

Ontario has produced since the Cobalt deposits were discovered in 1903 about 200,000,000 ounces of silver. The Cobalt mines are not expected to make as large annual outputs as in the past few years, but they are expected to make a large production for many years to come.

#### MINING LAW REVISION.

In a contribution to a discussion of a paper presented at the March meeting of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, Mr. J. B. Tyrrell, of Toronto, says of the attempt made to draft a mining code for the Dominion of Canada:—

“The Dominion of Canada does not own all its wild land. Most of the various Provinces, like many of the States, own their public lands, so that the Dominion only owns a certain proportion of the more distant vacant land. These lands are covered by the Dominion mining law. A few years ago the Canadian Mining Institute suggested to the Dominion Government that it might be allowed to co-operate with the Government in the drafting of a new mining law for the Dominion, in the hope that such a mining law might not only be useful to the Dominion of Canada itself, but might also serve as a model for the various Provinces of Canada, and that sooner or later the Provinces would pass laws which would closely approximate this model law which we were to draw up. The Dominion Government threw the responsibility back on the Canadian Mining Institute and said to it: ‘You draw up the Act, and if possible we will pass it for you.’ That was under a Government which two years ago went out of power, and since the new Government has come into power, while it has considered our draft sympathetically, it has not passed it into law. We hope it will take that draft into consideration during this year and enact it into law, because it embodies, as closely as we can determine, the kind of law which we think would be best for Canada.

“Now, the constitution of the committee that was appointed to draft this law was about as follows: We chose three or four of those actual mining members of the Canadian Mining Institute whom we thought had most experience and were most competent to express opinions on what a mining law should be. We also added a couple of lawyers to the committee, who were to furnish the legal assistance in doing the work and in putting the drafts into proper legal form. It was not their duty, nor did they assume, to dictate what that law should be, but they were to assist us in framing the law; so that it would be a law which would be considered as being properly drawn by the courts.

“I am not going to give you any synopsis of that draft. It is still a draft, though we hope to have it enacted into law this year. Whether it will be or not, I do not know. But what I have said may give you some idea of the way in which we undertook the preparation of it. We have endeavored to draw up a mining law for the Dominion of Canada, covering the Federal lands, which we hope will serve as a model, and be copied by the Provinces as soon as possible, so that we will have fairly harmonious mining laws throughout the entire Dominion.

“In Canada, we do not sympathize with the apex law, which as I understand it, was a product of an erroneous interpretation of Cordilleran geology. Leaving out the ore-bodies in the Rocky Mountains and considering only those occurring in the Pre-Cambrian and other great formations throughout the eastern portion of the country, I do not think that the apex law would have suggested itself to anybody.”

#### WASHING OIL WELLS.

Mr. Arthur Knapp in a communication to the Secretary of the American Institute of Mining Engineers says: “I believe that the washing of a well with clear water is, in general, a very bad thing. There are probably formations that will stand up after being washed with clear water, but my experience in California and elsewhere has been, that to wash a well with anything but a well-mixed mud would stick the casing before cementing could be accomplished. The mud is the only thing that will wash the oil out of the hole and hold back the gas. Neat cement is heavy enough to displace the mud adhering to the casing and give the desired contact between cement and casing. Further, any well in which the circulation cannot be established in 3 hr. is not in a condition to be cemented. The casing should be removed and the hole reamed. Circulation for a long period of time serves only to cut deeper channels around the casing and does not clear the entire circumference.”

#### GRANBY.

Boston.—President Nichols, of Granby Consolidated, sends this word to stockholders with dividend checks:

“The three furnaces of our new smelter at Anyox are now running. Naturally some time must elapse before the exact amount or cost of our normal output can be known, but no unexpected difficulties have been disclosed either as to mechanical appliances or as to character of the ores. The shipments of copper so far received are of unusual purity and the value of precious metals content exceeds our expectations. Some inconvenience and delay has been suffered through the action of the Canadian Government in restricting immigration, but it is not expected to have any permanent effect on our estimated labor cost. Operations at Grand Forks and Phoenix are proceeding as usual.”

It is expected the Millie Mack, situated in the mountains east of Burton, on Arrow lake, will be worked again this season, the owners having recently visited the property.

The total quantity of ore received at the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co.'s works at Trail during four weeks ended May 28, was 26,583 tons, this consisting of 21,469 tons from the company's own mines and 5,114 tons of custom ores, the latter including 912 tons from the neighboring State of Washington.

The Queen's Head Mining and Milling Co. is having a survey made preparatory to driving an adit at a lower level than any of the existing workings on its Hartney group of mineral claims, situated on the mountain above New Denver, Slovan lake. Mr. J. D. MacMaster, of Rochester, New York, managing director, is in local charge.

The traction rope of the old Last Chance aerial tramway is being replaced by a new steel rope 12,956 ft. in length and weighing 8,555 lb. The tramway is now used for taking up supplies to the Surprise mine, above Cody, Slovan, and for bringing ore down for hauling to the railway at Sandon.

Mr. J. D. Galloway, assistant provincial mineralogist, has gone to Hazelton, Skeena Country, B.C., to make that place his starting point in connection with an investigation into mining properties and conditions along the route of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway thence eastward to the British Columbia-Alberta boundary.