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CALGARY OIL FIELD

In view of the results obtained at the well of the Calgary Petroleum Products company, the recently issued geological map of the Sheep River Gas and Oil Field, Alberta, and the accompanying notes are of unusual interest. Last fall some account of the early discovery was given by Mr. R. W. Brock, Deputy Minister of Mines, and it was announced that Mr. D. B. Dowling had been assigned to study the district for the Geological Survey. Mr. Dowling prepared a geological sketch map of the area in which oil has been found, and this, with the accompanying memoir, is now ready for distribution. A considerable proportion of the text is reprinted in this issue of the Journal. In his report Mr. Dowling gives further details and useful notes on the occurrence of oil and gas in similar areas in the Western United States.

The map and memoir should prove very useful and the Geological Survey deserves great credit for placing them in the hands of the public at such a critical time.

Repeated warnings have been sounded against the reckless investment in shares of the numerous companies which have been recently incorporated. It is to be hoped that these warnings will be heeded. The capitalization of these several companies totals many millions and their properties are merely prospects. The recent strike has increased the value of the prospects, but the best properties are still in that class.

The results so far obtained must be very gratifying to those who are bearing the cost of the explorations. They may be expected to persist in their efforts. That there is oil has been demonstrated. Whether it occurs in large quantity remains to be determined. For the thorough exploration of the district there will be plenty of funds available. Experienced operators have been attracted by the possibilities of the Calgary oil field and vigorous exploration will be carried on.

NOVA SCOTIA COAL

Dullness in the iron trade in Canada and the United States continues, and the hoped-for revival seems as far off as ever. In consequence the iron and steel producers in Nova Scotia are having a very unpleasant time of it. The lack of orders for steel makes it more difficult to secure good sales for iron ore and coal.

Some of the coal mining companies are finding a fairly good market for their product. The Dominion Coal Co. is making large regular shipments, and President J. H. Plummer predicts a fairly good summer. On the other hand some mines are being worked only two or three days a week.