

A press despatch from Johannesburg, under date May 21, states that since the beginning of the importation of Chinese labourers for work in Transvaal mines, 3,768 have been repatriated, 508 of whom paid their expenses, while 315 were sent back as undesirable, and 2,945 as physically unfit.

A report sent out from Nelson to the effect that the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. of Canada, Ltd., had acquired a controlling interest in the Eureka Copper Mines, Ltd., of Nelson, with mining property on Forty Nine Creek, has been given an unqualified contradiction by one of the officials of the former company.

Beside the old stand-bys of Rossland—Le Roi, Centre Star, War Eagle and Le Roi No. 2—several other mines are contributing to the activity of that camp. White Bear, Jumbo and Spitzee mines have also been at work during the two or three years last past, and now there are others finding employment for miners and in small measure producing ore.

The record of ore production in the Boundary district during the current year shows an average output of rather better than 106,000 tons per month, the total tonnage to May 31 having been 530,937 tons. Unless some unforeseen contingency arise to prevent this average being maintained, an aggregate tonnage of 1,200,000 to 1,300,000 tons as the year's output appears reasonably probable.

Hon. W. W. B. McInnes, governor of Yukon Territory, has returned to Dawson, after some weeks spent in Ottawa in connection with changes in mining and other laws affecting the Yukon. On his return from the East he visited Seattle, Washington, where he had a conference with some of the directors of the Alaska-Yukon Exposition which it is intended shall be held in Seattle in 1909.

The Hall Mining and Smelting Co., Ltd., has made important changes in, and additions to, its silver-lead smelting plant at Nelson. Some of the company's erstwhile critics who so accustomed themselves to characterising its plant as "obsolete" as to continue doing so long after the installation of modern appliances at its works, have at last realised that facts are distinctly against their contention.

The La Plata Mines Co., Ltd., owning the property on Kokanee Creek, near Nelson, formerly known as the Molly Gibson, has completed its 75-ton concentrator and intends to run it regularly from now on. Capt. Trethewey, the company's manager states that there is an abundant supply of ore of average good grade opened up in the mine ready for shipping, and that profitable operation seems now assured.

The new director of the Geological Survey Department of Canada has made a commendable innovation

in arranging for the issue from time to time of Press Bulletins to contain such information concerning the work of the Survey as shall be available for prompt publication. Besides giving the public, through the medium of the Press, authentic information on what members of the Survey staff are doing, this departure will most probably increase general interest in the work of the Department and lead to a wider appreciation of its value.

With a record production at its mines during any single month of 84,207 tons, such as was made in May, and the payment during April of its customary quarterly dividend at the rate of ten per cent per annum on its authorised and issued capital of \$3,500,000, bringing its total of distributed profits to date up to \$1,581,148, the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co., Ltd., is doing excellent work in attracting attention to British Columbia as a good field for the investment of capital in the utilisation of its mineral resources.

From Rossland comes the news that a contract has been let for a new hoist for the Centre Star mine. This hoist, it is stated will have a capacity of 1,200 h.p., will be operated by steam, and will when installed be the largest lode-mining hoist in Canada. It is to serve for both the Centre Star and adjoining War Eagle, the necessary connections between which mines are being made. It will be about six months before the installation of the new plant and the connection of the mines will be completed.

The prospects for the west fork of Kettle River, in the Boundary district, are more satisfactory than at any previous time. There appears to be good reason to believe that the construction of the Midway-Vernon railway will shortly be resumed, several of the small but high-grade mines about Beaverdell and Carmi are being further developed after having received profitable returns from carload shipments of ore, and additions are being made to the gold-saving plant at the Carmi mine.

While the Britannia mining and smelting companies are not giving publicity to what they are doing, it is evident that, in the language of the West, they are "sawing wood" steadily. An enlarged production at the mines at Howe Sound, and a correspondingly busy time at the smelting works at Crofton are making for a considerable improvement in the returns of mineral production on the Coast this year as compared with last. In addition, custom ore is being received at the smelter, so that its practically continuous operation may be looked for.

The information showing progress at the coal mines in the eastern foothills of the Rocky Mountains of the West Canadian Collieries, Ltd., operating in the Blairmore-Frank section of the Crow's Nest Pass country, published in this month's issue of the B. C. MINING RECORD, will doubtless be read with interest. Coke from this company's Belgian ovens at Lille finds