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COLLEGE EDUCATION OF MINING ENGINEERS

Mining is one of Canada's greatest industries. We might therefore expect that the education of men to take charge of and operate mines would be an important feature of our educational system. Is it?

Professor J. C. Gwillim of the School of Mining, Kingston, in a contribution to the November bulletin of the Canadian Mining Institute states that the number of students in mining in Canadian colleges is very small, and he points out some of the reasons. One of these is the standard of admission, which, however well it may meet the requirements of other professions, is likely to prove a bar to the young men who are most familiar with and are most interested in mining owing to their living in mining districts.

It is quite evident that in drafting requirements for admission to Canadian Universities the profession of mining engineering has been either ignored or misunderstood. Those who have the best interests of the profession at heart will read with interest Professor Gwillim's letter.

In order to bring about any important change we must know the opinions of many members of the profession.

It is not a difficulty with which the professors of mining at the several colleges should be left to struggle alone. They recognize the unsuitability of the present requirements for admission, but they have not themselves the power of changing them. If men who have taken the mining courses in Canadian Universities can be prevailed upon to give their opinions of such courses, and if men who would like to take such courses but are not allowed to do so because of inability to pass examinations in subjects in which they are not interested will make their desires known, steps can be taken to bring the matter before the proper authorities. We hope to see further discussion of the subject in future editions of the Bulletin of the Institute. We will be pleased also to publish in the "Canadian Mining Journal" the views of any who are interested in the subject. It would be especially useful if young men who are prevented from availing themselves of college training by inability to pass the present admission examinations would state their case. Mining men who have such ambitious men in their employ can help them by urging them to write or by stating the case for them. To get what we want we must know what we want. We must have also a clear view of the chief difficulties to be encountered.

The price of silver has been a little higher recently and is encouraging producers in their hopes of a better market i.i. 1916.