

The total bounties paid to manufacturers by the Dominion Government for the past few years are as follows:—

1906	\$2,050,000
1905	1,540,000
1904	908,000
1903	1,401,000
1902	791,000
1901	467,000
1900	312,000

A new record was made at the plant of the Dominion Iron & Steel Company on Monday, January 6th, when in twenty-four hours the blast furnaces turned out 1,135 tons of pig iron. This is the best day's work yet done at the works. The previous week a record of 1,027 tons was made.

The production of gold at the Rand in December is officially announced at 583,526 fine ounces, valued at £2,478,659. The preliminary statement, which was sadly out, placed the production last month at 540,000 fine ounces. In December last year the output was 550,167, and in December, 1905, 431,594 fine ounces. The out-turn of gold at the Rand for the calendar year ended December 31st last aggregated 6,551,662 fine ounces, against 5,786,617 fine ounces in 1906, and 4,897,221 fine ounces in 1905.

The first estimate of Canada's gold production in 1907 shows a decrease as compared with 1906. The yield of gold from British Columbia was nearly a million dollars less than in 1906, and there was a further falling off in the Yukon. The placer mines at the end of the year, however, were in such a position as to indicate a larger output. During the current year than in 1907. Together the declines in the British Columbia and Yukon fields in 1907 represented a loss of two and one-half millions. The output in 1906 was \$12,023,032. This year's production is \$9,500,000, the decline being in exact figures \$2,523,032, which is a little less than the decrease in the entire world's production. The output in the United States fell off by nearly six millions, and that of Australia by seven millions. Large gains were made in Africa. Although the Transvaal output was enormously increased since the Boer war, it is now receiving a setback. Monthly returns continue to reflect decreases, the output for December being ten thousand ounces below October. The value of the Transvaal December output was \$11,475,000, compared with \$11,677,000 in November, and \$11,684,000 last December.

*Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company, Fernie, B.C.*—There is a very marked increase in the annual output of the collieries and coke ovens of this company. The total production might have been larger had the management been able to rely upon regular orders from the smelters. As has been mentioned before in these columns, the increase of wages at the smelters in South Eastern British Columbia disturbed the balance of labor during the summer. The reduction of wages following hard on the heels of the fall in price of copper, was an inevitable consequence of an ill-advised step. Temporarily the higher wages paid at the smelters drew workmen from Fernie and left the Coal Company short handed. Yet the year's output is more than satisfactory.

1906—Coal, 806,901 tons; coke, 213,295 tons.

1907 (approximate—not including December)—Coal, 985,000 tons; Coke, 235,000 tons. Increase over 1906—Coal, 22 per cent.; Coke, 10 per cent.

When returns are complete the coal tonnage will exceed 1,000,000 tons and the coke, 250,000 tons.

The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company will, during 1908, practically double its output.

## INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

From the Christman Company, Massilon, Ohio, we have received a catalogue of their drilling machinery and mine equipment. Features of especial interest are their automatic switch and signal for use in coal mine tipples and at partings in mines, and their hollow rod tools for test drilling. The former device is labor-saving; the latter has one or two valuable improvements. Hollow rod tools are especially adapted for drilling test holes for coal, lead, zinc, placers, water wells, foundations and all work where continuous samples of successive strata are desired.

The Mashek Engineering Company has changed its location. It is now established in larger and better quarters at 141 Broadway, New York. The coal briquetting machinery rendered this change essential.

## MARKET NOTES.

Silver.—January 2nd, 54 1-4; January 3rd, 55 1-8; January 4th, 55 5-8; January 6th, 55 7-8; January 7th, 58 3-8; January 8th, 57 1-8; January 9th, 56; January 10th, 54 3-4; January 11th, 55 1-4; January 13th, 56 3-8; January 14th, 55 7-8; January 15th, 55 5-8; January 16th, 56; January 17th, 55 3-8; January 18th, 55 1-2; January 20th, 55 5-8; January 21st, 55 1-2; January 22nd, 55 1-2. Sterling Exchange, January 22nd, \$4.8675.

Copper.—January 22nd, New York, lake, 14 cents per pound; electrolytic, 13 3-4 per pound; London, standard £62 12s. for spot. Market steady. Fair business doing.

Lead.—New York, 3.75 per pound; London, £14 10s. for Spanish lead. Market steady and unchanged.

Tin.—New York, 28 cents per pound; London, £124 for spot.

The growing tendency to install tube mills as accessories of the stamp mill will have a strong bearing upon the gold industry of Canada, particularly that of Nova Scotia. Whilst the tube mill has not yet been standardized, different makers producing highly divergent types, yet several makes are efficient and economical. A study of the tube mill in its relation to South African gold milling induces the belief that several Nova Scotian gold mines could be revived if a well-designed equipment were installed. The designing and arrangement of overground equipment must meet the special requirements of each mine. The erection of standard stamp mills, ordered from the manufacturer's catalogue, is often a serious blunder.

Among the best gold miners of Canada are Nova Scotians who have worked in British Columbian camps and have had the added advantage of working the Nova Scotia lodes. Usually these men are expert hammersmen and can also handle a machine to great advantage. The Nova Scotian miner in fact is usually proficient in timbering also.