

The crystals discovered by Sterry Hunt in Burgess, it will be remembered, were found in association with pyroxene in crystalline limestone.

In view of the extent and apparent richness of the corundum fields in the Province, the Government has taken steps aimed at developing the deposits and establishing a home industry. Regulations have been drawn up under which the mineral rights in lands lying within the two corundiferous belts have been withdrawn from sale, and hereafter the mineral and mining rights in such lands can be acquired only under the leasehold system—the rental for the first year being 60 cents and for subsequent years 15 cents per acre. Instead of allowing speculators to take up and hold lands with a view to sell out their interests to miners and capitalists at a large profit, it is proposed that the advantage of acquiring lands upon the lowest terms shall go to the miner and manufacturer direct; and in the case of parties who will undertake to conduct mining and treating operations on the largest and completest scale, and who can furnish satisfactory assurance that they possess the requisite capital for the proposed operations (including separation of the ore from its gangue, milling for abrasive uses, manufacture of abrasive goods, and the production of aluminium), the Government may concede a preference in the selection of mineral lands. It is also provided that the Government shall have power to require that all corundum mined from lands leased under the Regulations shall undergo certain processes of treatment and milling at works to be erected in the Province to prepare it for market; and may further require, from time to time, as circumstances appear to warrant, that works be established in the Province for the manufacture of all useful or commercial products for which the mineral or ore is economically adapted.