

resumed work on December 3, after having been on strike since March 9, last. During November the friendly offices of the Dominion department of labour under "The Conciliation Act, 1900," were accepted by both parties to the dispute, intervention having been made by the department at the request of the premier of Saskatchewan. The deputy minister of labour proceeded to Lethbridge and there succeeded in bringing about an agreement between the company and the men. In the basis of settlement reached, an increase of wages amounting to practically an extra ten per cent for most of its employees was granted by the company, which also agreed to the appointment of a check-weighman to protect the interests of the men, and to deduct from the pay of its employees through the payroll the amount necessary for the payment of such check-weighman. Several other concessions were made to the men. Arbitration of future differences, in manner set forth therein, was included in the agreement. The strikers withdrew their demands for a complete recognition of the union, for the deduction of union dues by the company, for an 8-hour day, and other less important concessions.

The provincial mineralogist's approximate estimate of the value of the mineral production of British Columbia for the year 1906 is as follows:

Gold, placer	\$ 920,000
Gold, lode	5,150,000
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Total gold	\$6,070,000
Silver ..	2,200,000
Copper . .	8,690,000
Lead . .	2,690,000
Coal . .	4,590,000
Coke . .	1,050,000
Miscellaneous . .	1,100,000
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	\$26,390,000

The *Victoria Colonist* estimates the value of the products of other industries to have been: Lumber, \$9,500,000; agriculture, \$8,000,000; fisheries, \$8,000,000; and manufactures, \$11,000,000. Comparing mining with lumbering, agriculture and fishing it is noteworthy that the estimated value of the mineral production in 1906 is greater than that of the combined total of the products of the other three staple industries mentioned, the respective total estimated values being—mineral products, \$26,390,000; lumber, agriculture, and fisheries (together), \$25,500,000. This is a showing all interested in the mining industry may well take particular pride in.

A press despatch sent out from Coleman, Alberta, gives some interesting information relative to the International Coal and Coke Company's operations. The manager has announced the addition to the company's plant of a Bradford breaker or crusher for crushing and cleaning the coal used in the coke ovens. The company is completing a battery of 100 new coke ovens, which brings up the total to 190

ovens. When the crusher shall be ready for operation it will complete in their entirety the company's plans of enlargement for this year. The crusher will be installed at an expenditure of \$5,000, and when finished the company will have one of the most complete and modern coal handling plants in Western Canada. Since the inception of coal-mining here three years ago the company has installed an operating plant having a handling capacity of 3,000 tons of coal daily, and built 190 coke ovens. It is today giving steady employment to 400 men, who, under the contract system in vogue, make an average of more than \$100 per month each in wages. The past month has been a particularly good one with the mines throughout the Blairmore-Frank district. All the mines made an especially good run, an aggregate of 2,500 tons a day being shipped from them. The International Company figured most conspicuously in the shipments, maintaining an average of 1,500 tons daily, and on one occasion reaching an output of a little more than 1,700 tons in one shift.

The *London Mining Journal*, in its "Mining Market" notes, lately remarked: "Le Roi are 1-16 better on the issue of the report and accounts and declaration of an interim dividend of 2s. a share. The company for the first time since 1900 had a balance of cash to its credit amounting on June 30 to £90,000. The ore shipped for the year contained 1 dw. less gold, but a little more copper. The quantity amounted to 110,042 tons, against 114,960 tons in 1905, and the total profit for the year before writings off was £97,435, against £89,479. The question as to whether the company will do better at its own smelter at Northport than at Trail remains to be decided, as shipments to Northport have only just been resumed. The mine is in better showing than for some time past, but the improvement in the company's position is obviously due either to more profitable working at Trail or the better price for copper. Present profits must be on a large scale." In regard to "more profitable working at Trail," the directors of the Le Roi Mining Company, in their annual report (printed in last month's *MINING RECORD*), said: "The policy of shipping Le Roi ore to Trail involved the closing down of the Le Roi smelter at Northport and the rapid deterioration of that valuable asset. In support of this action it was alleged by the late directors that a great saving would be effected. This, however, proved to be fallacious, the cost to the Le Roi Company under this arrangement being greater than formerly. The present directors, after looking carefully into the matter, decided that this state of affairs could not be allowed to continue, and authorized the managing director to take steps to cancel the contract, in which he was successful."

The *London Money Market Review*, commenting on Le Roi mine affairs, recently said, in part: "Le Roi shareholders have no cause to regret the step they took a year ago, when they rejected amalgamation