FILTER SAND, A NEW CANADIAN PRODUCT.

Municipalities and contractors who have to build filtration plants are always up against a rather difficult problem, when it comes to fill in the sand beds of their filters. Any kind of sand will not do for the purpose, so much so, that up to the present time that sand had to be imported from the United States at an almost prohibitive cost and with much inconvenience on account of transportation difficulties.

A good filter sand must consist of hard durable grains, either sharp or rounded, free from clay, dust, loam or organic matters. It should be carefully seived and graded to a definite effective size and co-efficient of uniformity. It should also be capable to stand a strong acid test for dissolution.

It can readily be seen that all these qualifications are obtained if the proper quality of stone, i.e., quartzite or potsdam sandstone, is crushed and ground to the required size, and graded. This is now done by a new Canadian firm, the Cascades Silica Products Company, which was organized in view of supplying the steel industry with silica sand and rock, but which is now offering on the market for any size of a very high grade silica stone, from quarry size to silica flower.

Large Silica Rock Deposit.

Two of the most extensive deposits of high grade silica rock yet found in Canada has been acquired by the Cascades Silica Products Co., of Montreal, this company having been recently organized by Aurelien Boyer, formerly of the Canadian Inspection and Testing Laboratories, Ltd., of Montreal, and Hector Frigon, formerly a director of the James Walker Hardware Co., of Montreal. The former is in practical control of the new company, while the latter has been appointed general manager.

Both of these vauable properties are located within a short distance of Montreal, the largest deposit being composed of the hardest mineral (quartzite), especially recommended by official authorities for the production of ferro-silicon. This property is located along the shore of the River St. Lawrence, about 30 miles west of Montreal, at the foot of the Soulanges Canal, thus providing excellent facilities for water transportation. It might be mentioned here that the company maintains, throughout the entire year, a large stock of silica sand in their storage yard at Cote St. Paul, Montreal.

The second and smaller deposit is situated near St. Canut, about 60 miles north of Montreal, on the C. N. R. The entire deposit on both these properties consists of highly refractory rock, and is particularly suited for all classes of foundry work.

Main Crusher Plant.

After washing, the sand is allowed to fall on a large endless belt conveyor which transfers the material to the storage department. When loading a barge at the company's wharf, another conveyer belt is used to deliver the sand from the storage piles to the loading hopper, whence it is discharged into dumping cars that travel beneath the discharge opening of the hopper. These cars are then allowed to descend by gravity to the wharf, a distance of a few hundred feet from the storage plant. The mill compressor and loading machinery are operated by electric motors of a total capacity of 140 H.P.