

compounds. On another page will be found some account of the concentrating plant recently put into operation at Renfrew. That plant is treating ore from eastern Ontario mines and has recently received a shipment of rich ore from Amos, Quebec. We are advised that great progress has been made at Quyon by the Canadian Wood Co., which is now shipping 250 to 300 tons of ore per week. Out in British Columbia some excellent ore has been developed at the Molly mine. At Orillia molybdic acid and ammonium molybdate are being produced, and preparations are being made for producing ferro-molybdenum in large quantities.

INCREASED PRODUCTION OF METALS

On another page will be found the Bureau of Mines report on production of Ontario's metalliferous mines for the first six months of 1916. This shows an increase in all items except iron ore. The production of silver was considerably smaller, but the value much greater. Large increases in production of gold, nickel and copper are the most notable items. Both in amount and in value these metals show increase of over 30 per cent. The demand for iron and steel is well illustrated by the larger output and higher price of pig iron from Ontario smelters.

THAT BLACKLIST

We are still without a blacklist of enemy firms; but there are some indications of activity in official circles. "Monetary Times," which has advocated that something be done, says:

"Attention has been called in these columns to the fact that a blacklist of enemy firms has not been established in Canada. It will be recollected that more than two months ago the British Government established a blacklist of United States firms with which citizens of the United Kingdom were forbidden to trade. Much unfavorable comment has been heard because Canada, as yet, has failed to follow the example. As it is illegal and undesirable for citizens of Great Britain to trade with these enemy firms, it is equally undesirable for Canadians to trade with them. The attention of the authorities at Ottawa has been called to this matter, and it is pleasing to know that they are giving it consideration. It is scarcely too much to hope and anticipate that the Dominion, as a unit of the British Empire, will fall into line in this important matter, as it has done in others."

REPORTS FOR INVESTORS

Frequently it happens that an engineer is called upon to examine for prospective purchasers a property in a district with which he is unfamiliar. He gathers information from any available source, visits the property and samples carefully the deposits to which his attention is directed. He examines also all nearby

enterops and endeavors to interpret the structure. If there are workings on neighboring properties, he visits these and gathers what he can from the experience of those who have operated in the district. Then with his notes, maps and samples he returns. When the samples have been assayed and studied in conjunction with the information already gathered, the engineer forms some opinion of the value of the property. He cannot tell just how much the property is worth, for he has not sufficient information. Having exhausted available sources of information, however, he must decide whether his clients are or are not warranted in paying the price asked. To many clients the most satisfactory answer is "yes" or "no." Some clients; however, want a detailed report, parts of which they understand and other parts of which they do not understand, but which are frequently of value when interpreted by other engineers.

Many engineers, when asked to write out a detailed report find difficulty in confining their attention to what they themselves consider the important facts. The value of the ore in sight, the probable extent of the deposit, the cost of mining, treating and marketing, and other such important matters, are in some reports not properly emphasized, while geography and geology are dwelt on to an extent which indicates that failure to make observations in the field has resulted in liberal clippings from printed geological reports.

When properly used, geological reports are of considerable value to the mine operator. Detailed studies of structure of the ore deposits are particularly useful, and, together with the results of careful sampling, are of vital importance. That geological descriptions are, however, misused by those who write reports is indicated by the following clipping sent to us by Prof. A. C. Lane, of Tufts College, Mass. Our readers will agree that Mr. Newkirk's criticism is just. If he had to depend on that geological description to reach a decision, it is no wonder that he protests.

A Porcupine Mining Report.

"The formation of the Porcupine belt is largely of volcanic origin. The igneous Keewatins predominate and are much schisted. Associated with them are the rusty carbonates, characteristic of the gold-bearing districts of northern Ontario. Conglomerates frequently overlay the igneous rocks, with pillow lava intrusive in the conglomerate. The sedimentaries are also markedly schistose. Quartz porphyry is intrusive. Serpentine occurs in large volume."

The above is from a report on an Ontario gold mine just received by the writer.

I have been awaiting the report on this mine with ill-concealed and eager impatience, yet now that it has arrived and I have read it over several times I hardly know what to do about it.

Pending the arrival of this report, I told myself confidentially that if the report proved to be promising I would invest a few thousand dollars in this district. Having perused the report until mental collapse threatens, I must confess I am up in the air on the proposition.

I hate to find fault, and yet I am frank to say the above mining report does not suit me. I work other people hard to earn my money, and I don't propose to fritter it away in any mining proposition that is in a condition such as the above one seems to be.

In the first place, the report states that the Porcupine belt is largely of volcanic origin. I do not object to that—in fact, I would not ask to have the volcanic