

form and its aspect alone suffices to show whether the charge is of the proper composition or not. Experiments have also been made to recover the tin from the furnace slags by an electrolytic method. These were fused with soda and the mass afterward dissolved in water and electrolyzed with plates of iron as a cathode. Excellent deposits of tin were obtained, but the yield was not high.

ONTARIO HYDRO-ELECTRIC LEGISLATION.

The following powers are conferred on the Hydro-Electric Commission by a bill introduced in the Ontario House to amend the Power Commission Act:—

To take over existing power transmission lines and to improve water powers, by assisting municipalities and others in the storage of water, making of sluices, etc.;

To expropriate a local distributing plant where a municipality has voted to enter into a contract with the commission for a supply of power;

To regulate installation of electrical equipment and installation of wires in all buildings including private houses;

To require the appointment by municipalities of inspectors to see that such regulations are carried out;

To order the removal and alteration of any works that are a menace to the public safety or endanger life;

To control absolutely light and power rates charged by municipalities whether those municipalities take power from the Commission or not;

To control the rates of any company or individual taking power from the Commission;

To prescribe a uniform system of bookkeeping on the part of power municipalities;

To direct the disposal of surpluses earned by municipal power plants supplied by the Commission. (In many cases these surpluses are now devoted to the building of sidewalks, street sweeping, etc.);

To order all wires under its jurisdiction underground in cities and towns;

With the co-operation of the Dominion Railway Commission to order underground all wires strung on streets where the municipalities construct tunnels or conduits to carry such wires;

To impose a penalty of \$100 per day for any disobedience of any such order.

CEMENT PRODUCTION LAST YEAR.

Complete statistics have been received from the manufacturers of cement covering their production and shipments during the year 1911. These returns show that the total quantity of cement made during the year, including both Portland and slag cement was 5,677,539 barrels as compared with 4,396,282 barrels in 1910, an increase of 1,281,257 barrels, or 29 per cent.

The total quantity of Canadian Portland cement sold during the year was 5,635,950 barrels as compared with 4,753,975 barrels in 1910, an increase of 881,975 barrels, or 18.5 per cent.

The total consumption of Portland cement in 1911 including Canadian and imported cement and neglecting an export of Canadian cement, valued at \$4,067 was 6,297,866 barrels as compared with 5,103,285 barrels in 1910, or an increase of 1,194,581 barrels, or 23.4 per cent.

Detailed statistics of production during the past three years are shown as follows:—

	1909.	1910.	1911.
	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.
Portland cement sold	4,067,709	4,753,975	5,635,950
“ manufactured	4,146,708	4,396,282	5,677,539
Stock on hand Jan. 1.....	1,098,239	1,189,731	844,741
“ Dec 31	1,177,238	832,038	903,590
Value of cement sold	\$5,345,802	\$6,412,215	\$7,571,299
Wages paid	1,266,128	1,409,715	2,103,838
Men employed	2,498	2,220	3,010

The average price per barrel at the works in both 1910 and 1911 was \$1.34, as compared with an average price of \$1.31 in 1909 and \$1.39 in 1908.

The imports of Portland cement during the twelve months ending December 31, 1911, were 2,316,707 cwt., valued at \$834,879. This is equivalent to 661,916 barrels of 350 pounds at an average price per barrel of \$1.26. The imports in 1910 were 349,310 barrels, valued at \$468,046 or an average price per barrel of \$1.34.

The imports from Great Britain during 1910 were 190,506 barrels, valued at \$210,839; from the United States 441,317 barrels, valued at \$575,768; from Belgium 2,683 barrels, valued at \$2,019; from Hong Kong 22,059 barrels, valued at \$38,292; and from other countries 5,351 barrels, valued at \$7,962.

Following is an estimate of the Canadian consumption of Portland cement for the past five years:—

Calendar Years.	Canadian.		Imported.		Total. Barrels.
	Barrels.	Per cent.	Barrels.	Per cent.	
1907	2,436,093	78	672,630	22	3,108,723
1908	2,665,289	85	469,049	15	3,134,338
1909	4,067,709	97	142,194	3	4,209,903
1910	4,753,975	93	349,310	7	5,103,285
1911	5,635,950	89.5	661,916	10.5	6,297,866

TABLE SHOWING THE ANNUAL VALUE OF THE MINERAL PRODUCTION OF THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC SINCE 1900.

(Compiled by Mines Branch, Province of Quebec.)

Year.	Value.
1900.....	\$2,546,076
1901.....	2,997,731
1902.....	2,985,463
1903.....	2,772,762
1904.....	3,023,568
1905.....	3,750,300
1906.....	5,019,932
1907.....	5,391,368
1908.....	5,458,998
1909.....	5,552,062
1910.....	7,323,281
1911.....	8,567,143

In our issue of the 7th inst., through a mechanical error, we regret that the illustration of the new Watts Stadia hand level and of the Improved Abney level appeared upside down. We feel certain that our readers recognize that this was a typographical error and hope that they were not puzzled by what seemed to be an apparently peculiar construction of the instruments made by this well-known, reliable firm.

In addition to the instruments above mentioned, E. R. Watts & Son are offering at very reasonable prices a new pattern surveying compass and also a C.E. dumpy level having several special features.