

"At the Silversmith mine at Sandon, the ore body recently discovered is said to be the largest discovered in that property, and carries with it high values in silver. This mine is improving all the time. The Noble Five is owned by the Hon. James Dunsmuir, who has recently acquired the Rico, and adjoining property, and is now erecting a 1,500-ton capacity mill at a cost of \$200,000, which will be used for the large tonnage from the two properties. Clarence Cunningham has erected a large mill, running full capacity, treating ore from the Queen Bess, Sovereign, Wonderful and the Alamo Idaho mines. Roseberrys Surprise Mining Co. at Sandon, is carrying on a vigorous policy of development in the newly-acquired properties, Canadian, Adams and Ivanhoe groups, in addition to the Surprise and the Bosun.

"In addition to these many new properties are now under development, many of whom have already made shipments. Among these are the McAllister, Ocean, Van Roi, Silverton, Enterprise, Neepawa, Molly Hughes, Black Prince, Ottawa and Evening Star, all in the Slocan district, and all mines of excellent promise. The Standard, which has been receiving attention in the way of development, has paid \$3,000,000 in dividends, and the company is now looking forward to acquiring further territory. All these mines are classed as high-grade silver properties.

"In the Kaslo district the Cork Province has been reorganized in order to raise money for further developments for the large ore bodies at 'depth,' also to acquire further water power which is needed for the milling plant. The Silver Bell, Index, Gibson, Flint and other properties are also pursuing a vigorous policy of development. All these are new mines, opened within the last eighteen months, and are suggestive of the future prosperity of the district," added Mr. Starkey. "The Old Blue Bell, the oldest mine in the country, the Ainsworth, Florence No. 1 and several others have been sending shipments.

"The same rate of progress is being made in the Lardo district, where the White Water, Comstock, Bannockburn, Bullock, Silver Cup, Tenderfoot and others are expected to be among the many to ship next season. Sheep Creek is well ahead in development work, and the Queen and the Nugget, both of which mines are particularly interesting to Vancouver residents, are getting close to the point at which

they expect to encounter the main vein at depth, prospects being bright. The crosscut which may be made in the former mine and which went through schist is only now 400 or 500 feet from the quartz, and as this is the place which carries values the expectations of success are likely to be realized.

"The East Kootenay district has shown a great improvement during the year, the North Star, Paradise, Victor and several others having made shipments. Unfortunately the strike at Sullivan has curtailed output of this mine, although it still will have a large tonnage to its credit."

"It begins to look as if mining on Vancouver Island is coming into its own again, and the ore deposits there will obtain a new lease of life," said Mr. J. L. Parker, mining engineer, who has just returned from a tour of the mining centres of the West Coast.

Copper mining, he explained, is at present practically confined to three large mines, the Old Sport, in the northern portion of the Island; the Sunloch in the south, and the Indian Chief, located about midway on Clayoquot Sound. The Old Sport is operated by a branch company of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, and the Indian Chief is controlled by the Tidewater Company of Victoria. The Sunloch is financed by Vancouver interests.

The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, owner of the Trail smelter, has declared a quarterly dividend of \$261,936. This is at the rate of 2½ per cent, and will be paid on January 2 to stockholders of record on December 10. The payment will increase the total disbursements to \$6,305,275.

Cutler T. Porter, of Spokane, and who has been for many years interested in a number of mining properties in the Upper Duncan and Lardeau sections of British Columbia, has taken a lease and bond upon the Towser, a claim just below the famous Silver Cup mine, southeast of Ferguson. The Towser is believed to cover a continuation of the Silver Cup vein, from which large quantities of high grade silver-lead ore were taken in the early days of the Lardeau.

The Geological Survey, Ottawa, has published Museum Bulletin Number 30, entitled "Gabbros of East Sooke and Rocky Points," by Mr. H. C. Cooke. The Bulletin covers the geology of part of the Sooke peninsula west of Victoria on Vancouver Island.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Mineral Province of Western Canada

TO END OF DECEMBER, 1918

Has produced Minerals valued as follows: Placer Gold, \$75,436,103; Lode Gold, \$97,121,786; Silver, \$46,839,631; Lead, \$42,294,251; Copper, \$145,741,060; Other Metals (Zinc, Iron, etc.), \$13,278,058; Coal and Coke, \$187,147,652; Building Stone, Brick, Cement, etc., \$28,843,272; Miscellaneous Minerals, \$651,759; making its Mineral Production to the end of 1918 show an

Aggregate Value of \$637,353,581

Production for Year Ending December, 1918, \$41,782,474

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.