

cursions in British Columbia, and the entertainment of the visiting party."

The announcement that Mr. F. W. Rolt, long associated with mining enterprises in and about Rossland, has been appointed to a vacancy on the board of directors of the Le Roi Mining Co. has been favourably received at Rossland, where Mr. Rolt was for years prominent in local matters. It is not yet known whether Mr. Rolt will return to Rossland from England, whence he went last year on business, but whether or no, the appointment to the Le Roi directorate of another man well informed as to conditions prevailing at Rossland is gratifying.

During July there were 3,088 tons of lead-bearing ores received at the Hall Mining & Smelting Co's smelter, from which was recovered about 1,324 tons of metallic lead. The average lead content of the ore was nearly 43 per cent. Ore from the St. Eugene mine ran about 63 per cent lead. The lead ore receipts at the Canadian Smelting Works, Trail, in July totalled 1,259 tons containing about 660 tons of lead, or an average of about 52 per cent. The lead values of the ore ranged from 4.1 per cent, in the case of a rich gold-silver ore, to 71.7 per cent in a shipment from the St. Eugene, which mine contributed about 60 per cent. of the ore received at the two smelters and about 80 per cent of the lead.

The Nelson *Daily News* reports Dr. Hendryx to have expressed himself, with regard to the working of his process at the mill of the Reliance Gold Mining & Milling Company owning the May and Jennie mine, near Nelson, as follows: "I could not afford to let the first test in Canada result in a failure on account of lack of ore, or lack of values, or bad management. Here I am perfectly satisfied. The ore is here in unlimited quantities, the values are here, and the management is efficient. Therefore, I consider the perfect and continued success of the process is assured." The Hendryx electro-cyanide process had not previously been operated on a commercial basis in British Columbia.

One of the subjects on the programme for discussion at the sixteenth annual session of the Trans-Mississippi Commercial Congress which was opened at Portland, Oregon on 10th inst., was the question of demanding the establishment of a United States Department of Mines and Mining, with its head a member of the President's cabinet. Nearly 3,000 delegates were in attendance. Press reports are to the effect that powerful speeches were made in favour of this movement. The president of the California Mining Association expressed the opinion that the only way to secure such a department is to keep on introducing in Congress resolutions recommending a Department of Mines and Mining "until every pigeon-hole is filled, and hammer on the doors of Congress until it grants the demand in order to get rid of the noise."

The Ladysmith *Ledger* remarks: "A Vancouver

story about dredging on the Fraser is decidedly yellow. It is a boom for a Fraser river company, and claims that between \$60,000 and \$70,000 has been saved by its dredge since March, all of which, if true, would be very good news. Unfortunately, there is very little foundation for this fairy story. The above-mentioned company has made very little, if any, headway. They are said to be in debt for labour and it is said the Hamilton Manufacturing Co. are holding the plant for their pay. There is gold in the river, but so far only careful management makes money in dredging the Fraser river bed. Within the past ten years \$2,000,000 has been spent in building and equipping such plants. Members of the Fraser river company claimed a year ago, when they started, to be taking out \$2,500 per day. That story, like the present one, was a fake."

We take the following from a published report of the meeting of the Great Northern Mines, Ltd., held at Nelson on August 8: "All the principal shareholders were present, and it was fully realised that a crisis in the affairs of the company had been reached. The two elements which have hitherto controlled it had reached the parting of the ways, so far as dual control was concerned, and gracefully accepting the inevitable, the presidential section, headed by W. B. Pool, stepped down, and allowed those who had been in nominal control for nearly a year to reign in their stead. In retiring from the presidency Mr. Pool . . . practically admitted that his *forte* lay rather in promoting than in operating mining properties." As this is the man who tried to deceive the provincial mineralogist, when that official visited Poplar creek, by showing rich gold specimens he falsely alleged were taken from a claim he was largely interested in, seemingly with the object of favourably influencing the expected official report, we cannot but regret that he has not also retired from "promoting" mining properties in British Columbia, since it is by such trickery that the public is sometimes deceived and legitimate mining brought into undeserved disrepute.

The *Mining Reporter*, of Denver, Colorado, in its issue of 10th inst., made mistakes common to all publications that entrust to those who have no knowledge of facts and local conditions the work of compiling a review of the mining situation. For instance, it stated that "At Rossland the West Kootenay Power & Light Co. has been organised and will erect a hydro-electric power station at Bonnington Falls," etc. This of a company which commenced its construction work at Bonnington in July, 1897, and before the close of 1898 was supplying power to Rossland mines, and has since supplied to Rossland Trail and Nelson, electric power generated by its three generators of a total capacity of 3,500 k.w., is a statement far wide of the mark. This is of little importance, though, in comparison with the following gross mis-statement: "The Consolidated Cariboo Hydraulic Co., which has been resting under a cloud of mismanagement for some time." We cannot think this unwarranted and entirely untrue reflection on Mr. John B. Hobson, the general