

### ALBERTA COAL MINES WILL PRODUCE 6,000,000 TONS THIS YEAR.

J. T. Stirling, Chief Inspector of Mines for the Province of Alberta, who also is the Chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board of that Province, has just returned after making a stay of some weeks in British Columbia. During this period Mr. Stirling visited some of the coal mining districts with a view to acquainting himself with conditions and also gave some attention to the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act under which the British Columbia mines are operated. He states that in Alberta coal mining never has shown such activity before. The output this year he believes will reach the total of 6,000,000 tons as compared with 4,000,000 tons for 1917. From the Drumheller District alone, which has been opened up for a comparatively short time, there will be a product aggregating at least 1,000,000 tons. New mines are being developed in many sections of the Province and are shipping, many of them, on a small scale.

### PRODUCTION OF COAL IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

In view of the discussion as to the production of British Columbia's coal fields this year, and the possibility of the output meeting at least the most pressing demands both domestic and foreign it is interesting to give the results of a rough estimate made by a high authority. Up to the end of the month of August the production was 1,821,681 tons, and an estimate of the output of the month of September, the returns being not yet available, is 167,301 tons, making a total of 1,988,982 tons up to the last day of last month. From this must be taken 221,840 tons which was used in the making of coke. The total coal marketed from this Province for the first three-quarters of the year, therefore, would be 1,767,142. At the conservative valuation of \$5.50 a ton, this would be \$9,719,281. In this period it is estimated that the Crow's Nest Pass collieries had produced 130,389 and the Canadian Collieries (D) Ltd., 19,196 tons of coke, a total of 149,585, which at a valuation of \$9 a ton, equals \$1,306,265. So the value of the coal production of British Columbia may be said to aggregate approximately \$11,025,546.

### COAL MINERS ACCEPT ORDER OF DIRECTOR OF COAL OPERATIONS.

The coal miners strike in the Crow's Nest Pass District is at an end. After being out since the 4th of September, the men went back to work on the 8th of October, having accepted the order of Mr. W. H. Armstrong, Director of Coal Operations. This grants them their demand for a single shift system in the operation of the mines of Fernie and Michel and provides that Mr. Armstrong will request of the Provincial Mines Department that a Royal Commission be appointed to investigate the condition of the mines in question, presumably to establish whether or not the one shift in twenty-four hours is necessary for the protection of the lives of the underground workers.

It is reported that a deal is pending whereby the manganese deposits of the Cowichan Lake District, Vancouver Island, will be put to industrial uses by Vancouver interests. At present the properties are controlled by Mr. C. H. Dickie, of Duncans, V.I.

There is another Yukon and Alaska "stampede" in progress, but in the opposite direction to that of years ago. The generally unprofitable character of gold-mining to-day is felt in the far north, to even a greater extent to elsewhere. There is much talk of government assistance, but apparently little faith that it will be forthcoming.

### THE ALLIED METALS CONGRESS.

The Allied Metals Congress at Milwaukee, held October 7th-11th, under the joint auspices of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, the American Foundrymen's Association and the American Malleable Castings Association, was one of unusual importance. Its purpose was to assist in carrying on the war and those who organized the Congress and all who contributed to make it a success have good reason to believe that their efforts will have good results. Many valuable papers were presented and discussed and a splendid exhibit of labor saving machinery was made. Those attending must have profited by the many practical suggestions offered and been stimulated to greater effort by the earnestness of purpose of their fellows. Men who are responsible for the production and manufacture of metals have seldom gathered in such numbers anywhere in America, certainly never with such a serious common object. Not under any ordinary circumstances will one see eight hundred foundrymen listening with rapt attention to technical descriptions of processes of manufacturing cast iron.

Headquarters for the Congress was at the Milwaukee Auditorium. This splendid building is exceptionally well adapted for both exhibitors and meetings. The 165 exhibitors had space in the Arena and Machinery Hall. In the Arena were displayed manufactured products, tools, shop supplies and accessories. In the Arena foundry and metal working equipment was shown in operation. Large and small lecture halls were utilized for the meetings.

Opportunity was given to visit many of the notable plants in Milwaukee and vicinity. A plant visitation schedule was arranged and private cars took the guests to the plants of the Allis-Chalmers Mfg. Co., Kearney & Trecker Co., Falk Co., Chicago & Milwaukee Ry. Co., Wisconsin Gun Co., Sivyer Steel Casting Co., Pawling & Harnishfeger Co., Northwestern Malleable Iron Co., Vilter Mfg. Co., and the Filer & Stowell Co. The great shops of the Allis-Chalmers Co., the Falk Foundry and the Wisconsin Gun Co., where 75 mm. guns are being made, proved particularly interesting to many of the guests.

At the opening session Hon. E. L. Phillipp, Governor of Wisconsin, welcomed the guests. He dwelt on the need of materials for carrying on the war, and asked those present to proceed with their plans for increasing production regardless of rumors of peace. He believed that the end of the war is drawing near, but he thought it very important that there should be no halt in production until peace is an accomplished fact. He ventured the opinion that when peace does come there will be a tremendous demand for materials for reconstruction. Mr. B. D. Fuller president of the American Foundrymen's Association assured him that the foundrymen would not allow peace talk to interfere with their efforts. He congratulated Milwaukee on its war effort.

Mr. E. D. Brigham, manager of the iron ore, coal and grain traffic of the United States railroad administration asked for the co-operation of the metal trade in meeting the demands made on transportation. He said that everything must be subordinated to the demands of the government and that producers must look with patience on shortage of shipping facilities.

Mr. C. S. Koch, of the Ordnance Department, Washington, gave some account of the activities of the Army Ordnance Department, with especial reference to foundry matters. Major Frank B. Gilbreth gave an illustrated talk on military matters of special interest to metal workers.

It was decided that a message should be sent to President Wilson assuring him that the metal industry would