

as soon, that is, as the big 60-drill compressor is in running order. Shipments of ore were not expected to begin until after New Year's day.

The Venus mine in the White Horse district is said to have been bought by Mackenzie & Mann. It is a gold and silver property. The price reported is \$60,000.

On Christmas eve it was announced that the Grand Forks Smelters' Union No. 180 and Phoenix Miners' Union No. 8 had definitely accepted the new wage scale and had arranged to resume work at the Granby smelter and mines. The result of several conferences between Mr. Hodges, local manager of the Granby Company and the representatives of the men, was that the vote for the new scale was declared unanimous. Referendum votes in Phoenix had resulted favorably, in Grand Forks unfavorably.

ROSSLAND.—The Trail smelter has just completed a shipment of 250,000 ounces of silver to the new Canadian Mint, at Ottawa.

The Trail bar silver is 999 fine. This is beyond the most rigid requirements of the mint. The requirements of the mint will be about 1,000,000 ounces per annum. The Consolidated smelter can produce twice that amount.

VICTORIA.—In the absence of official reports the following notes on production are of interest.

The Wellington Colliery Company, on Vancouver Island, has produced about the same tonnage as during 1906, namely 800,000 tons of coal and 10,000 tons of coke. This year prices have been higher.

The Western Fuel Company, at Nanaimo, have probably an increased output over 1906 of 100,000 tons.

About 4,000 tons of lead (practically the amount produced in excess of Canadian requirements) has been exported in ore, principally to Europe.

The gold production of Atlin will be about the same as last year; that of Cariboo is less.

MINING NEWS OF THE WORLD.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A question has been raised as to the advantage of the hot blast in pyrite smelting. Since the invention of the hot blast in 1828 air has been supplied to iron smelting furnaces at a temperature varying from 570 degrees F. to 1,472 degrees F., with the result that the consumption of coke in the larger furnaces now used, has been reduced from about 8 tons per ton of iron produced to about 1 ton, 12 hundredweight. The undoubtedly beneficial results of the hot blast in iron smelting have led to its general adoption in other branches of metallurgy. In pyrite smelting it is generally regarded as necessary, but L. Parry, A.R.S.M., in a letter to the "London Mining Journal" adduces strong arguments against this view, contending that with the necessary skill as good running may be made with cold blast as with hot blast, even in partial pyrite smelting, and with probably better concentration. His views are supported by experience at Mount Lyell, Australia, where the hot blast has been abandoned.

It is stated that Messrs. Baldwins, Limited, of Stourport and South Wales, have secured a controlling interest in the Beaufort Tinsplate Works, Morriston, comprising nine mills, which employ about 400 hands. They are among the best situated in the Swansea district.

At the Carn Brea Tin mines, Cornwall, the lode recently cut into at the 125-foot level, north of former workings and west of the cross course, indicates great possibilities, as the upper levels are developed in unexplored ground. Forty tons of stuff averaged 72 pounds of tin.

George McCulloch, formerly chairman of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company, died in London December 12th. The accidental discovery of this famous Australian mine in 1883, when Mr. McCulloch was manager of a sheep station, was the beginning of his mining career, in the course of which he acquired a large fortune. He devoted much of his wealth to the accumulation of a fine art gallery.

RUSSIA.

A Russian syndicate is boring for naphtha near Kerteh in South Russia. Four holes are being put down, one having reached a depth of 100 metres and naphtha is expected soon.

From the mines of the Magnesite Company in the Uphim Mountain district there were produced in 1906, 1,459,374 pounds of magnesite.

Attention is being drawn to the mineral wealth of Eastern Siberia, which abounds not only in iron deposits, but in timber and coal for fuel. There is magnetic ore at Mysoff, Baikal, and in

the upper Lena district, uematite iron deposits near Ilksin with 60 per cent. metal, as well as 57 per cent. iron pyrites about 300 versts from Irkutsk by water, in addition to other deposits of value. The great want of Eastern Siberia, the population of which has increased very rapidly, is a metallurgical industry.

The Statistical Bureau of the Council of Mine Owners of Southern Russia recently published data covering the first six months of 1907, from which it appears that the yield of pig iron amounted to 51 million poods an increase of 3 million poods over the corresponding period of the previous year and the output of semi-manufactured iron to 40 million poods, an increase of 4 million. The increase is explained by the fact that the Russian mine owners have begun to export to foreign markets. The number of workmen in all metallurgical enterprises was 51,264 men in June last as compared with 41,152 in June 1906.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The Hungarian Government has decided to purchase a number of coal mines and has already acquired in the valley of Almas a coalfield 207 kilometres in area. In Croatia a mine producing 100,000 tons of coal and with a capacity for a much larger yield has been acquired and negotiations for the purchase of an extensive coal deposit at Ormos in the Borsod district are in progress.

SPAIN.

A company is being organized in France to work the arsenic and gold mines of Carballino in the Province of Orense, the analysis of ore giving 40 per cent arsenic and 73 grammes of gold per ton. The ore will be shipped to Gonfreville, near Havre for treatment.

The law drafted by the Spanish Minister of Agriculture regarding mines, creates a commission of officials from the Finance Department, whose duty it will be to fix and publish yearly the value of minerals with a view to the tax of 3 per cent. The Government will also bring forward a scheme for the compulsory expropriation of mines.

UNITED STATES.

The Nome Mining Company, of Nome, Alaska, intends to begin next June to operate a dredge of the capacity of 5,000 cubic yards per day, the largest in that part of Alaska.

The Elmore vacuum process is being tested experimentally at the works of the Empire Zinc Company, Canyon City, Colo. An Elmore plant has been installed at the Marion mine, Ilse, Colo., and the Union Copper Company is putting one in at its mine in