Pomeranians that burned Louvain and murdered its citizens.

We shall owe something to the men who fell at Langemarck, and the Canadian women and children who went down with the "Lusitania" on that day when the German commercial traveler ceases to murder sleeping babies and to poison wells and comes to Canada with samples of his wares.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

A General Review.—On the whole, mining in British Columbia is not now adversely affected to any very considerable extent by the war in Europe, the branches of the industry that last year experienced a decided setback having in large measure recovered their equilibrium, or, where production is not normal, other influences now being mainly responsible for lack of progress. For instance, placer-gold mining was continued as usual throughout the whole of the 1914 season, and now that the 1915 season has been opened, all the larger placer-gold mines that were operating last year have commenced this year's hydraulicking or other mining. In lode-gold mining, the chief important mines on the list of producers at this time last year, but not now contributing to the production of this metal, are those of the British Columbia Copper Co., the continued suspension of which is attributable to other causes. Several lead and silver-lead mines, notably the Bluebell, in Ainsworth division, and the Standard, in Slocan, that had not earlier resumed production, owing mainly to less favorable terms obtainable from the smelting company, are again being worked and will shortly be again on the shipping list. Zinc-lead ore is being treated at the concentrator of the Silverton Mines, Ltd., owning the Hewitt-Lorna Doone group, situated a few miles from Slocan lake, and the Rambler-Cariboo and Ivanhoe mills in Central Slocan, are also turning out a silver-zinc as well as a silver-lead product. Both the Ruth and the Slocan Star concentrators, in the same neighborhood, have been prepared for a resumption of milling, and both are equipped for making the two kinds of concentrates just mentioned. Further, the Standard mill, at Silverton, has had added to its modern equipment for concentration of silver-lead-zinc ores a small experimental unit with the object of giving a trial to French's process for separation of zinc and lead, which process, as stated in an official description published in the Annual Report of the Minister of Mines for British Columbia for 1911 (pp. 163-5) "aims at the extraction and recovery of the zinc contained in ores, such as the silver-lead-zinc ores of the Slocan, leaving as a residue the silver-lead, iron, and gangue-matter, which would afterward be smelted in the same manner as a lead-ore free from zinc." The Granby Consolidated Co. is now operating its mines and smelting works in Boundary district to full ordinary capacity, thereby again contributing largely to the production of copper and, in much smaller measure, to that of lode-gold and silver. As already mentioned, the British Columbia Copper Co. is not now producing, so that its usual proportion of those metals is lacking, but it is stated it will soon again be operating. In Kootenay district, the Consolidated Co. has not yet resumed production of silver-copper ore at its Silver King group, near Nelson. On the Coast, production temporarily has been halted at the Britannia mine as a result of the destruction, on March 22, of its aerial tramway, upper terminal and other works at the mine, but preparations for resuming ore-production are being energetically carried on, so that here, too, an early return to productive operation is expected. The Granby Consolidated Co.'s comparatively large addition to the output of copper in the Coast district, is, however, more than compensating for the present loss in total quantity caused by the enforced suspension of production from the Britannia mine. As to coal mining, the position is not generally satisfactory, but to a considerable extent this is attributable to the substitution of oil for coal as fuel by railway and steamship companies. With the object of reducing the advantages fuel oil has in competition with coal in the Coast and lower mainland districts, the Dominion Government is being urged to place a sufficiently high customs duty on fuel oil as to in large measure protect the coal-mining industry; on the other hand transportation companies are also making strong representations to the Government showing that their considerable expenditures in making provision for the use of oil as fuel must also be taken into serious account in dealing with this question.

Ore Production.—The increase in total quantity of ore received at the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co.'s works at Trail, as indicated earlier in the month, is being maintained; though it is not yet general, decreases in receipts from some parts of Kootenay district are more than compensated for by increases in those from others. The total for four weeks ended May 27 was 32,051 tons as compared with 26,583 tons for the corresponding period in 1914. The respective proportions for the two years, the figures in brackets being for May of 1914, are as follows: East Kootenay 4,145 (1,353) tons, Ainsworth 518 (1,540) tons, Slocan 407 (1,650) tons, Nelson 295 (1,609) tons, Rossland 23,729 (19,495) tons, Boundary 15 (24) tons, State of Washington 2,942 (912) tons. The considerable increase from East Kootenay was in ore from the Sullivan Group lead mine; the greater part of the decrease from Ainsworth mines was from the Bluebell, at which, however, work was resumed late in May after a suspension of operations that lasted nine months; in Slocan, similarly, the decrease was attributable chiefly to the non-production this year of one mine—in this case, the Standard—but here again, operations have quite lately been resumed; in Nelson division, too, the smaller total is accounted for by the fact that a single producer of last year—the Silver King, which then shipped 1,545 tons—has not made any output this year. The increase of amounts received from both Rossland and Washington mines is satisfactory; of the latter, there were ten shippers in May of this year as compared with but four during the same month of 1914.

AMERICAN ZINC.

According to the Boston News Bureau the American Zinc, Lead & Smelting Co. is 70 per cent. sold for the balance of this year. In other words, all but 30 per cent. of the spelter and concentrates which it will produce for the second six months has been contracted for. Were the company to avail itself of to-day's bid prices for spelter it could sell its remaining output at prices to show an average of 20 cents per lb. for the last half of the year. Such is the mad competition for supplies of spelter from manufacturers who have taken big ammunition orders and who, of course, cannot sign contracts until they are sure of their ability to get their spelter, or for that matter spelter for delivery this side of September 1, there is none, and those who have charge of selling the output available for delivery in October, November and December are at their wits' ends to know what to do—grab a certain fabulous profit or wait for more?