

"The deposits are so large, so rich, so much beyond world competition, the business so profitable, the metal so necessary to the world's requirements, that the companies are bound to refine here and give us at least the work in our own country. Imagine to-day when work is so scarce, men looking for employment, our nickel matte, the only nickel matte of any consequence in the world, going to a foreign country to help keep their workmen employed, we relying on foreign workmen to see that the nickel, without which Germany cannot continue the war many months, does not reach Germany. If it does not reach Germany then this same foreign workman is out of work; if it does reach Germany then he has work a-plenty making nickel."

This statement is less forceful than it might be if Mr. Gamey had omitted part of it. He seems to have the same desire that several of the newspapers have, of encouraging Canadians to believe that Germany alone uses nickel in large quantities. The fallacy of this statement has been pointed out in previous issues.

Regarding proposals to bonus a company establishing a refinery or to build a Government refinery here, Mr. Gamey says:

"No, I would not have our Government build a refinery here. I cannot imagine a worse sink-hole for money to be wasted in than a Government refinery.

"No, I would not give a dollar of bonus to any company to build a refinery."

SESEKINAKA

In this issue we publish an article by Mr. Charles Spearman on the rocks and ores of the Sese kinaka Lake district. Important discoveries were made last year, and when conditions are favorable there will doubtless be careful testing of some of the deposits. Mr. Spearman has made a careful study of the character of the rocks in this field, which has not yet been mapped in detail and concerning which there has been little published.

Sese kinaka is another field to the credit of the Ontario Government railway. If the deposits prove extensive the location on the railway will prove a boon. Their discovery having resulted from the building of the railway, it is but a fitting return that the working of the deposits should add to the railway's revenue.

The war has delayed the development of the Sese kinaka district. The coming summer should see renewed activity however.

CANADIAN MINING INSTITUTE

The proposal of Messrs. C. E. Smith and A. G. Burrows that the By-laws of the Canadian Mining Institute be amended so that the several Provinces will be represented according to membership, is one which deserves the serious attention of members. There are many things in favor of the present system; but much might be said in favor of the proposed amendment. We will be pleased to publish letters on this subject, and we invite our readers to state their views.

EDITORIAL NOTES

According to the Toronto World of January 26th, the American company controlling the Canadian Copper Co. began to double the output at Sudbury as soon as the war began. This will be news to Sudbury people. The World would make a better impression if it paid more attention to facts.

In the same issue the World says of Porcupine Vipond: "It is rumored that the net earnings will be at the rate of \$20,000 per month for the year just closed." Porcupine Vipond during the greater part of the year was not producing at all. Additions were made to the plant during the summer and good results were obtained in the last few months of the year. But the profit did not average \$20,000 per month, as our readers are well aware.

Reports indicate that an important ore body is being opened up at the Temiskaming silver mine. The company has had more ups and downs than most of the Cobalt companies, the ore bodies being mostly small, though rich.

The Porcupine Crown company has had many reasons to fear that the workings at depth would not be very profitable. Recent developments, however, have improved prospects greatly.

Considerable mystery surrounds the explosion in one of the small mines at Fernie on January 2nd. It is said that no one was in the mine when the explosion occurred. The results of the investigation now under way will be learned with interest.

Among the papers to be presented at the Toronto meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute in March is one by Mr. E. L. Bruce on the Beaver Lake Gold District, Saskatchewan. There have been interesting developments in this field during the past year. Some account of the district was given in an article by Mr. Bruce, published in our August 1st issue.

The dissolution of the Copper Producers' Association removes an anomaly. The Association published monthly statements of stocks on hand; but could not prevail upon the consumers to issue similar statements of their stocks or requirements. Such a one-sided exposure of vital statistics must have been made at considerable sacrifice. The consumers were given the service for several years and failed to make any return.

The price of copper has for several weeks been steadily improving. The drastic cut in production made by American copper mining companies last August has had the desired effect. If production had been maintained at normal, the price would have fallen so low that profits for most of the companies would have been impossible.