

NEW ONTARIO NOTES.

The Webbwood gold mine, in Shakespeare township, is being developed.

The Massey Station copper mine is installing an Elmore oil concentration plant for treating their ore.

Two water powers are being improved in the neighborhood of Sudbury for the purpose of supplying that town with electricity.

The mines now being operated in the nickel field are Creighton and Copper Cliff, belonging to the Canadian Copper Co., and the North Star, operated by the Mond Nickel Co. The west smelter, belonging to the Copper Co., was burned down a few days ago, but the new smelting works are nearing completion. This plant is thoroughly modern and on a large scale.

The Soo industries are at present running, as they have been for four or five months past, under the expiring company, that is, the pulp mill, veneer mill, sawmill, ferries, street railway, etc., are in continuous operation. The Lake Superior Corporation are making arrangements to open the steel works and other industries, and it is expected that all the works will be in operation in a very short time.

The Ontario Government has the following parties exploring New Ontario this summer: Under J. G. McMillan, a party is examining the geology and resources north and northwest of Lake Abitibi; a party, under J. M. Bell, is exploring the Michipicoten iron range; Dr. A. P. Coleman, with assistants, is examining the Sudbury nickel range; and Prof. W. G. Miller, Provincial Geologist, is examining discoveries of cobalt, nickel, and silver, in the neighborhood of Haileybury. Mr Bell reports having left the C.P.R. at Missinibie Station, whence he followed the chain of lakes to the Magpie river, and that he was able to make an excellent section through an entirely unexplored country. He is now at a point east of the Pacaswa river, and so far has encountered and examined three areas of iron-bearing rocks. One of these is at McDougall's claim, fourteen miles north of the mouth of the Pacaswa, where there is a wide band of magnetite in hornblende schists. The ore body is about 200 feet by 350 feet in side, and appears to be a valuable property. The second area is two miles north of the Pacaswa and extends for over a quarter of a mile, but it does not seem to be of great value. The third area is on the same river and resembles in many ways that first described. Mr. Bell says he has encountered a number of quartz veins, of which he has taken samples for subsequent analysis.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S MINERAL RESOURCES.

We have before us the report of the Newfoundland Geological Survey for the calendar year 1903. The report is made by James P. Howley, F.G.S., and while confined within short compass, it contains a comprehensive review of the mining industries of the Island colony.

The total value of raw mineral substances raised in the island in 1903 was \$1,269,805, an increase of \$52,119 over 1902, and this in the face of severe depression in the iron industry, which resulted in a great falling off in the shipments of iron ore from Bell Island last year. The amount of iron ore raised last year was 588,795 tons. The copper production was good, reaching 87,790 tons, an excess of 13,182 over last year.

Pyrites, for the manufacture of sulphuric acid, shows a production of 42,000 tons, an increase of 16,000 tons over 1902. A large deposit of pyrite at Rowsell's Harbor, held under option by the Dominion Iron Co., has not yet been exploited, but it is expected that it will be producing this season.

Barite is becoming important, showing a production last year of 4,300 tons.

\$63,000 was the value of the roofing slate produced in the island in 1903. New machinery for the more economic treatment of slate has been installed, and this industry is

one rapidly growing in importance. Several new deposits of slate are being exploited, and will probably become producers in a short time. A Welsh slate expert declares Newfoundland slate to be of superior excellence, and, as there are many slate deposits in various parts of the island, the outlook is very bright.

The brick industry showed a slight decrease, owing to unfavorable weather, and the destruction of an important plant by fire. The quality, however, is much improved, and the demand for the local product is on the increase, so Newfoundland is looking forward to the time when the importation of brick will be unnecessary.

Gold mining commenced during 1903. Gold exists, not only in the baser metals, but in quartz-leads, in free state, and at least in one instance, in the form of placer deposit. About \$3,000 was the value of the total production last year.

Operations in the petroleum industry have not yet reached the productive stage, but the results are not at all discouraging, and it is now considered that the establishment of a refinery is fully warranted.

The chromite deposits have not been developed, but a mining company, at Benoit Brook, will start operations as soon as they complete a tramway now under construction for ore transportation.

Considerable attention was given last year to talc deposits, but the work of development has been retarded owing to litigation.

As nearly as can be ascertained, the total number of persons employed in mining operations is 2,067, over 800 of these being engaged in iron mining, and more than 600 in copper mining.

The mineral output of the colony, when reduced to commercial products, is worth, approximately, \$8,000,000, while the raising and exporting of the crude minerals brings in a modicum probably not exceeding \$350,000. Hence Mr. Howley strongly urges the Government to encourage the establishment of smelters and refineries in order to be able to export finished products.



RAILWAY NOTES.

A by-law to give \$20,000 bonus to the Ontario Electric Railway was defeated in Clark township.

The Grand Trunk Railway has under consideration a project to enlarge its car and motive works at Point St. Charles.

The first through train for Victoria Falls over the Cape-to-Cairo Railroad, left Cape Town on June 22nd, amid enthusiastic demonstrations.

The G.T.R. shops, at Stratford, are to be enlarged at a cost of between \$100,000 and \$200,000. A boiler shop will be erected, 169 by 120 feet, a tender shop, 326 by 102 feet, a carpenter shop, 100 by 63 feet, and a brass foundry, 75 by 40 feet. The blacksmith department will also be enlarged, and an addition 175 feet long made to the erecting shop.

Arrangements have been completed whereby the investment of between a quarter and a half million dollars for a big tourist hotel in Victoria by the C.P.R. will be supplemented by the expenditure of another hundred thousand to complete an entire square. By the new arrangement the city cedes to the C.P.R. the whole of the reclaimed James' Bay flats and the esplanade fronting on the harbor.

The telegraphophone is being installed on the C.P.R. system around Ottawa. A car on each train will be equipped with the telegraphophone, and when it is desired to communicate from a point where there is no telegraph instrument all that is necessary is to make a connection with the telegraph wire and use it to transmit emergent telephone messages. The uses of the wire for 'phone and telegraph do not conflict.

St. Catharines has granted \$20,000 aid to the Niagara, Queenston & St. Catharines Electric Railway. The company, which is incorporated under an Act of the Dominion Parliament, will begin construction early in the fall. The line extends from St. Catharines through the fruit districts of the Townships of Grantham and Niagara, to Niagara-on-