

well equipped mills, of a capacity of 1,000 tons of rock each per 10 hours. Provision is made for about 2,000 h.p., partly steam and partly electricity.

The Johnson Company operate two mines, at Thetford and Black Lake respectively. Each mine has its own mill, and both were in continuous operation during the year.

At both mines and mills steam power is used exclusively. The capacity of the Thetford and Black Lake mills of the Johnson Company aggregate 750 tons of rock per 10 hours.

The Jacobs Asbestos Mining Company operate on lot 28 in the sixth (VI.) range of Thetford. Their well equipped mill has a capacity of 600 tons of rock per 10 hours. Electric power is used exclusively in operating both the mines and the mill. The horse power used is about 700.

The Martin-Bennett Asbestos Mines, Ltd., is the latest addition to the Thetford mines. This company acquired the Ward-Ross property, situated near the Johnson mine. It had been lying idle for a great many years

The second company has its plant at the falls of the St. Francis River, two miles above Disraeli. They develop 3,000 h.p. and have an auxiliary steam plant of 2,000 h.p.

The price of electric power in these districts averages \$25 per h.p. for eight months to during the year, as generally during the winter months mining operations are considerably reduced.

It is noteworthy that there is now a growing tendency towards using steam power in mining and milling operations. The contention is that although electric power at the rate at which it is delivered would be cheaper for continuous operations, as there sometimes occur long interruptions in the work owing to various causes, such as shortage of labour, sluggishness in the asbestos market, unfavourable weather to work in the asbestos pits, etc., it is more profitable to install a boiler plant and produce steam power. The price of good steam coal on the cars at Thetford or Black Lake during 1912 was \$5 per gross ton.



Cobbing Asbestos, Black Lake, P.Q.

owing to litigation. The new mill, which is very complete and efficient, was put in operation in the spring of 1912. It has a capacity of 900 tons of rock per 10 hours. In their mines and milling operations steam power is used exclusively.

The B. and A. Asbestos Company operate on lot 9 in the fifth (V.) range of Thetford, at Robertsonville. The mill has a capacity of 450 tons per 10 hours. Electric power, 600 h.p., is used exclusively in both mining and milling operations.

The Berlin Asbestos Company have their mine and mill on lot 2 in the fifth (V.) range of Thetford. The mill has a capacity of 450 tons per 10 hours. The mining and milling operations require 400 h.p. The two last mines were only operated during a part of the year.

The electric power is distributed in the asbestos districts by two electric power companies, the Continental Light and Power Company and the St. Francis Hydraulic Company. The first of these obtain the power from Shawenegan Falls, on the north side of the St. Lawrence River. Two lines of 80 miles deliver 9,000 h.p. in Thetford, Black Lake, Robertson, East Broughton and Danville.

#### THE OUTPUT OF COPPER IN AUGUST.

The Boston News Bureau states that the copper production for August by 26 producers approximated 81,413,124 pounds, compared with 99,540,194 pounds last year, a decrease of 18,127,070 pounds. This sharp drop was directly due to the suspension of operations in the Lake Superior district. The last half of the month witnessed resumption on a small scale at Calumet and Hecla, Copper Range and Quincy, but it is very improbable that the combined output from these properties exceeded 4,000,000 pounds, which would compare with a normal monthly production of the camp of from 18,000,000 to 20,000,000 pounds.

The porphyries—Utah, Chino, Nevada Consolidated, Ray Consolidated and Miami—outputted last month 30,019,348 pounds, an increase of 1,854,320 pounds over August, 1912.

#### NIPISSING.

Nipissing Mining Company report as of September 20, shows: Cash on hand, \$1,192,297; ore and bullion in transit, \$24,245; ore on hand, \$182,980; total, \$1,399,522.