

In 1904 Great Britain imported 89,288 tons of fine copper besides large quantities of copper ore and matte. More than half of the fine copper was supplied by the United States. As British Columbia last year produced about 18,000 tons of copper, the question suggests itself: When will this province have its own copper refinery and find a better market for its copper, as well as its lead, in Europe?

It has been announced that arrangements have been made for an expenditure of about \$500,000 to extend the water system of the Consolidated Cariboo hydraulic mines to a source of permanent supply equal to 5,000 miner's inches per diem. This will enable the manager, Mr. J. B. Hobson, to carry out his plans and secure results that with the insufficient supply of water available during four years last past have not been obtainable.

The production of zinc in Ainsworth and Slocan districts appears to be now on a basis that leaves a fair profit to those mining this class of ore. Already between 3,000 and 4,000 tons have been shipped to American smelters, and substantial progress is being made with the erection and equipment of zinc reduction works at Rosebery, in the Slocan, and at Frank, Alberta. Meanwhile the number of zinc shippers is increasing.

The paper on "Canadian Metallurgical Products for the Far East," read by Mr. Frederick Hobart, one of the associate editors of the *Engineering and Mining Journal*, New York, at the recent meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute, is timely and of especial interest to British Columbian producers of silver, lead and copper. A brief summary of it is printed elsewhere in this issue.

The election of Mr. H. Mortimer Lamb, for seven years associated with the active management and editing of this journal, as secretary of the Canadian Mining Institute may be regarded as a practical expression of appreciation of the value of his long-continued efforts in the interests of the mining industry of British Columbia. His accession to an office that will give him a far wider scope for usefulness similar in kind but much larger in degree, is a matter for congratulation. Doubtless he will prove the confidence felt in him to have been well deserved.

The B. C. Standard Mining Company, of Nelson, has experienced a temporary set-back, adverse weather conditions having caused such a decrease in production and increase in mining costs as to occasion a loss instead of the expected profit from operations during part of the winter. The 13,000-ft. Riblet automatic aerial tramway, put in last year, proved well adapted for conveying the ore down to the railway, but drifting and frozen snow in the open workings at the high altitude at which the mine is situated, prevented for the time a continuation of the low-cost and expeditious mining that under favourable weather conditions brought profit to the company. The return of fine

weather will, without doubt, be accompanied by a corresponding improvement in results, to the benefit of all concerned.

The reflections cast on Mr. Jas. McEvoy, geologist for the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, formerly of the Geological Survey of Canada, in an endeavour to justify the allegations, by the Rossland Board of Trade, of fraud in connection with the selection of coal lands in the Crow's Nest Pass for the Dominion government, made at Nelson at the recent convention of the Associated Boards of Trade, were promptly characterised as untrue and have since been unequivocally denied by the minister of the Federal department immediately concerned. When a too lively imagination is the basis of zeal, good results can seldom be achieved.

Mr. J. Cleveland Haas, M.E., of Spokane, who was one of the pioneers in connection with mining in the Boundary district of British Columbia, recently paid a professional visit to Arizona. Before returning to Spokane he wrote to the editor "Just a line to tell you that the *MINING RECORD* appears to be popular. I found a copy at the hotel in Yuma, and another in a miner's cabin up the Gila river." The same mail brought a request from a stranger that the *MINING RECORD* be sent to Falun, Sweden, and later came a similar communication from Witten, Germany. Another mail brought a year's subscription from New Mexico. Each month sees an extension of the field in which this journal circulates.

The bulletins on the chief minerals known to occur in Canada, lately issued by the Dominion Geological Survey, will be of much use to those desirous of obtaining accurate information relative to the mineral resources of the Dominion. While the annual reports of the survey contain practically all the information published in the bulletins, it is not in such convenient form. Each important mineral is the subject of a special bulletin, the contents of which embrace accurate descriptions of mineral districts and mining industries, and, as well, references to available literature dealing with the particular mineral under notice. The adoption of this means of rendering more readily accessible to the public information gathered from various parts of the Dominion by officials of the Survey, will greatly extend the usefulness of the department.

A correspondent, writing on the subject of two per cent mineral tax, gives the following information: "I know one mine that produced in one year \$100,000 worth of ore at a cost of \$105,000. An adjoining mine, having the same class of ore, produced an equal amount at a cost of \$50,000. In the one case the two per cent tax would be added to and increase the loss, while in the other there would be a profit of \$50,000 out of which to pay the tax. Thus the tax bears unevenly on different mines and is hardest on the non-paying mine; not necessarily on