

Mining Throughout British Columbia

Value of Trail Smelter Production in 1918—Proposed New Bond Issue of Consolidated—Estimated Coal Production—Platinum Occurrence at Franklin Camp—Notes.

Ore receipts in gross tons for the week from January 1 to January 7, 1919, inclusive, at the Consolidated Company's smelter, Trail, were as follows:

Name	Locality	Tons
Arlington.....	Slocan	224
Blue Grouse.....	Cowichan	55
Center Star.....	Rossland	1289
Emma.....	Eholt	113
Eureka.....	Taghum	104
Josie (Le Roi 2).....	Rossland	596
Iron Mark.....	Kamloops	104
North Star.....	Kimberley	295
Paradise.....	Athalmer	141
Retallack.....	Retallack	28
Sullivan, zinc.....	Kimberley	4186
Sullivan, lead.....	Kimberley	253
Silversmith.....	Sandon	41
Venus.....	Carcross, Yukon.....	42

Total for week.....7736

During the calendar year 1918, according to statements given out by the local officials of the Consolidated company, the value of the metals smelted or refined, with the December output estimated, was approximately \$12,676,247, meaning that it averaged over a million dollars in value per month. Lead was the leader with over \$3,500,000 worth, followed by spelter with a value exceeding \$3,500,000 worth; copper was next, with \$2,557,000; silver, \$2,000,000, and gold, \$1,444,000. Some 75 tons of lead piping was made, valued at about \$15,000. In detail the figures are as follows:

Lead, 40,662,704 pounds	\$3,537,655
Spelter, 25,453,797 pounds	3,023,290
Copper, 9,951,781 pounds	2,557,000
Gold, 72,205 ounces	1,444,000
Silver, 2,088,331 ounces	2,000,476
Sulphuric Acid, 3,926 tons	98,150
Bluestone, 174,178 pounds	15,676
Total	\$12,676,247

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada has been called for January 16 in Toronto, when the annual statement for the past fiscal year will be presented.

It is generally expected in the street that the report will show that the company has had a trying year owing to the excessive cost of operating, the loss of revenue from gold mines which could not be operated to yield a profit during the war, as well as handicaps arising from lack of working capital.

In connection with the latter feature the notice of the meeting intimates that power will be sought for the issuance of 3,000,000 debenture bonds. It is understood that financing arrangements of this character will place the company in a much easier position as the amount of business handled has been altogether out of proportion to the working capital available.

Faith in the future of the industry is indicated by the large extensions which are being made for developments, and it is declared to be absolutely essential to have plenty of working capital to enable the company to cope with the expanding nature of its business, and the length of time for which capital is tied up in the various mineral processes.

From the latest statistical data supplied to him from the Provincial Department of Mines, the Hon. William Sloan, Minister of Mines, makes the announcement that during the year 1918 British Columbia mined 2,573,139 long tons of coal, or an increase over the production of the previous year amounting to 174,424 long tons.

Of the above mentioned amount the collieries of Vancouver Island were responsible for 1,666,582 tons, from the collieries of the Nicola-Princeton District came 174,278 tons, and from the Crows Nest Pass fields, 731,951 tons. The product from the new mine of the northern district at Telkwa was 328 tons.

It should be noted, however, that there were anumber of factors during the year which prevented the increase in 1918 being considerably larger than indicated in the above figures. The strike in the Crow's Nest Pass field was responsible for the loss of approximately 60,000 tons, while the ravages of the Spanish influenza epidemic and other contributory causes added a debit in the same district of at least another 75,000 tons.

On Vancouver Island the East Wellington mine of the British Columbia Coal Mining Company was closed down for the first eight months of the year on account of a fire in the mine which resulted in a loss of approximately 50,000 tons. The influenza epidemic amongst the miners of the island is also reputed to have caused a loss of production amounting to at least another 75,000 tons. The Nicola Princeton shortage is also placed at 8,000 tons attributable to the same cause.

Spanish influenza, a strike and a fire are therefore to be held responsible for a loss in production in the coal mines of British Columbia during the year that has just closed of 268,000 tons. From the "flu" cause alone there is a loss of 158,000 tons, while the remainder of the drop was caused by what may be dubbed more or less natural causes.

The following are the comparison tonnages of the various companies and districts for 1917 and 1918 respectively: Coast District, Victouwer Island: Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir), Ltd., 1917, 797,348 tons; 1918, 789,614 tons; Canadian Western Fuel Company, Ltd., 1917, 658,427 tons, 1918, 731,922 tons; Pacific Coast Coal Mines, Ltd., 1917, 150,538 tons, 1918, 829,629 tons; British Columbia Coal Mining Company, 1917, 61,586 tons, 1918, 14,716 tons; Nanaoose Collieries, 1917, 27,822 tons, 1918, 30,436 tons; Granby Consolidated Mining and Smelting and Power Company, Ltd., 1918 (new mine), 17,625 tons. Total for 1917, 1,695,721 tons; for 1918, 1,666,582 tons.

Production from the Vancouver Island mines, therefore, shows a decrease of 29,139 tons in 1918, when compared with the output for the preceding year.

Middlesboro Collieries, Ltd., 1917, 83,458 tons, 1918, 100,000 tons; Merritt Collieries, 1917, 13,357 tons; Pacific Coast Colliery, 1917, 206 tons (neither of the foregoing were producers in 1918); Fleming Coal Company, 1917, 7,296 tons, 1918, 31,000 tons; Coalmont Collieries, Ltd. (new producer), 1918, 4,500 tons; Princeton Coal and Land Co., 1917 46,926 tons, 1918, 38,778 tons. Here an increase over 1917 is shown in last year's output amounting to 23,035 tons.

Figures in this field are more eloquent from the point of view of an increase last year. The Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company mined 450,686 tons in 1917 and increased the figures to 605,979 tons in 1918; Corbin Coal and Coke Co. produced 101,065 tons in 1917 and 125,972 tons in 1918. The increase here is 180,200 tons for the year just closed.

The Telkwa Mine, as already stated, produced 328 tons last year; this is a new mine in the northern field.

Mr. William Thomlinson, of the Canadian Munition Resources Commisison, has made public the following letter regarding the occurrence of platinum in the Franklin Camp:

Mr. Geo. C. Mackenzie, Member and Secretary of the Canadian Munition Resources Commission, has authorized me to make public the following information regarding the tests for platinum made on the material taken by myself, during the month of September last, from mineral