

In our next issue, which will be a special issue devoted to mining in Ontario, we will publish extracts from several of the other reports.

WEST SHINING TREE

During the past few years a number of gold-bearing quartz veins have been discovered in the vicinity of West Shining Tree Lake, north of Sudbury. Several parties have done some development work on the claims staked; but there has been little yet done on most of the claims. It is known that there are a number of gold-bearing veins in the area, and the district seems worthy of more attention than it has received.

In 1912, Mr. Robert B. Stewart examined the deposits for the Ontario Bureau of Mines. His report has just been published, and is reprinted in this issue of the Journal. It will be seen from Mr. Stewart's descriptions that coarse gold can be seen in several places in fractured quartz and that fine gold, as determined by assays, is present in a large number of veins. Many of the rich shoots are narrow and not deep, and so far no large body of high grade ore has been developed. Exceedingly rich specimens have been taken from several veins; but they must be regarded as specimens rather than as samples.

Enough has been proven, however, to show that some of the properties are well worthy of systematic exploration.

PRESENTATION TO DR. W. G. MILLER

On Saturday evening, November 1, a number of mining men met in Toronto at a banquet in honor of Dr. Miller, Provincial Geologist of Ontario.

Some time ago Dr. Miller was asked that the mining men be allowed to present him with a portrait to be painted by Mr. J. W. L. Forster. A committee composed of Messrs. D. A. Dunlap, R. H. Flaherty, H. E. T. Haultain, G. G. S. Lindsey, J. C. Murray, W. E. Segsworth and C. E. Smith called on mining men for subscriptions and made arrangements for the presentation.

The dinner was followed by a number of speeches, the tenor of which was the same—all the speakers showing that both for his services to the mining industry and on account of his splendid qualities as a man among men, Dr. Miller has won the admiration of those who know him and his work.

THE CALGARY OIL STRIKE

From the article in our last issue, furnished by the Director of the Geological Survey, concerning the recent discovery of oil near Calgary, Alberta, it is evident that while the prospects are distinctly encouraging there is no justification for wild excitement or high prices for oil leases, for nothing is as yet proven. The existence of a commercial oil pool has to be established and something demonstrated as to its shape, extent and depth from the surface before the lands in this vicinity will have much real value as oil lands. What is

certain at the moment is that there is a good prospect and that prospecting will cost a lot of money.

On the present showing, intelligently-directed capital will be willing to thoroughly test the prospects, provided it does not have to pay too dearly for the privilege of risking a heavy expenditure. The discovery of a commercial oil field would create business and industry in this section as nothing else could, so that everyone in the west is directly interested in having the oil prospects properly tested, and it would be a calamity if those who would be willing to spend their money in thoroughly and scientifically determining the possibilities of this district were prevented by the designs of mere speculators and, as a result, this opportunity should be lost.

THE CHISANA (SHUSHANNA) GOLD DISCOVERIES

Canadians, and particularly those interested in the Yukon, were pleased to learn this summer that rich placer gold had been found in the Chisana district, Alaska, a few miles from the Alaska-Yukon boundary.

The section of the Yukon territory immediately adjoining is one which the Geological Survey of Canada considered to be of exceptional promise, and for some years it has had the investigation of the region in contemplation. Circumstances prevented this until the present year when the Canadian Geological Survey despatched two parties into the district, a topographical party under Mr. W. E. Lawson and a geological party under Dr. D. D. Cairnes. These parties were at work in the district when the stampede to the Alaskan placer field commenced, and to correlate the geology of the Chisana with that on the Yukon side of the line, and also to determine whether the gold-bearing gravels are likely to extend into Canadian territory, Dr. Cairnes visited the discoveries in August.

Dr. Cairnes states that rich gold-bearing gravels have been found in an area not exceeding ten or twelve miles in extent. He regards the conditions favourable for the occurrence of similar deposits some distance eastward in Canadian territory.

The original discovery in Chisana district, generally known as the James discovery, is located 30 miles west of the international boundary line, at about latitude 62° 10' N. and longitude 141° 55' W. The gold-bearing belt lies along the southern edge of the Nutzotin mountains, and within 25 miles of the northern slopes of the snow and ice-capped Wrangell mountains which include several peaks exceeding 12,000 feet above sea-level, the highest of which—Mount Sanford—rises to a height of 16,200 feet above the sea. The Chisana gold deposits, situated as they are near the headwaters of the White and Tanana rivers, are in a district which is very difficult to reach and may be considered one of the least accessible portions of Alaska.

Five main routes to Chisana are available, two of which may be considered as Alaskan, and the remaining three as Yukon routes. The two Alaskan routes are respectively by way of the Copper River and Northwestern Railway, and the Tanana river.

All three of the Canadian routes proceed from tidewater at Skagway, over the White Pass and Yukon Railway to Whitehorse, a distance of 110 miles. From Whitehorse, the routes diverge and may be named the Klauane, Coffee Creek, and White River routes, respectively.