

face outcrop of a large shoot of ore. The wagon road from Grand Forks to Franklin camp has been completed. The four or five miles lately constructed give an excellent road, and the provision of this means of transportation is greatly facilitating the opening up of properties in this, the newest, Boundary mining camp.

At the Porto Rico mine, Ymir district, No. 4 adit is being extended, working two shifts. It is now in about 220 ft. and the vein in the face is strong but is not yet carrying payable values. It is not expected that the pay shoot will be struck until after another 50 ft. shall have been driven. The shoot being driven for was worked on No. 3 level, about 142 ft. above on the dip of the vein, and thence up to the surface and it gave an average yield in gold recovered of \$20 per ton. The quartz is free milling and the total saving of gold is about 92 per cent. There is a 10-stamp mill on the property, which is being worked under lease by Mr. Geo. H. Barnhart, of Nelson, and associates.

The big shaft of the Le Roi mine, known as the Combination shaft, is now down 1,350 ft. at which depth a station is being cut and preparations in progress for handling the water prior to resuming sinking, which may be continued down to 2,000 ft. Development in a winze, started at 800 ft. south from the shaft on the 1,350-ft. and sunk to the 1,750-ft. level, have disclosed the occurrence of enough ore to make it worth while to deepen the main shaft. Present levels from the shaft are the Black Bear (300-ft.), 350-, 450-, 500-, 600-, 700-, 800-, 900-, 1,050-, 1,200-, and 1,350-ft levels respectively while stations have been cut and levels driven from the winze at each 100 ft. below the 1,350 ft.

The British Columbia Copper Co. has secured under an 18-months' working bond, the Lone Star and Washington group of mineral claims, situated about 10 miles from Greenwood and immediately south of the International boundary line, in Washington State. This property had a lot of development work done on it about six years ago, but owing to the absence of transportation facilities at that time operations were discontinued. Now a railway passes within four miles of it, so that the transportation is not now a formidable difficulty. The property is equipped with a small power plant, and possesses mine buildings, etc. Much ore of good grade has been exposed by the work already done.

The late Mr. Thomas Gibbs Blackstock who died at his home in Toronto, Ontario, on 24th inst., had been in ill health for years. The cause of his death was Bright's disease. He was a prominent member of the bar of Ontario, and, too, was largely interested in British Columbia mining enterprises. He was long associated with his father-in-law, the late Mr. George Gooderham, in connection with the Centre Star and War Eagle mines at Rossland, and the St. Eugene mine at Moyie, East Kootenay. An attack of typhoid,

stated to have been contracted while looking after his mining affairs in this Province, was the beginning of the illness which eventually resulted in his death. Mr. Blackstock was 54 years of age and leaves a widow and a large family.

During the six months ended June 30, last, the production of the St. Eugene mine, East Kootenay was as under:

	Tons.
Ore milled	84,066
Concentrates produced	14,008
Crude ore shipped to smelter	1,489

The gross value of the shipping product of this mine last year was \$52.93 per ton. After deducting all freight, smelter, refining and marketing charges, the net amount received by the company, including the bounty on metallic lead paid by the Dominion Government, was \$35.85 per ton. Mine and smelter are now owned by the same company, not by different companies as was the case last year.

Mr. H. H. Claudet has returned from London, England, where he has been investigating the Elmore Vacuum Oil process, described as a modification of, and a great improvement on, the old Elmore oil process which it is expected to quite outclass in every way—as regards simplicity, efficiency and economy. Already an experimental plant is in transit to Mexico whence Mr. Claudet will shortly proceed to supervise its installation. He is of opinion that there will be found a good field for the new process in British Columbia, and that it will prove suitable for the effective treatment of copper-gold, zinc, silver, and some lead ores. He has in his laboratory at Rossland an interesting variety of samples of pulp, concentrates, and tailings of copper-gold and zinc ores treated by the new process.

A press despatch from Ottawa, under date July 18, was as follows: Hon. Wm. Templeman to-day assumed control of the Geological Survey Department in addition to his duties as Minister of Inland Revenue, an order-in-council having been passed transferring that department to him. It was understood when Mr. Templeman was given the Inland Revenue Department in February last that he would also be given control of the Mining Department. Having in his hands the administration of the Geological Survey and the mining branch of the Interior Department for the time that will intervene before next session of Parliament, Mr. Templeman will be in a better position to advise in respect to the organisation of a Department of Mines, with a Minister of Mines at the head, for the creation of which legislation will be necessary. It is understood an act for this purpose will be passed at the next session.

The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. of Canada is preparing a general exhibit of ores and of products of its smelting works at Trail, the latter to include pig lead and lead pipe of various sizes and de-