

## THE GASPE OIL FIELDS.

A very highly colored account of the oil fields at Gaspé, Que., finds place in the *St. John Gazette*. We print a part of it, leaving out the spread-eagle portions:

"The oil fields at Gaspé would have been closed down for several weeks, have once more begun to flow, and the refineries are working day and night. The management is believed to have shut down for a specific purpose, but having failed to accomplish what they desired, the works were re-opened last week. The extent of the work being done no one knows, everything is kept so quiet, but it is known that the output is enormous.

For the past two or three years an English company, known as the Petroleum Oil Trust, Limited, has been carrying on operations with great secrecy, all the employees being bound not to divulge anything they might learn about the company's business, so that up till recently it has been very difficult to obtain anything like complete or reliable information. But certain facts have now leaked out, and the potential wealth of the Gaspé oil fields no longer remains a secret. The proprietary company referred to, owns over 48,000 freehold acres of oil-bearing lands, and of mineral and oil-bearing rights in perpetuity, which are free of rent and royalties. All the necessary features which usually betoken the existence of petroleum in quantities, obtain in the Peninsula of Gaspé.

The geographical position of Gaspé, and the fact of its being on the seaboard, within seven days' passage of London, and 1,000 miles nearer to European markets than the United States oil fields, give it many advantages in the matter of carriage and freight. Labor, timber, and fuel are cheap and abundant, while the climate is favorable for petroleum mining all the year round.

Dr. N. C. Smilie, of Gaspé, has given notice of his intention to ask the Legislature at its next session for letters patent authorizing him to lay pipes on Crown or private property, where necessary, to develop oil wells, etc., in that district."

## A MINISTER'S VIEWS ON GOLD MINING.

Rev. Robert McIntyre, a Methodist minister, of Chicago, grub-staked a miner to go to Klondike, and was hauled over the coals by some of his brethren for doing what they considered to be so worldly a thing. Mr. McIntyre has the courage of his convictions, and stoutly and eloquently defends his action. Among other things he said: "The fact is I admire a miner's wealth. It's clean. There are no blood or tears upon it. It is acquired away from the scheming and cut-throat competition that characterizes ordinary business ventures, where the success of one man so often means the disaster and downfall of some other man, or perhaps a number of men. Nobody has been pinched. Nobody has been wronged. The miner who digs a fortune out of the ground has the satisfaction that he has not robbed a soul, even though he becomes a hundred times a millionaire. Then, too, there is another factor to take into consideration. The man who makes a fortune on the Board of Trade, or in the Stock Exchange, or in the building up of a gigantic business house, adds nothing to the world's store of available wealth. The world, in other words, is no richer because he is richer; he is rich, rather, because somebody else is poorer. The miner, on the other hand, whether he digs out \$100 of \$100,000, adds that much to the world's wealth.

"The fact is, God put the gold in the valley of the Yukon for His children. Any man, consistent with such regulations as are necessary for fair play and the protection of individual rights, has the undeniable right to go there and dig and delve all he chooses. If he pulls out \$100,000 he simply makes a draft, not on somebody's bank account, but on nature's treasury. There is no more wrong in that, therefore, than

there would be in a man planting corn and trusting to nature to yield twenty, fifty, or a hundred fold. It's a private matter between man and his Maker."—*Rossland Miner*.

## MUNICIPAL FIRE INSURANCE.

Municipal fire insurance has received a decided set back, the Association of Municipal Corporations having definitely pronounced against it. The autumn general meeting of the association was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel last Friday, when the question of municipal fire insurance very naturally came up. Mr. Ward (Middlesbrough) moved a resolution urging the desirability of taking steps to obtain the necessary powers to enable corporations to insure property within their boroughs against fire. He maintained that it was an injustice that the cost of the fire brigades should have to be borne by the ratepayers when those who received the chief benefit from their work were the insurance companies. Mr. Alderman Garrett (Dunstable) seconded the resolution, which was opposed by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, who expressed the opinion that the municipal authorities were already clothed with such multifarious powers as gave them quite sufficient opportunity of exercising all their judgment without being called on to enter upon such a hazardous business as was now proposed. The Mayor of Bolton supported the view of the Lord Mayor of Liverpool. Apart from the fact of the great practical difficulties in the way of local authorities arranging insurances, he maintained that corporations and municipalities, if they did thoroughly and well the work that was already put upon them, had quite as much as they could do. This statement was received with cheers, and the resolution, on being put, was defeated by a large majority. So it is quite plain that, although there may be a tendency in a few towns to favor municipal fire insurance, the great body of official municipal opinion is entirely opposed to it.—*Insurance Observer*, London.

