

There was two feet of snow at the time. It is his opinion that it will be a somewhat difficult camp to develop, because of the comparative shortness of the season, but these difficulties can be overcome as development work proceeds and the country is opened up by road facilities. Everywhere there was evidence that owners are doing their utmost to place their properties upon a shipping basis, and with improved transportation facilities it will be but a comparatively short time before ore in quantity is being sent out for treatment.

At Anyox the minister visited the great plant of the Granby Consolidated Company, where he inspected, especially, the new coke oven but recently put in operation and by which coal brought from the company's new mines at Cassidy's Landing, near Nanaimo, will be converted into coke wherewith to supply the company's smelter there. The system of coke ovens which will also handle all bi-products of coal, cost approximately \$2,700,000 and will have a capacity of 270 tons per day. The bi-product plant is not yet in operation, but as soon as the gas plant is completed operations will be commenced.

The Dominion Government is undertaking improvements at Stewart, chief among which is a wharf costing from \$35,000 to \$40,000.

Hon. Mr. Sloan, while in the North, paid a visit to a number of important mining properties in the Omineca section. From Smithers he inspected the properties of the Telkwa Coal Mining Company, which has inaugurated an extensive programme of improvements and development and is now working on what gave every appearance of being a fine seam of high-grade coal. In the Hudson Bay Mountain district smelting facilities are being provided for the ores of the Victoria and Coronado Mines. Work is being pushed ahead on the Cronin claims in the Babine district. And one claim Mr. Cronin is putting in a 1,000-foot tunnel and if results prove favorable necessary machinery will be installed at once. The Sibola district, a new one, in which some promising finds have been located, is also feeling the impetus in activity. Mr. Cronin, who has great faith in the section, is interested in the Emerald group, while the Guggenheims, the Consolidated, and other large concerns have bonded properties not far from the Sibola section, but as yet the lack of

transportation facilities render the properties rather inaccessible. The Provincial Government is now putting in a trail at Tahtsa Lake to assist Mr. Cronin to get machinery and supplies into the Sibola holdings.

Word comes from Anyox that with the price of copper soaring and maintaining a level of 23 cents per pound flat from smelter to refinery for two weeks ending August 1, Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company has posted another advance in wages to men in its employ. A 25 cent raise per day to all men, which was posted on July 16, has now been met by a further increase of 50 cents per day, effective from August 1. Notice to this effect is now posted at the Granby works here and at adjoining properties owned by the company.

The latest increase places this camp in the list of those paying the highest wages on the North American continent. All Granby workings are under the eight-hour plan.

Since the signing of the armistice ending the great war increased prices in copper have resulted to date in an increase of wages over the basic scale of \$2.25 per day, miners now receiving \$5.75 per day, straight time of eight hours. Muckers get \$5.25 per day and common labor is paid for at the rate of 62½ cents per hours, or \$5 per day.

The Silver Creek Mines, the old Wolseley claims, just east of Revelstoke, have been bonded by W. H. Aldridge, formerly manager of the Trail Smelter, who has already paid down a large amount and is proceeding at once with development. It will be remembered that this is the property on which the late A. B. Clabon lost his life last fall, and which was on the eve of being bonded by G. C. Randolph and C. E. Watson on behalf of an eastern mining corporation, but who were both lost on the ill-fated Princess Sophia. Tenders are being called for work on the west road from Boulder to Taft, which will open up the highway west from Revelstoke, with the outside world. Surveyor O'Grady of Victoria has about twelve miles already surveyed and the balance of five miles will be the easiest of construction. This road, when completed, will afford ready access to the Dominion parks at Revelstoke.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Mineral Province of Western Canada

TO END OF DECEMBER, 1917

Has produced Minerals valued as follows: Placer Gold, \$75,116,103; Lode Gold, \$93,717,974; Silver, \$43,623,761; Lead, \$39,366,144; Copper, \$130,597,620; Other Metals (Zinc, Iron, etc.), \$10,933,466; Coal and Coke, \$174,313,658; Building Stone, Brick, Cement, etc., \$27,902,381; making its Mineral Production to the end of 1917 show an

Aggregate Value of \$595,571,107

Production for Year Ending December, 1917, \$37,010,392

The Mining Laws of this Province are more liberal and the fees lower than those of any other Province in the Dominion, or any colony in the British Empire.

Mineral locations are granted to discoverers for nominal fees.

Absolute Titles are obtained by developing such properties, the security of which is guaranteed by Crown Grants.

Full information, together with mining Reports and Maps, may be obtained gratis by addressing—

THE HON. THE MINISTER OF MINES
VICTORIA, British Columbia.