

The objective in the drive is five veins, several of which have been responsive in the Nugget. Some of these bodies have a width of three to twenty-five feet and contain an average of \$15.60 in gold to the ton, according to samples taken by the company. The other bodies are larger, one of them having a width of 25 feet.

A production of \$250,000 is credited to the Nugget and of \$300,000 to the Mother Lode, both mainly in concentration. The Mother Lode, formerly owned by the late John McMartin, who reaped a fortune at Cobalt and Porcupine, has an equipment that is exceeded in quality on no mine of British Columbia.

The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, owner of the smelter at Trail, and mines in British Columbia and Washington, declared a quarterly dividend of \$261,936 on June 3, according to a report from its head office at Toronto, Ont. This is at the rate of 2½ per cent. The disbursement will be made on July 2 to stockholders of record on June 10. The forthcoming disbursement will increase the payments for the year to \$785,808 and the grand total to \$5,781,403.

A despatch from Nelson under the date of June 21st appropos of smelter charges at Trail before the recent Nelson mining convention, says:

"There is the olive branch, or the olive tree. If you want it, take it."

With the foregoing words, Mr. J. J. Warren, managing director of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, offered at the afternoon session of the International Mining Institute yesterday afternoon to meet the independent shippers half way in the matter of fixing rates and the division of the sales in the markets, not only of Canada, but of the world as well.

Mr. Warren made the statement while discussing a report of the work of the committee, made by S. S. Fowler, nominated by the Associated Boards of Trade and appointed by the Dominion Government about a year ago to investigate "Schedule B."

Mr. Fowler said that this committee was appointed by the Associated Boards of Trade about a year ago, following the adoption by the Trail smelter of Schedule B.

Mr. Fowler said that the committee's investigation had

brought out the fact that for a considerable period prior to the adoption of Schedule B the smelter had been handling trade ores at a loss. What profits were made by the company were derived from the mines, and not from the treatment of ore from independent shippers. Previous to the war the company had made a profit on its old schedule of prices, but increasing costs had resulted in losses. One of the main causes of loss was the rise in the price of silver, which resulted in the smelter having to handle a great amount of ore which was difficult to handle.

Schedule B has resulted in a reduction in the amount of this ore, and the company is now in a position to adopt a new schedule, which will reduce cost to the independent shippers. This schedule will go into effect on July 1.

Mr. Fowler said that he was glad to have the opportunity to report that the company had placed all facts asked for at the disposal of the committee. He said that, contrary to certain rumors, the committee was shown every possible courtesy by the officers of the company. A little later he pointed out the need for a permanent committee.

Mr. Nichol Thompson, chairman of the Bureau of Mines of the Vancouver Board of Trade, said that he had once believed that the collieries on Vancouver Island were making huge profits, and that they should reduce prices. Later he was requested by Fuel Controller Magrath to represent the commission on the Coast. He then had an opportunity to investigate the alleged profits of the companies, and to his surprise found that only one of them was making a real profit.

He said that he believed that the same condition held true in connection with the disputes between the smelter and the mining companies. Many misunderstandings could be removed if the two parties could get together.

A branch of the Canadian Mining Institute for Interior B. C. was formed here. The organization of the institute was the principal work of the first day of the International Mining Convention. The officers elected for the ensuing year are: Chairman, S. S. Fowler, Riondel; vice-chairman, Oscar V. White, Sandon; secretary, A. G. Wilson, Nelson; executive, James Anderson, Kaslo; Randolph R. Bruce, Windermere; A. G. Langley, Revelstoke; F. S. Peters, Rossland, and S. G. Blaylock, Trail.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Mineral Province of Western Canada

TO END OF DECEMBER, 1917

Has produced Minerals valued as follows: Placer Gold, \$75,116,103; Lode Gold, \$93,717,974; Silver, \$43,623,761; Lead, \$39,366,144; Copper, \$130,597,620; Other Metals (Zinc, Iron, etc.), \$10,933,466; Coal and Coke, \$174,313,658; Building Stone, Brick, Cement, etc., \$27,902,381; making its Mineral Production to the end of 1917 show an

Aggregate Value of \$595,571,107

Production for Year Ending December, 1917, \$37,010,392

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.

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THE HON. THE MINISTER OF MINES
VICTORIA, British Columbia.