

THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL

VOL. XXIX.

TORONTO, December 1, 1908

No. 23

The Canadian Mining Journal

With which is incorporated the
"CANADIAN MINING REVIEW"

Devoted to Mining, Metallurgy and Allied Industries in Canada

Published fortnightly by the

MINES PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED

Head Office - - Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

Branch Offices Montreal, Halifax, Victoria, and London, Eng.

Editor:

J. C. MURRAY, B.A., B.Sc.

Business Manager:

J. J. HARPELL, B.A.

SUBSCRIPTIONS—Payable in advance, \$2.00 a year of 24 numbers, including postage in Canada. In all other countries, including postage, \$3.00 a year.

Advertising copy should reach the Toronto Office by the 8th, for the issues of the 15th of each month, and by the 23rd for the issues of the first of the following month. If proof is required, the copy should be sent so that the accepted proof will reach the Toronto Office by the above dates.

CIRCULATION.

During the year ending with March 1st, 1908, 91,750 copies of "The Canadian Mining Journal" were printed and distributed, an average of 3,822 per issue.

"Entered as second-class matter April 23rd, 1908, at the post-office at Buffalo, N.Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879."

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS.

Geology: Dr. Frank D. Adams, McGill University; Dr. A. E. Barlow, late of Geological Survey of Canada; Professor Willett G. Miller, Provincial Geologist of Ontario; Dr. J. E. Woodman, Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S.

Chemistry: Dr. W. L. Goodwin, Director School of Mining, Kingston, Ontario; Milton Hersey, M.Sc., Official Analyst Province of Quebec.

Mineralogy: Professor W. Nicol, School of Mining, Kingston, Ontario.

Mining: S. S. Fowler, M.E., Nelson, B.C.; Frederick Keffer, M.E., Anaconda, B.C.; A. B. Willmott, M.E., Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.; J. C. Gwillim, M.E., School of Mining, Kingston, Ont.; J. Obalski, Inspector of Mines, Quebec; J. Bon-sal Porter, M.E., McGill University; H. Mortimer-Lamb, Sec. Can. Min. Inst.; John E. Hardman, M.E., Montreal; Fritz Cirkel, M.E., Montreal; George W. Stuart, M.E., Truro, N.S.

Metallurgy: Stafford F. Kirkpatrick, School of Mining, Kingston, Ontario; A. P. Scott, Dominion Iron & Steel Company, Cape Breton.

Natural Oil and Gas: Eugene Coste, M.E., Toronto, Ont.

CONTENTS.

	Page.
Editorial.....	613a
Dominion Coal Co. operations.....	617a
Modern Copper Smelters.....	621a
Canadian Mining Institute, Toronto Branch.....	626a
Aluminum and its uses.....	627a
Cobalt Comments.....	631a
Book Reviews, etc.....	633a
Special Correspondence.....	635a
General Mining News.....	638a
Company Notes, etc.....	640a

MORE ABOUT THE BOOM.

The purchase of shares in recent Cobalt and Montreal River flotations is being indulged in to an extraordinary extent by men of all classes. For their guidance they rely upon brokers and promoters who, in most cases, give nothing for what they receive. In other words, thousands of misguided people are voluntarily handing out their cash to men who not only are totally incompetent to advise, but are ever most anxious to obscure the truth. In short, the eager dupes of newspaper puffs and prospectuses are providing motor-cars, residences, and dropsical bank-accounts for purveyors of engraved paper.

The net results of the present boom can be summed up thus: Some thousands of Canadians will have learned that mines are not made in printing-offices; some dozens of men who should be decorating the interior of our institutions of correction will have acquired wealth; and not a few newspapers, more particularly the Toronto World, will have enjoyed an abnormal revenue from advertising. All of which will react most detrimentally upon genuine mining and honest mining men.

The one outstanding consideration that demands our attention at present is the fact that the promoters of newspaper-advertising schemes have been able to use the names of men who pose as mining experts, but who are known to be ready and willing to sell their approval for a price. To illustrate this it is merely necessary to say that not one of the scores of wild-cats has ventured to employ a mining engineer of good standing. In the nature of things the flowery prospectus and the competent mining engineer cannot mix. And even when a respectable mining engineer has reported favorably on a prospect professional etiquette ensures his silence, and the public is none the wiser.

On the other hand, it is absurdly easy to buy, in open market, the favorable reports of any number of pseudo-experts. And, to lend dignity to the impossible effusions of these prostitutes, it is only necessary to attach the name of a few complaisant and respectable citizens to the list of directors.

Briefly, the gambling that is being carried on in Toronto and Montreal under the name of "mining" can claim no closer kinship to that industry than can Monte Carlo to the Heavenly City. The stock-in-trade for the most profitable confidence-game that modern ingenuity has devised consists in a few acres of land conveniently distant, a striking name, an alleged mining expert, an advertisement in the dailies, a few guinea-pig directors—and there you are!

That such things can and do exist in a community of sane men and women is almost beyond belief. Not