

ounces compared with production for the corresponding period of last year.

Several new alluvial gold discoveries are reported to have been made recently in Victoria, and a nugget of 114 ounces has been found in the Poseidon field, which has resulted in reviving interest in the district.

NEW ZEALAND.

The Government of New Zealand is now offering a bonus on the production of marketable copper from ores mined and smelted in the country; and a bonus of four pence a pound on the production of the first one hundred thousand pounds of quicksilver, free from impurities, from any New Zealand mine. In respect to copper, the conditions are that if 1,000 tons are produced on or before June 30th, 1909, the bonus payable will be £1,000; after that date, £500 will be paid on respectively the second and third thousand tons produced.

UNITED STATES.

During the past two years and a half the productive capacity of iron furnaces in the United States has been increased to the extent of four million tons per annum, so that on July 1st of this year the actual productive capacity of the plants is about 27,700,000 gross tons per annum. Since that date still other furnaces have been blown in. For the first six months of this year the production was 13,478,044 tons.

The report compiled by the Minnesota Tax Commission, after exhaustive investigation, has developed the fact that the iron ore resources of the Lake Superior region are greater than a previous estimate. Thus in the Gopher State alone no less than 30,591 acres of iron lands, estimated to contain 1,135,000,000 (roughly) tons of ore, have been proved, the greater proportion being credited to the Mesabi range.

Several of the copper districts, in which the Amalgamated Copper Company have no interest, expect to benefit by the shut down of the Butte mines. This is especially the case in the Black Hills region, where recently some important strikes have been made. Meanwhile, already about fifty per cent. of the miners have been laid off in the Butte district, while the large copper concerns in Arizona have curtailed production very considerably.

The small electric smelter at Heroult, Shasto County, California, to which reference was previously made in this column, is now producing ferro-silicon at the rate of two tons daily. Directly the plant for making electrodes is completed the production of pig iron by electric smelting will be resumed.

The discovery of deposits of asbestos in the Province of Ilocos Norte, in the Philippines is announced. The mineral is found as a stockwork in the serpentine formation of the district. Two varieties of the mineral occur, namely, the true crysolite asbestos and tremolitic or amphibole asbestos.

Clarence Mackay has regained control of the Yellow Jacket mine, in Nevada, once owned by his father, John W. Mackay, who lost it to Robert Morrow many years ago. Morrow held on to it, and seemingly it was his for years to come. The Mackay interest in it was an unknown quantity and was not heard of until it suddenly asserted itself.

Commercial Note

The catalogue of Belliss & Morecom, Limited, has been received from their Canadian agents, Laurie & Lamb, 212 Board of Trade Building, Montreal. The catalogue is admirably illustrated with diagrams and engravings. The B. and M. patent self-lubricating, quick-revolution engines, direct, belt or rope driven. Their engines for electric lighting, power, traction and mill driving are the subjects of this catalogue.

Company Notes

A statement issued late in September by the Dominion Iron & Steel Company shows that its claim against the Coal Company amounts to \$1,796,000. This is made up of \$289,000 paid to the Coal Company in excess of \$1.28 a ton, while the balance the company claims is damages.

STATISTICS AND RETURNS

Dominion Coal Company's output for September:—

No.	1907 approx.	1906 actual.
1...	41,130	41,186
2...	55,450	52,636
3...	26,800	31,971
4...	39,720	50,741
5...	58,360	57,981
6...	18,540	14,468
7...	.....	12,028
8...	19,700	23,271
9...	28,800	34,420
10...	8,500	5,031
	297,000	323,733
Shipments.	287,150	333,779

Following are the ore shipments and smelter receipts in South-eastern British Columbia for week ending September 21st and year to date:—

	Week.	Year.
Boundary	41,493	882,078
Rossland	7,112	194,280
East of Columbia River	2,782	100,283
Total	51,387	1,176,641

	Week ending Sept. 28	Since Jan. 1.
	Ore in pounds	Ore in pounds
Buffalo.	60,000	1,858,830
Foster	128,000	447,300
Nipissing	178,210	4,090,291

	Oct. 5.	Since Jan. 1.
	Ore in pounds	Ore in pounds
Buffalo	80,000	1,838,830
Coniagas	65,000	4,622,820
Cobalt Central .....	.....	101,360
Colonial .....	.....	74,250
Drummond .....	.....	44,090
Foster .....	.....	447,306
Green-Meehan .....	.....	196,780
Hudson Bay .....	.....	45,170
Imperial Cobalt .....	.....	37,530
Kerr Lake (Jacobs) .....	.....	373,780
La Rose .....	.....	1,229,852
McKinley	172,260	360,260
Nipissing .....	.....	4,090,291
Nova Scotia .....	.....	156,000
O'Brien .....	.....	2,281,014
Red Rock .....	.....	40,000
Right of Way .....	.....	134,530
Silver Leaf .....	.....	43,518
Silver Queen	65,000	837,157
Trethewey	118,990	1,530,008
Townsite .....	.....	150,078
Temiskaming .....	.....	229,011
University .....	.....	61,388

The total shipments for the week were 501,250 pounds, or 250 tons.