

not neglected. The geology of Detroit river area is described. The water powers of the region northeast of Cobalt are dealt with. Mining accidents are thoroughly tabulated and classified by the Inspector, Mr. E. T. Corkill. Statistics are given in revised form by Mr. Gibson. And the whole report appears in commendable externals.

The only change that the appreciative critic can fairly suggest is that the report is half a year late. This may be, probably is, due to the printer. The printing shop is the sump of all blame, and the origin of all delays. Yet we believe that it would be worth an effort to bring this and all similar documents out on time.

## THE WABANA MINES DURING 1912

A prosperous year has been 1912 for the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company. The output of iron ore from the company's Wabana, (Bell Island), was 564,000 long tons. Much attention was devoted to the submarine mines, although the land areas were consistently worked. The submarine developments included the construction of storage pockets and of transportation facilities, also the installation of several centrifugal pumps, an electric shovel, and electric hoists. The tonnage was thus so increased the daily output was brought up to 1,100 tons. A new concrete and steel machine shop was erected and equipped, also a dry-house with hot and cold running water, to accommodate 500 men. So successful was the dry-house that a considerable extension was deemed necessary.

The new shipping plant at the pier side of the yard comprises tiple, storage pocket with elevating machinery, conveyor pier, and all modern accessories. The total storage capacity is now 70,000 tons. Thus two conveyors are operated simultaneously, giving a combined loading capacity of more than 5,000 tons per hour.

The Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company is the highest type of progressive, modern, and efficient Canadian enterprise. It is a credit to Nova Scotia and to the Dominion at large.

## THE HAWTHORNE CASE

Whatever the merits or demerits of the Hawthorne outfit, several facts emerge from the legal proceedings that have already been conducted. It is, for instance, a pitiful sight to view the son of Nathaniel Hawthorne under criminal indictment. It is also pitiful to have read the absurdly inflated correspondence that was issued in the name of the several corporations. It is not for us to assign motives, nor is it for us to allocate blame. It is, however, quite obvious that the expert witnesses called by the prosecution told the truth as they knew it. Therefore it is distressing in the extreme to note that no effort has been made to meet the facts adduced by these witnesses. Every effort was made by the defence to discredit reputable men; not one

argument was advanced to controvert the statements of the witnesses.

This, of course, is in accordance with the anomalous legal procedure of United States and Canadian courts. It appears to be quite impossible to try any offender on his own merits. The consoling fact is that the trial judge, in this case, is quite beyond reproach.

Let the outcome of the Hawthorne case be what it may, there will remain little inducement for any inspired promoter to attempt similar flotations in the future.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

The rumour of an enormous merger of all Canadian steel companies with certain United States concerns has been emphatically denied by a representative of the Dominion Steel Corporation.

The United States Mint sold during 1912, \$38,000,000 of gold bars in the United States and Canada. In the two countries the consumption of new gold represented about \$35,000,000; about one-third of the world's total.

The output of gold in the United States during 1911 was smaller than it has been for five years. The value was \$91,700,000, less by \$5,200,000 than the value of 1911's output. Silver, however, crept up to about \$38,000,000, which is the highest figure attained in twenty years.

The proposed erection of a large iron, steel, and steel products plant at Sandwich, Ont., by the United States Steel Corporation is most significant. The Corporation owns 1,500 acres of land on the Canadian side of the Detroit river. This includes about one mile and a half of water frontage.

According to the last Dominion census, the value of capital represented by Canadian industries increased 276.19 per cent. during the period 1890-1910. Salaries and wages of employees showed an increase of 204.17 per cent. during the same period, while the total value of products went up 216.24 per cent.

A practical knowledge of mining is a decided advantage in farming. Dynamite is used extensively by American farmers. Low percentage dynamites are customarily employed. While there are many opportunities for utilizing explosives on the farm, the most important are such as blowing tree-planting holes, tree stump blasting, and ditching. For fruit tree planting, the dynamited hole is incomparably superior to the dug hole, as, in the former, the sub-soil is thoroughly broken up, thus giving ample space for the roots to establish themselves.