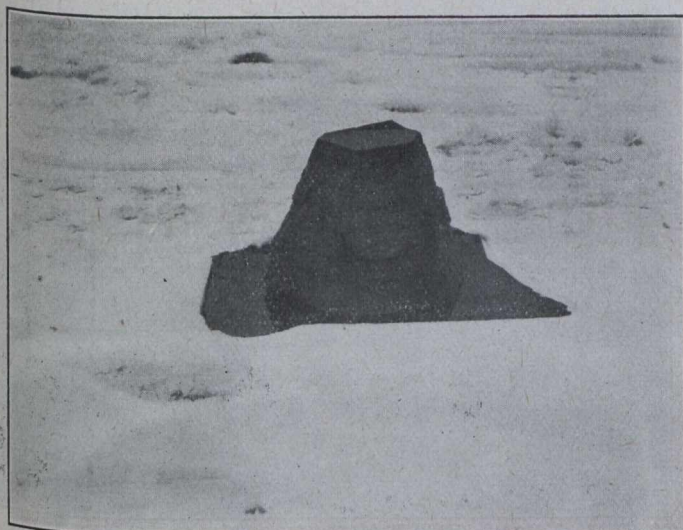


utilization of the small sizes of mica as 1×1 , 1×2 , 1×3 and 2×3 , by being cemented together by the aid of a cement as shellac. After the mica has been built up into these plates by means of the shellac, it is put into steam presses and baked and steamed at the same time.



CRYSTAL OF MICA

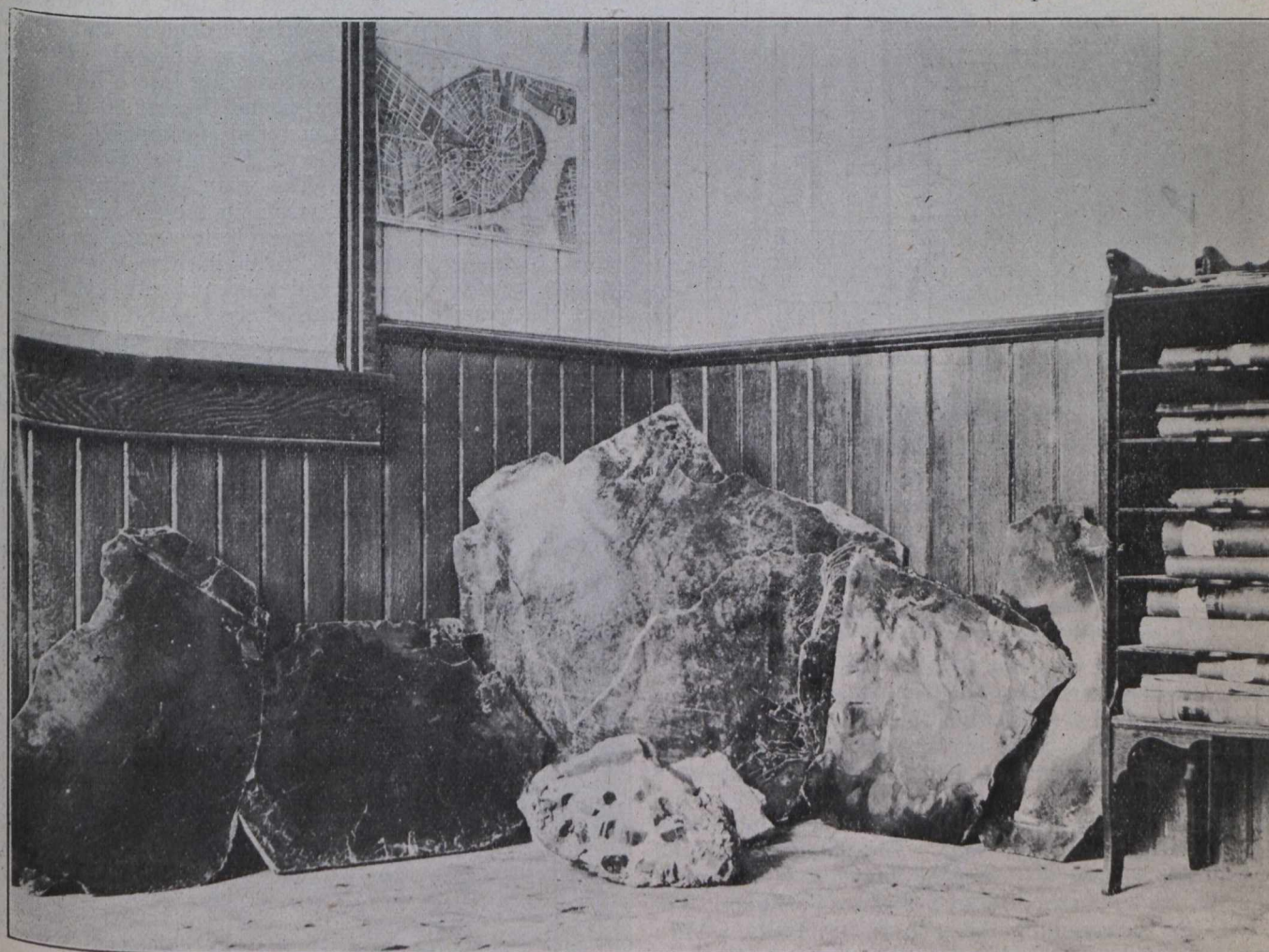
All the properties of the shellac, excepting the cementing quality, are supposed to be eliminated in this process, so that the insulating qualities of the plates are not reduced or lowered. After being baked and pressed, the plates are

milled for the purpose of making them smooth and even. They are then sawn into segments. If it is required to make rings, etc., out of this plate, they are made by steaming the micanite to the shape required. Another use for mica that is coming more into prominence is the use of the scrap mica for boiler and pipe covering. This has proved very efficient whenever used. The scrap mica is also used when ground and mixed with oil as a lubricant.

Mica, as referred to above, was first mined in the Township of North Burgess, County of Lanark, in the early sixties. Since that time, this township has proved to be one of the most productive sections of Ontario. The other most productive mica area in Ontario is the Township of Loughboro'. These two townships of North Burgess and Loughboro' have produced more than fifty per cent. of the total production of Ontario.

Phlogopite, or amber mica, occurs in the granitic and gneissic rocks of the Laurentian. The southwestern end of the amber mica-producing section is in Loughboro' Township, Frontenac County. From here, south and west, the Laurentian is overlaid by the limestone of Silurian age. On lot 11, concession 7, Loughboro' Township, is situated the Lacey Mine, which has proved a very steady producer and has probably produced more mica than any other property in the Province.

The first work was done on what has since been known as the Lacey Mine in 1884, when a shaft was sunk on the vein. This was owned at that time by Messrs. Smith and Lacey, who took out a large tonnage of an exceedingly good grade of mica. The pit was sunk to a depth of about 130 feet, and vein stoped out for a distance



SPECIMENS OF ONTARIO MICA