

vellous crassness, the town authorities refused to see the gravity of the situation. Officially nothing was done until the association literally forced itself into control of the situation.

It is fortunate for Cobalt that the Mine Managers' Association is composed of live, fearless, and humane men. To the enlightenment of its officers and members is to be credited the effective measures that have at last been taken to fight the typhoid plague.

The Canadian Mining Journal desires to give expression to its warm appreciation of the spirit that animates the Temiscaming Mine Managers' Association. Long may it flourish.

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#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

We are glad to notice evidence of renewed interest in the silver mines of the Thunder Bay district. It is probable that the chief obstruction to progress is the fact that much of the mining land is held under old Crown grants and cannot be alienated except by special act of legislature. However, since the district has been moribund for so long, outside help should be eagerly welcomed.

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The lead refinery of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, Trail, B.C., was merely an experimental plant in 1902. It had then a capacity of six and one-half tons per day, and ten men were employed. To-day its capacity is 70 tons per day, or about 2,000 tons per month. Its employees number fifty. Its equipment is not only modern, but is, perhaps, the most efficient in existence.

The currency of the Chinese Empire is almost hopelessly complicated. Long ago the silver tael was the standard of weight. To-day the actual weight standard is the copper "cash." The value of silver currency is based upon the "cash," but in no well-defined relationship. The silver "dollars" of the different provinces and of foreign countries and the enormous number of 5-cent and 10-cent pieces in circulation further confound matters. The provincial mints have turned out such quantities of these coins that they are now subject to discounts ranging from 3 per cent. to 10 per cent. The Chinese market for silver is at present steady and strong.

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Unless we are sadly mistaken those in control of the Waldman mining claims on the Gillies Limit are preparing for a stock-selling campaign. For some time readers of Toronto and Montreal newspapers have been kept artfully on the qui vive. The psychological moment for offering shares to the public may arrive at any moment. It will then be well for the public to remember that, so far as investment is concerned, the Waldman is an unknown quantity.

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An enterprising firm of brokers and bankers,, F. B. McCurdy and Co., Halifax, N.S., is distributing an unusually useful little handbook entitled "Nova Scotia Financial Register, 1909." The Register contains a list of incorporated towns and municipalities along with their financial statements, and a classified schedule of incorporated companies. In this latter list we notice many mining companies. We make special mention of this "Register," because of the excellent manner in which it is compiled. It will serve as a model for similar work in other provinces.

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## THE PLANT AND EQUIPMENT OF THE COBALT HYDRAULIC COMPANY.

### A Description of Their Taylor Air Compressor Plant at Ragged Chutes, on the Montreal River.

Apart from the erection of concentration plants, or, more correctly, conjointly with this development, the harnessing of the superb water-powers in the country surrounding Cobalt is the most significant feature in the industrial growth of silver mining in Northern Ontario.

The hydraulic air compressing plant of the Cobalt Hydraulic Company is one of several large concerns that will supply the mines of Cobalt and its environs with power at about one-third the present cost. The company's plant is situated at Ragged Chutes, eight miles south-west of Cobalt. Roughly, 10,000 horsepower be developed at Ragged Chutes at low water. The

Cobalt Hydraulic Company's plant is calculated to furnish 5,500 h.p., more than enough to supply the present available power market in Cobalt mines.

The plant is practically automatic, as the air compression is effected on the Taylor system by the direct action of falling water.

Although the principle involved in the Ragged Chutes installation has been utilized for many centuries, it is only with the last few years that successful commercial applications of this principle have been made on a large scale. Modern plants, such as that built in 1900 at Ainsworth, B.C., by the Kootenay Air Supply Co., are all based upon the system elaborated