abnormally early and suggests that the crop moving demand will be upon the banks immediately. It is permissable to hope that in view of the short Western crop the harvest financing has been over-prepared for; and if that is the case signs of relaxation should be manifest in the home money market as soon as the crop movement becomes well started.

All classes of the business and financial community received with great relief and pleasure this week's news that a settlement of the Grand Trunk strike had been arranged. It was having a very bad effect on the Eastern business situation.

MINERAL DEVELOPMENTS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Particular interest attaches to the question of the development of the mineral wealth of British Columbia at the present time. Recent discoveries (and supposed discoveries) in the Portland Canal district have set the ends of the earth by the ears, and the publication at the present juncture of the report of the British Columbia Bureau of Mines, by Mr. William Fleet Robertson, Provincial Mineralogist is more than usually timely. It is refreshing to turn from the excited language of the cablegram to the studiously restrained and accurate wording of the official report—illustrated, it should be added, by a very extensive and excellent series of mine photographs, maps and plans.

The following tables are self-explanatory:—

TOTAL PRODUCTION FOR ALL YEARS UP TO AND INCLUDING 1909.

Gold, placer	$ 70,673,103
Gold, lode	55,277,687
Silver	29,850,586
Lead	23,259,255
Copper	55,871,893
Coal and coke	
Building stone, brick, etc.	9,093,100
Other metals	890,699
	$347,820,584

PRODUCTION FOR EACH YEAR OF THE DECADE 1900-1909.

1900	$16,344,751
1901	20,086,780
1902	17,486,550
1903	17,495,954
1904	18,977,359
1905	22,461,325
1906	24,980,546
1907	25,882,560
1908	23,851,277
1909	24,443,025

It was in 1897, according to the statistics in the present report, that the aggregate output of British Columbia minerals first exceeded in value $10,000,000. The annual returns since that time and for the decade, which ended in 1909, have naturally fluctuated from year to year, but the general tendency, as well be seen from the table, has been upward. For 1909 the value of the mineral products of the Province amounts to $24,443,025, which, while it is less than that of 1906 and 1907, is still considerably greater than that of any previous year. The tonnage of ore mined in the Province during 1909, exclusive of coal was 2,057,713 tons, a decrease from the preceding year of 25,893 tons or 1.24 p.c. Eighty nine mines made shipments in 1909, of which 52 shipped more than 100 tons each during the year, and 32 shipped in excess of 1,000 tons each.

Coal mining in the Province has been a constantly increasing industry for 20 years and up to the end of 1909 had produced in value $102,904,261. The greatest amount derived from any one mineral, however, is $125,950,790 from metal gold, obtained from both placer and lode mining. Lode mining did not begin, practically, until 1894, since when it has risen with remarkable rapidity, though not without interruption, until it reached in 1906 the $17,000,000 line, and the total production nearly reached the $26,000,000 line. Other notable aggregate gross values of production are copper at $55,871,893; silver at $29,850,586, and lead at $23,259,255.

The importance of the position occupied by British Columbia in reference to the mineral production of the Dominion is shown in the table following:—

COMPARATIVE PRODUCTION IN 1909 OF CERTAIN MINERALS BY BRITISH COLUMBIA AND OTHER PROVINCES OF THE DOMINION.

	British Columbia. $	Other Provinces. $	Aggregate. $
Gold	5,401,090	428,010	5,830,000
Silver	1,239,270	12,401,724	13,610,994
Copper	5,918,522	2,043,922	7,962,444
Lead	1,709,259	Nil	1,709,259
Iron	Nil	2,284,180	2,284,180
Coal	7,022,666	16,500,088	25,074,072
Coke	1,552,218		
Total	22,843,025	33,658,824	56,501,849

Thus, in 1909, British Columbia produced in the minerals shown an amount equal to over 67.8

QUANTITIES AND VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTS FOR 1907, 1908 and 1909.

	1907		1908		1909	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Gold, placer (O)	41,400	$ 828,000	....	$ 647,000	....	$ 477,000
" lode (O)	196,179	4,[illegible]55,020	255,5[illegible]2	5,282,980	238,224	4,924,[illegible]90
Silver (O)	2,745,448	1,703,825	2,631,389	1,321,483	2,532,742	1 239,270
Lead (P)	47,738,703	2,2[illegible]1,458	43,195,733	1,632,799	44,39[illegible],346	1 709,259
Copper (P)	40,832,720	8,166,544	47,274,614	6,240,249	45,597,245	5,918,522
Coal (T)	1,800,[illegible]67	6,300,235	1,677,849	5,872 472	2,006,476	7,072 666
Coke (T)	222,913	1,337,478	247,399	1,484,394	258,703	1,552,218
Other Materials (E)	....	1,200,000	....	1,370,000	....	1,600,000
	....	$25,882,5[illegible]0	....	$23,851,277	....	$ 24,44[illegible],0[illegible]5

O—customary measures, ounces; P—pounds; T—tons of 2,240 pounds; E—estimated.