Fraser and other streams, by boat or canoe, and bring down his dust obtained in washings, and repeat his labors during the season most favorable to such operations. Discovery, however, soon disclosed the necessity for a change in mining methods. When it came to an exploration of the hills whence the placer dust was ground and washed down by glacier and other operations of nature, in the course of ages, and transporting the mineral bearing rock there found to points available for large vessels, mining became a different problem. Even though the inland waters were navigable, adequately proportioned boats to remove the ore from the place of discovery, if at the water's edge, or when packed to it when distant and the importation of supplies to the scene of operations, required wagon roads and railways. Until these were built but little progress could be made. From these remarks even the casual reader can see but little progress in mining could have been made before the construction of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway across the continent and the province from east to west and other systems and their ramifications in branches, during the last few years. Though lode mining in silver and lead commenced in 1887, in limited areas and quantities, no quartz gold mining began before 1893. To that date, however, $57,016,587 worth of gold had been taken from placer workings, or washings, commencing with $705,000 worth in the year 1858. It is a conservative estimate to place the total value of placer gold production to date (June, 1901) at $64,000,000. As stated, silver lode working began in 1887, with a record of 17,7[illegible] ounces, valued at $17,331, or about $1.00 per ounce. It has fluctuated in value and output from that year to this, running about 55 1-2 cents in 1898, and about 3 1-2 cents higher this year. Lead production is inseparable from silver mining in this country, the two minerals being always found together, though varying in proportions in different properties. To the uninitiated we may say that it is to the fact of this inseparable union of the two minerals, and both fluctuating in value, that the peculiarities of varying profits in silver-lead mining may be traced. Thus if silver should be up in value while lead is down, a mine running high in silver values might be operated profitably, or a property high in lead values might be worked at a sound profit if lead was up in value, though silver might be low. In the year quoted (1898) lead was worth about 3 1-2 cents and silver 55 1-2 cents; this year silver is 58 and lead but about 1 1-2 cents. In the first year's operations silver to the value of $17,331, as stated, was mined and lead to the value of $9,216, at about 4 1-4 cents a pound. The total value of silver mined to date may be placed at $15,000,000 and that of lead at more than half that amount. The first record of copper operations was in 1896, in the Nelson and Trail Creek districts,