

But, since wild-cattling is done in the name of mining, and since the welfare of the industry and the honour of the profession are affected by it, it assuredly is the first duty of the mining engineer to do all that he can, privately and publicly, to discountenance unsound projects. In the main, the mining engineer is far too diffident in this direction. Often, we regret to say, he is even complaisant. Though his report be put to ill-uses, he contents himself with shrugging his shoulders and maintaining a discreet silence. Here, specifically, professional ethics must be revamped. We have no patience with a negative scheme of ethics. The professional mining engineer, to fulfil his functions as a citizen, to do fairly by the clients who employ him and by the public that trusts and respects him, must be positive, constructive, and aggressive. In season and out of season he must condemn the spurious.

Not all the resolutions in the world can have as strong an influence as the openly expressed opinions of responsible individuals.

Wild-cattling is only one manifestation of a prevalent disease. It is not to be cured by patent medicines nor by the knife. But it succumbs readily to open-air treatment.

THE TARIFF.

Although mining interests are not directly concerned with the free exportation of pulp wood, yet indirectly the question is fraught with large meaning for them. The manufacture of sulphite pulp in Canada implies the exploitation of our iron pyrites deposits and the local manufacturing of sulphuric acid. In the mining of iron pyrites there is not a large profit. In the manufacture of sulphuric acid there is a large profit. But the market is limited, and is susceptible of expansion only as our home industries grow. The demand for sulphite-pulp is expanding. If we consent to ship our crude pyrites to the United States, and also to ship our pulp-wood there, we are by way of losing all but nominal profits and of denuding ourselves at a rapid rate of natural assets that are yearly becoming more valuable.

As regards legislative control, it is to be noted that only the Federal Government can prohibit the exportation of pulp-wood from privately owned lands. Provincial Governments can forbid the exportation of pulp-wood from Crown lands only. Thus, whilst the Dominion Government has shown its willingness to remove all barriers, the Provincial Governments are still competent to prevent the wholesale destruction of our pulp-wood forests.

This is but one example of the complicated relations that obtain in mining, milling, and marketing any given mineral. How far Canada is prepared to make concessions is a matter for our plenipotentiaries to determine. Any concession that it is possible to make, so far as mining is concerned, is limited by the volume of trade now existing in one or all of certain specified mine products. Or, rather, these concessions are limited by the

probable expansion of trade indicated by the tariff revision.

But since this revision is provisional entirely, and is dependent for effectiveness upon the consent of astute but temporizing politicians, let us rather say that upon the confirmation of this revision rests the expansion of our mineral trade.

Genuine reciprocity, which is to be sharply distinguished from reciprocity as arranged in view of political exigencies, will give certain of our natural products a much better status. For instance, gypsum might be manufactured in Canada for all Canada east, and for the eastern consumers of the United States. But this cannot be unless we are put on absolutely equal terms with United States producers.

It were useless to multiply instances. The basic principle remains. We are bound to retain in Canada the ultimate profit from our products. They must be turned over to our customers in as finished a condition as possible. This is the whole meaning of the tariff to us. Sentiment can be disregarded. We are all British. But, also, we are all merchants. We must sell our commodities, whether they be brains or pork, in the best market. The historic fact remains that heretofore all of our bargains with the United States have been expensive for us. Let us calmly and coolly decide whether this bargain is or is not to our advantage. If it is to our advantage, then we shall be so much the bigger factor in the Imperial Federation.

THE YUKON IN 1910.

In length the past dredging season has exceeded that of any previous year. Beginning in April, dredging was continuously carried on until December 13, a period of 233 days. The output of gold was greater by half a million dollars than in 1909. Operations have been measurably cheapened during the past twelve months both by the installation of larger dredges and by the distribution of electric power.

The output of 1909 was valued at \$3,560,000; that of 1910 aggregated \$4,100,000. To this enhanced yield the dredges of the Yukon Gold Company on Bonanza and Hunker contributed most. It is confidently expected that the coming season will witness a very much larger growth from this company's dredges and giants.

The Treadgold interests are now prepared for a vigorous campaign on Last Creek, Dominion Creek, parts of Quartz Creek, and possibly other streams. The huge power ditch is practically finished, and distribution lines are in place.

The Canadian-Klondyke Company, on the Boyle concession, below Bear Creek, had a successful season. Other companies are operating on Fortymile, and on Stewart.

All things considered, it looks as if Yukon can fairly look forward to the coming season with a well-grounded expectation of touching the six million mark.