

across the Alaskan Alps to Whitehorse, the end of the railway line. The party will then proceed by special steamer through lake Labarge and the upper Yukon river to Dawson. Here three or four days will be spent in visiting the neighboring mining camps on Eldorado and Bonanza creeks. The return trip will be up the Yukon and back to Vancouver via Sitka. From Victoria to Dawson and return to Vancouver will occupy about 21 days. The return train east from Vancouver will leave the coast about July 26 via Canadian Pacific, and will make stops at Field, Glacier and Banff, while those desiring to see the Kootenay and Boundary districts in British Columbia, visiting Nelson, Rossland, Trail, Greenwood, Fernie, etc., will leave the main party at Revelstoke and rejoin it several days later at Medicine Hat, arriving at Chicago or New York about August 4."

The two special trains will start from Chicago or St. Paul June 24 and make the trip direct to Seattle, the party crossing thence to Victoria. Members of the institute living on the coast who wish to go to Alaska may join the party at Victoria. The rate for such, Victoria to Dawson and return, will be \$200.

#### CANADIAN MINING INSTITUTE.

The annual general meetings of the members of the Canadian Mining Institute for the transaction of business, the discussion of papers, etc., will be held at Montreal on March 1-3, prox.

The council of the institute will award a gold medal, presented by the president, for the best paper contributed by a student member to the transactions of the institute during 1904.

The council offer three prizes of a cash value of \$25 each for the best papers contributed by Canadian mining students on the following subjects:

- 1.—Ore Deposits and Mining Geology.
- 2.—Mining Practice.
3. Ore Dressing and Metallurgy.

Syllabus, embracing a large number of papers presented by the members, and detailed programme of arrangements for these meetings will be mailed to members in due course.

#### ASSOCIATED SILVER-LEAD MINES.

The executive of the Associated Silver-Lead Mines met at Nelson on January 30. There were present Messrs. A. C. Garde, president; James Cronin, Moyie; John L. Retallack, W. E. Zwicky, Kaslo; N. J. Cavanaugh, Louis Pratt, Sandon; W. S. Drewry, New Denver, and Norman Carmichael, Nelson.

Mr. Garde tendered his resignation as president, which was accepted with regret and Mr. Garde withdrew from the meeting.

Mr. James Cronin was unanimously elected president, and Messrs. P. D. Ahier, of the Idaho-Alamo mine, and W. E. Zwicky, vice-presidents.

Mr. John L. Retallack was appointed delegate from the association to interview the Dominion government on the zinc question and to request that an investigation be held and a report made by an expert selected and paid by the government.

The question of the two per cent mineral tax was considered and after discussion the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, that this association approves of the principle of taxing the output of metalliferous mines.

"If it is deemed necessary to revise the present method of such taxation it would advise, that before any change is made a commission, representative of the various branches of the metalliferous mining industry be appointed; such commission to have power to summon witnesses, and examine mine and smelter books, with a view to arriving at an equitable basis of taxation, the expense of such commission to be borne by the government.

"Further resolved, that, if such commission shall find it

advisable to amend the present method of taxing the smelter or mill returns, this association suggests taxing at a rate to be fixed, the gross recovered value of ore."

#### PROVINCIAL MINING ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the executive committee of the Provincial Mining Association of British Columbia has been called, to be held at the office of the association, Victoria, on Monday, February 20. There are numerous matters relating to the interests of the mining industry to be considered by the executive. The desirability or otherwise of holding a convention of delegates from the branches this year will also be dealt with. The secretary, Mr. L. Jacobs, has mailed a copy of the business agenda to each member of the committee. It is desired that all branches at once send in rolls of members' names and the half fees payable to the Association.

#### TWO PER CENT MINERAL TAX.

The Nelson branch of the Provincial Mining Association on the 6th inst. unanimously passed the following resolution on the question of mine taxation:

"Resolved that the Nelson branch of the Provincial Mining Association is of the opinion that the taxing of mines in operation should be solely upon the profits earned; that in an endeavor to avoid the objections raised to a tax on net profit, on account of the supposed difficulty of determining whether the profits were correctly reported or not, it is recommended that the deduction of the mine payrolls from the net smelter or mill returns be considered in determining the amount to be accounted, this being in a measure a compromise or expediency; that the greater number of those operating mines, the employers of the majority of the miners engaged in the industry and the producers of the greater part of the tonnage mined, endorse this opinion as to the equitable basis for mine taxation and favour as a measure of expediency the recommendation referred to; that in order that so important a measure may be devised with the fullest possible knowledge of all the conditions, this branch would welcome the appointment of a commission to investigate the whole question of mine taxation and to recommend a system which would be alike equitable and practical."

#### BOUNDARY DISTRICT FACTS AND FIGURES.

The Holiday-Midwinter number of the Phoenix Pioneer, published last month, gives much useful information of the Boundary district. A narrative of its early history; full and freely illustrated descriptions of the more important producing mines and smelters; carefully compiled statistics of production, aggregate values, number of men employed, etc.; a concise presentment of leading facts concerning the larger mines, well-informed comment on progress made, opportunities now open, and numerous and convincing evidences of the permanent establishment of mining; and varied information relative to commercial, industrial and other conditions in the district, combine to make this special number one that cannot fail to direct increased attention to the Boundary as being a promising field for the investment of capital.

#### TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION WITH THE SIMILKAMEEN.

On April 3 of last year the Nicola-Aspen Grove and Lower Nicola-Coutlee branches of the Provincial Mining Association met jointly at Coutlee and passed a resolution urging upon the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, the necessity of constructing immediately a telephone line from Spence's Bridge, on the Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s main line, to Lower Nicola and thence via Aspen Grove, Otter valley, Granite creek, Princeton, Hedley and Keremeos to Penticton. This resolution was forwarded to the President of the Provincial Mining Association and through him to Ot-