

fact, the advance made in the Old Country by the fruit of this Province may be fairly well gauged by the number of winnings recorded in this exhibition, several medals being won in 1905, eight medals in 1906, fifteen medals in 1907, and twenty-two medals in 1908. An active demand for British Columbia fruit-lands has been the immediate outcome of this wise system of publicity.

Summarizing the results of the horticultural policy of the Provincial Government and its beneficial effect on the industry, it may be pointed out here that the census returns of 1901 give British Columbia 7,430 acres planted with 649,000 fruit trees, all of which were to be found in the Fraser Valley, Vancouver Island, and a few of the early settlements. There were no commercial orchards, and the Kootenay and Okanagan countries were not looked upon as fruit-growing districts at all. Seven years later, at the close of 1908, the fruit area of the Province is estimated at over 100,000 acres, an increase of 1,350 per cent. The fruit shipments in 1902 amounted to 1,955 tons. In 1905 they amounted to 6,498 tons, representing an increase of over 4,500 tons, and these figures only represent about fifty per cent. of the total crop, as at least half the fruit was used at home. The value of the crop of 1902 amounted to only \$391,000, while that of 1908 is estimated at \$1,300,000.

Still more marked is the increase of the dairying industry, of which some idea is conveyed when it is stated that whereas in 1901 British Columbia had only twelve creameries, producing 74,673 pounds of butter, valued at \$20,841; there were in 1908 no less than twenty-two creameries producing 1,845,977 pounds of butter, worth \$570,367. The allied industry of cheese making has been carried on in a small way in the Province for a number of years, but has only recently been placed upon what may be termed a commercial footing. Nevertheless, while the cheese production of 1907 was only 95,000 pounds, that of 1908 was 179,800 pounds or practically double that of the year preceding.

MINING.

The portfolio of mines is held by the Premier himself, and it may well be presumed that the principal industry of British Columbia would not be likely to be backward in development under the capable supervision which has placed on a footing of commercial profit so many other resources of this Province, much less well known a few years ago than her mineral wealth. And, in truth, the progress made by our mineral industry is a matter for both astonishment and pride. From a total mineral production for British Columbia in 1903