

# THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL

VOL. XXXII.

TORONTO, Dec. 15, 1911

No. 24

## The Canadian Mining Journal

With which is incorporated the  
"CANADIAN MINING REVIEW"

Devoted to Mining, Metallurgy and Allied Industries in Canada

Published fortnightly by the

### MINES PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED

Head Office - - - 17-21-23 Manning Arcade Annex, Toronto  
Branch Offices - - Montreal, Halifax, Victoria, and London, Eng.  
London Office - - - Walter R. Skinner, 11-12 Clement's Lane,  
London, E.C.

Editor:

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**SUBSCRIPTIONS**—Payable in advance, \$2.00 a year of 24 numbers, including postage in Canada. In all other countries, including postage, \$3.00 a year.

Advertising copy should reach the Toronto Office by the 8th, for the issues of the 15th of each month, and by the 23rd for the issues of the first of the following month. If proof is required, the copy should be sent so that the accepted proof will reach the Toronto Office by the above dates.

#### CIRCULATION.

"Entered as second-class matter April 23rd, 1908, at the post-office at Buffalo, N.Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3rd, 1879."

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#### A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Five years have come and gone since the CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL first greeted its readers. In extending to our Canadian and foreign friends our heartiest wishes for a Merry Christmas, we do so with a full sense of the kind and consistent support that has been given the JOURNAL.

Christmas to all of us is a day of gladness. In the mining camp it should be the best day of the year. It is our sincere hope that the approaching Christmas will be bright and cheery in city, town, and camp.

#### WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN GERMANY.

The Toronto members of the Canadian Mining Institute have, through a committee, framed certain recommendations as to the manner in which employers' liability for the compensation of injured workmen is to be measured and determined. Circumstances do not permit us to discuss these recommendations at present. It may be timely, however, to glance at the way in which the problem is met in Germany. This is all the more appropriate for the reason that we are convinced that some form of compulsory state insurance will prove the only adequate solution of the question in Canada.

German state insurance laws are widely inclusive. Workmen and officials who are in receipt of salaries of \$750 per annum, or less, come under the provision. The total number of persons thus insured is about 13,000,000. Compensation for accident amounts to the tremendous sum of \$50,000,000 per annum. Nearly \$10,000,000 is paid yearly to the families of those killed.

To provide for this outlay the employers are required to organize themselves into associations. The decision of the association can be appealed to an arbitration court.

Until a period of thirteen weeks has elapsed from the date of the accident, no payment is made to the injured person. Support comes meanwhile from a fund to which the employers contribute one-third, and the employee two-thirds. When the accident is traceable to gross carelessness no compensation is paid. It may also be withheld where intentional wrongdoing can be proved.

In the event of death, the family of the victim receives a sum sufficient to cover burial expenses, or a single allowance equivalent to from 20 to 60 per cent. of the annual earnings of the deceased.

It is to be noted that where an injury is so serious as to call for special medical attendance, or to necessitate the services of a trained nurse, the rate of compensation equals the full previous earning capacity of