

the latter part of the month, when they discontinued the night shift. Sydney No. 4 mine, strange to say, raised more coal by the single shift than was done during the early part of the summer, when the mine was worked night and day. The output was 45,977 tons. This is a decrease of 3,760 tons against October's output. At an early date the company is likely to purchase valuable and extensive iron deposits in Cuba. They have already secured options on several properties there, and R. E. Chambers, chief mining engineer of the company, is now on the way to Cuba to examine and report on the properties. Cuban ore is already largely used by this company to mix with ore from Belle Isle, Nfld., making the best quality of iron.

Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co.—The output of the Crow's Nest Pass collieries for the week ending December 18, was 20,397 tons; Coal Creek, 7490 tons; Michel, 8177 tons; Morrissey, 4730 tons; total output for the week, 20,397 tons; average daily output, 3400; total output for corresponding week last year, 11,032 tons, average daily output corresponding week last year, 1838 tons.

B.C. (Rossland and Slocan) Syndicate.—The ordinary general meeting of this company was recently held in London, Eng. The proceedings were brief, as Messrs. J. McMillan and Geo. S. Waterlow, both directors, not having returned from their visit to British Columbia at the time. The syndicate floated the Snowshoe mine during the year, retaining 116,000 shares of the stock, which was described by the chairman as a valuable asset. Klondyke claims held by the syndicate had not substantiated the hopes entertained for success and had been abandoned during the year.

The Lake Superior Consolidated.—The assets of the Consolidated Lake Superior Company held by Speyer & Co. for a loan of \$5,050,000, were bought in at a public auction by Speyer & Co., on the 15th inst. for \$4,500,000. Theirs was the only bid. The sale was held in spite of several protests by representatives of other creditors. The sale took place in the presence of a large crowd, which included former President Clergue of the Consolidated Lake Superior Company.

The Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co.—The directors of the Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Co. met in New Glasgow, Dec. 21st, to consider the result of the year's operations. The coal output for the present year at Sydney Mines was shown to be in round figures eighty per cent. in excess of last year's yield, and the output of the Marsh Mine, near New Glasgow, 75 per cent. greater than the previous year. Two new colliers started at Sydney Mines have been brought up to the producing stage, and although not fully complete or anything like up to their maximum capacity, they produced one hundred thousand tons during the year. This company is the second largest producer of coal in the province, and it is estimated that 700,000 tons of coal will be raised next year. These figures came as somewhat of a surprise to the public, as it was not thought that the company was developing its very extensive coal fields to this extent. The increase in pig iron and steel was shown to be very considerable, and the output of ingots and finished steel considerably larger than in any previous year. The matter of increased dividend was not considered, and will not be till February next, as the dividend in the common stock is not payable till March 15th.

CONCENTRATES.

Shipments of ore from the Rossland camp for the week ending December 12, and for the year to date, in tons, are as follows:

	Week	Year
Le Roi.....	5,760	208,180
Centre Star.....	1,500	75,526
War Eagle.....	1,290	56,688
Le Roi No. 2.....	410	24,915
Le Roi No. 2 (milled).....	350	2,100
Jumbo.....	120	3,853
Spitzee.....	60	480
I. N. L. (milled).....		1,760
Kootenay.....		6,798
Giant.....		830
Iron Horse.....		40
Velvet.....		3,376
White Bear.....		297
O. K.....		25
Homestake.....		90
Totals.....	9,690	385,785

The most notable international gathering of engineers ever held in the United States, if not in the world, will take place in October, 1904, when a World's Engineering Congress is to be held at St. Louis, in connection with the great exposition. As already announced, the Iron and Steel Institute is to visit this country next year, and will hold meetings here in conjunction with the American Institute of Mining Engineers. A more remarkable event is forecasted in the announcement that the Institution of Civil Engineers is to visit the United States next year. This society has not only never before held a meeting in a foreign country, but, so far, has never held a formal meeting in England outside of London.

The shipments of coal by the Dominion Coal Co., Sydney, N.S., for the ten months ending October last, were 2,376,633 tons. For the same period last year the shipments were 2,435,667 tons. These figures show a decrease for the present year of 60,034 tons. This is accounted for by the fire at Dominion No. 1. The shipments of the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. show an increase over last year.

A press despatch from Collingwood, Ont., dated the 20th inst., says:—As the result of the issuing of a writ by the American Trust Company against the Cramp Steel Company, the works and head office of which are located here, have been intirely closed down. No definite information regarding the company's situation can be learned, Major J. A. Currie, the secretary of the

company, being absent in Toronto, but in a letter to some friends in town Major Currie stated that the issuance of the writ was due to hasty action on the part of the American company, and expresses the assurance that the company will be placed on a sound financial basis within a short time. The company already has expended a large sum of money here in buildings and plant, the former being of a most substantial nature, while the latter is described by competent engineers to be unequalled by any in America.

