

The present supply of the metal comes chiefly from New Caledonia, and the ore as mined there does not run a quarter of this percentage. Other mineral pigments occur in the province, but do not need special mention.

5. Gem stones.

Stones of this class have not been found in the province, although the opaque variety of the ruby and sapphire, corundum, as already shown, is abundant. Common beryls are also found, but, as yet, not the gem varieties, emerald and aqua marine. Several minerals which, when cut and polished, have a handsome appearance have been used to some extent. Several writers have drawn attention to the fact that diamonds likely occur in our northern districts. Judging from the fact that these stones are found in drift deposits to the south of the international boundary, and that carbon, e.g., the Sudbury coal and graphite elsewhere, is found in close association with basic eruptives, there seems to be good reason to believe that diamonds may yet be discovered in northern Ontario.

6. Minerals used in certain chemical manufactures.

Probably no chemical manufacture is more important than that of sulphuric acid. There are two working iron pyrites mines in Hastings county. These mines are on deposits which have been known for years, but lay dormant till recently. The mineral is found in promising amounts in many other localities. The great length of our iron-bearing ranges has been mentioned. Belts of rock carrying iron pyrites run parallel to these and appear to carry pyrites in important amounts. Near the Helen mine a large deposit of pyrites has been tested by the diamond drill. Some hundreds of miles to the north-westward a pyrite deposit, situated near an iron claim on Steep Rock Lake, has also been drilled into. Pyrite is found in considerable abundance at Lake Temagami. Mr. Sjöstedt, in a paper read at this meeting, describes a method of manufacturing sulphuric acid from pyrrhotite, our deposits of which are of large size and numerous.