

of the *Le Roi* No. 2; its metal contents, size, and character are all good, so it augurs well for the future of that part of the company's property. Further development is in progress there. Total of development-work done in 1912 is 6,115 feet, and of diamond-drilling 14,185 feet. Out of a total of 57,670 tons of material moved, there was sorted 35,000 tons of ore, of which 18,000 tons was shipped crude and 17,000 tons milled, the product of the latter having been 1,658 tons of concentrate.

Shipments from the smaller mines also show a decrease. In the South Belt of Rossland camp the developments on *Blue Bird* and *Phoenix* were encouraging, with good ore opened in each mine. At the *Inland Empire*, situated in the western part of the division, the operation of a 10-stamp mill was commenced in the autumn.

*Smelting and Refining.*—Many changes and improvements were made at the Consolidated Co.'s smelter and refinery at Trail. The whole of the extensive Huntington-Heberlein converter plant was remodelled, the changes made having ensured more expeditious, effective, and economical handling and treatment of furnace products, and better working conditions for the converter-men. The method formerly in use for roasting and converting the matte made by a first concentration has been superseded by a pyritic concentration. Improvements were made in handling ores from the stock-yards to the furnaces, and in bedding lead-ores; in provision of motors for collecting and hauling the charges to the lead-stacks, and for hauling matte-cars, instead of tramping cars and drawing pots by hand; in the abolition of platform elevators and substituting for them graded tracks from level to level of the works; in putting in a matte-crushing plant, pan-conveyor, and steel matte-bins; in the addition of more machine tools and other appliances to the mechanical equipment; and in enlargement of the electrolytic refinery so as to refine 30 tons more lead a day, thereby increasing the daily capacity to about 100 tons. A number of electric traction lines and tunnels have been constructed throughout the works and in places belt-conveyors put in, to facilitate the handling of ore, coke, matte, bullion, and other materials. In addition to all these improvements to the plant at the smelter and at the various mines, the company also declared a dividend of \$232,176.

#### Other West Kootenay Divisions.

Comparatively little mining was done in the other divisions of West Kootenay. In the Big Bend of the Columbia District, Revelstoke Division, more attention was given to placer-gold mining on French creek, following the recovery of 40 to 50 oz. of gold by L. N. Remillard. Smith, Eight-mile, and Camp creeks also attracted notice, so that more placer-mining than for several years is expected to take place on those streams next season.

There was some lead-mining in Trout Lake Division, the *Silver Cup* having sent out about 340 tons of silver-lead ore, while the *Ajar* and *Nettie L.* mined a little—less than 100 tons each—and the *Lucky Boy* shipped a car-load. Development done on the *Noble Fire* group encouraged the owners to continue work. The *Broadview* and others were also worked, but there was little ore shipped.

#### BOUNDARY DISTRICT.

The Boundary District, the mines of which together produce more copper than those of any other part of Canada, led in 1912 in British Columbia in respect of both the quantity of ore mined and the total value of metals produced. The ore-output of the mines in the Greenwood and Grand Forks Divisions exceeded 1,900,000 tons, as compared with 1,187,000 tons in 1911, and 1,654,000 tons in 1910. (It will be remembered that the strike at the