

8.—BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The mountain belt in British Columbia is rich in gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc; its streams have yielded much alluvial gold, and on its flanks are enormous beds of coal of excellent quality. Silver-lead and zinc ores have been extensively mined in the East and West Kootenays, while to the south, at Nelson and Rossland, gold and copper are the principal minerals. Farther west, at Copper Mountain, low-grade copper ores carrying gold and silver values are mined. On the coast, copper ores are mined at Britannia bay and at Anyox, and remarkably rich gold and silver ores are mined near Stewart, on the Portland canal, in the northwestern coast district. Coal of excellent quality is produced by the mines of Crow'snest pass, East Kootenay and Vancouver island.

Practically the entire mineral production, exclusive of placer gold, is obtained from that portion of the province near its southern boundary or along the coast, mining development outside of the territory served by transportation facilities being comparatively insignificant. An important smelting industry, producing gold, silver, metallic copper, lead and zinc, has been established at Trail, in the southern interior. Research work at Trail, resulting in an economic method of recovering zinc from the refractory lead-zinc ores of the Kootenays, has given a great impetus to mining activities in that region and accounts in large measure for the rapid growth in recent years of the production of silver, lead and zinc in British Columbia. A large copper-smelting plant is in operation at Anyox.

Since 1907, British Columbia has occupied second place among the provinces in regard to the value of mineral production. Previous to that time the province had for many years held first place in value of output. In 1926 the production was valued at \$65,622,976, which was second only to Ontario with a production of \$84,702,296.

12.—Mineral Production of British Columbia, 1924-1926.

Products.	1924.		1925.		1926.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
METALLIC—		\$		\$		\$
Arsenic..... lb.	495,250	19,768	1,277,896	16,878	1,019,200	11,263
Copper.....	65,451,246	8,524,370	69,221,660	9,720,097	89,108,017	12,292,450
Gold..... fine oz.	245,719	5,079,462	219,227	4,531,824	225,866	4,669,065
Iron ore sold for export..... tons	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron pig, from Canadian ore..... "	14	350	-	-	-	-
Lead..... lb.	168,467,628	13,652,617	242,454,502	22,111,850	266,812,461	18,012,509
Platinum..... fine oz.	5	569	6	715	50	4,258
Silver..... "	8,153,003	5,444,657	8,579,458	5,925,403	10,625,316	6,599,373
Zinc..... lb.	96,000,669	6,060,244	99,152,966	7,557,439	137,033,929	10,154,214
NON-METALLIC—						
Coal..... tons	2,193,667	10,601,998	2,742,252	11,720,373	2,613,719	10,612,915
Fluorspar..... "	-	-	3,874	19,034	-	-
Grindstones,pulverstones..... "	240	19,000	431	27,781	700	45,116
Gypsum..... "	30	150	240	865	20,916	156,964
Magnesium sulphate..... "	-	-	-	-	-	-
Natro-alunite..... "	-	-	29	1,000	-	-
Oxides (iron)..... "	120	2,620	133	2,740	108	920
Pyrites..... "	8,091	40,459	2,670	13,350	3,374	16,870
Quartz..... "	21,358	43,034	853	2,262	6,466	77,060
Sodium carbonate..... "	510	5,173	1,120	8,140	595	5,370
Talc..... "	165	3,630	92	1,589	-	-
CLAY PRODUCTS AND OTHER STRUCTURAL MATERIALS—						
Cement..... bbl.	-	1,240,331	485,185	1,151,344	544,863	1,239,018
Clay products..... "	-	460,594	-	523,931	-	502,495
Lime—						
Quicklime..... bush.	517,577	320,312	515,058	304,223	503,033	317,733
Hydrated..... tons	4,157	50,517	4,718	60,212	7,896	99,149
Sand and gravel..... "	-	344,937	1,415,232	445,896	1,486,254	357,985
Stone..... "	178,225	355,741	256,226	337,196	253,061	353,247
Total.....	-	52,296,533	-	64,485,242	-	65,622,976