## SENSE ABOUT JOB PRINTING.

One of the younger generation of American men has written a book on printing, and it has been reviewed by a writer in the *Inland Printer*, who gives advice to advertisers as to how to advertise, and how not to advertise. The title of Deist's book is, "An Out-of-the-Ordinary Printing Shop," and it has a sub-title, "Being a Business Book, wherein will be found a Business talk with Business men who are after Business." Mr. Deist starts off in this style: "It's very easy to buy stock, and hire a room, and hang out your sign as a printer. Anybody with a few hundred dollars can do that. But it takes more than this to produce effective printing. Almost any man can set type. A boy can kick a press. There are few who can do both these things in a fashion to produce the best results."

There are many printers in this country who will tell you that they can print anything from a blanket sheet to a visiting card. Maybe they can. But how do they do it? There are but two ways—the right and the wrong. Especially is this true of printing. Printing must be errorless or it is spoiled. It can't be a "little wrong."

"As soon as a printer begins to answer your criticisms of his work with 'That's only a little wrong,' or 'That's but a little mistake—it doesn't hurt,' look out for him. A printer with any pride never talks so. A printer who has no pride in his work is the printer you do not want to patronize. He won't care if he is a hundred or so short in printing you two or three thousand circulars. He will use a \$1 red ink when he should use a \$2 red. He will save ten pounds on the weight of the paper, or he will pinch the size of the page a little and say nothing about it. Look out for the printer who says a

mistake in the job he does for you does not count.

If you pay his account of \$10 with a check of \$9.50, he will roar his objections."

What is said above is all true; there's knowledge of human nature in it, and here's something he (Deist) owes to this department of the *Inland Printer*: "But I am a great believer of exclusiveness. I believe a successful man must give his clients what his competitors cannot give them before he can be successful permanently. I make a special study of each client's wants. But I never experiment on my clients."

Here are more extracts:

"Buyers haven't any sentiment. Business men haven't any use for failures. The user of printer's ink should get as much brains with his job as possible—just as he gets thirty-seven inches for a yard if he can. If there were more brains mixed with printer's ink there would be lots more of printer's ink used. That's the theory I am working on.

I never coax a man to give me an order. I never 'jolly' him. That kind of custom is short-term custom. Make it today and lose it to-morrow. I don't want it.

Keeping the old custom and making plenty of new is the way bank accounts are permanently enlarged. I have done this by giving my customers my personal attention. I have made a suggestion about the paper for a job—used a cheaper paper, perhaps, that would give a better effect. I have suggested the use of an illustration here or there, and perhaps a change in the wording. My way may have cost the client less. It may have cost him more. But if he got an advantage it increased his confidence."

## JAPANESE CIVILITY TO FOREIGNERS.

Japan has set the whole of civilized Europe an example by the establishment at Tokio of the "Kihin-Kai," or Society for Welcoming Foreigners. Its object is to provide strangers with every facility for transacting their business or pursuing their pleasure without discomfort or exorbitant expense. On application at an office which has been opened in the chief hotel, a visitor can procure all the information he requires. Introductions are supplied to personages of distinction and to business firms. Honest guides are provided, who will prevent extortion on the part of innkeepers, curio-dealers, and all the other classes who prey on the innocent natives of the West. No fee is charged, the society willingly incurring considerable expense with the conviction that the whole community will reap the benefit. Moreover, the Japanese "bobby" is rapidly being taught English, and in Otaka the past summer seventy-five of them passed an examination in our tongue.—*London Chronicle*.

## STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, Nov. 17th, 1897.

Stocks.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Closing Prices.		Average price same date 1896.
				Sellers.	Buyers.	
Montreal .....	240 1/2	240 1/4	3	245	238	223
Ontario .....	100	100	7	106	98	78
Molson's .....				2 5	199	180
Toronto .....				237 1/2	227	220
Jacques Cartier Merchants .....	185 1/2	185 1/2	18	187 1/2	180	168
Commerce .....	109 1/2	103 1/2	10	137 1/2	133	128
Union .....	180	180	32	182 1/2	179 1/2	166
M. Teleg. ....	108	106 1/2	607	111	107	
Rich. & Ont. ....	233 1/2	228 1/2	4549	233 1/2	233 1/2	215 1/2
Mont. St. Ry. ....	231 1/2	228 1/2	1450	231 1/2	231 1/2	
do new stock ..	188 1/2	186 1/2	2743	187 1/2	186 1/2	179
Mont. Gas Co. ....	61 1/2	80 1/2	1300	81	80 1/2	58
C. Pacific Ry. ....						
Ld. Grant bnds. ....						
Bell Tele. ....	175	172 1/2	60	177 1/2	173	158 1/2
N.W. Land pfd. ....	50	50	200	50 1/2	50	
Mont. 4% stock ..						