



CANADA'S JASPER BELT has heretofore been pretty much only a matter of conjecture, but it seems that the Provincial Government of Ontario has decided to investigate it in the interests of the country. For this reason Prof. A. P. Coleman, the expert of the Ontario Mining Branch, left about the middle of May to enter upon his summer work of exploration in Northern Ontario. He proposes to first make an examination of the placer gold of the headwaters of the Vermilion and Wahnipatae Rivers and of the country to the north of these rivers. After that he will go up the Nipissing line and explore the jasper belt which is believed to exist in that country. The importance of this belt lies in the fact that iron ores usually occur in contact with jasper, as in Minnesota and Wisconsin. There is reason to believe that a jasper band extends from Lake Superior to Lake Temiscamigue. Several points in the supposed band are already known. When the Nipissing line was surveyed in 1896 Mr. Burwash, who was the Government mining expert, found that the line crossed the jasper band at the sixty-five mile post. Jasper occurs also near Batchanna Bay on Lake Superior. Dr. Coleman will explore the belt throughout its length, and place it on the map for the guidance of prospectors.

THE FOLLOWING flattering notice is clipped from the local Renfrew paper, regarding a piece of workmanship of which the maker may well feel proud:—"Sometime ago we noted that Mr. W. A. Purvis was engaged in the manufacture of what was probably the first watch escapement ever actually made in Renfrew. Above we give a photo-engraving of the escapement, which fairly well portrays the plan of the work; although, after all, it gives little idea of the skill and labor involved in the operation of making. It is all of brass and steel, well-finished in gold and silver plate, and clicks away with accurate regularity. It is a bit of work well worthy of inspection, and will lead to the conclusion that the man who can make a watch as well as this is made, should be able to repair any watch that can be repaired. Mr. Purvis is also an optician, having graduated in 1895, at Toronto, under Mr. Lionel Laurance, now Principal of the Worshipful Spectacle Association of London, England, looked upon as the highest authority in optics."

TRADING STAMPS condemned by the clergy. The Trading Stamp business was discussed by the Presbyterian Synod of Toronto, last month, who passed a resolution condemning it on the ground that it tended to demoralize the public. The following extract from the report which was adopted, shows the views of the Synod on this matter. "Most of the reports on bribery take it only in its relation to politics. One good brother, however, the convener for Kingston, righteously scathes the bribery that prevails in business. Listen to this torrent of fiery indignation: 'Bribery' he says, 'is everywhere and in everything. Where shall we go to escape the temptation? I gave up my grocery man because of his bribery in crockery. I left my butcher because he offered me trading stamps. I gave up my religious paper because bribed with an elegant Bible. Bribery is rampant everywhere.' We are in hearty sympathy with these righteous sentiments, and we feel sure our good brother must rejoice that there is in reserve for him a better place than Kingston, where there are no trading stamps or crockery."

THE FIRM of Thomas C. Johnson & Sons, of Halifax, N.S., have, since the beginning of the year, owing to their largely increased business, enlarged and refitted their premises and equipped it in a thoroughly up-to-date manner. They have added considerable additional floor space and put up beautiful new wall cases, also the newest design in counter cases. The counter cases are made of polished walnut, with one piece of polished British plate glass for top, and are 12 feet long. The goods displayed therein show to great advantage. Thos. C. Johnson & Sons have without doubt one of the handsomest and best appointed jewelry stores in the maritime provinces. The wall cases are complete with the most beautiful and up-to-date goods ever displayed in Halifax. Just now they are receiving daily, goods suitable for spring weddings, consisting of sterling silverware, cut-glass, electro plate, art goods, drawing and dining-room clocks, etc. Their stock of jewelry is very large.

Diamonds and precious stone rings, gold watches set with diamonds, pearl pendants, brooches, chains, etc.; in fact everything that can be had only in a high class jewelry establishment. In the rear of the main store and connected by a passageway is their watch making and jewelry manufacturing rooms, fitted up with modern work benches and tools. Jewelry of all kinds is made to order, and the watch making is personally overseen by the proprietors.

AS WILL be seen from the announcement elsewhere in this issue, Dr. W. E. Hamill, of Toronto, for the past seven years instructor to the Optical Institute of Canada, has severed his connection with that institution and has opened up on his own account a school for the instruction of opticians, to be known as the "Canadian College of Optics." Dr. Hamill informs us that his new institution will start out on considerably different lines from any other optical school in Canada or the United States. He proposes to charge a specified price for his course of tuition, and recognizing the fact that all students are not equally quick at learning, has decided that those who cannot master the work in one session will be at liberty to come back again to the next session or until they do thoroughly understand it, without any extra charge. He proposes to have only one standard for diplomas awarded at the Canadian College of Optics, and that standard a high one. No student will be allowed to obtain a diploma until he earns it by passing their regular standard examination, so that its diploma will mean merit in the possessor. Dr. Hamill says he will aim to impart to his students a thorough and practical course of instruction and he trusts to show such good results that his graduates will have no difficulty in securing and holding the highest positions open to the profession. His long experience as a teacher of optical science and the large number of successful students he has graduated are a guarantee that future performance will be strictly up-to-date and thoroughly first-class in every particular.

IN THEIR NEW FACTORY. -Messrs. Saunders, Lorie & Co. removed from Bay Street to their splendid new factory, 67 Adelaide Street West, on the 10th of last month. Owing to their special advance arrangements, the removal of their tools, plant and machinery was quickly and easily effected, and as a matter of fact, business was really only shut down for the matter of one single day, a record-breaker in the way of removals, when the magnitude of the operation is taken into consideration. As our readers are already aware, that firm's new factory is situated at 67 Adelaide Street West, the premises formerly occupied by the American Watch Case Company of Toronto. The firm have leased the entire upper flat, which is nearly two hundred feet long and forty feet wide. At the rear, where the new addition is, the firm added an extra storey above the main floor, thus making a total area of floor space of nearly 10,000 square feet. The factory is splendidly lighted with large windows on the south, west and north sides of the building, and also by several large skylights, so that there are really no dark corners in it, and every employee can see his work distinctly, a great advantage where fine workmanship is required. The offices are situated at the north end of the flat, immediately at the head of the entrance stairs, and are commodious and well arranged for the transaction of business. As before stated in these notes, Mr. Lorie has been for months at work getting things in shape for the new factory, and even a casual visit of inspection will satisfy any person that he has adopted all the newest and most advanced ideas regarding machinery and processes of manufacture apparently regardless of cost. He says he is bound to have as good and up-to-date a factory as any in the United States, and we think he has pretty well succeeded. In a future issue we will endeavour to give our readers some detailed idea of how this has been effected, but at the present we will only say that their new factory is a credit to the firm and to Canada. Messrs. Saunders, Lorie & Co. are increasing their already large force of employees as fast as expert men can be secured, and they are hard at work on a line of new fall samples that they think will both please and surprise the trade. We wish the firm a long and prosperous career in their new business home.