

progress of mining the following information is summarized:

The total value of the mineral production of the province for the year 1907 is greater than that of any preceding year; it shows an increase equivalent to 3.6 per cent. greater than that of 1906, to 15.2 per cent. greater than that of 1905, and 36.3 per cent. greater than that of 1904.

The tonnage of ore mined, exclusive of coal, was 1,804,114 tons, which was produced by the various districts in the following proportions: Boundary (Greenwood and Grand Forks divisions), 65.1 per cent. of total; Rossland, 15.8 per cent.; Fort Steele division of East Kootenay, 8.6 per cent.; Coast, 4.7 per cent.; all other districts, 5.8 per cent. The number of mines from which ore was shipped was 147, but of these only 72 shipped more than 100 tons each. There were 36 mines that shipped in excess of 1,000 tons each; of these 11 were situated in the Boundary district, 8 in Nelson, 6 on the Coast, 4 at Rossland, 3 in Fort Steele division, 3 in the Slocan, and 1 in the Lardeau. The number of non-shipping mines is 61. There were employed in the shipping (metalliferous) mines, 3,697 men; in the non-shipping mines, 246; in the coal mines (including Japanese 174, Chinese 743, Indians 23 and boys 205) 6,059; total, 10,002.

Taking the province as a whole, there were 488 tons of ore mined for each man employed about the metalliferous mines; in respect to districts, however, the tonnage per man was as follows: Slocan, 59 tons; Nelson, 179 tons; Trail Creek (Rossland) 387 tons; Boundary, 946 tons.

In connection with the several minerals constituting the production of the province the following notes have been extracted from the much fuller comment appearing in the Report:

Gold.—The production of placer gold was \$828,000, a decrease of \$120,400, or 12.7 per cent., as compared with 1906. Nearly half of this amount was from Atlin camp, where the companies contributed about 70 per cent. and individual miners 30 per cent. of the production of the camp. Dredging for gold has been abandoned at Atlin, but a large steam shovel was successfully used in filling cars with gravel for conveyance to a washing apparatus. Cariboo district contributed \$360,500, as follows: Cariboo division, \$306,500; Quesnel division, \$41,000; Omineca division, \$10,000. The remainder of the total production came from the following localities: Cassiar (other divisions than Atlin), \$25,000; East Kootenay (Fort Steele division), \$10,000; Lillooet (Fraser River), \$12,000; Revelstoke, \$5,000; sundry smaller yields, together, \$6,000. The lower Fraser and Thompson Rivers have almost ceased to produce gold.

The total of lode gold was \$4,055,020, a decrease of \$575,619, or about 12.5 per cent., in comparison with 1906. The chief individual decreases were: In the Boundary district, nearly \$267,000; in Trail Creek division (Rossland), about \$223,000; in Lar-

deau division, \$18,000, and on the Coast, \$103,000. The only increase worth noting was in Nelson, of rather more than \$35,000. About 95 per cent. of the lode gold produced was recovered in smelting copper-bearing ores. The only stamp mills operating to an important extent in 1907 were that of the Daly Reduction Company, at Hedley, Similkameen, where about 32,000 tons of ore were milled, from which was recovered approximately \$475,000; and the Queen mill, in the Nelson division, where some 8,800 tons were crushed, producing about \$100,000.

Silver.—The total quantity of silver produced in 1907 was 2,745,448 oz., valued at \$1,703,825, a decrease of 244,814 oz. in quantity and \$193,495 in total value. About 72 per cent. of the silver produced was found associated with lead, in argentiferous galena, and the remainder in conjunction with copper-bearing ores, chiefly from the Boundary district. Slocan district, including Ainsworth division, contributed 32 per cent. of the total output, and Fort Steele division of East Kootenay some 30 per cent., all from argentiferous galena. The output of the latter district was less than in 1906 by 246,000 oz., and of the Boundary by nearly 203,000 oz. On the other hand, the Slocan made a gain of nearly 155,000 oz., the Lardeau about 43,000 oz., and Nelson 25,000 oz.

Lead.—The production of lead totalled 47,738,703 lb., having a market value of \$2,291,458, a decrease as compared with 1906 of 4,669,514 lb., and in value of \$376,120. Nearly 79 per cent. of the production was in Fort Steele division, and between 16 and 17 per cent. in the Slocan. By far the larger part of the output of Fort Steele division was from the St. Eugene mine, while the Sullivan was the only other important producer in that part of the province. In the Slocan, the Whitewater was the largest shipper, with a production of between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 lb. The Rambler-Cariboo, Ruth, Standard, Vancouver group, and Hewitt were the other chief producers in Slocan district. The La Plata in the Nelson division, and the Silver Cup in the Lardeau, also shipped a considerable tonnage of silver-lead ore.

Copper.—This metal had a total production of 40,832,720 lb., valued at \$8,166,544. The decrease in quantity as against the production of 1906 was 2,157,768 lb., and in total value, \$122,021. The larger decreases were—Coast, 2,054,920 lb.; Boundary, 705,232 lb.; and Ashcroft-Kamloops, 319,257 lb. The increases were: Skeena division of Cassiar, 381,618 lb.; Rossland, 330,165 lb.; and Nelson, 218,188 lb. The larger copper-producing mines—those of the Boundary—were not operated the full year, but only about nine months, owing first to a shortage of coke having interfered with the regular running of the smelters, and next to the considerable fall in the price of copper towards the close of the year.

The average assays of the copper ores of the various camps, based upon the copper recovered, were