

thence to Salmo and shipment to Trail by railway. Last autumn a test shipment of 10.75 tons to Trail gave a return of \$2.40 gold and 48.5 oz. silver a ton and 71.2 per cent. lead. Assays of average samples have since given a higher return in gold, so it is hoped the ore now being sent out will prove to be of higher average value than that shipped in 1915. Costs are high, the charge from mine to the railway at Salmo being \$35 a ton; however, the Messrs. Laib are determined to demonstrate that ore from the Bayonne country is of sufficiently high value to warrant the expenditure of money by the Provincial Government on road construction and they hope their enterprise will induce the Government to make an appropriation sufficient to pay the cost of constructing a snow road, if not an ordinary wagon road, to Kootenay Lake, distant about 25 miles, so as to provide an outlet for ore at a considerably lower freight charge than has to be paid under existing conditions.

Further development of the Molly molybdenite property, on Lost Creek, some 15 miles by wagon-road from Salmo, in the southern part of Nelson mining division, is being arranged for. Mr. J. R. Rutherford, formerly manager for the Sheep Creek Motherlode Mining Co., is to direct this work, in doing which he will employ about 15 men. It is stated that a short option of purchase has been taken on the property, from which ore was shipped to Denver, Colorado, two or three years ago for bulk tests, and which gave satisfactory results, but the breaking out of war in Europe prevented the successful conclusion of prior negotiations for the purchase of the property by New York men understood to be acting for German principals.

Rossland—July ore production totalled 28,235 tons, of which 16,259 tons was from the Consolidated Co.'s Centre Star-War Eagle group of mines, 10,543 tons from the same company's Le Roi mine, and 1,433 tons from the Le Roi No. 2 Company's Josre group. The Consolidated Company is prospecting the Deer Park property, in the South Belt region, doing both surface work and diamond drilling.

Trail—Ore receipts for the month of July totalled 40,268 tons, of which quantity 32,720 tons was from mines operated by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. and 7,548 tons was of custom ores. The larger shippers were the company's Centre-Star-War Eagle and Le Roi mines at Rossland, together 26,802 tons, and its Sullivan mine, near Kimberley, East Kootenay, with 5,532 tons. Enlargement of the electrolytic zinc refinery, which the Consolidated Co. has been operating for several months, is being made; other advances are the construction and equipment of an electrolytic copper refinery, and the completion of provision for resuming the manufacture of fluosilicic acid for use in the electrolytic refining process.

Trout Lake Division—Among the ore receipts at Trail during the first week in August was that of 63 tons from the Silver Cup mine, near Ferguson. This was the first ore from that part of the district shipped to Trail this year. Efforts are being made to resume production at the Triune mine, and development work is being done on several other properties in the division, after a period of inactivity which had for some time been general in this region.

General Notes.

Efforts are being made to induce the Provincial Government to construct a wagon road into what is known as the Burnt Basin district, between the Columbia

river and Christina lake, starting from near Paulson on the railway from Nelson to Boundary district, the object being to give wagon-hauling communication to a number of mineral claims on which there are good showings of ore. One group, known as the Molly Gibson group, shipped ore to a smelting works some years ago, but the cost of getting it out to the railway was too great to allow of production being continued.

Ore is being hauled from the Aberdeen, near Mamette lake, in Nicola district, to the railway for transportation thence to the British Columbia Copper Co.'s smelting works at Greenwood, Boundary district.

It is stated that the Granby Consolidated M. S. and P. Co. is arranging to develop a group of copper claims near Kamloops, in Yale district. There has only been one shipper of copper ore in considerable quantity from a mine in that neighborhood in recent years, namely the Iron Mask, on Coal Hill.

DRILLING AT FLIN-FLON STOPPED.

The Pas, Man., Aug. 18.—The deal for the copper sulphide mines at Flin-Flon is temporarily held up pending a re-arrangement of the terms of payment, it is reported. The diamond drill operations have been suspended, and the engineers called to New York. That the ore is present in sufficient body to make one of the largest mines of its kind in Canada is not disputed by anyone connected with the property. The ore values blocked out by the drills is variously estimated at between thirty and sixty millions of dollars. The deal for the sale of the twelve claims in the group involved a sum of three millions of dollars, with a first payment of half a million on January 12th next. It is this large first payment and subsequent large instalments that is objected to by the buyers, and they want better terms. About \$50,000 has been spent already on the properties, and a small initial payment was made at the outset on the total purchase price, and it is believed that the Boston interests are jockeying for the advantage. Mr. John Hammell represents the prospectors interested. The hitch is expected to be adjusted this month, and work will be resumed.

Of the deal the Winnipeg Telegram says:

"On the best authority it is definitely announced that the big American mining interests which have for the past six months been engaged in diamond drill at Flin-Flon lake, in The Pas mining district, have abandoned the project.

"An immense sulphide deposit, said to be extremely rich in copper, zinc and gold, situated at Flin-Flon lake, was the subject of their investigations. Some \$50,000 is said to have been spent on the work, under an agreement with the prospectors who own the twelve claims in which the ore-body is situated. This agreement is said to have been in the form of an option, which, in the event of the option being taken up, would involve a purchase price of \$3,000,000, with a payment on the first of January next of \$500,000.

"About a month ago orders were received by the engineers in charge of the work at Flin-Flon to cease operations and come in. Drilling was promptly stopped, and the whole outfit pulled up stakes and returned to civilization. Since then rumor has been busy as to the reasons for this sudden cessation, the favorite solution being that operations would be resumed on the modification of the agreement. It is now learned that this is not to be the case, and that the operating interests are out of the deal for good.