

Unless Canada is drawn into the coal miners' quarrel, the current year will keep Mr. McLeish busier than ever. If, at the next Annual Meeting, figures approaching \$120,000,000 do not greet our eyes, we shall be disappointed.

We must not omit expressing our appreciation of the promptness with which the Mines Branch has brought out its preliminary report.

GOWGANDA.

Gowganda is anxiously waiting for the road from Elk Lake City to be gravelled. The Government is morally, if not verbally, committed to this. The district will produce about half a million ounces of silver. One mine has three years ore in reserve. Another has a large amount of milling ore developed. Still another is showing up well. A gravelled road would put an end to the awful waste of time and money that obtains at present, and would make motor haulage possible in the summer.

Gravel must be laid during the early spring before the roads will have dried, otherwise it will be wasted.

Impressions of the Institute Meeting.

The editor of The Canadian Mining Journal has asked me to record an impression of the recent meeting of the Mining Institute. As a fellow-journalist, I feel it incumbent upon me to accede to his polite request, all the more readily as I have a high regard for the journal under his direction. Moreover, being asked to express an opinion, I find it pleasant to convey the

deserved compliment that logically follows, for, to my mind, the meeting proved an exceptional success. The attendance was sufficiently large and thoroughly representative. Local men were properly in evidence, the scientific chiefs of the mining departments in the Canadian universities were conspicuous, and the contingent from the southern republic was extraordinarily representative of the brains and energy that have contributed so largely to the rapid development of mineral industry in the United States. It is unfortunate that the British sister society was unable to send a delegation, and as the solitary unit from the other side, I can only transmit to my British friends my sincere conviction that they missed a unique opportunity to enlarge their knowledge of the men and things that are worth knowing. As an editor, I may claim to be able to appraise the value of technical writings or addresses, and of the discussions ensuing. If this be allowed, permit me to say that I consider that the records of the recent meeting would enrich the transactions of any technical society anywhere, and that among the papers read were at least a dozen that would (and probably will) grace the pages of the best technical periodicals extant.

The discussion on some subjects was unusually to the point, and if supplemented by later written contributions, it should go far to enhance the value of the original papers. The meetings were conducted with admirable spirit and orderliness. There was a general participation in the proceedings. Those who came from outside the Dominion were the recipients of a thoughtful hospitality that they will be unwilling to forget. As a critic impelled to speak truly or else to be silent, I gladly testify that it was the most pleasant, and, as far as my judgment goes, the most informative mining convention that I have ever attended.

T. A. RICKARD.

THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CANADIAN MINING INSTITUTE

HELD IN TORONTO MARCH 6, 7 AND 8, 1912

To those of the Toronto members of the Institute who were early on the scene, it was apparent that the sessions were to be well attended. Much larger numbers of delegates were wandering round the King Edward Hotel on Tuesday evening than would ordinarily have been expected, and before proceedings had actually commenced on Wednesday morning, there were enough members on hand to tax the capacity of the King Edward ballroom.

The sprinkling of Canadian and foreign notabilities was distinctly large. One face, however, was missed. Dr. James Douglas could not be present, and his absence was sincerely regretted by all his numerous Canadian friends.

Wednesday Morning.

Shortly after 10 o'clock, the meeting was officially opened by the Hon. W. H. Hearst, Minister of Lands, Forests, and Mines, for Ontario, who welcomed the delegates and visitors in well-chosen language. Briefly reviewing the growth of Ontario's mineral industry, Mr. Hearst made a strong point of the outstanding position that the Province occupies as a producer of silver, having about one-seventh of the world's production to her

credit. But, he added, despite our silver, copper, nickel, and gold territory already opened, there remain vastly larger tracts of promising mineral-bearing land not yet alienated from the Crown. Moreover, the huge slice of land to the north, just added to the Province, may contribute greatly to mining in the future. He earnestly desired the co-operation of the Institute and of all mining men in the work of his Department. He fully appreciated the meaning of mining, and he could read from the past part, at least, of the promise of the future. The Minister's address was admirably succinct, comprehensive, and timely.

Mr. H. Mortimer-Lamb then read a letter from the Governor-General in which as a patron of the Canadian Mining Institute, he expressed his regret that his duties in Ottawa prevented him from being present at the Annual Dinner, and extended his best wishes for the continued success of the Institute and of the industry that it represents.

The address of the retiring President, Dr. F. D. Adams, then followed. Touching on the slight decrease in the value of Canada's mineral output, he pointed out that this fact was due entirely to the coal strike in