

the work of cutting out a station for it has not yet been commenced.

The backward spring is adversely affecting development of mining properties up the South Fork. A report from the Index mine, higher up than the Cork-Province, is that the snow that far up the South Fork valley has not yet commenced to move, while each fresh snow storm piles up a further quantity of snow. No bad slides have yet come down to the wagon road.

Slocan.—Both mining and concentrating silver-lead-zinc ore has been resumed at the Galena Farm mine and mill near Silvertown, Slocan lake, and the prospects are believed to be good for a favorable summer run. There were reports lately of negotiations for the purchase of this property but nothing definite seems to have resulted as yet. The prospective purchasers are reported to be seeking to acquire neighboring mining properties before concluding negotiations for the purchase of the Galena Farm.

Trail.—Last month the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, Ltd., issued a statement to its employees, stated to number nearly 3000 in all at mines and smelting works, regarding the situation in connection with the demands made for an increase in wages. The statement follows:

Trail, B. C., April 17, 1917.

"To all Employees;

"During the past fortnight officials of District 6, Western Federation of Miners, have made demands on behalf of all our employees in District 6 for an increase of 50 cents per day, and also for the check-off system.

"In the past the policy of the company has been to treat with committees at each of our camps regardless of whether or not members of the committee belonged to a union.

"We have told the officials that this policy will be adhered to. We have said that we considered it impracticable for one committee to represent all of the camps, because no two camps work under the same or even similar conditions, and that therefore each camp should select its own committee, which we will be glad to meet at any time.

"In granting the War bonus effective after March 31st, we did more than our profits justify, but we shall welcome a discussion with your committee as to the fairness of our position.

"Mr. J. D. McNiven is here. He represented the Minister of Labor last year when the existing contracts were agreed on. His presence should be taken advantage of to bring about an amicable understanding.

"We sincerely hope that the long-time friendly relations may be continued, especially as our output of metals is so vitally necessary for our men at the front, who are risking everything for our protection."

It is reported in up-country newspapers that all the copper blast furnaces at Trail are inoperative, only the lead furnaces now being in blast. The electrolytic zinc department is still being operated.

#### BOUNDARY.

News from Phoenix is to the effect that on the evening of April 26th, the Granby Co's mines in that camp were closed for a period of from ten days to two weeks,

or until such time as coke shall begin to again reach the smelting works at Grand Forks.

The comment of the Grand Forks Gazette on April 28 was as follows: "The Granby Co's smelter in this city, which has been operating only three of its eight blast furnaces for the past week, will probably be forced to close the smelter early next week through lack of coke, occasioned by the continued strike of coal-miners in the Crow's Nest Pass. The mines at Phoenix are also temporarily closed. For the same reason the smelter at Trail and the mines at Rossland are now idle. Unsettled labor conditions in the coal mines have seriously interfered with the production of metalliferous minerals, through lack of coke for smelters, for nearly eight months. The outlook at present is not particularly encouraging."

#### YALE.

Nicola Valley.—The Donohue Mines Corporation recently installed on its property at Stump Lake, in Nicola district, a 30-ton concentrating mill, designed by Mr. Bernard T. de Ulrich, of Seattle, Washington, to treat complex ores of the Tubal Cain, King William, and Joshua mines, the ores of which contain copper, lead, zinc, silver and gold. A "balanced rod" mill is used for grinding and Monarch concentrators. The Joshua and King William mines are developed by shaft, that of the former being 400 ft. deep with levels each 100 feet; the Tubal Cain is opened by tunnel, following the vein for more than 300 feet. Some crude ore has been shipped to smelting works for a bulk test of its valuable contents. Quite recent reports are that concentrate has been made and is awaiting shipment, but for the time being the wagon road is not in good condition for heavy hauling between the mine and the railway. Mr. Frank M. Hawkes is manager of the company, and Mr. James McKieran, superintendent.

From another source it is learned that Dr. E. W. Bridgman, of Vancouver, B. C., one of the directors of the Donohue company, who was at the mine recently, on his return to Vancouver expressed himself as being well pleased with the new concentrating plant recently put in and now operating on the company's property.

Improvements continue to be made at the Diamond Vale No. 3 mine, near Merritt, the latest being a new tippie, which is being erected to facilitate the screening and handling of coal for the local market. The Merritt Collieries, Limited, the company operating the colliery, expected to have this tippie completed by the end of April. Hitherto this mine has only been able to supply mine-run coal to the local market, but hereafter it will be practicable to deliver lump coal as well.

#### MAGNITUDE OF SUDBURY NICKEL INDUSTRY.

The large bodies of nickel-copper ore in the Sudbury district are, all things considered, the most important and valuable of the mineral deposits yet found in Ontario. Their working requires more labor than the mines of any other branch of the industry. Their number and dimensions are such as to predicate a long life for the nickel business, and to fully warrant the large investments of capital which have been and are still being made for their equipment and operation. The profits realized by nickel mining companies of late years have been large, and were never larger than at the present moment.