

A good deal of iron ore was mined on the Coast during the year, but the only shipments made were from Texada Island, from which some 6,390 tons of magnetic iron ore, running more than 50 per cent, iron, were sent to the iron furnace at Irondale, Washington, U. S. A. From the iron mines at Cherry Creek, near Kamloops, 3,787 tons of magnetite were shipped to Nelson, for use there in the smelter as a flux. Included in the report is a lengthy special article on "The Iron Ores of the Coast."

In reviewing the general development of the year satisfaction is expressed at the advancement made in several districts. Good progress was reported from Atlin, where 600 to 700 men were employed in gold placer mining and hydraulicing during the summer and about half that number in the winter. The copper properties on Texada Island made a good showing, while others on Quatsino Sound, West Coast of Vancouver Island, commenced to ship ore. In the Rossland (Trail Creek) district the tonnage of ore shipped was 329,534 tons, an increase of 46,174 tons over the output of 1901, the Le Roi and Le Roi No. 2 mines having contributed most of this increase. The Boundary district, more than any other part of the Province, attracted general notice, the immense size of its low-grade ore bodies having been generally recognized, and the practicability of working them at a profit having been demonstrated, even with copper at low prices.

The work of the Provincial Bureau of Mines for the year is stated in detail. In this connection there is a full account of a visit paid by the Provincial Mineralogist to Mount Sicker camp, on the East Coast of Vancouver Island, together with descriptions of its copper mines and the Tyee smelter. The report of the Provincial Assayer gives a summary of the work of the Assay Office, which earned \$1,387 during the year in assay fees, assayers' examination fees, and other work. This department melted 173 lots of gold, value \$135,098, mostly small deposits by miners, to whom Provincial Government Assay Certificates were issued. The gold dust received was from widely separated localities and varied much in value, the extremes being \$13.50 and \$19.60 per ounce.

Besides the customary reports on their respective districts or divisions of Gold Commissioners and Mining Recorders, which contain much information, there are reports on the examination for assayers and coal mine managers, respectively on the inspection of metaliferous mines; on coal mining, and that of the "Special Commission appointed to inquire into the Causes of Explosions in Coal Mines." There is, as well, much other detail relative to mines and mining. The im-

portant smelting industry of the Kootenay and Boundary is scarcely noticed, though. It may be there was little that is new to chronicle about it. The report is illustrated, the illustrations including 24 views, chiefly of Coast and Northern subjects, the lower interior being left out altogether in this respect from the 1902 report.

Other tables, additional to those already given, appear in the report. From these the following have been selected as likely to be of general interest:—

PRODUCTION FOR 1902 BY DISTRICTS AND DIVISIONS.

Cariboo District—	
Cariboo Mining Division.....	\$346,395
Quesnel Mining Division.....	160,000
Omineca Mining Division.....	40,000
	<hr/> \$546,395
Cassiar District.....	426,636
Kootenay, East, District.....	1,477,466
Kootenay, West, District—	
Ainsworth Mining Division.....	\$ 87,397
Nelson Mining Division.....	818,484
Slocan Mining Division.....	1,608,827
Trail Creek Mining Division.....	493,635
Other parts.....	167,716
	<hr/> 7,806,399
Lillooet District.....	31,429
Yale District—	
Osoyoos, Grand Forks and Kettle River	
Divisions (Boundary District).....	\$2,782,263
Similkameen Division.....	3,700
Yale Division.....	58,574
	<hr/> 3,843,537
Coast Districts—	
Nanaimo, Alberni, W. Coast of Vancouver Island,	
Victoria.....	4,360,688
	<hr/> \$17,486,550

TOTAL PRODUCTION FOR ALL YEARS UP TO AND INCLUDING 1902.

Gold, placer.....	\$64,627,683
Gold, lode.....	22,049,732
	<hr/> \$86,677,415
Silver.....	18,475,882
Lead.....	10,447,521
Copper.....	12,256,219
Coal and coke.....	58,999,572
Building stone, bricks, etc.....	2,800,000
Other metals.....	81,929
	<hr/> \$189,728,538