

ation than that of almost any other similar class. In fact, the miner in Ontario has every reason, when he compares his lot with others, to be content. Why then this superfluous paternalism? Are there not a score of abuses to be remedied in our factories, on our farms, and in our shops and offices? When these shall have been studied and met it will be time enough to consider the much more fortunate miner. In a word, granting for argument's sake the need of an universal eight-hour day, the miner is much less in need of it than are thousands upon thousands of his fellow-citizens.

By way of contrast, it might be well to let the imagination dwell upon the present effect of an eight-hour day upon the farm. No doubt, when the electric appliances of the future do everything but sign the payroll, the farmer's help will work but one-third of the day. Now, however, the suggestion might not be heartily welcomed.

It is to be remembered that the above is *The Canadian Mining Journal's* opinion as to the expediency of an eight-hour day in the mines of Ontario. Our former editorial dealt solely with the validity of the arguments adduced by the Cobalt operators.

We cannot close without correcting a sin of omission. In the category of those who sigh for remedial legislation we forgot to mention editors.

#### EASTERN ONTARIO GOLD MINING.

In this number of *The Canadian Mining Journal* we present an article on the Cordova gold mine, a mine that some years ago attracted much attention. Formerly known as the Belmont, it was operated by an English company for a few years. After lying idle for eight years, it has been re-opened by Mr. P. Kirkegaard.

The history of the mine under English control is of little interest beyond the fact that much territory and a fine water power were acquired, and complete overhead equipment installed. The power, which is generated three miles away at the foot of Deer Lake, is in itself a fine asset. At a very low cost, the equivalent of 750 h.p. as compressed air can be delivered to the mine. Provision is also made for 350 h.p. in electric energy.

The mine lies twelve miles north of the C. P. R. main line, the nearest station being Havelock, 100 miles east of Toronto. It is in the centre of a farming district, and within one quarter mile of a spur of the Central Ontario. The holdings embrace about 400 acres. A 30-stamp mill, fitted with cyanide plant, is as good as new. An adequate machine shop, shaft houses, and numerous dwellings, were built by the former owners. These are in good condition.

An extensive system of veins is known, and has been developed in part. The veins are fissure fillings in diorite. Along the fissures the diorite is replaced by chloritic schist, in which are intermingled quartz, calcite, and dolomite. In several places the veins outcrop as large domes of almost pure quartz. Impregnation

by iron pyrites is frequent, and at these points the richest ore is found.

The fissure veins form a complicated network on a large scale. Only three veins have been worked to any considerable extent. From these workings gold to the amount of \$300,000 was won in the early days.

The Cordova mine is now about to enter on a new phase of its existence. Mining will be conducted with the object of developing ore reserves equivalent to at least one year's supply. A close system of cost-keeping will enable the management to effect economies that were not enforced before. The ore will be handled in a cheaper and better manner, and much less "deads" will go through the mill.

As the ore is almost completely free-milling, and as the only sulphide present is iron pyrites (along with small amounts of pyrrhotite) it is believed that milling costs can be brought down to a low figure. The ultimate centralization of ore hoisting will lower underground costs. Hence, there is ground for the belief that Cordova has a profitable life before it.

Other mines are being opened in the same region. The Belmont iron mine is in the hands of the Buffalo Union Furnace Company. A stone quarry is being worked near Havelock. Altogether, the industry is brisker than it has ever been. And this means more for the surrounding country than a score of cheese factories. It brings a large increase of freight to the railways, gives steady employment to several hundred men, and adds directly to the wealth of the nation.

#### THE CONSOLIDATED REPORT.

The seventh annual report of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada has just reached us. The period covered is from June 30, 1911, to June 30, 1912.

The outstanding features reported are the increased net profit, which is \$310,345.97; the acquisition of Le Roi mines; and the reduction of the company's obligation to the Bank of Montreal to \$343,819.82.

The net amount expended in additions to plant and equipment was \$105,017.19. The expenditure in the purchase and development of new properties amounted to \$337,017.72. The gross value of metals produced at the smelter was \$5,083,078, as compared with \$4,437,901 for the previous fiscal year. Larger quantities of all the metals save copper were produced. The decrease in copper was due to the closing of the Snowshoe mine. Ore to the amount of 296,458 tons was smelted, from which were extracted 129,789 ounces of gold, 1,765,992 ounces of silver, 26,072,074 pounds of lead, and 2,914,181 pounds of copper. From the Centre Star group came 170,082 tons of ore; Le Roi being the next largest producer with 39,345 tons to its credit.

On the Centre Star group 29.55 miles of underground work was accomplished; 19.59 miles on the St. Eugene group, and 13.27 on Le Roi group. In addition to this diamond drilling to the extent of 20,282 feet was done,