

last year's output will be fully reached, leaving two months' output to mark the increase over last year's shipments.

#### NELSON.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

The growth and progress of the capital of the southern interior afford material for retrospection and consequent comparison. In August 1895 I climbed one of the nearby steep mountain sides and reached the track of the Spokane Falls & Northern. At that time there was no smelter, no electric trams. It was in short a mining camp and nothing more. The advancement since has been truly wonderful. I find Nelson in a flutter caused by the sitting of the Assize Court with the Hon. Mr. Justice Walkem presiding. One of the cases is a mining dispute with a charge of conspiracy—the old story of a galena farm and false representations. A German who lives down by the sea near Seattle paid out \$900 for a galena ledge that proved to be invisible. The Deputy Attorney-General who prosecuted the case is evidently conversant with his duties, for notwithstanding a very plausible, if not ingenious defence, set up by the prisoner's counsel the jury were not influenced and rendered a verdict of guilty. The sentence imposed by the Court was eighteen months in the penitentiary, an attempt to prove that a galena vein had been found by a *post mortem* having dismally failed to shake the determination of the jury.

In the matter of statistical information relating to the mineral industry of the Nelson division, I find there is room for the pathfinder—the trail has been blazed at intervals, but it is not well defined. Now, I must seize this opportunity of stating for the information of the Nelson public that mining statistics to be of any use must be up-to-date for it has been well said that "belated statistics" are "ancient history." Such a progressive and prosperous mining centre as Nelson is cannot afford to lose sight of this fact. The Dominion Government and the Provincial Government are directly interested in a system by which these figures may be assembled and published.

Now and then cases arise in this province suggesting that the business morality in mining circles is open to criticism, and that much injury to legitimate mining is inflicted. The local press just now contains some interesting chapters on this subject. The arrest of Mr. Ernest Mansfield is a case in point which has elicited some comment.

**MR. MANSFIELD'S ARREST.** Mr. Mansfield is a well known mining promoter of Southern British Columbia. He was arrested at Nelson on October 17th on a *capias* at the complaint of the miners working in Camp Mansfield.

The amount due for wages is said to be \$2,000 in addition to other amounts amounting to about \$4,000. The fact that Mr. Mansfield has been instrumental in causing the investment of, at least, \$100,000 in the Kootenays and the circumstance that he is an agent and not a principal, and has means of his own, have invested the case with unusual interest. The difficulties, it is understood, began some time ago when remittances from the company's headquarters in France ceased. As time went on and wages remained unpaid matters culminated by the mines in Camp Mansfield being shut down on October 12th. Mr. Mansfield immediately forwarded cablegrams to Rene Laudi stating the situation and urging remit-

tances. The miners delayed further action until Tuesday, October 16th, the time being further extended until the evening of the 17th, when a *capias* was issued and Mr. Mansfield was arrested. Mr. Mansfield went to gaol, but previously sent a cablegram explaining the situation. He received a cable from Laudi, the French manager, authorizing him to draw on him (Laudi) for funds. Mr. Mansfield refused to do this, but so far he has not given satisfactory explanations of his refusal. The miners did not seek to protect their claims under the Lien Act, because it appears that the property is recorded in Laudi's name and the men were employed by Mr. Mansfield. Subsequent events will no doubt clear up the facts of this case.

So far as I have been able to determine the ore shipment from Nelson mining division from January 1st to October 20th amounted to 40,000 tons. Statistics as to valuation, etc., are wanting, but will be supplied later.

**Hall Mines.**—The management is installing a new \$30,000 plant in the mine on the 300 and 500 foot levels. The smelter is heating 200 tons daily. Ore purchasing has ceased owing to the lack of smelter facilities. A new Godsal reverberatory furnace is being erected.

**Yellowstone.**—The mine is shipping about thirty tons daily amounting in value to \$300.

**Second Relief.**—About 1,600 tons have been shipped, valued at \$75,000.

**Granite.**—The daily shipments are thirty tons, valued at \$300.

**Athabasca.**—The shipments amount to fifteen tons daily, valued at \$700.

**Highland.**—The sale of this property through Mr. Charles E. Parker was recently reported.

**B. C. Goldfields (Ymir Mines).**—The mill is treating about 240 tons daily, valued at \$2,400.

**London and Consolidated.**—The management has about 5,000 tons of \$40 ore ready at Crawford Bay for hauling to lake points about twelve miles as soon as the road is completed. About 30,000 tons are blocked out.

#### YMIR.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

I am pleased to state that the Ymir mineral exhibit in charge of Mr. Alfred Parr received the following awards at the Spokane Industrial Exposition: Free gold specimens (first prize), gold medal; free milling gold ores (second prize), bronze medal. These two prizes establishes Ymir Camp as a strictly free milling one, and when it should be remembered that those competing for the prizes, were Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, it is a feather in our caps.

The deal reported in last month's RECORD concerning the Wilcox did not mature for the reason that the American holders of stock were opposed to the property being transferred at such a low figure, and I am glad to state that funds are being raised which will enable the Broken Hill Mining and Development Company to instal a mill in the spring on the property. Meanwhile mining activity here is very marked and the indications are that we shall have a very prosperous winter. All the mines are running full time, and many prospects are to be worked throughout the winter months. The contract has been let