

Nelson.—The mining outlook in Kootenay continues to improve. The latest deal of importance has just been closed whereby a Nelson syndicate has purchased the well known Athabasca mine and mill situated on Toad Mountain. The property has yielded large returns in the past but has been closed down and in litigation for some years. The vendors were the Bank of Montreal. The property is equipped with a ten-stamp mill, ten-drill compressors and 35-ton cyanide plant and a half-mile of tramway. Electricity is the power used. The mine contains over two miles of workings. This is only one more instance of valuable properties being reworked.

An important strike of high-grade ore is reported on the Mother Lode mine at Salmo, which indicates a large body of rich ore. Interest in the Slocan is steadily reviving, seventy men are busy at the Vancouver at Silverton. The Hewitt of Silverton will be on the shipping list once more, while reports from the Mollie Hughes at New Denver are decidedly good. Twenty men are at work on the famous Payne mine at Sandon, and many mining properties are being worked. Miners are hard to get and are wanted all over the district.

Ore shipments for the week are up to the best average for the year, and a further increase may be expected next month. The Consolidated Smelter at Trail received 11,000 tons this week, a record for the year.

YUKON.

Dawson, July 31.—Klondike never saw such activity in its quartz properties as to-day. The quartz recording office has been so crowded of late with applications, renewals, and the like, that an extra clerk has been put on to assist Bert Brown, the quartz recorder.

Last month 110 quartz claims were located, and this month nearly 150 have been applied for to date.

Each quartz claim is 1,500 feet square. Taking this area 150 times, one will see that the quartz properties located during the present month will cover an immense area.

One point about the quartz activity is that the new staking is not confined to any one locality. The boom is on in every part of the district from Twelve-Mile to Sixty-Mile, from the high ridge dividing the camp to points along the Yukon; from Dawson to White Horse; in fact, everywhere throughout the territory.

While the quartz locations are going on, the owners of promising quartz also are spending not a little in development. The Davison people are pushing their large tunnel with the big hydro-electrical plant on the Dome and the Lone Star properties soon will have their stamp mill at work. A number of others are talking of putting in small stamp mills, and some are convinced that they can make their expenses out of their rock with a stamp mill right from the start.

MINING NEWS OF THE WORLD.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The wages dispute in the Scottish coal trade was settled on July 31st.

The following are some of the terms of settlement:

A minimum wage of 6s has been conceded to the miners.

An agreement has been made for three years.

The amount of the equivalent of the minimum is to be referred to arbitration.

The amount of advances by steps is also to be arbitrated upon.

The masters, it will be remembered, asked for a reduction in wages of 6d per day, making them 5s 6d per day. This led to the dispute now happily ended.

Text of the Agreement.

1. The Conciliation Board shall be continued with the provision that there shall be obligatory a neutral chairman (whose decision in cases of difference shall be final and binding), to be selected by such method as shall be mutually agreed upon by the parties, and, failing agreement, by the Speaker of the House of Commons, and the Board and this agreement shall remain in force until the 1st of August, 1912; and unless six months before that date notice of termination is given by either party, it shall remain in force thereafter subject to six months' notice of termination given by either party at any time.

2. The principle of the 50 per cent. on 1888 basis as a minimum wage is conceded, and wages shall not be reduced below that point. In respect of the concession of an immediate 50 per cent. minimum, it is agreed:

(a) That the basis price for the 50 per cent minimum and the subsequent steps shall be referred to an arbiter. The reference to the arbiter shall be adjusted by parties and shall be on the footing that the relation between prices and wages in the past is recognized as equitable for the purposes of this arbitration and that the new basis price shall not be below the recent basis price—namely, 7s 5.45d. In fixing the new basis price and steps, consideration is to be given to the effect which the granting of an increased minimum wage would have on the re-

lation between prices and wages and also any other new circumstances bearing on increased or decreased costs since the agreement of 1904 was entered into which the arbiter considers relevant.

(b) That if for any month or months during the period from the date of this agreement to 31st March, 1910, the ascertained prices do not warrant a 50 per cent. wage under this memorandum, then for a like number of months any increased percentage in wages accruing under the memorandum shall be diminished by six and a quarter.

3. The neutral chairman, in giving his decision as to alterations in the rate of wages, shall take into account the state and prospects of trade.

4. Any difference regarding the interpretation of this memorandum or any difference regarding the terms of reference under clause 2 hereof, shall be referred to the decision of a neutral chairman to be mutually appointed by the parties, or, failing agreement, by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

5. The arbiter to act under clause 2 hereof shall be mutually appointed by the parties, and, failing agreement, by the Speaker of the House of Commons.

An interesting case occurred recently at Castleford Police Court, when 25 workmen of the Glasshoughton Colliery Company claimed damages from the company for breach of contract by refusing to allow the plaintiffs to descend the pit. An agreement had been signed by the colliery company that in the event of a pit gate meeting being held the men would be allowed an extra half-hour to get their lamps and descend on 28th June. The men contended that the agreement had not been carried out. The colliery company were ordered to pay 7s 6d each damages and the court costs in each case.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The new 100-stamp mill being erected by the .Roodepoort United will consist of stamps weighing 1,901 lbs., which will be the heaviest stamps so far put down on the Rand. The record capacity is at present held by the Cinderella Deep, which in May