

# Men Leaving Mines for Higher Wages

(By our Toronto correspondent.)

A circular has been sent to the shareholders of the Clifton Porcupine Mines dated May 19 in which it is stated that the directors propose to carry on an intensive diamond-drilling campaign and that contracts for several thousand feet of the work will immediately be let. The results of the drilling are expected to provide sufficient information as to the size and depth of the ore bodies to make it most efficient and economic manner. On the 200-foot level a cross-cut has been driven east for 160 feet and 70 feet of drilling has been done on No. 7 vein, with good results.

According to Hamilton B. Wills' Market Despatch the annual report of the Dome Mines, soon to be issued, will show the company to be in a good condition with close to a million dollars in the treasury and ore reserves sufficient to insure the maximum capacity operation of the milling plant for upwards of four years. Underground conditions are said to be a position where operations may easily be carried along upon a very much larger scale than ever before.

The deep development of the Prince property, recently taken over by the Beaver, is reported as highly favorable with silver values increasing as the vein is opened up along the 1400-foot level. The various other levels in the Beaver are also said to be looking fine with a big tonnage of ore in reserve.

That the decline in the tonnage of ore being treated is due to men leaving the mining field for work elsewhere, is the statement of A. F. Brigham, General Manager of the Hollinger Consolidated, who adds that the amount of ore treated is regulated by the number of men available. Until such time as men in adequate numbers are

able to pay, it is unreasonable to expect any other than restricted operations.

Shareholders of the Black Lake Asbestos Corporation met in Toronto on May 26 when there was considerable manoeuvring on the part of the buyers of Black Lake securities for position. When the meeting adjourned practically nothing had been done as far as a settlement of the control of the company is concerned. The President, R. F. Massie, declared for the present directors: "Our position is that we are practically trustees for the shareholders and bondholders and we want to do the best we can by them. If either Mr. Jacobs or the Corporation makes a proposition, we will consider which is the more favorable." President Ross of the Corporation defended the legal proceedings to upset the previous offer of purchase by saying that it was the right of the shareholders to receive due notice of such an offer, which had not been given in that case until the meeting came together. He said that the Corporation's experience in the asbestos mining industry should enable it to operate the Black Lake property to advantage. During the meeting Mr. R. S. Cassels announced the resignation of himself and Mr. A. L. Malone from the directorate. Mr. John D. Kay was appointed to fill one of the vacancies.

An announcement from Englehart states that mining claims No. 4655 and 4656 in the township of Skead Gold Mines, have been purchased by a syndicate of men from Niagara Falls. The deal is stated to have been put through by A. C. Thorburn and arrangements have been made to commence work at once. It is proposed to spend con-

## Using Ships As Warehouses

Many British sailing ships, not otherwise required, are being used at London as floating warehouses, being chartered to store freight discharged from incoming vessels. Evidently the rates offered are higher than the owners could earn by carrying freight, which seems to indicate that congestion in warehouse accommodation is more acute than the shortage of tonnage.

## World Tonnage Not Yet Back To Normal

Despite certain statements to the contrary there are a great many people well qualified to judge who insist that the world shipping is not yet back to its pre-war capacity. Granted that the shipping afloat is 5,000,000 tons greater than in 1914, it must not be overlooked that a much larger proportion of this is wooden construction than was formerly the case. Moreover many European countries have to go further afield for their supplies; notably in the case of grain from Russia; and to these two factors must be added a third; that ship and port labor are nothing like so willing as formerly. If it takes six days instead of four to load or discharge a vessel it is obvious that a mere comparison of tons afloat is quite misleading. It is plain that a much greater tonnage will be needed to handle the world's business, apart from the larger demand arising from increased populations, etc.

A commencement will soon be made on the development of the deposits of Glauber salts near Fusillier, Saskatchewan, and the company exploiting them expects to handle 30 tons daily at the start. The company will erect a plant 50 ft. by 100 ft. at the mine together with accommodation for its workmen.

Our wild fowl under modern conditions either tend to disappear or forsake their former haunts in favour of more unsettled regions. One reason for this is the scarcity of suitable feeding grounds in settled districts. Wild rice attracts the wild fowl and furnishes food for them. "Wild Rice," Bulletin 42, Second Series of the Dominion Experimental Farms, prepared and illustrated by Miss Faith Fyles, Assistant Botanist, obtainable free upon application to the Publications Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, has been prepared with the object of stimulating the cultivation of wild rice in suitable localities. Wild rice is native in the province of Quebec, Ontario, and Manitoba and is found growing in mud bottomed bays and shallows of the lakes and streams emptying into lake Winnipeg, the Great Lakes, and the River St. Lawrence. Wild rice will grow in slightly brackish water but where the water is distinctly salty to the taste it is not to be found.

It is the opinion of the Equitable Life that one of the important causes of the tremendous impetus in the life insurance business of late is the effect of the increasing amount of insurance money paid out to public on death claims and maturing endowments. Many millions of dollars are being distributed in homes throughout the length and breadth of the continent. The advertisement value of this, which has been going on of course for many years, is having its inevitable effect. It is practical demonstration of the life insurance idea.

A plant for the manufacture of automobile accessories is to be established in Brantford by the A. C. Spark Plug Co., said to be the largest spark plug manufacturers in the world, and a subsidiary of the General Motors Corporation. Construction of the plant will be begun immediately.

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\*Via Queenstown.

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