

from the complex zinc ores of British Columbia, which will become great assets, if it can be proved that they may be economically concentrated and smelted.

Investigations of Ore and Mineral Deposits.—Work of this character is being continuously carried on. Already there have been published very complete and comprehensive monographs on the iron ores of Nova Scotia, by Dr. Woodman, separate reports on mica, asbestos, graphite and chromite, by Mr. Fritz Cirkel. A second and enlarged edition of the asbestos report has recently been issued, while a revised monograph on mica is in press having been prepared by Mr. H. de Schmid, who is now engaged in an investigation of feldspar and phosphate deposits. Molybdenite and tungsten deposits have been studied and reported upon by Dr. Walker of Toronto University. A report on the gypsum deposits of the maritime provinces, by W. F. Jennison, has been published, while the gypsum deposits of Ontario and western provinces and the salt deposits of Canada are being studied by Mr. L. H. Cole. Reports on pyrites and on copper ores are being prepared by Dr. A. W. G. Wilson, on building stone by Dr. Parks. Dr. A. P. Coleman of Toronto University is preparing a new and extensive monograph on the Sudbury nickel deposits.

Iron ore deposits in British Columbia, New Brunswick and in Ontario have also been investigated and reported upon by Mr. Einar Lindeman who has made special use of the magnetometer and the magnetometric method of surveying iron deposits. Another important investigation initiated during the past season consisted of an enquiry into the Canadian market for a large group of non-metallic mineral products as well as the various uses made of these products in manufacturing industries.

Proposed Regulation of the Manufacture of Explosives.—The serious

loss of life and property accompanying the destruction during the past few years of several magazines in which high explosives were stored and the long list of casualties resulting from accidental discharge of explosives, emphasised the great necessity of government control and regulation of the manufacture, handling and storage of high explosives. A thorough investigation of present methods of manufacture and storage has been carried out by the Mines Branch, Captain A. P. H. Desborough, one of His Majesty's Inspectors of Explosives, having been brought to Canada to consult with the government with regard to the proposed regulation and the establishment of a proposed Testing Station. Accompanied by Mr. Joseph G. S. Hudson, he visited nearly all of the Canadian explosive factories and distribution depots where high explosives are stored in order to study the existing condition in Canada.

Based upon Captain Desborough's report and recommendation, a Bill was introduced into the Canadian House, though with much other business it was held over in the recent political deadlock. Preparations are being made for the establishment of an explosives testing station as soon as the Bill shall have received the sanction of parliament.

Vancouver Assay Office. The Dominion of Canada Assay Office, at Vancouver, B. C., is another of the Divisions operated under the Mines Branch. This office was established some years ago to furnish the mining communities of the Yukon and British Columbia with a convenient market for their gold and to keep the trade accompanying the marketing of same in the country.

The members of the technical staff are practically all university graduates and include the Director, Dr. Eugene Haanel; Mr. F. G. Wait, Chief Chemist, Mr. John McLeish in charge of the Division of Mineral