

and not to fatten the promoter—there would be more successful working mines in the Province to-day."

Still, he is satisfied that "the prospects of a few years ago are now fulfilling the promises then given." The total amount paid back in 1900 in principal and interest was \$10,069,757, as against \$6,751,604 in 1899, and \$6,529,420 in 1898, the increase over these previous years being respectively 49 and 54 per cent. The increased production of each mineral last year, and the districts where the several products were carried, are exhibited in the following tables.

VALUES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MINERAL PRODUCTS IN 1899 AND 1900.

Minerals.	Values 1899.	Values. 1900.	Increase in 1900.
Gold.....	\$4,202,473	\$4,732,105	\$529,632
Silver.....	1,663,708	2,309,200	645,492
Copper.....	1,351,453	1,615,289	263,836
Lead.....	878,870	2,691,887	1,813,017
Coal.....	3,918,972	4,318,185	399,213
Coke.....	171,255	425,755	254,490
Sundries.....	206,400	251,740	45,340
Totals.....	12,393,131	16,344,751	3,951,620

The total production of minerals in British Columbia from 1852 to 1900 was as follows, the total being \$152,155,208 in 49 years.

The percentages of the increased production of 1900 over 1899 were as follows:

Gold.	Silver.	Lead.	Copper.	Coal and Coke.	Sundries.
75,397,303	13,649,809	7,619,956	4,362,583	49,140,917	1,984,640
inc 124 %	inc 39 %	inc 206 %	inc 194 %	inc 16 %	inc 22 %

The total production in the last 10 years was, for each year as below:

	\$	\$
1900	16,344,751	1895 5,643,042
1899	12,373,131	1894 4,225,717
1898	10,906,861	1893 3,588,413
1897	10,455,268	1892 2,978,530
1896	7,507,956	1891 3,521,102

The number of men employed in the mines is 3,739.

MINERAL PRODUCTION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IN 1900 BY DISTRICTS.

District.	Gold. \$	Silver. \$	Copper \$	Lead. \$	Total per district. \$
CARIBOO...	162,000	.....	.....	.....	\$
" Quesnel.	510,000	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Omineca.	12,527	.....	.....	.....	684,527
CASSIAR.					
Atlin Lake.	452,479	.....	.....	.....	.....
Others.....	15,000	.....	.....	.....	467,479
E. KOOTENAY					
Fort Steele	10,000	560,303	.....	1,619,848	.....
Others.....	300	1,295	348	3,466	2,215,560
W. KOOTENAY					
Ainsworth..	578	205,454	143,433	.....	.....
Nelson.....	653,700	64,098	5,979	63,299	.....
Slocan.....	103	1,237,495	.....	826,310	.....
Trail Creek.	2,306,172	97,648	335,435	45	.....
Others.....	9,297	56,249	.....	15,482	6,020,783
LILLOOET...	88,593	.....	.....	.....	88,493
YALB.					
Grand Forks	374,628	65,426	918,325	4	.....
Vernon....	4,800	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ashcroft....	57,542	.....	.....	.....	1,420,725
COAST, ETC	74,680	21,232	355,202	.....	450,914
Total metal production in 1900.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11,348,481

Building, stone, etc.....	251,740
Coal.....	4,318,185
Coke.....	425,745

Total mineral production of British Columbia, 1900 ...	16,344,751
Total mineral production of B. C. in 1899.....	12,393,131

Increase in 1900 ovtr 1899.....	\$3,951,620
Increase of 1900 over 1898.....	\$5,437,890

The report speaks of every accessible section of the Province being prospected more or less thoroughly, of others being developed with good promises of success, and of others being dormant, owing to defective transportation facilities. British Columbia is giving very striking evidences of being something beyond "a mere sea of mountains," as the Province was designated by an eminent Canadian. It has mountains, but they contain incalculable mineral treasures.

U.S. INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS ON FRIENDLY INSURANCE SOCIETIES.

The Missouri insurance report gives the title of 33 fraternal beneficiary associations that have given up the ghost since 1897. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Belleville, Ill., has issued an edict against a new Catholic insurance order, as he thinks there are too many already. The insurance commissioner of Kentucky, in his report, says: "The greater number of so-called secret fraternal or benevolent societies are being operated for the sole benefit of unscrupulous managements." The Missouri superintendent, while recognizing "the good these societies do when their beneficence is extended to a stricken family," speaks of the distress caused by 303 such institutions having failed in recent years. "It is a melancholy reflection that with the demise of each of them there also died the last hope of many men to provide for their families when they were no longer here to earn a living for them."

Insurance Commissioner Lorichan, of New Hampshire, says in his report:

"The assessment life business is practically dead, in its old form, and its ending, in many instances, was anything but honourable to its management. It reappears occasionally, however, under the guise of fraternal insurance, using the name of the latter to escape supervision, but following the old methods of the former. Several associations of this character have been refused admission to this State on the ground that the salaries paid the officers, as well as the general expense of management, was not such as to justify their classification as fraternal associations. Others had been admitted before their true character was discovered, and to prevent the continuation of this the law was amended. One illustration will serve to prove what has been written regarding them, and at the same time show the fallacy of classing such organizations as fraternal, even when incorporated as such under the laws of other States. The following