

**Chrome Iron Ore.**

Three companies worked the chrome iron ore deposits in the Township of Colrairie—the Black Lake Chrome & Asbestos Company, the American Chrome Company, and the Canadian Chrome Company. A total of 40 stamps and 12 Wilfley tables make up the mill equipment of these companies. Seventy-six men are employed during periods of from 4 to 11 months. The output for the year was 5,721 long tons of 1st and 2nd class ore and concentrates valued at \$63,130. A considerable amount of diamond drilling is being carried on.

**Copper.**

The mines in the Capelton region were regularly worked by the Nichols Chemical Company, and the Eustis Mining Company.

At the latter's mine a depth of 2,800 feet has been reached. Electric power is supplied from a waterfall two miles from the mine on the Coaticook river. Concentration works capable of turning out 200 tons of concentrate per 24 hours are installed near the railway. The equipment consists of 4 Blake crushers, 3 double rolls, and 8 Wilfley tables. The ore body in sight is large and variable in grade.

At the Nichols Company's Albert mine work was continued in Shaft No. 1. Sulphuric, nitric and hydrochloric acids and glauber salts are manufactured at the company's chemical works.

Several small promising prospects are being developed by other parties. Prospecting is being actively followed near Sherbrooke.

In the copper industry 250 men were employed. Twenty-six thousand four hundred and five long tons of copper ore were mined, valued at \$160,455.

**Gold.**

The excitement produced by the discovery of gold in the Gilbert river in 1863 led to no important results, although an estimate places the amount of gold taken out between 1863 and 1878 as \$2,000,000. Operations were then confined to a strip two miles long. Mr. Obalski urges the systematic prospecting of the district.

Near the close of 1906 auriferous quartz was found in the Township of Marstin. Assays by Dr. Milton L. Hersey showed from traces up to \$10 per ton of gold. This is the first discovery of gold in quartz in apparently commercial quantity.

**Asbestos.**

The asbestos industry continued to flourish during the past year. The utilization of short fibres in the manufacture of boards has encouraged the opening of new mines, especially in East Broughton. Most of the companies used electric power furnished by the Shawinigan Water Power Company and the St. Francis Water Power Company.

At Thetford the King asbestos mine, the Bell mine, the Johnson mine and the Beaver mine are working regularly. At Black Lake the American Asbestos Company has acquired the mines of the Montreal & Glasgow Asbestos Company and of the Manhattan Asbestos Company, and now operates four independent mines. Other companies are the Johnson Company and the Standard Asbestos Company.

In Broughton, Colrairie and Wolfestown Townships there is activity in asbestos mining. The Asbestos & Asbestic Company continue to employ about 400 in their mine and mills. Their power is partly supplied

by the Shawinigan Water & Power Company. Their old quarry is 200 feet deep and is served by 18 cable derricks.

Of 1st class (crude), 2nd class (crude), fibre and paper stock the province produced 61,85 tons valued at \$2,455,919. Asbestic was produced to the amount of 29,193 tons worth \$27,292. Men employed, 2,141. Wages paid, \$931,061.

**Amber Mica.**

The amber mica industry prospered during the year. Shipments increased and prices were good, especially for small mica. But towards the end of the year the demand suddenly ceased and the Ottawa trimming establishments were temporarily closed.

The Blackburn Company, working the Perkins Mill, was the most important producer. They also shipped a couple of hundred tons of phosphate.

Production of province—

	Pounds	Value
Total thumb trimmed . . . . .	542,290	\$197,739
Split . . . . .	7,957	2,109
Rough called mica, 150 short tons, . . . . .		24,030

Employees.—288.

Wages.—\$108,600.

No white mica was mined during 1907.

**Phosphate.**

As mentioned above, phosphate was mined with mica in the Ottawa region by the Blackburn Brothers. This firm shipped 200 tons of 80 per cent. and 60 tons of 60 per cent. The Capelton Chemical and Fertilizer Company of Buckingham, used 35 tons of phosphate, and the Electric Reduction Company of the same place used 300 tons.

The total value of the phosphate, 408 short tons, was \$3,410. Both companies named above imported phosphate from Ontario and the United States.

**Graphite.**

Much prospecting was done in Buckingham, Grenville, and Labelle districts. In the Buckingham region the Diamond Graphite Company, an American company, worked lots 12, 13 and 14 of range X and erected a mill on the property. The dry process of concentration is followed.

The Bell mine, operating lots 1, 2, and 3 of range V, Buckingham, took out a fair amount of ore. A mill is being erected.

The Buckingham Graphite Company, with mines and mill on lot 19 B, of range VIII, of Buckingham, did not work during 1907. A quantity of the previous year's products was shipped. Brumell's process is used here.

These were the only operating companies in Buckingham.

In the district of Grenville, and in the townships of Amherst, and Joly, there was some work done.

From the province 120 short tons of prepared graphite were shipped, valued at \$5,000.

**Natural Gas.**

The Canadian Gas and Oil Company, whose office is in Three Rivers, sank a number of wells near Louisville, Yamachiche, and St. Barnabé. In thirteen of these gas was encountered in merchantable quantities. Gas was generally struck at a depth of 225 to 300 feet. The