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We publish in this issue a few extracts from the report of Mr. A. G. Burrows, of the staff of the Ontario Bureau of Mines, on the Metachewan gold area. At least one property in this area is to receive careful examination this summer, the Colorado-Ontario Development Company having undertaken development of the Otisse claims in Powell township. The report and map just published by the Bureau of Mines should prove very useful to those who work in the area. Mr. Burrows is an acknowledged authority on the geology of Northern Ontario gold areas.

The Munitions Resources Commission is undoubtedly doing some useful work. It may yet live down that foolish circular.

MINING IN EASTERN ONTARIO.

Ontario is a producer of many minerals. The Sudbury nickel-copper mines, Cobalt silver mines and Porcupine gold mines include some of the world's most notable metal mines. In this number we draw attention to a part of the Province that receives less notice from mining men, but which includes many important mineral deposits.

The most recently developed industry is that of fluorspar mining at Madoc, in Hastings County. The growing consumption in the United States some time ago created a scarcity of fluorspar in Canada. In the expectation that supplies from the United States would perhaps be entirely cut off, it was thought very advisable to develop domestic deposits. The price rose so rapidly that there was reason to expect that some of the Madoc properties might be profitably developed. Exploration during 1917 met with satisfactory results and some good deposits are being opened up.

Madoc is the centre of a prosperous farming community. It has for some time been noted also as a tale producing centre. The Henderson mine at Madoc has been a steady producer for years. The deposit is an exceptionally good one.

Eastern Ontario is to-day an important producer of tale, graphite, feldspar, pyrite, mica, lead, fluorspar, and molybdenite. The Black Donald graphite mine near Calabogie, in Renfrew County, is a large producer. The feldspar mine near Verona in Frontenac County, operated by Feldspars, Ltd., is reputed the best in America. The Lacey mine, near Sydenham, is said to be the largest mica mine on the continent. Excellent pyrite is produced near Quensboro and at Sulphide, in Hastings County.

While overshadowed by that of Northern Ontario, the mineral production of Eastern Ontario is considerable. Many of the minerals are very necessary in the manufacture of munitions and it may be expected that activity during 1918 will be marked. Shortage of labor will, of course, prevent the obtaining of desired production, but a good record will doubtless be made.

The question of smelter rates for lead-silver-zinc ores has been much discussed in British Columbia recently. In response to requests from many sources, the government has appointed a committee to investigate the matter. It is to be hoped that elucidation of the facts will result in more satisfactory relations between mine owners and smelter interests.

The bounty of two cents a pound on zinc produced in Canada should materially help the development of the electrolytic process now used in British Columbia. Zinc of very high quality is being produced; but competition with American smelters is impossible under present conditions.