

The production of coal and coke in this district has already been briefly noted. In passing, it may be mentioned that in value it was \$4,001,000 in 1910, \$1,408,000 in 1911, and about \$4,750,000 (estimated) in 1912.

As to metalliferous mining, the yield of placer gold from East Kootenay streams has again been placed at \$3,000. The total output of lead and silver from the lode mines does not appear to have shown much change; though there is a probability of final figures proving that there was an increase of 35,000 to 40,000 oz. of silver, which, together with a higher average price for the year, should add \$40,000 or thereabouts to the value of the year's production of this metal in this district. The productive mines were the *Sullivan*, *St. Eugene*, *Monarch*, and *Society Girl*—the last in but small quantity. Complete returns are not yet available, but it is probable that the receipts at the smelter from the respective mines were about as follows:—Crude ore: From the *Sullivan* 31,000 tons, and the *Society Girl* less than 100 tons. Concentrate: from the *Monarch* (situated near Field, North-east Kootenay) 1,200 tons, and the *St. Eugene* 1,100 tons.

The construction of the Kootenay Central railway by the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. was continued throughout the year—southward from that company's main line at Golden, and northward from its Crowneast east of Cranbrook. Late in the year a train service between Fernie (on Crowneast line) and Fort Steele was inaugurated, while freight was sent on a length of the line completed from Golden southward. There was no ore shipped from mines along the route of the new railway.

WEST KOOTENAY DISTRICT.

The West Kootenay District has long been one of the most important in the Province in regard to the production of metalliferous minerals, though latterly in both quantity of ore mined and total value of metals produced it has been made to take second place by the Boundary District. The metals produced from its mines are varied—gold, silver, lead, copper, and zinc. Its chief mining camp is Rossland, in the Trail Creek Mining Division, with Slocan, Nelson, Ainsworth, and Revelstoke-Lardeau Divisions following, in the order given, in value of production.

Ainsworth and Slocan Divisions.

In the Ainsworth Division, work was resumed about February 1st at the *Bluebell* mine, situated on the east shore of Kootenay Lake. Part of the lower ground of the mine was developed and the continuance of the ore below the lake-level proved. A new main shaft was opened and a hoisting and ore-crushing plant put in, while a new compressor gave additional power. The concentrating-mill was also improved. Some 33,000 tons of ore was milled and about 80,000 oz. of silver and 4,000,000 lb. of lead recovered. In the old Ainsworth camp, the *No. 1* and *Silver Hoard* both shipped ore, the former about 600 and the latter 200 tons. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. constructed an aerial tramway from the *No. 1* down to the *Highland* mill on Kootenay lake. A remarkable cave was opened on the *Silver Hoard*, which proved useful for prospecting part of that mine. Development-work was continued on several properties in the Poplar Creek camp. Little progress was made on the South fork of Kaslo creek, but ore was shipped in fairly large quantity from both the *Ulita* and J. L. Retallack & Co.'s *Waterfall* mine, while development-work was done on both, as well as the *Deep* mine of the latter group. Railway communication was restored to White Lake by extension from Three Forks. Small shipments of ore were made from Florence Co.'s *Hope* mine and the *Panama*, and work was done on the *Blackfoot*.