

for over 25 years and had charge of most of the development work.

The two mills at Silverton are making excellent savings, it is understood and it is said that the Ruth mill at Sandon has been secured under lease and will be used to treat second class ore from the Wonderful and Sovereign. If development at the Idaho and Alamo comes up to present expectations, it is probable that the old concentrator at Alamo on the C.P.R. Sandon branch, immediately below the mines, will be completely overhauled and placed in commission this summer. The properties now employ an average of around 25 men.

Hon. William Sloan, minister of mines, has introduced the Iron Bounties Act, which empowers the lieutenant-governor-in-council to enter into agreements with persons or corporations and make payments out of the consolidated revenue fund in respect of bounties on pig iron when manufactured in the province. For pig iron manufactured from ore on the proportion produced from ore mined in the province a bounty not to exceed three dollars per ton of two thousand pounds. One dollar and fifty cents will be paid in respect of pig iron manufactured from ore on the proportion produced from ore mined outside the province.

A similar bounty as on pig iron under this act may also be paid upon the molten iron from iron ore which in the electric furnace, bessemer or other furnace enters into the manufacture of steel by the process employed in such furnace, the weight of such iron to be ascertained from the weight of the steel so manufactured. It is also further provided in the bill that no bounty shall be paid under the provisions of the proposed act in respect of iron or steel manufactured after December 31, 1923.

It is understood that the minister of mines, who is to administer the act, contemplates legislation which will give the government powers to compel development of iron ore deposits held for speculative purposes. This will require an amendment to the Mining Act.

Work has been started on another tunnel on the New Hazelton Gold Cobalt company's property on Rocher de Boule mountain near Hazelton on the 1100-foot level. This tunnel is on the same vein as the main workings, and when

it has been run the vein will have fairly well developed. Work is also in progress on the 750-foot level, and on the 650-foot level. There are three carloads of ore sacked ready for shipment. An experimental run is being made at the Faust reduction works on Howe street in Vancouver to determine the best method of concentrating this ore.

Mr. Thomas French announced that the government had decided to guarantee an additional \$25,000 bond issue for the operation of the French Complex Ore Reduction company's smelter at Fairview.

The guarantee is being made with the stipulation, Mr. French stated, that the greater part of the issue be absorbed by the people of that district. The interest rate will be 6 per cent and payment of both interest and principal is to be guaranteed by the province.

Granby recently declared its regular quarterly dividend of 2½ per cent., payable April 18th. The disbursements amounts to \$374,972, and is the second of this amount this year. Total payments of the company, including the one just announced, are \$8,729,537.

SIR ROBERT BORDEN'S CALL TO FOOD PRODUCTION

The campaign for increased production of foodstuffs now launched by the Canadian Food Board is of the most vital importance to the victory of the Allied cause. Because of our geographical position, the United Kingdom and the Allied Nations are depending on Canada for food as never before. Specific suggestions will be issued from time to time by the Canada Food Board for the guidance of the people; and it is the earnest hope of the Government that every citizen will realize his or her personal individual duty to adopt and carry out these suggestions. Mere perfunctory observance will not be enough; the crisis is grave and urgent beyond possibility of exaggeration; and it will only be through an earnest sense of individual responsibility that Canadians will be able in this matter to honor their obligations to their heroic soldiers overseas, who are defending our liberties at a cost beside which any personal inconvenience or discomfort on our part is insignificant.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Mineral Province of Western Canada

TO END OF DECEMBER, 1916

Has produced Minerals valued as follows: Placer Gold, \$74,620,103; Lode Gold, \$91,350,784; Silver, \$41,358,012; Lead, \$36,415,124; Copper, \$114,559,364; Other Metals (Zinc, Iron, etc.), \$7,212,759; Coal and Coke, \$165,829,315; Building Stone, Brick, Cement, etc., \$26,697,835; making its Mineral Production to the end of 1916 show an

Aggregate Value of \$558,560,715

Production for Year Ending December, 1916, \$42,290,462

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.

Full information, together with mining Reports and Maps, may be obtained gratis by addressing—

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