

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

ONTARIO.

Cobalt.—The results of the sale of 349 acres of mining lands in the Gillies Limit have been announced. Twenty parcels of land were offered, and of these fifteen were sold. Tenders received for the other five lots were not considered high enough, and were therefore not accepted. The fifteen lots sold brought in a total of \$109,943.50. In addition to these fifteen lots the Provincial mine was sold to F. M. Connell, of Haileybury, the purchase price being \$113,111, making the total proceeds of the sale \$225,054.50. In addition to the sale price a royalty of 10 per cent. of the gross proceeds of the sale of ore will be levied. The successful tenderers were as follows:—

Lot A, 5—Geo. F. Webb, Hamilton, Ont.	\$7,709.00
" A, 8—Ben Sommer, Montreal	7,447.50
" A, 15—A. Pierce, Montreal	7,600.00
" A, 20—T. C. Simpson, Westmount	12,250.00
" A, 26—Geo. E. Martell, Renfrew	15,300.00
" A, 7—A. R. Flynn, Pittsburg	4,506.00
" A, 16—W. H. Legge, Toronto	3,502.00
" A, 19—A. R. Flynn, Pittsburg	6,511.00
" A, 33—A. R. Flynn, Pittsburg	2,706.00
" A, 34—A. R. Flynn, Pittsburg	2,706.00
" A, 31—Frank E. McDonald, Toronto	2,250.00
" A, 44—A. H. Jackson, Montreal	2,655.00
" A, 26—A. Pierce, Montreal	20,600.00
" A, 39—A. Pierce, Montreal	9,200.00
" A, 38—Bannell Sawyer, Montreal	5,011.00

The Buffalo mine has been working for a long time on its cyanide plant, to be used in connection with the concentrator, and at last has it in running order. The new plant has a capacity of 50 tons per day. For the treatment of the slimes a combination of mechanical and air agitation is used. The millmen of this district will watch the operation of the plant with a great deal of interest, as many of them have carried on extensive experiments along this line, and have come to the conclusion that a commercial success cannot be made of the cyaniding process as applied to cobalt ores.

It was stated a short time ago that development on the Waldman vein in the Gillies Limit had not been productive of very encouraging results. When the shaft was down about 15 feet the vein changed to calcite with a streak of barren cobalt, but when the work was down an additional fifteen feet the high-grade ore came in again, carrying practically as good values as were found on the surface. Sinking will be continued to the 100-foot level before any drifting is done, and in addition to this two diamond drills will be operated on the property in an effort to locate new veins. This company is at present leasing air from the Provincial mine, but as this property has now been sold, it is altogether likely that new arrangements will have to be made. It will not, however, be necessary for them to install their own plant, as the main pipe line of the Cobalt Hydraulic Power Co. passes within 100 feet of the property.

The 10-stamp concentrator at the Colonial mine has been completed, and the company is only awaiting the arrival of the air and electricity, when work will be started. Last spring mining operations were suspended, and since that time no work has been done.

It is generally understood that Montreal capitalists who are identified with the Crown Reserve mine have obtained control of the Silver Leaf, and the recent appointment of Colonel Carson, President of the Crown Reserve, and Mr. Cohen, who is manager of the same company, to the positions of president and consulting engineer respectively of the Silver Leaf, would seem

to point to the truth of these rumours. It was believed that the shares of the Silver Leaf were very widely scattered, but it now appears that the controlling interest was held by some New York people, and that they have sold the same at a price low enough to induce the buyers to consider the property. The Silver Leaf is capitalized at five million dollars, and up to date only about \$300,000 worth of ore has been mined. The main vein of the Crown Reserve continues into the Silver Leaf, but shortly after crossing the boundary the values pinched out.

Progress is being made with the addition to the Coniagas concentrator, which will double the capacity of the plant. A large part of the machinery is already on the ground, and the management is confident of having it in operation by the end of the year, provided the power companies have their electricity ready for distribution by that time. The addition has been designed to use electric energy, and the steam power equipment is only sufficient to operate the existing plant.

Part of the machinery for the extension to the Northern Customs Concentrators has been installed, and the results obtained were very satisfactory. Two Nissen stamps were running for a short time to get an idea of their capacity. These were installed by the inventor under a guarantee to crush a certain amount of ore a day, and in the test that was given them they exceeded the guarantee.

The Townsite mine only commenced operations a short time ago, and up to date the results obtained have been very encouraging to the management. A new vein about 3 inches in width was discovered at the 110-foot level on the No. 7 shaft. It consists of cobalt carrying high values in silver. In a short time a cross-cut will be run to the west to catch a continuation of one of the main veins of the Buffalo. At the present time the main part of the work is being carried on from the Silver Queen shaft, where the company is stoping out a vein that cuts across the corner of the Townsite property, and already a considerable amount of high-grade ore has been taken out.

It is reported that one of the best veins on the Mann property in Gowganda was discovered Sept. 3rd. The new vein, which has been traced for some distance, varies in width up to 4 inches, and consists of high-grade ore.

Another drilling contest was held in Cobalt on Labour Day, Sept. 6th, and the first prize was awarded to the Nova Scotia team, who drilled 38½ inches. In a similar contest held a couple of weeks previously this same team was only able to drill 25¾ inches. All the other competing teams made a similar advance above their previous records, and this is largely due to the great strides made since the former test, when they were so hopelessly outclassed by Page and Pickens, the world's champions.

A short time ago a deputation representing several of the Cobalt mines called upon the officials of the department and petitioned that the heavy royalties which these have to pay should be reduced. Although no announcement has as yet been made, there are indications that such a reduction will be made. Should such be the case, the following mining companies would be benefitted: Chambers-Ferland, 16 per cent. royalty; Crown Reserve, 10 per cent.; O'Brien, 25 per cent.; Temiskaming & Hudson Bay, 15 per cent. Besides these companies paying a royalty to the Ontario Government, the following companies have to pay a similar royalty to the T. & N. O. Railway commission. These are: Right of Way, Townsite, Nancy Helen, City of Cobalt, Station Grounds, Jackpot, Wright and Railway Reserve, all of which pay 25 per cent.

Since the installation of the new 6-drill compressor at the John Black Mining Co. the work is progressing much more