

A. Vandervoort, Belleville, Ont., tires, pneumatic tire construction; F. Cowden, Montreal, process for moulding and apparatus for carrying same; A. Warfield, Toronto, metal railway ties and means for fastening rails to same; W. Bernard, Smith's Falls, Ont., freezing hydrants; J. T. Leehonby, Hamilton, Ont., machine for trimming the corners of boxes; H. R. Lockhart, Montreal, trolley bases; C. G. Draeseke, Dundas, Ont., clutch devices for the driving mechanisms of lathes; G. Hill, Ottawa, feed water heaters for locomotives.

AN IMPORTANT ORE DEAL.

The Moose Mountain iron ore properties, lying about 18 miles north of Sudbury, Ont., were recently the scene of an important deal. A two-tenths interest was sold to Mackenzie & Mann, of the Canadian Northern Railroad, for \$500,000. The interests sold were those of Chase S. Osborne of Sault Ste. Marie and John C. Spry of Chicago. The Canadian Northern Railroad is building from Toronto westerly toward a connection with its present lines running from the north shore of Lake Superior into the north-western wheat districts of Canada and headed for the Pacific. A slight deflection of the main line will pass it across the Moose Mountain properties, and a line of about 70 miles in length will connect the ore with deep water on the north shore of Georgian Bay. The railroad has agreed with the remaining owners of the Moose Mountain district that it will make a low rate to the lake, a rate that will give a gross freight from the mines to lower lake receiving ports of about \$1 a ton. It is from this fact that the great importance of the purchase by Mackenzie & Mann arises.

These properties were discovered some three years ago by a prospector who reported his finds to Mr. Osborne. The latter interested Joseph Sellwood of Duluth, who made an examination. Two years ago last April Mr. Sellwood, John W. Gates, John Lambert and a few associates, including Blair & Co., New York bankers, and John J. Mitchell, president of the Illinois Trust & Savings Bank, Chicago, bought the lands, paying therefor about \$10,000. Sufficient exploration has been made to show a very great value, and there are many millions of tons of excellent magnetic ore exposed above water level. This ore is partly Bessemer, with a large portion running from 0.06 to 0.07 per cent. in phosphorus, while the bulk of the ore so far as determined carries above 61 per cent. of iron.

These deposits are located along the west branch of the Vermillion River, in Nipissing district, and extend for 30 to 40 miles, much of it in an unsurveyed district of Algoma. The company, an interest in which has just been sold to Mackenzie & Mann, controls the most pronounced part of the formation, extending for several miles along the trend of the range, and there are great outcrops of iron in a bluff-like situation. At least five of these outcrops can be made into shipping mines as soon as transportation is furnished. The nearest railroad line to these properties now is the main line of the Canadian Pacific, which passes 18 miles to the south. The distance to the village of Killarney, on the north shore of Georgian Bay, is about 70 miles. Ore shipping piers will be built near Killarney and work begins this winter.

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CANADA'S MARBLE CAVES.

W. S. Ayres, the eminent mining and consulting engineer of Banff, B.C., was in Revelstoke, B.C., recently, having just returned from an inspection and survey on behalf of the Dominion Government of the famous marble caves discovered by Charles Deutschman, and which bid fair to become the greatest wonder and attraction on the American continent. With the assistance of the discoverer Mr. Ayres surveyed in three days 3,225 feet, of which 1,084 feet were in absolutely new channels which were never before entered by any man. Mr. Ayres was much impressed with these latter passages and he considers they have as yet only been touched upon, for their end was nowhere in sight. This was Mr. Ayres' second visit to the famous Cougar Basin in which the caves are located, his first trip being made about the end of last May, when he ventured the opinion that other caves, possibly of greater extent and beauty would yet be found in the vicinity. The recent discovery of the big caves, to the east of the original discovery, fully bears out Mr. Ayres' opinion.

Mr. Ayres stated that the caves were exceedingly grand, there being nothing just like them known in the whole world. Unlike the mammoth caves of Kentucky and others of lesser renown, the Deutschman caves have a very marked and different formation, being constructed of marble by the force of water action. For centuries past underground streams have been carving out these immense caverns and channels until now they are unequalled in magnificence of grandeur and beauty.

Mr. Ayres has had large experience in the pursuit of his profession in underground work, and his opinion of the Deutschman caves will be of immense value to the government as well as of great interest to the people of Canada. The most skeptical now admit that these wonderful caves will in the near future be the attraction of the continent

and the means of drawing thousands of tourists from all points in Canada, the United States and Europe, to this district.

ZINC IN CANADA.

Mr. Alfred C. Garde, M.E., Nelson, B.C., one of the members of the Commission recently appointed to inquire into the zinc resources of British Columbia, states that the report of the Commission is in course of preparation. Prof. W. R. Inglis, New York, was chairman of the Commission, and the third member was Mr. Philip Argall M.E., Denver, Colorado. The Commission had been appointed by Dr. Haanel, the head of the Department of Mining, at Ottawa, and was under his supervision. The Commission have been at work for the last three months investigating the zinc deposits, the quality of the ore, method of treatment, etc. Their work has been so satisfactory that it will be continued by the Department next spring. The price of zinc has greatly increased of late years owing to its much wider use in the various arts and for electrical and other purposes.

There are deposits in Ontario which will probably be investigated later. In British Columbia large shipments have been made, but the producers suffer a loss, through having to ship the ore to the United States or to Europe for treatment. It is hoped that soon this can be done in Canada.

Speaking of the general mining outlook in British Columbia, Mr. Garde said the copper industry was steadily going ahead. The boundary country was producing largely and profitably. The Granby Co., which had the biggest plant, was one of the most encouraging industries of the province.

100,000 tons of apples are grown on British soil yearly.