

A VISIT TO MINES OF ALBERTA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

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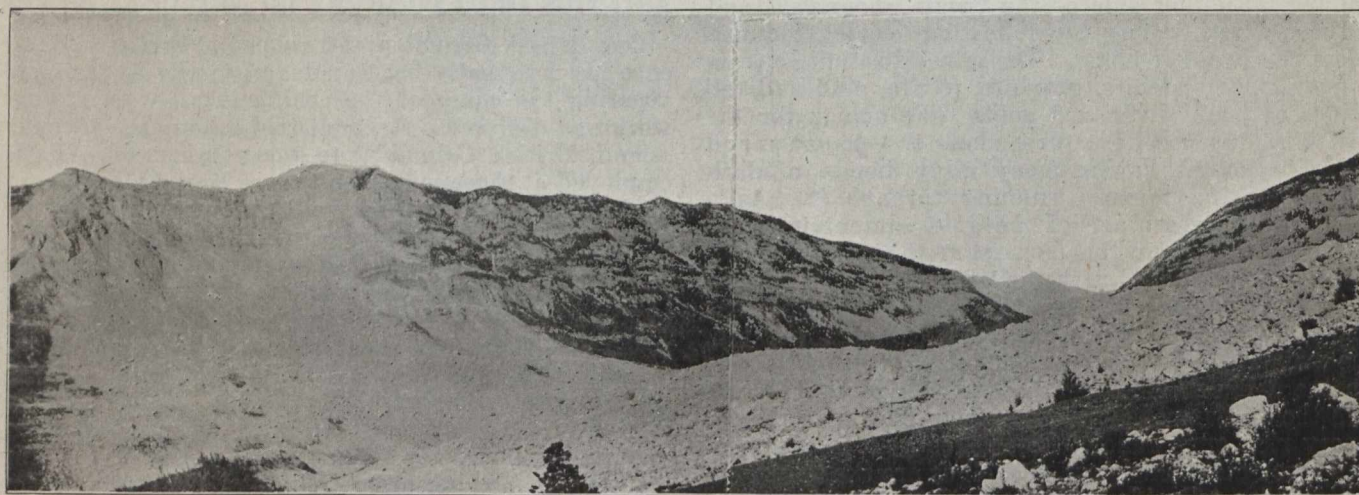
The C2 transcontinental excursion of the Twelfth International Geological Congress left Toronto by special train on Thursday, August 14th, a few hours after the conclusion of the session in Toronto. Hon. Louis Coderre, Secretary of State and Minister of Mines, accompanied the party, which was in charge of R. W. Brock, director of the Geological Survey, and J. McEvoy, mining engineer and geologist. H. E. T. Haultain, professor of mining at Toronto University, was secretary, and H. Frechette of the Department of Mines, Ottawa, assistant secretary. At several points along the route geologists and mining men joined the party and guided the members in the areas which they have studied.

The excursion afforded an excellent opportunity to visit western mines, especially the coal mines of Alberta and the coal, gold and copper mines of British Columbia. The large smelting plants at Grand Forks, Greenwood and Trail were also visited. On the return trip the gold mines at Porcupine and the silver mines at Cobalt gave the visitors some idea of the possibilities of Northern Ontario.

transportation facilities and the activity in improving and extending them, the magnificence of the mountains with their glaciers and beautiful lakes, the great rivers and their power-producing possibilities, the forests, the salmon-producing streams, the fruit ranches in the mountain valleys, have made lasting impressions. Not the least highly treasured memento of the trip is the remembrance of the kindly hospitality of the western people.

At Winnipeg, Stony Mountain and the Stampede.

The first scheduled stop was at the capital city of Manitoba. Arriving here at noon, the party was received by a number of municipal officials and taken out on electric cars to the City Park, on the Assiniboine River. Luncheon was served in the pavilion and an address of welcome was given by Mayor Deacon. Several members of the party replied on behalf of the countries which they represent. After the luncheon a trip was made to Stony Mountain to examine the exposure of fossiliferous rocks there. Many of the party went out to the Exhibition Grounds to see the "Stampede," the great exhibition of cowboy sports, which had been run-



The Landslide at Frank, Alberta.

The excellent arrangement of the excursion gave a remarkable opportunity for study of the western mountains. The Rockies were crossed at all three passes, in going west on the Canadian Pacific Crow's Nest Pass branch, east on the Canadian Pacific main line through Kicking Horse Pass and west and east again on the recently constructed Grand Trunk Pacific line through the Yellowhead Pass. The several trips to the mines in the mountains and the steamer trips on the long lakes gave several sections across and along the ranges. In all the places visited the geologists received warm receptions from the citizens. The large cities and the small camps in the mountains in every instance extended hearty welcome to the visitors. The members have learned much of the geological structure and the mineral resources of the districts visited, and on these counts alone feel well repaid for the time and expense which the excursion demanded, but all, I am sure, will value highly also the general information gained en route. The vast extent of the grain-producing prairies, the evidence of remarkable growth of the centres of population, the splendid

ning all week and which the excursionists fortunately visited on the closing afternoon, when the finals for the championships were being run off. The remarkable ability of the cowboys and cowgirls held the attention of the spectators for several hours and proved especially interesting to those unfamiliar with the romantic features of life on the plains. The roping of steers, riding wild horses and the exhibitions of fancy roping proved more attractive than the possibility of finding fossils in Stony Mountain. It is reported, however, that some of the party, not realizing the attractive nature of the "Stampede," did actually spend the afternoon in a very industrious attack on the fossiliferous limestones.

Medicine Hat Gas Field.

From Winnipeg the party travelled westward through the great grain fields to Medicine Hat, Alberta. Here a stop was made to visit the gas wells and the manufacturing plants which have recently grown up as the result of the use of cheap fuel furnished by the city. Near Medicine Hat there are two important producing