Ore shipments from Boundary mines for the week ending Dec. 12th, 1903, and year to the same date, in tons, were as follows:—

	Week	Year
Granby.....	11,018	358,524
Mother Lode.....	2,688	123,812
Snowshoe.....	1,500	73,432
Emma.....	297	20,546
B. C.....		19,365
Sunset.....	90	15,671
Oro Denoro.....	528	14,153
Athelstan.....	210	4,726
Morrison.....		3,339
Winnipeg.....		2,435
Providence.....		910
Elkhorn.....		213
Senator.....	33	66
Totals.....	16,064	653,762

The following figures taken from a recent report issued by the Director of the United States mint, shew the value of the gold and silver production during 1902 of the leading mining countries so far as the precious metals are concerned. As will be noticed Canada's gold production comes fourth on the list, being credited with an output of \$20,741,200:—

	Gold.	Silver.
United States.....	\$80,000,000	\$71,575,575
Australia.....	\$1,578,800	10,377,100
Mexico.....	10,153,100	77,804,100
Canada.....	20,741,200	5,564,500
Africa.....	39,023,700	
Spain.....	10,200	4,784,100
Greece.....		1,409,500
Columbia.....	2,532,600	2,297,000
British India.....	9,588,100	

As compared with 1901, these figures show an increase in the production of gold of 1,572,914 ounces and a decrease of 8,042,914 ounces in the production of silver. During the year Africa increased her gold production from 439,704 ounces to 1,887,773 ounces and Australia increased her gold production to \$81,578,000, which is over a million and a half dollars in excess of the production of the United States, which again takes second place.

In a recent interview with a representative of a western exchange, Mr. Archibald Dick, Inspector of coal and metalliferous mines for East Kootenay, states that the output of coal from the Crow's Nest Pass mines was steadily increasing. The mines at Michel now turn out 1,400 tons of coal a day, and each month sees a still greater output. At Morrissey there has been considerable delay in operations during the past fortnight owing to a big mudslide which blocked the line, and which is still giving trouble. All but forty of the 220 coke ovens at the Morrissey mines are now finished and as soon as these are completed the work of turning out coke will be commenced there. At Michel about 160 of the new lot of ovens are ready, with about sixty more to complete. The electric light system, on which work has been going on at Michel for some time, was completed early this week, and the light is now turned on. The wires have been carried 500 feet into the No. 8 tunnel, which is now lit by electricity, and it is likely that further extensions will be made from time to time in the mines there.

One of the most remarkable dividend showings of the year 1903 will be that at the Daly-West mine at Park City, Utah, which (with a dividend of \$117,000 declared a few days ago) will make payments to its fortunate stockholders of \$1,332,000. This one mine has paid in dividends to date \$3,591,000, while there yet remains in the treasury the largest surplus the company has ever had. Still there are some people who will declare that all mining is a gamble.

The Pacific Coast Miner in a late issue says:—"British Columbia does not give great promise as a gold producer, but in silver, lead, copper and coal it is bound to take high rank. British Columbia's mineral wealth is vast, but is little developed up to date. Lack of capital is the principal drawback, but gradually capital is becoming aware of the great richness of that country and mines are being opened up in places that a few years ago were almost inaccessible. Enormous deposits of workable copper ores have been located."

ONTARIO MINES OUTPUT.—The output of the metalliferous mines and works of Ontario for the first nine months of 1903, as reported to the Bureau of Mines, was as follows:—Gold, 6,693 ozs., worth \$139,210; silver, 19,549 ozs., worth \$10,124; iron ore, 262,409 tons, worth \$376,102; pig iron, 59,783 tons, worth \$1,541,940; nickel, 5,393 tons, worth \$2,116,957; copper, 3,911 tons, worth \$330,263; zinc ore, 550 tons, worth \$7,600. Total value, \$4,030,197.

NEW YUKON DIVISIONS.—According to a proclamation issued by the Yukon government, the Yukon country is divided into nine districts, for the sake of more convenient administration. Each of the new districts will be a fully constituted mining sub-division, with a gold commissioner and a record office of its own. The names of the districts are: Forty Mile, Sixty Mile, Stewart, Clear Creek, Duncan Creek, Dawson, Pelly, Hootalinqua, and Whitehorse. Besides keeping the mining records the gold commissioners and their deputies will have to take charge of the land offices and timber inspector, in fact, transact all the clerical work which is now in the most cases taken to Dawson. The change meets with approval in the Yukon country.