

the ore to a finely divided state, treating it with hydrochloric acid and water to form ferric chloride in solution, and then decomposing the telluride of gold by means of such ferric chloride.

Patents issued to British Columbia inventors this month are as follows: S. Erb, Chemainus, U. S. patent on a log carriage offset. This device is an attachment to a heavy log saw carriage and is designed to throw the log from the face of the saw during the backward run of the carriage. The patent has been taken up and is being manufactured by the William Hamilton Manufacturing Co., and has been running in the Chemainus mills for some time now with every satisfaction.

J. Kellington, New Westminster, on a machine for depositing a measured quantity of salt in cans of meat or fish. This is a very simple machine yet does its work in an accurate and rapid manner, the progress of each can through the machine operating the mechanism which fills the measure and empties it into the can.

The same inventor has received also a patent on his machine for washing cans, which is also characterized by simplicity and directness of operation. Both these inventions are controlled by Messrs. Ewen & Co., canners, of New Westminster.

Messrs. Letson & Burpee, Vancouver, have received a U. S. patent on a door for closing a retort. This patent is on improvements on the Ross door, of which this firm are the assignees, in which the internal pressure is made use of to keep the door steam-tight against its seat.

#### THE LATE DR. SELWYN.

We regret to learn of the death, which occurred in Vancouver on October 24th, of Dr. A. R. C. Selwyn, C.M.G., LL.D., F.R.S. Dr. Selwyn, who was in his seventy-eighth year, was an eminent scientist, and for many years occupied the post of director of the Geological Survey of Canada. He was born at Kilmington, Somerset, Eng., and was the son of the late Rev. Townshend Selwyn, Canon of Gloucester Cathedral. He was instructed at home under private tutors and was afterwards sent to Switzerland to complete his education. His inclination being toward the study of natural science, he was allowed every opportunity to gratify his desire. Dr. Selwyn's first appointment was to the staff of the survey of Great Britain as an assistant geologist. He remained in that position until 1852, when he was chosen by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to assume the duties of Director of the Geological Survey of Victoria, Australia. He remained in Australasia for seventeen years, and before returning to England undertook, in addition to his regular work in Victoria, special examinations of the Tasmanian and South Australian coal and gold fields. Dr. Selwyn was appointed one of the Commissioners of the Victoria mines in 1856, and member of many other investigating boards during the next ten years thereafter. In 1869 he resigned his position

in Australia to come to Canada, being appointed, on the recommendation of Sir William Logan, to be his successor as Director of the Geological Survey. He remained in active discharge of his duties until January, 1895, when he retired on a pension. The deceased was a Fellow of the Royal Society of London; a Fellow of the Royal Improvement Society of Germany; Geological Society, London; and a dozen other scientific organizations.

#### RECENT MINING PROGRESS AT ROSSLAND

(From our own Correspondent.)

THE LeRoi profits for the five months—May to September, both inclusive—make a remarkably good showing. That the mine can do still better is reasonably sure, as although the costs of production, including mining, freight and treatment, have been steadily lowered, the scarcity and price of coke and the continued depression in our copper market has reduced the total net earnings. For the months mentioned the net profits of the mine and smelter amount to nearly \$420,000 and as this is at the rate of over a million of dollars per annum, dividends should be within reasonable distance, notwithstanding the disadvantages referred to.

The tonnage and net profits for the five months are worth reproducing and as the figures are all official, their accuracy can be relied upon:—

Month.	Tonnage.	Net Profits.
May . . . . .	13,047	\$66,932
June . . . . .	14,828	94,302
July . . . . .	16,170	108,348
August . . . . .	18,578	79,487
September . . . . .	15,065	65,000

The net profits for September are Mr. Mackenzie's estimate. As, however the estimate in the preceding four months has invariably been considerably lower than the real earnings, it is only fair to presume that the September profits will closely approximate \$70,000.

Roughly about ten per cent. of the tonnage comes from the old second-class dump and the balance from the mine.

In March and April the output reached the maximum, 24,528 and 25,593 tons having been shipped from the mine during these two months, and the average assay values were respectively \$9.92 and \$10.25. Since then the values per ton of ore shipped have appreciated, the returns for the four following months being \$15.86, \$17.70, \$17.67 and \$15.00 per ton. On account of the difficulty in obtaining a regular supply of coke the smelter has only had two furnaces in operation for some time, and for a period the entire plant was closed down. Under the circumstances the showing is a remarkably good one and must be highly satisfactory to the shareholders, as well as to the Bank of Montreal, which has so steadfastly stood by the mine.