

EDITORIAL NOTES

The recent readjustment of postal rates between Canada and the United States has forced THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL to raise its subscription rate from two dollars to three dollars. This applies only to new subscribers in the United States. American subscribers who have already sent in their subscriptions for the amount of two dollars will not be called upon to increase that amount until next year. But THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL could not continue to supply subscribers on the other side of the line at the two dollar rate without incurring considerable loss.

Although the production of nickel ore in New Caledonia showed a slight increase last year, as compared with 1905, the outlook for the industry in that colony does not appear to be very bright. As a result of the new mining law, which came into force in July last, thousands of acres of mining lands have been abandoned. This law compels the owners of mining lands to either continuously work the properties or else pay a double rental. A consular reports notes that this is tantamount to forcing production on a limited market, and as the whole of the nickel produced in New Caledonia is virtually the product of about eight of nine mines, the consequence of trying to force production on the world's markets is disastrous in the extreme, since, under fair conditions, it would be easily possible to double the present output. The total area of the mines abandoned during December, 1906, was 42,500 acres, and this will be exceeded during 1907 if the present restrictions are maintained.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Falconer has been appointed to the presidency of Toronto University. The choice is a fortunate one. Dr. Falconer is young and vigorous. He is an accomplished scholar and a successful educationist. The Provincial Government has displayed foresight and discretion in endowing the new president with large powers. Incidentally it is pleasant to note that the salary now attached to the office bears some proportion to the dignity and responsibility of such a high position.

Queen's University, recognizing the value of Provincial Geologist Wilbert G. Miller's services, has conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. We sincerely congratulate Dr. Miller. We also congratulate Queen's upon being the first public educational institution to tangibly express its appreciation of Dr. Miller's unique and far-reaching work in developing the mineral wealth of Ontario.

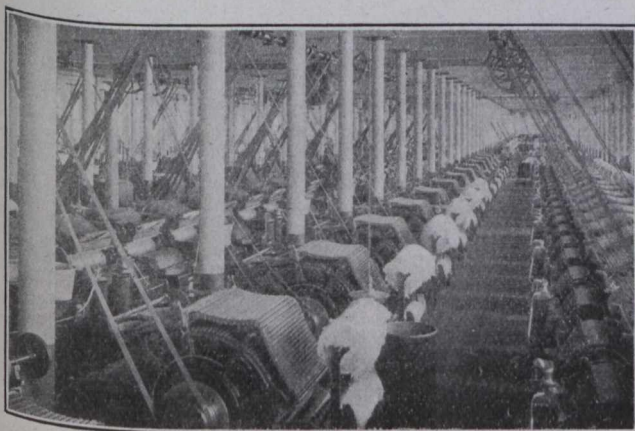
British Columbia papers, in noting the fact that several of Cobalt's mine managers have been engaged from British Columbia camps, felicitate their Province upon possessing a superior class of mining engineers and miners. This is doubtless the case. But we would remind Cobalt that, should her demand for men remain unsatisfied, Nova Scotia also produces miners trained by long experience in metalliferous mines. With both British Columbia and Nova Scotia to draw on, and our mining schools turning out dozens of young graduates, we should depend in a constantly lessening degree upon talent imported from the United States.

ASBESTOS

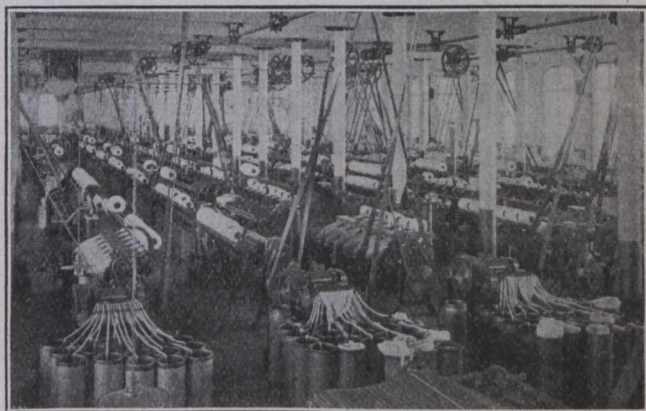
(Written for THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL.)

It is not intended in this article to go into the geology of the rocks or the history of the serpentines in the Quebec asbestos belt of the Province of Quebec, as the sub-

ject has been taken up from time to time in the last 30 years by many well-known geologists of this and other countries, and many interesting articles have been written by such eminent geologists as Dr. Dawson, Prof. Logan, the late Dr. Sterry Hunt, and others.



CARD ROOM—SHOWING PROCESS OF CARDING.



DRAWING ROOM—SHOWING PROCESS OF DRAWING AND DOUBLING AND COMBING.

ject has been taken up from time to time in the last 30 years by many well-known geologists of this and other

It is of the commercial aspects and general information of the asbestos industry that we intend to treat in this