

than 25 per cent. in value "of the entire mineral wealth mined in British Columbia" in 1903, nor not more than 33 per cent. of the metallic mineral output. In 1902 that division contributed about 28 per cent. of the former, or about 39 per cent. of the latter, but it will be found that it did not maintain so high a proportion in 1903. As it is especially necessary that the statements of Boards of Trade shall be as nearly correct as possible, we have no doubt that the Rossland Board of Trade will accept this correction of the local newspaper report in the spirit in which it is made, our mutual purpose being to state facts and facts only. Its annual output of between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000 is so creditable that the Rossland camp can well afford to keep well within the mark rather than go beyond it, which latter in the case in point was done, but no doubt quite inadvertently.

In addition to having contributed much to the enjoyment of those of the up-country delegates to the Provincial Mining Association Convention who availed themselves of his kindness in placing a train at their disposal to enable them to visit the working mines in Mt. Sicker camp, Mr. James Dunsmuir did good service in the interests of metalliferous mining on Vancouver Island. There is an old saying that "seeing is believing," and there is much truth in it. No matter how many times mining men from the interior may read descriptions of **Island mines, they are** unlikely to adequately realise the importance of such properties, as several of those now being developed at Mt. Sicker without seeing for themselves the fine showings of mineral of payable grade, and the extent and generally good class of mining work that is being carried on in the mines there. Probably one of the greatest advantages that can result from the visit to the Island of a number of men from other parts of the Province will be found in the fact that men familiar with the working of producing mines have been shown that there are good metalliferous mines on Vancouver Island, and that they are being operated under the direction of fully qualified mine managers. It is but the merest courtesy to Mr. Dunsmuir to express appreciation in this way of the benefit derived from his generous public-spiritedness on the occasion alluded to, and it is also due to those connected with the several mines visited, to the management of the smelter at Crofton, and to the several Victoria organizations that assisted, to acknowledge the part they all took in contributing to the success and enjoyment of the excursion to Mt. Sicker and Crofton.

In the last issue of the *B. C. Mining Exchange*, a rather fierce onslaught is made against Mr. E.

Jacobs, now secretary of the Provincial Mining Association, who is charged with having taken advantage of his opportunities as a delegate to the recent Mining Convention to make "a savage attack upon the Lardeau district in general, and upon Mr. W. B. Pool and the Great Northern Mines, Ltd., in particular," in order to air "his private and personal animosities." But had Mr. Jacobs been guilty of the offence with which he is accused, it is somewhat strange that, notwithstanding the "indignation and disgust" of the delegates, as alleged by the *Mining Exchange*, a most representative executive committee should have subsequently appointed him secretary of the association. But the facts as reported in the *B. C. Mining Exchange* are certainly not fairly or correctly stated. Mr. Jacobs made no attack on the Lardeau district, though in speaking to a resolution which charged the Bureau of Mines with inefficiency, he pointed out that the principal traducers lately of the Provincial Mineralogist were Mr. Pool, who thus showed his annoyance that Mr. Robertson had not "boomed" the district in which he (Mr. Pool) was interested, and the representative of a Chicago newspaper, who some time since had served three months in jail in Nelson. Whether Mr. Jacobs' points were wisely taken or not may be a matter of opinion, but at least he was honest and certainly courageous in the stand he took in this matter.

It is a matter of some regret that the proposed scheme for amalgamating the B. C. Copper Company and the Snowshoe Gold & Copper Mines, Ltd., in the Boundary district, has failed to materialize, probably on account of the present depression in financial circles, accentuated by the Russo-Japanese war. Although the Snowshoe is a most promising mine in itself, the arrangement as contemplated would undoubtedly have strengthened its position, while we should also have liked to have seen the consolidation added to the list of British Columbia companies whose shares are listed on the London Stock Exchange. However, since the scheme misfired, comfort may be extracted from the thought that instead of, as would have been the case, one big undertaking paying proportionate profits almost immediately, the Boundary may ere long depend on having the two disassociated, but still distinctly important enterprises, in the same fortunate position. Meanwhile another Boundary mine amalgamation is reported the newly organized Montreal & Boston Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company having arranged to purchase either for cash or in exchange for its own treasury shares, the assets of the Morrison Mines,