

trating tables do not give uniform results. Indeed, ordinary methods of milling have never, so far as we are aware, proved entirely satisfactory when applied to ores of molybdenum. The vacuum process appears to have given good results, but we doubt if the trials have been complete. Possibly dry concentration may prove effective. But there remains much for the investigator to do, and the field is inviting.

The world's production of molybdenum amounts only to a few hundred tons, and is subject to pronounced variation. Were the output larger and consistent there is no doubt that a steady and profitable market would be developed.

Of known Canadian molybdenite deposits, the most promising are in Quebec, Ontario, and British Columbia. The ores reported upon range in molybdenum content from 0.5 to more than 10 per cent. of molybdenum. The principal deposits occur in quartz veins, pegmatite dykes, and near the contact of limestone with intrusive granite or pegmatite. Prospecting for the mineral is not surrounded with the difficulties that characterize gold, silver, and other metals.

Dr. Walker concludes his monograph with the remark that development is often hindered by reason of the prohibitory prices asked by property owners. This is lamentably true.

#### A DEEP SHAFT IN WET GROUND.

A Montreal firm has been awarded the contract of sinking a 200-foot concrete shaft through sand, clay, and gravel at St. Albert, near Edmonton, Alberta. The details are interesting.

The coal lies at a depth of about 300 feet. It is overlaid by 100 feet of shale in which occur occasional seams of coal and sandstone. Over this is imposed a body of clay and very wet sand and gravel, 200 feet thick.

The attempt was made some time ago to sink an ordinary timber shaft. At a depth of 82 feet the work was abandoned. It was found impossible to hold the shaft and to take care of the water.

The proposed new shaft will be built of reinforced concrete from the surface to the shale. Here it will be completely sealed. Thus an absolutely fireproof and water tight shaft will be secured.

#### THE INSTITUTE IN PORCUPINE.

Every effort is being made to organize a strong branch of the Canadian Mining Institute in Porcupine. With this end in view a meeting is to be held at South Porcupine on December 16th. It is hoped that every mining man within reach of the place of meeting will attend this first gathering.

A few short papers are to be read on the evening of the 16th, after the regular business has been transacted. On the following day all who desire to do so may be shown over the camp.

Dr. Frank Adams, the President of the Institute, will be the guest of honour. Accommodation will be secured at the various mines for visitors who notify the secretary in time.

#### CHAS. A. STONEHAM & CO.

The exaggerated mining news items published by Chas. A. Stoneham & Co. have bred much mischief. One mining company has adopted the expedient of advertising in the daily papers the fact that it cannot be held responsible for any statements made by Chas. A. Stoneham & Co.

It would be a very wholesome thing if every mining company whose shares are listed on Canadian exchanges were to make a similar protest. Unclean parasites, and this describes the firm of Chas. A. Stoneham & Co., could thus be promptly choked to death.

#### A WARNING.

Several letters of enquiry regarding the Canadian Mining Record have reached our office. To set correct certain misapprehensions it is well that we state specifically that the Canadian Mining Record has no possible connection with the CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL. If we are not mistaken, the Record, which was published in Toronto, has ceased to exist.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Government of Western Australia employs one chief inspector and a staff of 18 men to control the storage and use of explosives.

A new mineral has come to light. An Ottawa paper announces that Mrs. Ella Rawles Reader, a lady who is supposed to be mining zinc on Calumet Island, has struck a vein of "plumbaganite." If Mrs. Reader evolved that euphonious name she deserves more than a little credit.

The writing of prospectuses is an art that can be acquired only by long experience. It is rarely that one sees a properly balanced presentation of facts and opinions. The tendency is, of course, so to use the engineer's report as to give a highly favourable view of any enterprise. A result is that many engineers are falling into the habit of making their reports serve the purpose of the prospectus. This is a lamentable tendency, a tendency that should be guarded against most rigidly.

Canadian orders, totalling upward of 50,000 tons of pig iron, have been placed in the United States. Deliveries are spread over six months.

Mr. Hugh S. de Schmid, reporting on the mica deposits of Ontario and Quebec for the Mines Branch,