

Mining Throughout British Columbia

Shipments and Receipts at Trail Smelter—Provincial Government to Assist Zinc Smelting—Dr. Haanel Report on Petroleum in Canada.

The following are the ore shipments to the Consolidated smelter at Trail for the week ending Sept. 11, together with the total tonnage shipped for 1915 up until that date:

Nelson.		
Queen	31	773
Other mines		1,585
Total	31	2,358
East Kootenay.		
Sullivan	1,040	18,737
Other mines		219
Total	1,040	18,946
Rossland.		
Centre Star	2,617	157,267
Le Roi	2,881	111,166
Le Roi No. 2	496	12,387
Other mines		5
Total	5,994	280,825
Slocan and Ainsworth.		
Hewitt	36	814
Surprise	75	1,242
Rambler-Cariboo	78	983
Slocan Star	65	617
Ottawa	35	35
No. 1	236	4,862
Cork	106	634
Standard	355	3,029
Other mines		3,901
Total	986	16,117
Consolidated Receipts.		
Queen	31	773
Sullivan	1,040	18,737
Centre Star	2,617	157,267
Le Roi	2,881	111,166
Le Roi No. 2	496	12,387
Hewitt	36	814
Surprise	75	1,242
Rambler-Cariboo	78	983
Slocan Star	65	617
Ottawa	35	35
No. 1	236	4,862
Cork	106	634
Standard	355	3,029
United Copper	31	2,894
Ben Hur	569	9,408
Knob Hill	112	1,944
San Poil	71	1,147
Sally	40	40
Iron Mask	121	526
Other mines		10,396
Total	8,845	338,901

—Nelson News.

The Provincial Government has decided to extend a measure of financial assistance to a mining project which promises to exert an important influence upon the problem of zinc production in British Columbia, and which will, as an immediate development, have the effect of placing in operation at Nelson a demonstration plant.

This announcement is made by Sir Richard McBride, who explained that for some time the Government has had under consideration representations made by the French Complex Ore Reduction Company, Ltd., of Victoria, the chairman of which is Mr. Albert F. Griffiths. The Company, which has obtained the patent rights of the French process for the electrolytic deposition of zinc, has made successful

experiments with small plants for the past five years, and believes the time has arrived when steps should be taken to demonstrate the commercial possibilities.

Evidence placed before the Government, said Sir Richard, tended to show that the process can be successfully employed on a large scale in the treatment of zinc-bearing ores and after the fullest investigation by officers of the Mines Department, it has been decided to assist the Company in completing its financial arrangements so that a demonstration plant of some practical usefulness may be established at Nelson. Besides this measure of assistance the Government will lease to the Company on favorable terms the old Fairview plant at Nelson, which reverted to the Province some time ago, after it had been abandoned by those who were operating it.

Sir Richard McBride said that the Government was moved to extend a measure of aid to the Company at this time in view of the possibility of encouraging the greater production of zinc in British Columbia, a matter of vital concern just now to the Imperial Government, in view of the use of zinc in the manufacture of munitions of war.

Negotiations for the bonding of the Hudson Bay zinc mine at Deer Creek in the Sheep Creek district to R. K. Neill of Spokane have been contributed and Mr. Neill has taken over the property.

The mine has been owned by Percy Benson, S. N. Ross, P. F. Horton and H. M. Billings and has been under lease to I. G. Nelson of Nelson and W. R. Salisbury of Salmo who have made substantial shipments of ore this year.

It is stated that Mr. Neill proposes to operate the property on an extensive scale and to produce a heavy tonnage of ore. Between 35 and 40 men are to be employed.

Fire at the Ivanhoe Concentrator, Sandon district, completely destroyed the plant. The loss is estimated at \$50,000. The plant treated the ores of the Lucky Jim Zinc and the Surprise mines.

The Rocher De Boule mine in the Hazelton district has shipped 8,560 tons of ore. It is producing about 100 tons per day.

The Mines Department, Ottawa, under the direction of Dr. Eugene Haanel, has completed a comprehensive and exhaustive investigation of the oil and gas resources of the Dominion, and it will be issued shortly in book form. The work of investigation has been carried on for the past year or so by a field survey staff under Mr. Clapp, one of the ablest petroleum experts of the United States. The Alberta oil fields has been thoroughly gone over and, while no large producing wells have yet been developed, promising indications have been found of the existence of petroleum in several districts in the Province.

A considerable portion of the report deals with the commercial possibilities of the development of the extensive and rich oil shale deposits of New Brunswick. If these deposits are exploited it is believed that a great industry can be built up, and a substitute found in Canada for the large quantities of petroleum and its derivatives now annually imported from the United States.

So important are these deposits and so great is the market for petroleum products in Canada, that the Federal Government has provided for a bounty of 1½ cents per gallon in Canada. The distillation of oil shales in Scotland has been for many years a successful and flourishing industry. New Brunswick shales are on the average richer than the Scotch shales.

The total domestic production of petroleum is now under eight million gallons, while last year imports of gasoline totalled 27,541,379 gallons, and of petroleum in other forms over 200,000,000 gallons. The oil fields of Ontario supply practically the whole of the domestic production, and their output has been falling off for the past five years, instead of increasing as the requirements of the market would demand.