

and possesses those qualities in a high degree which render a man in a position of great responsibility at once popular and successful.

Meanwhile, it must not be imagined that Mr. Carlyle severed his connection with the B. A. C. to accept the flattering Rio Tinto appointment without a qualm. The interesting work at Le Roi, Nickel Plate, No. 1, and Columbia & Kootenay, which for the past eighteen months or so has been conducted under his supervision, he is now obliged to leave others to complete, and to any man in love with his profession, such an abandonment, even though voluntarily made, must come as a severe wrench. However, from chief engineer of the B. A. C. to superintendent of the Rio Tinto is a very considerable promotion, and Mr. Carlyle evidently so regarded the matter. His position in Rossland certainly gave him an important place among the mining engineers of Canada, though not particularly pre-eminent rank with his confreres of North America. But as the technical head of one of the oldest and greatest mines of the world, the general as it were commanding an army of men ten times more numerous than the combined mine labour of the Slocan, he at once steps into a position of world-wide prominence. This is an honour indeed, and as Canadians we have reason to be proud of the distinction which has been befallen a graduate of old McGill and to British Columbia's first Provincial Mineralogist. So

"Last toast—and your foot on the table!"

A health to the native born!"

The visit of the members of the Canadian Mining Institute to Kootenay may not in any material sense alter the destiny of Kootenay, but it was undoubtedly of very great advantage to the visitors themselves. In Rossland particularly they were brought face to face with mining on a scale to which many of them have been little accustomed and they were duly impressed by it. The reports of their meetings were mostly confined to remarks of the after-dinner order, in which the courtesy of guests was expressed according to the various ability of the speakers. Several excellent papers were read, but the most interesting was perhaps Mr. Ferrier's masterly exposition of the rationale of Rossland ore deposits.

It has, meanwhile, been questioned whether the Institute acted wisely or well in expressing an opinion on the question responsible for the local labour trouble in the Nelson and Slocan districts. But if we accept the Canadian Mining Institute as a representative body—and certainly there is no other association that can lay claim to the distinction with as good a right—it must also be conceded that its members are just as well entitled to pass resolutions dealing with matters affecting the welfare of mining in this Province as with those relating to mining in Ontario. No one quarrelled with the Institute on the score of its "unwarrantable interference," when some time ago its members passed a resolution condemning the imposition of an export duty on nickel ore from Sudbury; and if the passage of the latter resolution was deemed—as was indeed the case—a righteous, wise and permissible proceeding, why not the former. We venture to assert that of the two evils, the imposition of an export duty on ore and the restriction placed on the liberty of the subject

which limits his wage-earning capacity to less than its full power, the last is, from an economic standpoint, the most vicious. It is true the Canadian Mining Institute did not regard the matter from this point of view, but even on the grounds that the eight-hour legislation is intrinsically unfair to the men, who, by the employment of capital and brains, are building up our mining industry in the Kootenays, we submit, that the resolution in question was both timely and weightful.

Our Rossland correspondent writes: "There is considerable activity in the demand for mining machinery in this camp at present. This demand has arisen from the determination of the management of the large producers to increase the development as well as the output facilities. The Le Roi has just closed a contract with the Rand Manufacturing Company for a 40-drill compressor, and the British America Corporation has just given an order for 18 additional drills. The War Eagle is about to order a 40-drill compressor, by which it is intended to place the present work independent of electrical machinery. With ninety drills at work in the Le Roi and a similar number in the War Eagle, underground work in the Le Roi will make phenomenal headway. So far Red Mountain has proved by depth and otherwise that it contains large deposits of gold-copper ores, and this is further confirmed by the fact that dividends amounting to, at least, \$1,240,000 have been paid from the two great producers, which represent but a comparatively small portion of the mountain, so far as territory is concerned."

Shipments from Rossland are being maintained at a satisfactory level. The gross shipments for 1899 have already exceeded the tonnage of 1898, and about 20,000 tons a month, more or less, may be counted on for the balance of the year. It is satisfactory also to note that according to the statements made by the mine managers shipments have been made so far wholly secondary to development work, and that this policy will be continued for some time.

Mr. Collins, who is consulting engineer for the groups of mines controlled by the London and Globe, British America and Standard Exploration, has been in Rossland for some time and has been examining the various properties of the B. A. C. It is stated that his verdict on the Le Roi is extremely favourable. He has apparently outlined a new scheme of development work and some of the work already undertaken is suspended in consequence. His visit has also been accompanied by sweeping changes in the B. A. C. staff and it is said that still more changes are contemplated in the near future. The indications are that there has been dissatisfaction in the central office with the manner in which the business of the corporation has been conducted. If it is so, the alterations are being made very judiciously; there is nothing except the fact of the changes occurring to mark any such reason for them.

The Government has at length started to do something towards solving the question of transportation to and from Sophie Mountain, in the Rossland district. A road has been surveyed and is being graded. At the same time a company comes forward with a proposition to run an electric railway from Rossland to the mines on Sophie Mountain. The possibilities