

The Petrolia Advertiser states that the territory discovered in Moore Township last year was regarded somewhat sceptically by experience operators, but it has since proved very promising. The extent of the oil deposits is not by any means defined, and there is every reason for asserting that oil will be got over a very wide area. The strike near Mooretown, within three miles of the river, must have the effect of stimulating the drilling. The large production of some of the Leamington wells was a strong magnet, and the Detroit papers in particular do much to boom that territory, but the expenses of operating in Moore are so much lighter that it should be found equally as attractive now that its staying powers have been so fully proved.

It is reported that the Carborundum Co., at Niagara Falls, will rebuild the plant which was destroyed by fire some time ago at Niagara Falls, in Canada. Carborundum has grown to be one of the most popular abrasives. With the exception of one year, 1902, there has been a continuous increase from year to year in the production and use of carborundum. In that year the decrease was due to a scarcity of supplies used in the manufacture. Last year the total production was 7,060,380 pounds, which was an increase of 2,300,490 pounds over 1903, when the production was 4,759,890 pounds. To have Ontario once more take part in the manufacture and in supplying the market with such a popular product of the electric furnace will be good industrial progress.

The Petrolia Advertiser makes the following pertinent comment:—"There are those who show a disposition to croak and belittle the chances of striking oil in any new quarters out of the ordinary, and it is this class of people who do a community like ours harm. The nature of the oil business is such as to require the advent of new operators constantly to liven matters up and keep up the search actively, and we have heard it said that there are croakers in these parts who do much harm in discouraging those who otherwise would take a hand in the business. In slang parlance they are called 'knockers,' because of the peculiar satisfaction they seem to take out of the practice of knocking the enthusiasm and optimism out of the newcomer. The business is one possessing the element of chance in a high degree, but every passing year demonstrates that there is virgin territory awaiting the work of the operator, and whenever he appears and wants to try his luck he should not be unnecessarily discouraged."

The Copper Mining and Smelting Company of Ontario was incorporated during August with a capital of a million dollars, the following provisional directors being appointed:—Messrs. T. Hayes Sheen and J. Carnegie Williams, of England; R. A. Lyon and F. M. Perry, of Toronto; and J. McPhail, of Sault Ste. Marie. A meeting was immediately held for the purpose of arranging for the transfer of the Bruce Copper Mines, Ltd., to the newly formed company. No stock will be issued in America, as it has all been taken up in England, and the syndicate has decided not to take advantage of the right to issue stock at a discount, as allowed by the Ontario Mining Company's Incorporation Act. An advisory board will be formed in Toronto representing the various interests concerned in the successful operation of the company, who will from time to time advise with the officers and staff in Toronto and the directors in London. The mines have a fairly complete equipment for the handling of 500 tons per day; meanwhile development work will be at once resumed under the charge of the mining engineer, Mr. Williams. The ore is of a higher grade than that usually found on the north shore. The mines were discovered in 1846, and worked until 1876 by the John Taylor Co., of London, and for a number of years paid satisfactory dividends until the decline in the price of copper.

#### ALBERTA.

Rapid progress is being made in the construction of the new smelter plant of the Canadian Metals Company, at Frank. The walls of the furnace and main buildings are completed, and the carpenters are placing on the roof.

The boilers and most of the machinery for the powerhouse have arrived, and will be placed in position at once, in order to have them running when the plant is completed. The electric building will be ready for the dynamos by the last of this week. It is the intention of the management to have the plant in running order within a month's time.

A London, Eng., report states that authority has been granted to the Western Canada Cement & Coal Co. to receive applications for £225,000 first-mortgage bonds at par, to be applied in acquiring cement, clay and anthracite coal lands at Kananaski, Alberta, in erecting a Portland cement factory, and for working capital. They besides contemplate the building of 300 to 500 elevators throughout the Northwest, with the latest appliances. Their capital will be \$10,000,000 to \$12,000,000.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

**Coast.**—The seventy concentrating tables in the concentrator building at the Britannia mines were given a thorough test on the 28th of August, the results being most satisfactory. The Australian "jig," a concentrating machine of a new type in this country but long used successfully at the Broken Hill mines in Australia, passed through the test in a most satisfactory manner. The capacity of this appliance is three hundred and fifty tons per day.

In addition to the Copper Queen Mine, which is about to be re-opened by Mr. H. Wilde, M.E., of New York, development operations have been resumed on the Loyal; meanwhile the Marble Bay is making regular shipments to the Tacoma smelter.

Mr. W. F. Borland, of Montreal, recently concluded negotiations in Victoria for the purchase of an extensive coal property on Graham Island of the Queen Charlotte group.

Mr. Robinson, managing director of the Britannia Copper Mines, has recently secured an option on the Mount Andrews mineral properties on Prince of Wales Island. The ore is said to be red hematite, carrying copper and gold in relatively small values, but the ores are likely to be useful for fluxing purposes in the treatment of the Britannia ores at Crofton.

**Similkameen.**—The B.C. Copper Company recently purchased the Apex group of claims, at the head of Keremeos and 16 Mile Creek in this district.

Prospecting has lately been active on One and Five-Mile Creeks, Similkameen. Twenty miles up One-Mile a new strike of gold-bearing rock has been made, and at Five-Mile the Gladstone claim, recently located, has a vein over eight feet wide without either wall being encountered so far, which assays 16.6 per cent. copper and whose total values are \$47.86.

**Cariboo.**—The Forest Rose Mining Company, owning bench claims and leases on Williams Creek near Barkerville, is being reorganized. The properties have been worked almost continuously since 1864, and have produced over a million and a half dollars in gold. The company declared a dividend this year. The present equipment of the property consists of a 7-inch hydraulic plant and a No. 1 Giant. The Vancouver investors, who are securing the controlling interest, propose equipping the property with a modern hydraulic plant, in readiness for operations next season.

**Atlin.**—Promising new placer discoveries are reported to have been made in this district on a creek which has been named Lincoln. At a depth of three feet on the discovery claim panning yields from 3 to 4 cents. Red-rock, it is expected, will be found at a depth of about 20 feet. The creek is situated some 45 miles in a northeasterly direction from Atlin.

The dredge of the Northern Mines, Ltd., on Spruce Creek and the Switzer dredge on Gold Run are both operating with good results, and it is expected that dredging at Blue Canyon, on Spruce, will be started this autumn. Water is plentiful on Pine, Spruce and McKee, but scarce at Birch, and on Boulder. Not only is hydraulic mining