

CORRESPONDENCE

MR. WHITE'S LEATHER MEDAL.

Editor, Canadian Mining Journal:

Sir,—I was very much pained on reading your reply to Mr. James White's letter concerning "Waste Through Duplication." You do not seem to be aware that although you do not appreciate his communication it has been honored in other quarters and has been the occasion of awarding a decoration. I am sure every one else but you, Mr. Editor, will consider that the decoration has been well bestowed and honestly earned. May it long decorate Mr. White's gallant bosom.

Your readers will be interested in hearing further particulars about this interesting event, although I have no doubt it will go against the grain with you to give recognition in any way to Mr. White's achievement. The Toronto Star Weekly has been in the habit of awarding leather medals to the "Perpetrators of Some of Life's Little Absurdities." These are awarded, to quote the words of that journal, "For the most ridiculous quotation from a Canadian newspaper, magazine, novel, advertisement, signboard, etc., due either to a typographical error, a bad English construction or somebody's blunder." The following quotation from Mr. White's letter in your issue of March 15th has been awarded a medal in the issue of the Toronto Star Weekly of 31st March: "This statement is essentially untrue and the fact that Dr. Frank D. Adams attached his signature to the report is sufficient to demonstrate its inaccuracy."

It is evident, Sir, that you have misunderstood Mr. White and also that he does not mean what he writes. Under these conditions would it not be possible to arrange terms of peace between you? I would be indeed proud if you would accept my good offices as mediator. Might I suggest that you would send me with the olive branch and a seasonable goodwill offering of colored Easter eggs (strictly new laid of course). This would no doubt lead to pourparlers and it is to be hoped the re-establishment of friendly relations. As you have not shown to advantage in this matter, I presume you will very likely not publish this letter. I am determined, however, that justice shall be done and will seek some other medium of publication if you decline to print this.

OBSERVANT READER.

ACTIVITY IN MANITOBA.

The Pas, Man., March 30.—The caterpillar tractor for use by the Mandy Mining Company went north on Tuesday afternoon, having in tow three sleigh loads of supplies for the mine. The tractor is equipped with a sixty-horse-power engine. She will make the return trip here with twelve tons of copper ore.

Jack Hammill, who has been handling the Flin-Flon properties for his partners, will arrive on Saturday, when all the parties interested in the big deal will assemble to meet Hammill and sign up on the new arrangement.

Zar Crittenden is busy helping Smith & Durkee, the diamond-drill men, and their crews, in getting started for Flin-Flon. Huge quantities of supplies are being forwarded. Ten teams have been secured, and a contract let for 2,500 cords of wood, so that the diamond drilling can be pushed as fast as possible.

Work is now being rushed on the road from Mile 85, H. B. R., to Herb lake, and by June travelling should be possible over the new trail. This will be a great advantage, and will enable work to be carried on at all the properties with comparative ease this summer.

OBITUARY.

At the annual meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute last month there was general regret that "Davy" Browne was unable to be present, for Mr. Browne has for years been one of the strongest men in the Institute. Illness prevented his attending the meeting, but we little dreamed that we were so soon to receive word of his death. The shock was keenly felt, for Mr. Browne had endeared himself to all who knew him well.

David H. Browne was a distinguished metallurgist and rendered great service to the industry. His work at Copper Cliff and New York was, however, not confined to metallurgical problems. He endeavored to brighten the lives of all those with whom he was associated, and in this he was exceptionally successful. While he will be remembered for his contributions to metallurgy, he will longer be remembered for his personal qualities and his love for his fellows. It is particularly to be regretted that this fine American, who spent so many years in Canada and was ever ready to fight for the rights of humanity, could not have lived to see the day when his native country should decide to defend those rights with all its power.

David H. Browne, metallurgist, author and speaker, was born June 8, 1864, at Hollymount, in the County of Mayo, Ireland. He passed successfully through the ordeal of the famous academy at Londonderry, and at the age of sixteen came to America, and continuing his scholastic career, graduated with the class of 1885 at the University of Michigan. Then followed a brief period of apprenticeship and training, first as chemist with the Joliet Steel Company, under Emmerton, then in a similar capacity at the Ludington mine, Iron Mountain, Michigan, and then back to the academic atmosphere of his Alma Mater as instructor in Inorganic Analysis, 1889-1890. There is no doubt that had he remained he would have been today a popular and successful professor, but luckily for the mining profession, the young Irish lad found the university life too tame, and, as he says himself, he couldn't stand the job, had to hear steam blow off and see the wheels go round, so worked till 1891 at the Andrews and Hitchcock blast furnaces, Hubbard, Ohio. In 1891 he entered the service of the newly organized Canadian Copper Company, as chemist, and since then his whole time had been devoted to the working out of the complex metallurgical problems, constantly occurring and persistently recurring in connection with the nickel-copper ores of the Sudbury field.

A published statement indicates the comparatively large amount of money now being paid out monthly at Butte, Montana, in connection with the mining industry. It gives the following information: The pay roll of the Butte district, including miners, clerical help, public service, corporations' employees, and others, for the month of February amounted to \$3,500,000. The Anaconda Copper Mining Co.'s pay roll for the shortest month in the year was \$1,638,182, and this was for Butte alone. It is estimated that the public service corporations, the corporations other than mining, the other mining companies, and the business houses together paid out an amount large enough to make up the remainder of the total of \$3,500,000. When it is considered that Butte has at present a population of 110,000, it means that the mines alone pay what amounts to an average of about \$24 a month for every man, woman and child in that city.