

# THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL

VOL. XXX.

TORONTO, January 1, 1909

No. 1

## The Canadian Mining Journal

With which is incorporated the  
"CANADIAN MINING REVIEW"

Devoted to Mining, Metallurgy and Allied Industries in Canada

Published fortnightly by the

**MINES PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED**

Head Office - - - Confederation Life Building, Toronto.

Branch Offices Montreal, Halifax, Victoria, and London, Eng.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS—Payable in advance, \$2.00 a year of 24 numbers, including postage in Canada. In all other countries, including postage, \$3.00 a year.

Advertising copy should reach the Toronto Office by the 8th, for the issues of the 15th of each month, and by the 23rd for the issues of the first of the following month. If proof is required, the copy should be sent so that the accepted proof will reach the Toronto Office by the above dates.

### CIRCULATION.

During the year ending with March 1st, 1908, 91,750 copies of "The Canadian Mining Journal" were printed and distributed, an average of 3,822 per issue.

"Entered as second-class matter April 23rd, 1908, at the post-office at Buffalo, N.Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879."

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## THE YEAR 1908.

### A Review.

Looking over the mining history of the Dominion during 1908, there are more than a few notable events that have influenced the trend of investment and of energy.

We shall not be called to task for placing the activities of the Canadian Mining Institute first in order of importance. When the proposal to invite a large number of foreign mining engineers and technologists to Canada was first discussed, there were many difficulties in the way. The large expense incident to a tour that was to cover Canada from Sydney to Victoria seemed beyond the available means of the Institute. Other objections were urged. But the enthusiasm of the executive officers never wavered. The Federal and Provincial Governments were approached, and their aid was secured. The railways granted special rates. And so it came to pass that the Summer Excursion of the Canadian Mining Institute for 1908 will go down into history as an affair of international importance. Canada has never received such an absolutely effective advertisement of her mineral resources.

The Federal Department of Mines, under the careful hand of the Hon. Mr. Templeman, has played its part during the past year. Between it and the Canadian Mining Institute there is harmony. Both are factors in promoting the welfare and increasing the solidarity of the mining industry. The Department, which as a distinct administrative entity is scarcely two years old, is gaining in strength daily. The numerous strong requests that have been sent to Ottawa urging the retention of the Hon. Mr. Templeman as Minister of Mines are significant of a national interest in the work of the Department.

Recognition of the need of better facilities for technical education has been manifested east and west. In Nova Scotia a comprehensive system of instruction has been organized, and a well-equipped institution of technology is nearing completion at Halifax. This will put within the reach of the rising generation of the Maritime Provinces the opportunity of taking a larger part in the development of their own country. The mining departments of McGill and Queen's are overflowing with students, and the University of Toronto has entered upon the field with renewed vigor. In the west, British Columbia is hastening to provide the machinery for turning out her own mining men, and without doubt the new provincial universities of Saskatchewan and Alberta will include practical branches in their curricula. The prospects for