

brought so prominently before the public several years ago, when first opened up, are turning out vastly more valuable than the most sanguine reports originally promised. The nickel which the ore also contains is so abundant that it is said these mines alone can produce more than the combined output of all the other nickel mines of the world and it can be produced so cheaply that it will be utilized to a much larger extent than heretofore. Already it is suggested as a probable alloy for steel, the benefit to be gained by an admixture of the two metals being remarkable.

Gold has recently been found on the Algoma Branch of the C. P. R. north of Bruce Mines. Important iron discoveries are reported from near Sault Ste. Marie. Indications of nickel are plentiful near Schrieber on the Canadian Pacific Railway 130 miles east. The Port Arthur silver district continues to be prominent and never in the history of silver mining here have matters looked so prosperous. Large shipments of ore have been made all through the season, new mines are being worked and prospects developed, and altogether, affairs in the Port Arthur silver district are bright and business-like. The recent dividend at the Badger of 10 per cent. on the total capital stock of \$250,000, after having returned to the proprietors all the money invested by them in mining, machinery, purchase of lands &c., some \$200,000; the rise in Shuniah Weachu stock, the development at the Beaver, the rich ore body struck at the Elgin, the showing at the West End, one and all point to the eventual value to the district and our people of the silver mines. The Rat Portage gold district is slowly but surely coming to the front, the wonderful showings of free gold being sure to result in the investment of capital in mining. Mine owners have had an up-hill battle waiting for titles to their properties, and it is slow work attracting the attention of investors to a district where for so long a time it was impossible to give a capitalist any legal title to the property in which he was asked to invest his money. However the dawn of a brighter day is before Rat Portage, and next summer there will be a strong mining movement there, which cannot but help the whole district. Other discoveries of more or less interest have taken place during the summer, notable amongst which was finding in the Townships of Blake and Crooks a belt or dyke of amygdaloid carrying native copper. So little work has been done on this yet that it would be premature to pass an opinion on its value, but there is no reason why the copper deposits of the North Shore should not be quite as valuable as those of the Keeweenaw peninsula less than 100 miles away, on which are situated the Calumet, Hecla, Tamarack and other world renowned mines. Some very fine silver has also been located in Crooks, proving beyond a doubt that the silver range covers a triangular tract of country running southwesterly from Port Arthur 60 miles in length and equal in area to 1,250 square miles.