

Ltd., at a valuation which affords shareholders in the latter undertaking two cents per share. The price is, of course, exceedingly low, but in view of the fact that the Morrison Company is hampered by lack of working capital, the arrangement is perhaps as satisfactory as could be expected under the circumstances.

From the annual report of the Dominion Superintendent of Mines we learn that during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1903, 36,295.69 oz. of bullion, valued at \$568,888.19, representing 509 deposits, were received and assayed. As the receipts during the corresponding period of the fiscal year 1901-2 were 69,925.67 oz., valued at \$1,153,014.50, representing 671 deposits, it is evident that there was during the first-mentioned year a falling off in business done of about one-half. Dr. Haanel narrates several causes to which he attributes this very considerable decrease of business, and adds the following significant comment: "Under these circumstances, the amount of business coming to the Dominion of Canada assay office will continue to be small, and not until a market has been created in Canada for Canadian gold, by the establishment of a mint, will its business be commensurate with the gold output of Canada." Will the British Columbia senators and members of the House of Commons, to whom were sent last month copies of the resolution urging upon the Government the desirability of hastening the establishment of the national mint, for which Parliament has already made an appropriation, please take note of what Dr. Haanel has reported to the Government as his opinion on the subject above referred to.

In the report of the directors of the Le Roi No. 2, Ltd., which we published last month, it was confidently stated, regarding the operation of the Elmore oil concentration plant at that company's mine at Rossland, that the ratio of concentration had there been found entirely satisfactory, but that it was yet too early to speak with any certainty as to the cost per ton of the treatment of the ore. We have since received a report of the second ordinary meeting of the Canadian Ore Concentration, Ltd., at which the chairman is stated to have said that, even at such an expensive place as Rossland and with so small a plant, \$2 per ton should be the very outside cost of working the experimental plant erected for the Le Roi No. 2. It was contended by one of the inventors, who was present at the meeting, that with a 6 or 8-unit plant, oil, royalty, and all charges should not greatly exceed

three shillings (.75 cents) per ton. It would therefore appear that, if a high ratio of concentration, with very small loss of values in the tailings, can be maintained at so low a cost per ton of ore treated as that last above mentioned, the Elmore process certainly should contribute very materially to a much enlarged output from the mines of Rossland and vicinity.

We have much pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the generally favourable Press comment, which we print in another part of this month's MINING RECORD, on the Second Annual Convention and the good work and prospects of the Provincial Mining Association. From widely separated sections of the Province have come words of appreciation and encouragement. Especially gratifying, in view of the temporary misunderstanding that led to the Association receiving a set-back there for a brief period, are the reports that have appeared in Vancouver newspapers relative to the branch in that city—the largest in the Province. The *News-Advertiser* recently concluded a report of a meeting of the local executive as follows: "It was very gratifying to the Executive to have it reported that the Association is meeting with enthusiastic support from all classes in the City, and that the branch in Vancouver will shortly be the banner one of the Province, both in membership and financially." If it beat the Rossland branch with its nearly 500 members, it certainly will be a strong branch, which it should be since anything that contributes to the prosperity of the mining industry will also in some measure add to that of the commercial capital of the Province.

The President of the Canadian Mining Institute, speaking at the annual meeting held last month in Toronto, said that the membership now tended more and more towards the West. In making that statement he included Ontario's membership as well as what we in this Province know as "the West." A little attention to the numbers of full members in the Dominion, that is excluding student members, will disclose the fact that of the 286 Dominion members 68, or 24 per cent., are from British Columbia. If the Yukon members be added to those of this Province the figures will be 79 out of 286, or nearly 28 per cent. British Columbia's proportion of the total full membership of 357 members is 19 per cent., and that of British Columbia and the Yukon together, 22 per cent. These figures will probably interest some of our readers as showing the considerable share our Western mining men take in the leading professional organiza-