

### WHY THE ELDORADO TALC MINE HAS BEEN IDLE.

Under a Madoe date line, the "Globe" recently published the following:

"The spirit of the British people is splendidly illustrated in a story that comes from the little mining village of Eldorado in the County of Hastings. The people of Canada will be surprised to hear that at the outbreak of war a brother of Sir Douglas Haig, the British Commander on the Western front, was in charge of a talc mine in this county, but they will not be surprised to learn that he went home to do his bit. Notwithstanding that he was sixty years of age, John Haig, elder brother of the Field Marshal, closed up his mining business and left for Britain, where he volunteered as a private. He gave his age as fifty and did not look a day older, it is said, the outdoor life having preserved his youthfulness. He was rejected, but did not give up the idea of going to the trenches. His brother, Sir Douglas Haig, did not know John was trying to enlist, for the latter apparently never told him. At all events, he did not use his influence to get a commission, but by his persistence and personality, he eventually secured a commission as second lieutenant, and is to-day a captain in a British infantry regiment, 'somewhere in France.' Mrs. Haig crossed the Atlantic with her husband and is nursing wounded soldiers, according to residents of the Eldorado district."

In this connection, it is interesting to note that the president of Eldorite Ltd., the company operating the Eldorado talc mine, is Sir Douglas Haig. His brother, John A. Haig, is managing director and was in charge on the property. The company owns the mine and mill at Eldorado, having taken over in 1914 the property of Canadian Talc and Silica Co.

### RE-EDUCATION OF RETURNED SOLDIERS.

Ottawa, June 23.—The party of American technical educators who have been touring Canada, studying the work of industrial re-education of disabled soldiers, returned to Ottawa Friday morning and spent the day in conference with W. E. Segsworth, head of the Vocational Branch of the Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment. They left for New York yesterday. They visited, Ottawa, Montreal, Ste. Agathe, Toronto, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary.

A member of the party said: "We have worked very hard, and our studies have been most valuable. One great surprise we had was in reference to the scope of the problem. Most of us, owing to having read a great deal of propaganda literature from France and other countries, were inclined to think that this work of re-education was limited to crippled men—that is, men with arms and legs off. We find, however, that these are only a small proportion of the disabled men who need re-education. A gunshot wound in the body or the head may produce a disability which in specific cases impairs vocational efficiency to a greater extent than the loss of an arm or leg. We were much impressed with the work that is being done in Canada, and were especially struck with the wonderful optimism of the men undergoing the training."

### VIPOND.

Good ore is said to have been encountered at the 425 ft. level of the Vipond. Assays of samples across the workings show values of between \$20 and \$50 per ton, according to a wire received in Toronto by H. B. Wills.

### JAMES DOUGLAS IS DEAD.

New York, June 25.—Dr. James Douglas, for many years president and lately chairman of the Board of Directors of Phelps, Dodge and Co., copper mine owners, died at his home here to-day in his 81st year.

Dr. Douglas was rated one of the foremost metal and mining authorities in the world. He was also a historian and writer of note and a philanthropist. He amassed a large fortune in his business.

He was born in Quebec, Canada, Nov. 4, 1837, was a distinguished graduate of Queen's University, Kingston, Ont., where he graduated in 1858, later receiving the degree of doctor of laws from McGill University for his work in the field of hydrometallurgy. In this he was associated with Dr. T. Sterry Hunt.

James Douglas, besides being an A.B. of Queen's University, studied medicine at Laval University, Quebec, and was professor of chemistry at Morrin College, Quebec. He acquired his first experience in mining and metallurgy through his connection with the Harvey Hill mines and other mining properties in Lower Canada, and left Canada in 1875 to take charge of the metallurgical operations of the Chemical Copper Company, a concern operating at Phoenixville, Pa., where he was first to separate, on a commercial scale, the precious metals from the copper by the electrolytic method of refining.

Dr. Douglas was Chancellor of Queen's University and its most munificent benefactor.

### No. 3 MINE, CROWSNEST, RE-OPENED.

No. 3 Mine, Crow's Nest Pass Collieries, in which an explosion causing the death of 34 miners occurred on the 5th of April, 1917, has been opened to the face after fourteen months of work. When the inquest took place a few weeks after the accident only 22 bodies had been recovered. All now are accounted for, the majority having been found as the level was cleared and the last four about ten days ago when the face was reached. It is thought likely that the inquest will be re-opened, the verdict returned last April having been that "death was caused by an explosion, but from the evidence adduced the jury is unable to assign the primary cause." It is claimed by those who have held that the explanation of the disaster would be found when the scene at the most remote working place could be surveyed that the position in which the last four bodies were discovered to an extent bears out their contention. The evidence, however, seems to be conflicting. The men practically died at their posts. In each case their posture was such as would indicate that they had had some warning and had instinctively tried to shield their heads with their hands. One of their safety lamps was broken, and it is argued that this may have happened prior to the outbreak and be responsible for it. Mr. George Wilkinson, Chief Inspector of Mines, has left Victoria to make a careful examination of the mine and of the additional evidence secured.

Mr. E. P. Mathewson, until recently general manager of the British America Nickel Corporation, Toronto, has been appointed consulting metallurgist of the American Smelting and Refining Co., and its subsidiaries. His headquarters will be at the company's offices in New York.