

ASSOCIATED GOLDFIELDS.

The proposal to give railroad facilities to the Larder Lake gold area is one that especially interests shareholders of Associated Goldfields. This company has issued a report on its property which would indicate that the company has resources for conducting mining operations profitably and on a large scale. A railroad covering the area would derive much business from an industry of the magnitude contemplated.

The Ontario Government owns the railroad from North Bay to Cochrane, the Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, and a branch line from this railroad is asked for. The railway commissioners have indicated a willingness to consider the proposal provided a report on the property is made by Government engineers. Up to date there has been no announcement as to whether the company is willing to have the mine examined by the Mines Department. The usual examinations by inspectors of mines and geologists of the Bureau of Mines do not include sampling systematically of properties or the expressing of opinions as to their commercial possibilities. The examination called for would be of a different character from that of the customary ones.

In view of the expenditures involved in the construction and operation of branch lines the stand taken by the Government officials seems a reasonable one. It is to be hoped that the company will so regard it.
—R.E.H.

ORIGIN OF THE SUDBURY NICKEL ORES.

The origin of the nickel-copper ores of the Sudbury district has been much discussed. Those who are interested in the subject will do well to read the opinion of a recent worker on the problem published in an article in the July bulletin of the Canadian Mining Institute. This writer states that geological work at the mines has disclosed facts that indicate the origin of the ore by its intrusion in molten condition along a plane of shearing in the footwall rocks adjacent to the norite, after the latter had solidified. The writer presents some evidence in support of his view, but does not discuss the subject fully.

The evidence offered is hardly sufficient to shake the faith of those who believe the localization of the orebodies to be primarily the result of differentiation in the norite magma. It is reasonable to suppose that the cooling of the molten mass would take a very long time and that during that period there would be much cracking of solidified portions and subsequent sealing of the cracks by dyke-like masses.—R.E.H.

Leland D. Adams of the Weedon Mining Company is visiting Canada. Mr. Adams, who resides in California, expresses himself as well satisfied with recent developments at the mine.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Canadian Mining Journal.

Dear Sir:

In your issue of July 30th inst. you have an article on the Graphite in Canada. You have had a number of articles on this mineral during the last year or two. I do not think any of the writers of the articles are well posted about this mineral, especially in the Province of Ontario. I know that there is in Ontario, as yet virgin, mountains of sand and gravel, carrying silver flake graphite for the purposes you mention, that is for the making of crucibles and for pencils and for powder, just as pure as any found in Ceylon and I am sure as any found in the United States, and superior to the Black Donald of Renfrew, but up to the present no one seems to want them. Then you go on to say if concentration methods can be devised to take full advantage of the high graphite content of Canadian ores, the industry should prove permanent. Well sir, I own and control four patents, patented in Canada and in the United States. With any of them I can clean and separate Graphite, Gold, Silver, Lead, Zinc, Molybdenite, as easy and perfectly as blowing chaff out of wheat—I have a perfect process.

And I can clean and concentrate for cents per ton what by any other process costs as many dollars per ton. My process and my machine have no equal in the world, but Sir do you know that some of our mine owners, and mine managers, know so little about minerals, and the machinery required to clean and separate the minerals from the matrix that they think there is no machine will do it?

And they are using that rotten filthy dirty process—the Hun's process—oil flotation or still worse, cyanide, that is both dangerous and unhealthy. Any of your readers can see my Patents at any time, and they are in a class by themselves, as there is nothing yet patented in their class. Hoping you will find a place in your valuable paper for this.

I am very truly,

M. J. Paterson, Sr. E.M.

66 Churchill Avenue,

Toronto, August 9th, 1920.

BOOK REVIEW.

THE MINES HANDBOOK. The Mines Handbook and Copper Handbook for 1920, Vol. XIV, 6 by 8½ by 2½ inches. 1992 pages. Cloth Boards. Price \$15.00. Published and compiled by Walter Harvey Weed, New York City.

The latest edition of this standard compilation covers the mining industry of the world for 1918, 1919 and the first quarter of 1920. It is announced that the Handbook will hereafter be published annually, delay in issuing the 1920 volume having been caused by labor troubles and paper shortage.

The Handbook contains statistical information regarding the production, consumption and United exports and imports in all commercial metals. The scope of the work is comprehensive, covering as it does the metal mining industry of the world, and the information, so far as we are in a position to check it from the references to Canadian and Newfoundland mining operations, is complete and accurate.

This Handbook is a necessity in the library of consulting mining engineers, metal brokers, dealers in mining equipment and supplies, and all who are interested in mining, more particularly in America.