

It was represented to the Minister of Finance that not only will the business of licensed companies be subjected to unfair competition, but that the bars will be let down for the admission of wild-cat concerns incapable of carrying out their policy contracts. Mr. Fielding gave a careful hearing to the deputation, and stated that the underwriters would have opportunity to express their views to the Senate Committee on Banking and Commerce.

Precautions Against Fire. The enquiry of Fire Commissioner Ritchie into the recent fire on the premises of the McAllister printing establishment at 93 St. Francois Xavier Street, Montreal, has shown that hot ashes were put in an unlined wooden receptacle. During the course of the hearing before the commissioner, Fire Chief Tremblay stated that this year there would be exceedingly strict enforcing of the civic by-law as to carelessness regarding heating and lighting appliances and in disposal of rubbish. This is as it should be. Inspection cannot be too exacting, nor penalty for infringement too strictly enforced.

"We pay insurance premiums that should make the companies rich," says The Gazette, "but sometimes leave them having a loss on the year's operations. The present head of the Fire Department realizes that it lies within his province to utilize what powers he has to prevent fires as well as to extinguish them. In his efforts he should secure the assistance and co-operation of every proprietor and tenant, particularly in the mercantile and factory districts."

Reducing Fire Rates. The C. F. U. A. has issued a circular to the fire insurance agents of Ottawa, announcing several changes in the rates to be charged by the companies on risks in that city. The rates are reduced in many sections as the result of better buildings going up and more precautions having been taken for protection against fire.

THE BOW CENTRE COLLIERIES.

The Bow Centre Collieries, Ltd., are offering, through the Western Pacific Development Company, of Vancouver, ten thousand shares of a par value of \$100 each, at an issue price of \$50 per share. The coal areas of the company consist of about 15,000 acres in Southern Alberta, including 950 acres with surface rights. The prospectus of the company, appearing elsewhere in these pages, describes the property as containing very extensive deposits of high-grade domestic coal, cropping out for about four miles in the south bank of the Bow River, about one hundred miles southeast of Calgary and within twelve miles of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is considered that the coal can be easily and cheaply mined, and shipped to the growing markets of Western Canada and the adjacent States. The officers and directors express their conviction that the mine will pay good dividends on the total capitalization of the company.

Detailed information regarding the mine may be had by applying to The Western Pacific Development Co., Vancouver, B.C., or locally to Robert Johnston, Financial Agent, Eastern Townships Bank Building, Montreal.

Mines and Mining.

COBALT SHIPMENTS last week were from eight mines, the output totalling 947,446 pounds, or 473.72 tons, which surpassed the shipments of the previous week by 41.30 tons. Larose, now heads the list in quantity of output for the year. Nipissing, which up till this week has held first place, now drops to second. The total weight of shipments for the year to date is 23,231.36 tons.

	Week end Oct 16. Ore in lbs.	Year to Date Ore in lbs.
Buffalo.....	.....	883,778
Chambers Ferland .....	.....	961,610
City of Cobalt .....	.....	1,100,122
Cobalt Central.....	44,442	685,256
Coniagas.....	.....	1,360,023
Crown Reserve.....	115,420	4,986,286
Drummond.....	.....	992,100
Keeley.....	.....	96,000
Kerr Lake.....	.....	1,765,126
King Edward.....	.....	183,740
La Rose.....	381,434	10,397,882
McKinley.....	89,706	1,648,424
Nancy Helen.....	.....	124,700
Nipissing.....	129,402	10,326,613
Nova Scotia.....	.....	480,810
O'Brien.....	64,042	2,215,641
Peterson Lake.....	.....	324,040
Right of Way.....	.....	2,389,035
Silver Queen.....	.....	685,384
Silver Cliff.....	58,000	181,820
Temiskaming.....	.....	2,166,260
T. & H. B.....	.....	1,106,260
Trethewey.....	65,000	1,161,260
Wetlaufer.....	.....	50,900

Total for week.....947,446

LA ROSE CONSOLIDATED'S annual report shows \$1,562,602 worth of ore to have been extracted during the year ending June last. In spite of this heavy extraction, General Manager Watson is able to report: 'The reserves at the end of the past year contained more ounces of silver than were estimated a year ago.' The figures are:—June 1, 1908, \$2,626,937; June 1, 1909, \$2,691,730. These figures cover the old La Rose mine alone, and take no account of the Lawson's bright prospects.

In the period intervening since June 1, it is understood that these reserves have been augmented. The company's net profit of \$1,000,040 for the fiscal year is the largest amount ever shown by a company in the Cobalt district.

THE DIVIDEND RECORD of Cobalt's dividend-payers is thus summarized by Bryant Bros.:

	1905 %	1906 %	1907 %	To Sept. 30 1908 30, 1909 1909		
	%	%	%	%	%	%
1 Buffalo	3	12	12	33	60
2 Crown Reserve.....	4	61	65
3 Hudson Bay.....	200	9000	300	3500	1200	14200
4 Kerr Lake.....	4	4	8	15	16	41
5 La Rose (paid to previous owners \$1,204,861)	3	16 ab't	35
6 McKinley-Darragh	2	9	15	26
7 Nipissing.....	8	14	12	22	56
8 Right of Way.....	14	14	37	65
9 Trethewey.....	4	4	15	10	33
PASSED DIVIDENDS IN 1909						
10 City of Cobalt.....	10	13	23
11 Cobalt Central.....	4	4
*12 Coniagas.....	9	11	6	26
13 Silver Queen.....	8	13	.....	21
†14 Temiskaming.....	9	12	21

*Will resume with 3 per cent. payment on November 1st.
†Will probably resume in the near future.