year has been fairly well maintained; in fact at times it has been in excess of the present capacity of the roasting plant, consequently enlargement has become necessary in order to keep the capacity of the works ahead of the ore supply.

The provincial government of Alberta has appointed a commission to investigate and report on all phases of the coal mining industry. The members are: Chief Justice Sifton, chairman; Lewis Stockett, general manager of the Pacific Coal Co., Bankhead, representing the coal mine operators; and William Hanson, president of the Coleman miners' union, representing the coal miners. The duties of the commission are to make full inquiry into all matters and conditions relating to coal mining and to report thereon. The report will be used by the provincial government as a source of authentic information for its guidance in preparing laws for the regulation of the coal mining industry in Alberta.

The Dominion Government has published in the *Canada Gazette* the new regulations for the disposal of coal mining rights in the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta; in Yukon Territory, North-west Territories, the railway belt in British Columbia, and within that tract in the Peace River district containing 3,500,000 acres acquired by the Dominion from British Columbia. Such rights will no longer be sold but may be leased for a term of 21 years at an annual rental of $1 per acre payable in advance. Not more than 2,560 acres will be leased to any one applicant. In addition to the rent, a royalty at the rate of five cents per ton of 2,000 lb. will be levied and collected on the merchantable output of the mine.

The article on the Pacific Coal Co.'s Breaker at Bankhead, Alberta, printed on pp. 177-182 of this number of the MINING RECORD, gives a full and accurate description of this important plant and its work by the engineers under whose supervision it was installed. The prominence to which the Pacific Coal Co.'s Bankhead colliery is steadily attaining and the comparatively wide area over which its products are marketed, together attach to this installation a general interest, hence the reproduction in this journal of the article. Thanks to *The Engineering and Mining Journal* of New York, which with characteristic courtesy has kindly lent us the engraving blocks used to illustrate the descriptive matter, a clearer idea of the size and character of the big plant and of its operations is conveyed than would have been the case without the use of cuts. The establishment of this industry at Bankhead is one more significant testimony to the commercial and industrial expansion of Western Canada.

Toward the close of the exercises in dedication of the United Engineering Societies Building in New York on April 16-17, Dr. A. R. Ledoux, past-president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers and of the United Engineering Societies, was called upon to present to Dr. F. R. Hutton, past-secretary of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; Mr. Ralph J. Pope, secretary of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers; and Dr. R. W. Raymond, secretary of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, three gold medals, severally bestowed by the three societies, in recognition of the long service of these officers. Dr. Ledoux prefaced each of these presentations with an appropriate sketch of the career of the recipient. Dr. Hutton replied for all three. The erection of the United Engineering Societies Building on its present adequate basis was made practicable through the munificence of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, who contributed $1,500,000 for the purpose.

It is reported that the management of the Le Roi mine intends substituting electricity for steam as motive power for its two air compressors which combined have a capacity of 8,000 ft. of free air per min. at sea level. This plant has proved an economical one using steam, for a test extended over a period of 30 days under ordinary working conditions showed a coal consumption of 1.9 lb. per h.p. per hour, and that air was compressed to 95 lb. per sq. in. at a cost (exclusive of interest and depreciation charges) of $1.59 per each 100,000 cu. ft. of free air compressed. Notwithstanding this, it is believed that electric power will be still more economical now that the West Kootenay Power and Light Co. has abundant generating capacity at its Bonnington Falls station for all demands likely to be made on it. Should the Le Roi Co. use electricity for its air compressors its winding engines—one of 1,000, and another of 500-h.p. capacity—will probably be run by compressed air, using steam to reheat the air.

In looking through the long list of engineering and scientific societies and institutions of learning represented by delegates present at the dedicatory exercises of the United Engineering Societies Building in New York last month, the almost entire absence of representatives of Canadian societies and institutions is particularly noticeable, the single exception being the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, which had a delegate present. In the list published in the *Bi-Monthly Bulletin of the American Institute of Mining Engineers* for the current month mention is made of the presence of representatives of institutions in Great Britain, France and Germany, but other than the one Canadian society above-named none in Canada appear to have been represented on that important occasion. It may be that the published list before us is incomplete. If not we think it a matter for deep regret that a number of Canadian societies and institutions were so forgetful—we cannot think them intentionally lacking in courtesy—as to omit to be represented at a function of much more than ordinary interest to large numbers of professional men in the United States.

The Hall Mining and Smelting Company has arranged to extend the tunnel on the Dandy mineral