

chemists are replaced with ease. All of which does not bring inspiration.

The disabilities under which the chemist labors are due in small part to himself. He accepts wages that, in these days of constantly increasing cost of living, hardly suffice to feed and clothe him, and he is backed by no organization of his fellows. But upon the employer rests the larger share of blame. He looks upon the chemist as a superfluity. In engaging him he conforms to a certain growing custom, and that is all. It remains for him to extract from the chemist a maximum of work for a minimum of pay.

If the chemist proves to be a man of undoubted ability he is translated from the laboratory to some sphere of "practical" usefulness. But the chemist, *per se*, is a subordinate and humble official, who performs certain suspicious-looking operations and supplies figures for "practical" men to use.

As with all other abuses, this false conception of the chemist's functions can be corrected only by education. We talk largely and wisely of technical education for our rising generation. Our most startling need is technical and business education for our employers.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES

The JOURNAL extends its sympathy to McGill University in the very serious loss sustained by the burning of the Engineering Building. We note with pleasure that the Mining Engineering Department was not seriously damaged.

We wish to announce to our readers and the public generally that, in response to a very large number of enquiries, we are about to publish an authentic and up-to-date map of the Cobalt district. This map will have the merit of being both complete and accurate.

THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL will welcome letters from its subscribers on any subject pertaining to mining. Any requests for information of a technical nature will receive prompt attention. But it is undesirable that the JOURNAL should attempt to give information to individual enquirers about isolated mining camps; neither is it well that we should try to advise in matters pertaining to the stock market. There are many capable mining engineers and brokers whose business it is to advise in these matters.

A company has been organized in London, England, for the purpose of manufacturing "coalite," a smokeless fuel. The process of manufacture is yet a secret, but several plausible guesses have been offered. It is supposed that bituminous coal is subjected to treatment with superheated steam. The resultant "coalite" carries about 10 per cent. volatile matter and is perfectly smokeless. Petrol, for which the demand is increasing out of all proportion to the visible supply, is to be secured as a by-product. The process, it is claimed, will serve the double purpose of abating smoke nuisance and of relieving the petrol market. The project sounds somewhat too good to be true.



## Annual Meeting of the Mining Society of Nova Scotia

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Mining Society was opened in the Board of Trade rooms, Halifax, on Wednesday morning, March 27th, 1907. President Hayward's opening address, which is given below, was encouragingly optimistic.

After the opening address, Secretary Wylde's report was read, new members were elected, and the reports of various committees received.

On Wednesday evening the annual banquet was held at the Halifax Hotel. The banquet was attended by about 200 guests, and was a most unquestioned success. Indeed, the smoothness with which every feature of the

dinner was carried out deserves more than passing mention. A military band provided most acceptable music. A paper by Mr. Robert Reford on "Transportation," and an address on "Municipal Ownership," by the Rev. Dr. Magill, were listened to after the dinner. On Thursday afternoon, March 28th, the annual session was concluded.

During the sessions the following papers were read and discussed:—

"Mine Pumping with Direct Connected Turbine Pumps," by P. H. Moore, M.E.