

GENERAL MINING NEWS.

ONTARIO.

Sulphide.—Pyrite mining is becoming increasingly active. Two new concerns are now operating.

Madoc.—The Geo. H. Gillespie Tale Company is soon to double its grinding plant. Its product is now being shipped to Europe in addition to supplying the Canadian market.

Cobalt.—The Buffalo Mines, Limited, has placed at the disposal of the Cobalt civic authorities the tank and pumping apparatus installed at the Buffalo mine. This generous offer is much appreciated.

The Coniagas plant is soon to have 30 stamps added. This will make a total of 60 stamps.

Sturgeon Lake.—Numerous reports of gold finds are heard. Authentic news is lacking. The Provincial Government is to send Mr. E. S. Moore to the district before the summer is over.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Rossland.—A considerable body of low grade ore has been found on the sixteenth level of the Centre Star mine, shipping

ore, 14 feet wide, has been encountered on the sixth level. The big ore shoot on the ninth level of the War Eagle has been opened up west from the crosscut.

Trail.—On Friday, July 9th, the smelter of the Consolidated smelted 250 tons of lead ore and produced 130 tons of bullion in 24 hours. This beats all previous Canadian records.

Nelson, July 10.—the amalgamation of the British Columbia Copper Company and the Dominion Copper Company, with the mines and the smelters at Greenwood, is definitely announced from the East.

The strike situation on the properties of the first named company remains unchanged.

The holidays interfered with the week's output, and the shipments appended in detail are below the average.

YUKON

Dawson.—The first stamp mill erected in the vicinity of Dawson is soon to be in operation. It is a two-stamp mill, and is to be placed on the Lone Star property.

MINING NEWS OF THE WORLD.

GREAT BRITAIN

The eleventh hour agreement between the South Wales operators and miners, ratified by the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, was announced on July 1st.

After two hours' deliberation the following report was supplied to the press:—"The deputation appointed from the Federation to assist the South Wales workmen's representatives in their negotiations with the owners tendered a report of the joint meeting held at Cardiff yesterday, at which the following terms were adopted:—"The workmen's representatives having declared that it is not their intention to prevent the mutual introduction of any new method which may lead to the better working of the pits, due regard being had for safety and economical working, it was agreed that the owners shall have freedom to propose any method of working their collieries without being met with the objection that their doing so is a breach of custom of the Conciliation Board agreement, and the workmen allege that the proposed method of working is a source of extra danger to the workmen employed at the colliery. This question, in the event of a failure to agree at the colliery, shall be referred to the decision of an experienced and disinterested person to be agreed upon by the owners and workmen's representatives on the Conciliation Board, or failing such agreement, to an experienced and disinterested person to be appointed by the Home Secretary—the owners and workmen to be at liberty to call evidence before the person agreed upon or to be appointed. Any further objection to be brought before the Conciliation Board in the usual way, and the Board shall either decide the matter or report failure to decide within two months from the date of reference.""

The conference decided, having heard the report of the deputation and the terms of the agreement, to adopt the same as satisfactory, and thanked the representatives for their services in the matter.

A discussion afterwards took place upon an application received by the miners in Scotland for a 12 1-2 per cent. reduction in their wages, a joint meeting to consider which is to be held in Glasgow on Wednesday next. After discussion the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That this conference hears with deep regret that the Scotch coal owners are pressing for a reduction of 12 1-2 per cent, in the

workmen's wages in Scotland. And we hereby adhere to our previous decision to resist any such reduction. In the event of the employers pressing their claim we empower the officials hereby to call a special conference with a view to deciding whether rule 20 shall be put in force to resist any such reduction."

Rule 20, it may be explained, empowers the Federation to take a ballot of the whole of the miners in the United Kingdom as to whether the men shall hand in their notices and support the affected miners by causing a national stoppage.

RUSSIA

The estimated gross production of crude oil by the Baker Russian Petroleum Company for the week ended June 26th, was 2,569 tons.

SOUTH AFRICA

Mr. R.S. Holland, the British Board of Trade Commissioner, has completed his investigations of the Witwatersrand mining industry. Mr. Holland, in an interview, pointed out that German manufacturers had their representatives in the field, and that British manufacturers would have to follow suit. The opportunity of large business in mining machinery was exceedingly good.

The half-year's dividend distribution of Rand mining concerns amounts to £4,542,494. Including mines in outlying districts the total amount is £4,592,695. These dividend payments represent 6s. 1½d. of every sovereign won.

In the course of a speech at the Goerz annual meeting, recently held at Johannesburg, Mr. Francke mentioned that the charge for blasting gelatine—the form of explosive most used by the mines—which in 1908 was 52s 6d per case, has been reduced to 45s per case practically all round; and as regards water, legislation was contemplated with a view to enabling the Rand Water Board to cut down its rate of 3s per 1,000 gallons to a price in the neighbourhood of 1s. 3d. It is quite clear that such a reduction by the Rand Water Board will serve as a standard for the price of water for mining operations from other sources as well. Another matter affecting the unskilled labour question has been taken in hand—namely, the selections of a stope drill of