

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, in the area known as the Boundary district, low-grade copper ores, carrying gold and silver values, have been found in very large deposits. On the coast, copper ores are mined at Britannia bay and at Anyox. Recently, remarkably rich gold and silver ores have been mined near Stewart, on the Portland canal, in the northwestern coast district. Coal of excellent quality is produced by the mines of Crowsnest 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 metallic copper, lead and zinc, has been established at Trail, in the southern interior, and 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 held first place in value of output. In 1924 the production was valued at \$52,298,533, which was second only to Ontario with a production of \$86,398,656.

12.—Mineral Production of British Columbia, 1922-1924.

Products.	1922.		1923.		1924.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
METALLIC—		\$		\$		\$
Arsenic..... lb.	-	-	1,217,970	41,780	495,250	19,768
Copper..... "	31,936,182	4,273,700	55,224,737	7,963,959	65,451,246	8,524,370
Gold..... fine oz.	207,370	4,286,718	200,140	4,137,261	245,719	5,079,462
Iron ore sold for export..... tons	1,255	3,528	243	1,215	-	-
Iron, pig, from Canadian ore..... "	-	-	-	-	14	350
Lead..... lb.	87,093,266	5,430,265	99,541,818	7,146,107	168,467,628	13,652,617
Platinum..... fine oz.	12	1,154	7	816	5	569
Silver..... "	7,150,937	4,828,384	6,113,327	3,965,899	8,153,003	5,444,657
Zinc..... lb.	56,290,000	3,217,536	60,050,000	3,967,504	96,000,069	6,090,244
NON-METALLIC—						
Arsenic..... tons	518	21,097	1	1	1	1
Coal..... "	2,927,033	14,622,317	2,823,306	13,813,520	2,193,667	10,601,998
Fluorspar..... "	4,219	98,233	75	1,135	-	-
Grindstones, pulpstones..... "	-	-	-	-	240	19,000
Gypsum..... "	100	500	323	1,615	30	150
Magnesium sulphate..... "	1,021	24,017	121	6,580	-	-
Natro-alunite..... "	50	2,500	15	750	-	-
Oxides (iron)..... "	3	120	513	6,450	120	2,620
Pyrites..... "	6,908	34,540	3,457	13,304	8,091	40,459
Quartz..... "	17,425	37,521	25,590	47,029	21,358	43,034
Sodium carbonate... .. "	202	3,027	265	3,975	510	5,173
Talc..... "	191	4,780	245	5,390	165	3,630
STRUCTURAL MATERIALS—						
Clay products.....	-	447,452	-	426,138	-	460,594
Lime—						
Quicklime..... bush.	433,716	254,320	564,971	338,443	517,577	320,312
Hydrated..... tons	2,909	30,321	4,410	50,051	4,157	50,517
Stone..... "	197,670	324,591	165,100	249,866	178,225	353,741
Cement..... }	-	1,477,341	-	1,568,601	-	1,240,331
Sand and gravel..... }	-	-	-	-	-	344,937
Total.....	-	39,423,962	-	43,757,388	-	52,298,533

¹ Included in metallics in 1923 and 1924.