

MINERAL PRODUCTION FOR TWO YEARS, 1914-1915.

The following table shows the quantities and value of the several minerals produced in the year 1914, and the estimated production in 1915. It may here be explained that the prices used in calculating the estimated value for 1915 of silver, lead, copper, and zinc are the average prices for the year, as published in *The Engineering and Mining Journal*, New York, less a deduction of 5 per cent. off silver, 10 per cent. off lead, and 15 per cent. off zinc.

	PRODUCTION, 1914.		ESTIMATED PRODUCTION, 1915.			
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase.	Decrease.
Gold, placer.....		\$ 505,000		\$ 745,000	\$ 180,000	
.. lode.....oz.	247,170	5,109,004	244,378	5,051,293		\$ 57,711
Total gold.....		\$ 5,674,004		\$ 5,796,293	\$ 122,289	
Silver.....oz.	3,602,180	1,876,736	3,434,393	1,621,033		\$ 255,703
Lead.....lb.	50,925,048	1,771,877	45,990,372	1,917,799	145,922	
Copper.....	45,000,609	6,121,319	57,905,488	10,006,068	3,884,749	
Zinc....."	7,806,467	346,125	13,817,808	1,554,503	1,208,378	
Total value of metalliferous.....		\$15,790,061		\$20,895,696	\$5,105,635	
Coal.....tons, 2,240 lb.	1,810,967	6,338,385	1,546,664	5,413,324		\$ 925,061
Coke....."	234,577	1,407,462	248,424	1,490,544	83,082	
Building materials, etc.....		2,857,917		1,500,000		1,357,917
Total value of production.....		\$26,388,825		\$29,299,564	\$2,910,739	

PRODUCTION OF VARIOUS MINERALS BRIEFLY REVIEWED.

In order to indicate in a general way the sources of the various minerals mined in the Province and to give an idea of some of the conditions that affected their production, and, incidentally, brief information concerning the larger known mineral deposits occurring in British Columbia, the next following comments are submitted.

Gold.

Placer Gold.—The estimated recovery of placer gold for 1915 is \$745,000, of which practically all is obtained in the Cariboo and Cassiar Districts, only about one-tenth of the total coming from the other districts. An approximate apportionment is as follows: From Cariboo District, \$312,000; Atlin Division of Cassiar District, \$355,000; Stikine and Llard, \$30,000; remaining parts of the Province, \$48,000. It may be that a larger yield will be shown, but this cannot be definitely stated until after the final returns of the season's operations shall have been received.

The output of placer gold is larger this year than it has been since 1907, and will probably be about \$180,000 greater than that of last year. This comes as an agreeable surprise, for the snowfall of the winter of 1914-15 was unusually light, and, as this is the principal source of the water-supply, it was anticipated that the quantity of water available for hydraulicking would fall short of the usual quota.

In hydraulic mining it has been pretty well demonstrated that the gold output is in direct proportion to the number of days in which water was available for piping, hence there seemed little hope for even a normal production of placer gold during the season of 1915.

The Weather Bureau, however, as though in compunction for the niggardly amount of snow provided, so arranged the spring weather that the snow melted very gradually—not much faster than the water could be used—while the absence