

THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL

VOL. XXX.

TORONTO, February 15, 1909

No. 4

The Canadian Mining Journal

With which is incorporated the
"CANADIAN MINING REVIEW"

Devoted to Mining, Metallurgy and Allied Industries in Canada

Published fortnightly by the

MINES PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED

Head Office Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

Branch Offices Montreal, Halifax, Victoria, and London, Eng.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS—Payable in advance, \$2.00 a year of 24 numbers, including postage in Canada. In all other countries, including postage, \$3.00 a year.

Advertising copy should reach the Toronto Office by the 8th, for the issues of the 15th of each month, and by the 23rd for the issues of the first of the following month. If proof is required, the copy should be sent so that the accepted proof will reach the Toronto Office by the above dates.

CIRCULATION.

During the year ending with March 1st, 1908, 91,750 copies of "The Canadian Mining Journal" were printed and distributed, an average of 3,822 per issue.

"Entered as second-class matter April 23rd, 1908, at the post-office at Buffalo, N.Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879."

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CONTENTS.

	Page.
Editorial.....	97
Our Visible Supply of Brick.....	100
Pressure in Formation and Alteration of Coal.....	102
A Visit to Mineral Districts of Canada (continued).....	104
Mine Accounting.....	107
Sinking of Wabana Submarine Slopes.....	110
Recent Progress in Mineral Industry in Thunder Bay and Rainy River District.....	114
The British Mint in 1663.....	116
Exchanges.....	117
Book Reviews and Correspondence.....	118
Special Correspondence.....	121
General Mining News.....	123
Mining News of the World.....	125
Company Notes.....	126
Statistics and Returns.....	127

GOWGANDA.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—The following notes were hastily thrown together barely in time to appear in this number. Our readers, we trust, will overlook the obvious lack of coherence. In our issue of March 1 a much fuller article on Gowganda will appear.

Whatever discount must be allowed for the overstatements of promoters, there is no lack of evidence that Gowganda is a most promising field for the prospector. At present the tangible results of work done are small, but, in some cases, encouraging. On several properties camp-buildings have been erected. Supplies are being rushed in. The new winter route from Sellwood (Moose Mountain), the northern terminus of a branch line of the Canadian Northern Railway, to Gowganda Lake has been completed. Sellwood lies about 38 miles north of Sudbury from Toronto. A night's journey in comfortable cars lands one at Sellwood. Here travellers are transferred to sleighs. One and one-half days' drive, through a splendidly timbered country, ends at Gowganda Lake.

Fuller details of this new route will appear in a later issue of the Canadian Mining Journal. Our present purpose is merely to draw attention to the fact that there is a new passenger and freight road to Gowganda. The Charlton route has suffered badly from congestion of freight. Both roads will be taxed to their utmost to handle the traffic.

The townsite of Gowganda is just being surveyed. Naturally no lots have yet been sold. There have been however, several fictitious sales. The unfortunate purchasers will have to be content with snow.

Meanwhile, before the exact limits of the townsite are known, many buildings have been erected. There are several hotels in full working order. Two banks are completing large log structures, their business, meanwhile being conducted under canvas. Four or five lawyers, one doctor, and several surveyors have already hung out their signs. Accommodation for man and beast is being increased as rapidly as expert bushmen can pile, log on log. A saw mill is working overtime to supply the demand for boards for flooring and sheathing.

The town is situated on the northwest extremity of Gowganda Lake. Its population may be safely estimated at from three hundred to five hundred. The daily arrivals average not less than fifty. Some of these remain in Gowganda. Others are distributed through the various mining camps that are springing into existence in every direction. The lone prospector takes his tent and supplies into the woods.

In the general vicinity of Gowganda Lake, but a trifling amount of mine development has been performed.