

pany. It is understood that there is a strong probability of a deal being consummated.

At the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Co.'s Michel colliery, last month, an accident occurred to the engine that runs the elevator at the tipple. The facing of the belting broke and the engine ran away. The engine was completely wrecked and the foundation bed was also badly damaged. Several days were required to replace the engine and in the meantime the output of mines Nos. 4, 5 and 6 was curtailed.

Lundbrek is a new town in Western Alberta, started in connection with the opening up of the Breckenridge & Lund Coal Co.'s coal lands, which are stated to have been under development in a small way for three years. The Crow's Nest railway crosses the property, of which a Vancouver visitor recently stated: "There are four large seams of coal on the property, and all have proved an excellent product. The development has proceeded 2,000 feet, in coal from the start, and in a year 500 tons will be produced every day. It is the intention to supply the settlers in the North West Territories with a good fuel, and the market is practically unlimited. An assay of the coal shows three per cent moisture, 50 per cent carbon, 32 per cent. volatile matter and 15 per cent. ash."

Official announcement has been made that Mr. Archibald Dick, inspector of mines, has been exonerated by the Royal Commission, presided over by His Honor Judge Spinks. The Minister of Mines stated that the evidence failed to disclose any wrongdoing on the part of Inspector Dick, and in his report, it is understood that Judge Spinks highly commends the work of this official in the Crow's Nest Pass. In substance the charge preferred against Mr. Dick was that he had accepted a retainer of \$300 a month from the Crow's Nest Coal Company while acting as an official of the government.

#### MINERAL PRODUCTION IN 1904.

An estimate of the approximate value of the mineral production of British Columbia in 1904 has been given out by the Provincial Department of Mines. The following table shows the actual production for 1903 and that estimated for 1904:—

	1903.	1904.
Gold .....	\$ 5,873,036	\$ 6,400,000
Silver .....	1,521,472	2,200,000
Copper .....	4,547,535	4,600,000
Lead .....	689,744	1,500,000
Miscellaneous .....	531,870	600,000
Total mineral output other than coal .....	\$13,163,657	\$15,300,000
Coal .....	3,504,582	3,270,000
Coke .....	827,715	1,200,000
Total mineral output .....	\$17,495,954	\$19,770,000

#### COMPANY MEETINGS AND REPORTS.

##### PIONEER MINING CO., LTD.

THE annual meeting of the Pioneer Mining Company, Ltd., which last year consolidated under its control the Two Friends, Bank of England and Black Prince groups, situated in the Slovan City mining division, was held on January 24 at Nelson. After some routine business had been transacted it was decided to adjourn until early in March, when officers will be elected and other business dealt with. Mr. Jas. W. Moffat, managing director, and Mr. C. B. McCuaig, assistant manager, were among those present.

##### FIVE METALS MINING CO.

At a special meeting of shareholders in the Five Metals Mining Company held in Nelson last month, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: John P. Redding, president and manager; directors, Dr. D. R. Brockman, Rockford, Wash.; Judge Campbell La Force, Tekoa, Wash.; and J. P. Redding, of Nelson.

##### OMINECA AND PEACE RIVER MINING CO.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Omineca and Peace River Mining Co., Limited, held in Victoria on February 7, the following directors were elected: F. Peters, Captain William Grant, H. E. Levy, F. W. Vincent, A. Stuart Robertson, I. A. Ker and O. Baker. Subsequently the directors met and elected Captain William Grant president, F. Peters, vice-president and D. Fraser secretary and treasurer.

##### ROSSLAND-KOOTENAY MINING CO., LTD.

The report of the Rossland-Kootenay Mining Company, Ltd., for the period ended 31st August, submitted at the annual meeting, stated that owing to the difficulty of obtaining satisfactory rates from the smelters, the shipments of ore during the year were greatly restricted and finally ceased in August last; all expenses have therefore had to be charged against a very limited output; in addition the allowance for depreciation and the amounts written off, plus expenses, consequent upon the Centre Star litigation, all of which have been debited to the revenue account, aggregate over £5,000.

##### LE ROI MINING CO., LTD.

A press despatch cabled from London, England, states that the annual meeting of the Le Roi Mining Co., Ltd., was held in London on January 31. There was a large attendance of shareholders and considerable interest was evinced in the proceedings. Whilst the accounts for the year ending June 30th, 1904, showed a loss, the marked improvement in the company's financial affairs during recent months, the more conservative and economical management, the resumption of monthly profits, and the discoveries of high-grade ore in the lower levels, were the subject of the liveliest satisfaction to all present.

The meeting approved of the proposal that the Le Roi Company should amalgamate with Rossland mining and other companies, with a capital of £1,500,000 and a working capital of £300,000 or £400,000.

Mr. A. J. McMillan was re-elected managing-director, and his policy as general manager warmly endorsed.

##### BRITANNIA COPPER SYNDICATE, LTD.

The annual general meeting of the Britannia Copper Syndicate, Ltd., was held at Vancouver on February 6. Of the 400 issued shares, 310 were represented. The president, Hon. Edgar Dewdney, was in the chair.

The financial statement submitted showed that the syndicate's mining property, plant, buildings and water power are valued at \$212,104.13. New York office account shows an unexpended balance of \$51,042.74, and there is cash in the Bank of Montreal, \$14,102.84.

The president's report stated that since the last general meeting operations had been carried on energetically under the supervision of Mr. J. H. Robinson, managing director. Construction work on a Riblet automatic aerial tramway and on buildings at Howe Sound was commenced last August. Previous to that about 40 acres of densely wooded flat had been cleared. Several buildings have been erected on this flat, which is near the beach, and in these machinery is being installed. A substantial wharf having a frontage of 100 ft. and an approach of 250 ft., has been built, and a tramway laid down from this to the centre of the flat, to facilitate removal of machinery from wharf to buildings. A building 133 by 125 ft. for the concentrating tables, is completed and the tables are being installed. The crushing mill and power house are nearly finished and the machinery has been ordered. The lower section of the aerial tramway, about two miles long, is well forward, and the upper section, more than one mile in length, will probably be completed next month. A dam has been constructed on the creek and piping and all other material necessary for conveyance of water to the power house are on hand. Work on mine buildings for the accommodation of mine employees, ore bins at tunnels and upper terminal of tramway and connecting trestles and snow sheds has also been in progress. It is confidently expected that all buildings will be completed and plant installed ready for operation of the mine by May 1 at latest. The capital of the company has been increased from \$250,000 to \$625,000.

The directors were re-elected, the board consisting of Hon.