian railways consumed 2,878,281 tons.

#### SOUTH AFRICA.

The gold production for May was 524,477 oz. valued at £2,227,838. The average value per ton milled was as follows: Rand, 33.68s.; Outside, 36.10s.; Transvaal, 33.76s.

Recent cablegrams state that there is at present a want of cohesion among the strikers, and other signs indicate that the strikers are anxious to terminate the struggle. There have been one or two outrages of late including the dynamiting of a house in Johannesburg, by which three persons were killed and several injured.

The Government of the Transvaal proposes to introduce legislation in line with the New Zealand Compulsory Arbitration Act, and commenting thereon the London Mining Journal remarks that in the light of the experience of the last two or three years such an addition to the statute law of the Transvaal can hardly be regarded as a measure of progress; and adds: "The institution of these obligatory courts of arbitration have not been able to prevent workmen from striking or compel them to return to work after an award has been given." At least recent attempts in Canada in the direction of Government interference in labor differences have not been attended with notable success.

#### UNITED STATES.

The output of pig-iron for the first half of the current year is estimated at 13,500,000.

The coal fields at Batan in the Phillipines are described in a report recently issued by the Mining Bureau. Both lignites and bituminous coals have been mined and are of good steaming quality. It is estimated that in one square mile investigated there are 15,360,000 tons of workable coal.

The American Census Bureau at Washington has issued a final report on the iron and steel industry of the United States, from which the following figures are taken: In 1890, the number of establishments was 719; in 1905 this had decreased to 606, but the capital invested had increased from \$414,014,844 to \$948,689,840; the salaries paid had more than trebled, the number of wage earners doubled, while production increased from 16,264,478 tons in 1890 to 34,844,933 tons in 1905.

A correspondent of "The Mining World" (Chicago) gives an interesting account of a trial run of a Heroult electric smelter on iron ores in California, which he pronounced a great success. It is thought that the Shasta county magnetite can be converted into pig iron of the best grade and sold in San Francisco at \$16 a ton. The present price of pig iron is that market is \$31 a ton, being chiefly imported from Europe. At Heroult where the experiments were conducted there is an extensive iron region and the ores can be mined and carried to the smelter at a very low cost.

Messrs. Allan, Whyte & Co. also made some little time ago three lengths for the Jupiter Gold Mining Co., Ltd., South Africa, on same principle and which weighed fully 6½ tons each.

Messrs. Allan, Whyte & Co., Clyde Patent Wire Rope Works, Rutherglen, Glasgow, have just completed the manufacture of three large Winding Ropes for the East Rand Proprietary Mines, Ltd., South Africa.

The Ropes, which in the aggregate measure 15,000 feet and weigh 20 tons, are made on the taper principle to meet the problem of winding heavy loads from great depths. They were inspected during manufacture by Mr. N. Wilson, Consulting Mechanical Engineer for the Group, who is at present in this country.

#### STATISTICS AND RETURNS

Shipments from the Cumberland Coal and Railway Company Springhill Collieries for the month of July were 37,057 tons.

Cobalt ore statement, period ending July 20th:—

July 16th, Coniagas Mine, American Smelting and Refining Co., Perth Amboy, N.J., 40,000 lbs.

July 16th, Coniagas Mine, American Smelting and Refining Co., Perth Amboy, N.J., 66,090 lbs.

July 18th, Coniagas Mine, Oxford Copper Co., Coppercliffe, Ont., 63,090 lbs.

July 19th, Coniagas Mine, American Smelting and Refining Co., Perth Amboy, N.J., 42,000 lbs.

July 19th, Coniagas Mine, American Smelting and Refining Co., Perth Amboy, N.J., 64,000 lbs.

July 18th, Silver Queen, Canada Copper Co., Coppercliffe, Ont., 87,000 lbs.

July 18th, Hudson Bay Mine, Canada Copper Co., Coppercliffe, Ont., 45,170 lbs.

July 18th, Silver Leaf, Canada Copper Co., Coppercliffe, Ont., 43,518 lbs.

July 19th, Nipissing Mine, Nipissing Mining Co., New York, N.Y., 63,550 lbs.

Grand Total—514,418 lbs. -