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In our March 1st issue we published three articles by officers of the Department of Mines, which help to show some of the lines along which much progress has been made recently. The summary of the preliminary report on production, prepared by the Division of Mineral Resources and Statistics, of which Mr. John McLeish is chief, is continued in this issue. The article by Mr. M. E. Wilson, of the Geological Survey, gives some idea of the character of the great molybdenite deposit developed at Quyon, Quebec. The article by Mr. Howells Frechett of the Mines Branch contains much useful information on the development of the magnesite industry in Canada. The credit for the preparation of these articles belongs to the Mines Department.

ONTARIO'S PLATINUM AND PALLADIUM.

The scarcity of palladium and platinum and the high price that can be obtained for these metals should draw more attention to the fact that we are not making proper use of the considerable quantities of these metals contained in the ores mined and smelted in the Sudbury district.

It is well known that the Sudbury nickel-copper mattes contain important quantities of the precious metals: gold, silver, platinum and palladium. The report of the Ontario Nickel Commission shows clearly that a large percentage of these metals is being wasted. The magnitude of the waste is, however, not commonly appreciated.

From the publications of the Ontario Bureau of Mines we know that there was produced in Ontario in 1916 80,010 tons nickel-copper matte. This matte contained at least 20,000 and possibly 30,000 oz. of platinum and palladium. In 1917 the production was 78,897 tons of matte. During the past two years, therefore, there has been produced in Ontario matte containing a very large amount of these precious metals. The exact amount is unknown to us; but 50,000 oz. for the two years is, perhaps a conservative estimate. Assuming \$100 per ounce as the value of these precious metals, we have the handsome amount of \$5,000,000 as the value of the platinum and palladium contained in ore mined in Ontario in the past two years.

Why does Canada get no credit as producer of the precious metals recovered from the mattes? How much is being recovered from the mattes in other countries and how much is being wasted? We have not the data necessary for the preparation of a reliable estimate; but we would not be surprised to learn that Ontario platinum and palladium wasted in the past two years amounted to over \$3,000,000.

In this connection the following paragraph from the report of the Ontario Nickel Commission is interesting: "The nickel-copper ores of Sudbury are capable of producing much more palladium than the whole of the present world's supply, together with a very large proportion of platinum, iridium and other metals of the platinum group." How much is being produced from Sudbury ores?

"Iron and Steel," a new journal, devoted to the steel and iron industry of Canada, is now being published by the Industrial and Educational Press, Montreal. The first two numbers contain much useful information and the journal merits a wide circulation among those interested in iron and steel production and manufacture. Mr. Alfred Stansfield is editor-in-chief and Mr. W. G. Dauncey is associate editor. Mr. Stansfield is secretary of the newly formed Iron and Steel Section of the Canadian Mining Institute.