

Huronian rock being covered with drift. On the McBride claim as opened up the ore is much corroded and the conditions of its occurrence are similar to those at Kerr Lake.

Thomas A. Edison, the great inventor, has an agent on the ground at Cobalt, buying cobalt at 35 cents a pound. Mr. Edison will use it in connection with a new storage battery. As the price fell off last year to a mere nominal figure, the world's consumption being small, the discovery of a new use, with enhanced price, is of great importance.

The Crow's Nest Coal Co. has declared its usual quarterly dividend of 2½ per cent. for the first quarter of the current year. The directors have under consideration a plan for the re-organization of the company, so as to bring its nominal capital more in line with the actual value of the company's holdings. It is probable a special meeting of the shareholders will be called to consider the proposal.

The Temagami Iron Mining Co. has been formed to work the iron deposit at Lake Temagami in which T. S. Caldwell, M.P.; Sir William Mulock and D. O'Connor have each a one-third interest.

An Order-in-Council adds a new clause to the Ontario Mining regulations. It is as follows:—"For filing any agreement, caution of other document, except a transfer, affecting or purporting to affect any mining claim already recorded, the party filing the same shall pay the inspector of the division a fee of two dollars (\$2.00) for every claim mentioned or described therein."

The Huron Oil Producers, a company which controls oil territory at Petrolia, recently obtained a charter. A meeting for organization will probably be held in Toronto in April.

A company has been formed to take over and operate the Tretheway mine at Cobalt. W. G. Tretheway, the present owner, will retain enough of the stock to give him a controlling interest.

A number of charters which have been applied for in connection with Cobalt companies are being held over by the Ontario Government till the bill introduced by Mr. Hoyle has been considered and disposed of. This bill is intended to protect the public against wild cat schemes, and if anything can be done in that direction it will be a good move. Some of the companies on whose behalf glowing prospectuses have been issued are nothing but stock jobbing schemes to rob a too credulous public.

Some interesting experiments have been made at Toronto at the heating properties of different kinds of coal, with a view to greater economy in the city's supply of fuel. Recent tests show that some classes of coal produce seven per cent. more units of heat than others. Property Commissioner Harris has recommended that in future tests be applied to coal furnished to the city under contract.

Hon. A. J. Matheson, provincial treasurer, recently received a cable despatch from the manager of the London branch of the Bank of Montreal, saying that the Rothschilds had made a payment of £100 a ton on a trial shipment of 20 tons of Cobalt ore sent through the Department of Lands and Mines. The experiments made by this wealthy firm with these ores are proving highly satisfactory, and there is no doubt a market for them is opening up in England and on the continent.

Dr. Haanel, superintendent of mines for Canada, gave an account of the experiments made at Sault Ste. Marie in the electrical smelting of iron, before the Canadian Club in Toronto, on March 12. The experiments were carried on from the middle of February till March 5. Although the manufacture of iron by electricity had been successfully accomplished in Europe there were several points which could not be settled there. The experiments at the Sault proved that magnetite could be successfully smelted, as well as hematite; that ore with considerable sulphur content can be made into pig iron of marketable value; that charcoal can be substituted for coke; that ferro-nickel pig can be produced practically free from sulphur from roasted mickeliferous pyrrhotite, and that pyrite cinders, now a waste product, can be turned into pig iron. Much interest is taken in this subject in Toronto, and Dr. Haanel was cordially thanked for his most interesting address.

Toronto parties who have been over the ground report that operations have been resumed on the White Bear mine at Rossland and that the outlook is promising. While in the main, development work will be done for some months, ore shipments will be made from time to time. A new 400 h.p. motor is doing good work driving the air compressor. The company has been re-organized, with a capital of \$1,000,000, in

shares of 10 cents each. An assessment of 2 cents per share was made to provide a working fund, one cent of which has been called in. White Bear is close to the famous Le Roi property.

Col. J. H. Conrad and his mine manager, Mr. Singer, who have been in Toronto and other eastern cities for some time, have returned to the Pacific Coast. Satisfactory financial arrangements have been completed for the vigorous prosecution of work at the mines on Windy Arm, in which Col. Conrad, who has had wide practical experience is interested.

The copper property in the township of Thompson, district of Algoma, has been acquired by the Northern Ontario Copper Co., which has its head office at Sault Ste. Marie. A drill, hoist and other machinery has been installed and development work is progressing. A shaft has been put down 30 feet and high grade ore exposed, which is of such a character as to be easily smelted.

At the Ideal Gold mine near Dryden, Ont., the Charlton-Wallace Improved Stamp Mill now operating there shows good values. This mill is a combination of stamping and grinding. A new experiment, at least in that section, has been made in roasting the ore before milling. This makes it crush more easily.

The Imperial Plaster Co., of Toronto, which has plaster beds at Cayuga, has installed a crushing plant at that place. The rock after being crushed, is brought to their mill in Toronto to be further treated.

In consequence of the present high price of arsenic, it is rumored that the mine at Deloro, which has been closed down for some time, is to be re-opened.

A report that silver has been found in the township of Belmont, near Havelock, is an old story revived. The presence of silver has long been suspected, but whether there is a deposit of importance, or not, is quite a different story.

The Cobalt ores may be rich but there are mines of other minerals of greater value in Ontario. From the Smith & Lacey Mica Mine, near Sydenham, belonging to the United States General Electrical Co., about \$2,000,000 worth of mica has been taken from an area of about one acre, and the mine is still being worked.

The McKinnon & Darragh mine, one of the most valuable of the silver-cobalt mines in the township of Coleman, has been sold to E. B. Chapin and associates of Toronto. The figure is said to be in the neighborhood of \$700,000.

Determined action is being taken by the Ontario Government to keep prospectors off the Gillies limits at Cobalt till the timber is removed, which is to be done on the mineralized portion by October 1st, and until a policy in dealing with the limit is decided on. A sufficient number of constables will be employed to keep prospectors off.

Mr. S. J. Ritchie, of Akron, Ohio, during a recent visit to Toronto, expressed himself as being much impressed with the value of certain deposits of granite, marble and sodalite in the northern part of the county of Hastings, and easily accessible by railway. He thinks there is little occasion to use brick for important buildings when such beautiful and durable stone is within easy reach. The sodalite is a beautiful blue and takes a high polish. It is admirably adapted for interior finish. The deposits are being worked to a limited extent under the direction of Thomas Morrison, an Aberdeen man of considerable experience.

Two hundred more mining leases have been cancelled within the past month for non-payment of rent. They covered properties in the districts of Rainy River north, Rainy River south, Thunder Bay, Algoma and Nipissing, and several in the County of Hastings.

The Canadian Pacific Railway is, it is understood, about to extend its lines to Cobalt and other points in Northern Ontario, so as to secure a share of the immense business which is sure to follow mining developments at Cobalt, as well as the tourist business to the Temagami district. The junction with the main line will probably be Sturgeon Falls.

The reduction works at Hamilton, about to be established in what was formerly the Hoepfner refinery, will be carried on under the name of the North American Cobalt Refining Co., with a capital of \$1,000,000. Among those interested are L. H. Timmins and W. G. Tretheway, who have given their names to two of the richest mines at Cobalt. John McMartin, of Cornwall, who has large interests at Cobalt, is also one of the Company.