

by spring will be in a position to put on a large force of men and produce coal to meet all demands.

Production of copper in the United States in 1906 is estimated to have been larger by 43,365,755 lb, than in 1905. The quantity produced in 1906 is placed at 915,000,000 lb. of a total value of \$178,699,500.

Lord Strathcona, high commissioner for Canada, has been informed by the minister of the interior, by cablegram, that the tonnage of zinc deposits immediately available in the Ainsworth and Sloean districts of British Columbia is equivalent to approximately four times the present consumption of the Dominion.

The Sixth Annual Number of *The Anconda News*, containing illustrated articles on Boundary district towns, mines, smelters, etc., has been received from the editor-publisher, Robert Keffer. The practical nature of the information published, and the general get-up of this special issue, are alike creditable to its youthful proprietor.

A coal mine operators' association has been formed at a meeting of the general managers of a number of companies, held at Fernie, Southeast Kootenay. The main object of the organization, it is announced, is to prevent strikes and lock-outs through the adoption of effective means to compel both the men and the employing companies to live up to their agreements.

From the *Nelson Daily News* it is learned that: The La Plata mine is now shipping the whole of its product to Trail. The roads are good and about a car a day is being sent out. The cessation of shipments did not last any time, the output for the month being about 1,725 tons milled and two cars of clean ore. Seventeen cars of concentrates have been shipped from the mill.

A *Reuter* despatch dated Ottawa, December 4, and published in England, stated that M. Lemieux, postmaster general and minister of labour, had been receiving congratulations on the settlement through the intervention of the labour department of the strike at the Lethbridge (Alberta) coal mines, whereby the catastrophe of a fuel famine in the Northwest had been averted.

In the course of a review of the year 1906 the *London Critic* says: Outside South Africa, Greater Britain has had a year of pronounced prosperity. Canada, as is only right and proper for our oldest self-governing dependency, has led the way, and it is not overstating the case to assert that within a year's, or perhaps two years', time, Canadian securities, industrial, mining, and those associated with agricultural development, will be as popular with the investing public as some of its railroad, land, and trading issues have been during 1906.

Developments at the Similkameen Mining and Smelting Company's property on Bear Creek, northern Similkameen, are decidedly encouraging. The company put in a steam hoist, erected buildings for the comfortable housing of its men, sent in supplies for the winter, and is now engaged in steadily developing its gold-copper mine, in which the ore body shows larger as depth is gained.

A table printed on another page shows the aggregate value of the mineral production of British Columbia for the ten years 1897-1906 to have been \$172,964,734. Tell the ordinary business man of the Province that for ten years the average value of its mineral production has exceeded \$17,000,000 and he will not believe the statement, yet this is an incontrovertible fact, on official record.

Manager Trethewey of the La Plata mines has arranged, the *Nelson Canadian* states, for the treatment at the Trail smelter of all the concentrates he now has ready for shipment, about 1,700 tons. The same newspaper also publishes a report from the Silver Cup, in the Lardeau district, to the effect that there is now ore in sight in every part of the mine workings from the 300 to the 700-ft. level.

Notice has been gazetted by A. P. Luxton, solicitor for the applicants (whose names are not published), that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia at its next session, for an Act to consolidate the leaseholds, placer mining claims, and other mining property now held by the applicants situate on Willow River, Slough Creek and Williams Creek, Cariboo district, into one holding.

"Cobalt (Ontario) and Goldfield (Nevada) are today the excuses for the two greatest gambling affairs on record," observes the *Mining and Scientific Press*, of San Francisco. "At Cobalt the mines already organized into companies represent a market value of \$200,000,000, while it is a fact that the entire output of the district since the first ore was shipped reaches only \$5,000,000. We do not deprecate an eager interest in mining, only the insane gamble that uses mining for an excuse."

The *Kaslo Kootenian* reports the strike, late in December, at the Whitewater deep mine, of "a solid vein of clean galena, over 3 ft. thick, and permeated throughout with rich grey copper." The same newspaper states that: "Things are progressing favourably at the Rambler-Cariboo, and we are giving away no secret when we state that ore was struck some time ago in the upraise being driven to tap the ore body in No. 8 shaft. Upraising is going on steadily, with about 130 ft. yet to be driven before connections will be complete."

Work on the Great Cariboo Gold Company's prop-