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PROVINCIAL TREASURE TROVES.

WHO, five years ago, would have hazarded the prediction that Ontario would by now have caught up with British Columbia in the value of its annual mineral output? But such was almost the case, even by the end of 1907, as is indicated by the following figures from recently published Provincial and Dominion mining reports.

Year.	B. C.	Ont.	Canada.
1903.. . . .	\$17,495,000	\$12,870,000	\$61,740,000
1904.. . . .	\$18,977,000	11,572,000	60,073,000
1905.. . . .	22,461,000	17,854,000	69,525,000
1906.. . . .	24,980,000	22,388,000	79,057,000
1907.. . . .	25,882,000	25,079,000	86,183,000

In the matter of metallic mineral production, British Columbia still maintained a considerable lead in 1907, its showing being \$17,044,000 as against Ontario's \$14,763,000. Coal, coke and other products amounted in value to \$5,838,000 for British Columbia; while Ontario's total of non-metallic mineral output (including brick and cement—products which are in a sense manufactures) amounted to \$10,316,000.

Of course the growth of the past three or four years in Ontario's mining record has resulted chiefly from the development of Cobalt. The silver output for the province in 1907 was over \$6,000,000; and, despite low prevailing prices during the past year, silver production for 1908 must have been some \$3,000,000 greater than that amount.

The experience of Ontario in discovering an unsuspected treasure trove in its northern wilds gives more than "the baseless fabric of a dream" to the hope that rocky stretches of old Quebec will also yield up their hidden wealth.

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FOOD FOR THE "WILD CAT." THE proved resources of Cobalt and the prospective wealth of the Gowganda district are discussed by mining interests the world over. Not all of the publicity obtained is of a sort that will permanently benefit the Province. The noise made by "wild-cats" is apt to attract attention that later gives way to excretion. And, despite alert

and vigorous combating, here and there a "felino promoter" is bound to evade the watchfulness of provincial authorities. Like the Wonderland Crocodile, he continues to

"—neatly spreads his claws,
And welcome little fishes in
With gently smiling jaws."

Other "suckers" there are than those of the funny tribe, which bite at an unbaited hook, if it have the silver glitter of the small boy's bent pin.

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COMPLACENT WALL STREET GOVERNOR Hughes' stock exchange committee last week listened to comparisons between New York and London trading

practices. One American informant explained that the methods employed in New York were far superior to those on the other side, "not only in the matter of the methods of trading, but likewise as to the character of members and officers."

Here is the real thing!—"the real, Yankee, spread-eagle thing," as Mrs. Humphrey Ward makes an old British general remark to himself, after hearing a speaker at a Washington military function calmly tell a gathering of European ambassadors, naval and military attaches, that the American soldier was the superior of all other soldiers in three respects—bravery, discipline, intelligence.

"Bravery, discipline, intelligence! just those—the merest trifle!" No wonder the general found himself chuckling over it in the visions of the night.

Not that the London Stock Exchange, any more than the British Army, is perfected beyond improvement. Indeed, the ruling powers of Capel Court have concerned themselves much of late as to the bettering of 'Change methods, in the interests of the trading public. How far the now applied remedies will prove corrective remains to be seen. At any rate certain faults have been frankly recognized and dealt with. Reform from within—not investigation from without—has been the order of the day in London.

And, meanwhile, Wall Street remained apparently un-alive to any need for a home house-cleaning. It was left for Governor Hughes to act as the power that will the "giftle gie" to see themselves as "ithers see" them.