

mantled, unless some other company wishes to purchase and operate them.

The Trail News says: One great question that is in the minds of everyone in the Kootenays is what will happen to the price of metals in the next few months, as far as the demand for them is concerned, and how it will affect the mining and smelting industry, which is the backbone of this part of British Columbia. With the termination of the war it is certain that a new programme must be arranged and that programme is dependent on the demand and the price for metallurgical products.

To, if possible, learn something along this line, this week the Trail News interviewed the management of the Consolidated Company, and the information received was quite reassuring, especially when it is remembered that manufacturing concerns generally, after they complete their present orders (if the orders are not meantime cancelled), are more or less in the dark as to what will occur industrially in Canada in the next few months.

At present the local reduction works are working on an order for spelter, but the outlook for orders for copper and lead are not, as yet, so bright. Silver and gold, of course, take care of themselves. The readjustment period has arrived and plans must be made accordingly.

It is the intention, we were assured, of the management of the Consolidated Company, to continue operations on the present basis as long as possible, and more or less extensive plans have already been made for keeping practically the normal force of men at work on construction or development, so that it is reasonably certain there will be no great change, unless something arises that is unforeseen, for the immediate future. If it is found necessary to curtail production operations, the regular forces of the company will be employed in some other way, at least to the largest possible extent.

It has been published that the Consolidated Company now that the Canada Copper Corporation is stopping work definitely at its smelter at Greenwood, will handle the concentrates that will be produced by the three C's 2,000 mill at Princeton, which is expected to be running next year. Should this be the case, it would require the enlargement of the Trail copper refinery to practically three times its present capacity (it being now 20 tons daily) and entail a large

amount of construction here for that purpose. This is in addition to any changes that may be required to the copper furnaces or converters.

Then, with the greater demand for gold and a less cost for some supplies probable at no distant date, the tonnage to be taken from the Rossland gold-copper mines of the company should be materially increased, thus being a benefit not only to Trail, but to the city of Rossland also. Gold mines, it is thought, with more stable conditions prevailing, will become more popular as producers now that a lasting peace is in sight.

Granby smelter resumed operations on Monday, Nov. 18th, after a close-down which was occasioned by the non-supply of ore and coke, the output of which was almost at the vanishing point through the effects of "flu" among the miners. Three furnaces are now in blast, and it is expected that both ore and coke will now come forward in sufficient quantities to maintain operations.

The Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company has produced 12,814,946 tons of ore from its Phoenix mines since the beginning of production 20 years ago, according to an official report of the company. From this ore its smelter at Grand Forks produced 636,291 ounces of gold, 4,330,345 ounces of silver, and 271,079,000 pounds of copper, having an approximate value of \$5,550,000. The capacity of the smelter was increased until it reached 4500 tons daily, then becoming the largest copper smelter in the British Empire.

In the mining and treatment of the Phoenix ores the company paid \$25,000,000 in wages and \$20,000,000 for supplies and freight, leaving a profit of three per cent. for its stockholders.

There remain in the Phoenix mines 3,274,996 tons of ore, averaging .85 per cent. copper and 75 cents a ton in gold and silver. The cost of producing and marketing copper from the Phoenix-Grand Forks properties was 22½ cents a pound when the United States Government price was fixed at 23½ cents, leaving a margin of a cent a pound. An increase of 2½ cents in the price, now 26 cents, has been more than absorbed by the increased railway freights on ore, matte, power and labor costs. The company, it is stated, will operate the mines and smelter so long as it is possible to make both ends meet.

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