

bia" instead of under the less noticeable "Miscellaneous." We hope to see other journals publishing mining news give this province similar prominence, now that several of its larger mining companies are on a dividend-paying basis.

Cabled advices from London intimate the declaration of an interim dividend of two shillings per share on its 120,000 £5 shares by the Le Roi No. 2, Ltd.; total, £12,000 (approximately \$60,000). This company distributed £36,000, free of income tax, out of its last fiscal year's profits. This year developments at its mines at Rosslund are satisfactory, new orebodies having been opened at the 700 and 900-ft. levels, respectively, and the diamond drill has entered ore of good grade at 317 ft. below the 900-ft. level.

The Yale Mining Company, operating the Nickel Plate mine near Hedley, Similkameen, has adopted the high wages scale known in the interior mining districts as the "Boundary scale." This wages scale went into effect at the Nickel Plate on July 1. Under it miners are paid \$4.00 to \$4.50, trammers and shovellers \$3.50 to \$3.75 (according to class of work) and other employees in proportion. The wages paid at the stamp mill at Hedley are also good. Space restrictions prevent the scale being printed in the *MINING RECORD* in detail this month, but this subject shall have notice later.

The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, which owns the Trail smelter and large mines at Rosslund and in East Kootenay, is extending its holdings in the Boundary district, where for a year it has operated under lease and bond the Snowshoe mine at Phoenix. Recently it secured either by purchase or under option between 20 and 30 claims situated in Phoenix camp, near the Granby Company's mines. On one claim—the War Eagle—a small power plant was installed in 1906 and some development work done on the 100-ft. level, but no ore has been shipped from any of the claims.

The Portland Canal section of Skeena mining division is now producing copper. The report of the provincial bureau of mines, lately issued, shows a production in 1906 of 293,269 lb. of copper as against none in 1905 and only 17,407 lb. from the whole division in all previous years. Last year's output was practically all from the Outsiders' mine of the Brown Alaska Company of Seattle, Washington, which has this year (1907) considerably increased its production. Its ore is smelted at the Alaska Smelting and Refining Company's smelter at Hedley, southeast Alaska, and the resulting matte converted into blister copper at Tacoma, Washington.

Owing to the high rate charged by express companies, miners in Alaska have this year been send-

ing gold to Seattle by registered mail. One steamer which reached that city lately from the North brought about \$600,000 in gold sent by mail. In order to comply with the postal regulation requiring that packages thus sent shall not exceed 4 lb. in weight, the gold has been sealed in cans of that weight and registered. It is stated that the steamship company having the mail contract will probably decline to carry it out, preferring to forfeit its \$10,000 bond rather than continue incurring the great risk of carrying such large quantities of gold as registered mail.

Money prizes totalling \$1,250 will be offered for two rock drilling contests to be held at the Spokane Interstate Fair, Spokane, Washington, which will be open September 23 to October 5. For a double-hand contest the prizes will be: First, \$500; second, \$250; third, \$150. For a single-hand contest: First, \$250; second, \$100. Entries which will close September 23, are expected from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Colorado, and British Columbia mining camps. Several trophy cups (including one of \$100 value), cash prizes and diplomas will be awarded for camp and district mineral exhibits. More space will be allotted for mineral exhibits than at any previous Spokane fair, with the object of adequately demonstrating the importance of the mineral resources of the northwestern states and southeastern British Columbia.

It is expected there will be at least nine gold dredges operating in the Yukon this season, viz., the Canadian Klondike Mining Co.'s electrically operated dredge with a capacity of 3,000 cu. yd. per day, working on the Boyle concession; the Bonanza Basin Gold Dredging Co.'s steam driven dredge, stated capacity 3,750 cu. yd. per day, working near the mouth of Klondike River; the Lewes River Dredging Co.'s steam dredge, capacity 1,200 cu. yd. per day, operating on Bonanza Creek; Ogilvie Dredging Co.'s steam dredge, capacity 400 cu. yd. working on Klondike River; the Forty-mile Dredging Co.'s dredge, similar to that of the Bonanza Basin Co., working on Forty-mile River; another large dredge to work in the Forty-mile district; and the three big dredges the Yukon Consolidated Goldfields Co. intends operating on its Bonanza Creek claims.

The Yukon Consolidated, a Guggenheim company, has begun work both above and below Discovery, Bonanza Creek, and has made a departure from hydraulicking methods heretofore prevailing in the Klondike. The new system involves first the ground-slucing of the creek bottom proper by hydraulic head, then setting sluice boxes in the bedrock, and then hydraulicking down the gravel banks into the bedrock flume, whence it is conveyed to a sump at the lower end of the claim. An endless conveyor belt acting as a tailings stacker carries the water and washed gravel well clear of the creek bed, thus allowing of bedrock being thoroughly cleaned up.