

CANADA'S MINERAL WEALTH.

Geological Survey Report—Cobalt Ore Shipments in 1907.

Both to the student and the practical mining man, the report of the geological survey for the twelve months ended November 30th is a valuable publication.

The accounts furnished by the field-officers of their season's work embody many new facts of an important character relating to the topography and geology of the country.

Work For the Survey Department.

Exceptionally heavy demands were made upon the Survey Department last year for geological information. This was a result of the increased activity in the mineral districts, particularly in the region about Cobalt and northward along the line of the Grand Trunk Railway.

Four parties were despatched to British Columbia. One of these was engaged in investigating the geology and economic features of the copper-bearing rocks around Whitehorse, Yukon.

Vancouver Island Declares Independence.

Vancouver Island was once connected with the continent. In the intermediate lowland there then existed at least one or two river systems receiving tributaries from the east.

In Saskatchewan, beds of bituminous shales were located. Although at present probably of no economic value, it is thought that they may lead to discoveries of greater commercial interest.

rocks underlying many parts of the St. Lawrence valley region.

Minerals in Quebec.

In Quebec, examination was continued of the region to the east of Lake Temiskaming to Lake Kipawa and Lac des Quinze. Despite the fact that the geological formations of these are almost identical with those of the silver-nickel-cobalt areas of the Ontario side of the lake, no minerals have yet been discovered in sufficient quantities to be of economic importance.

With regard to the Maritime Provinces, it is suggested that further prospecting for tin should be undertaken throughout the granite ranges of Nova Scotia.

While the exciting incidents which punctuated the story of mining in Canada during 1906, were not in evidence in the unfolding of the Dominion's 1907 mineral narrative, steady development was the feature of the past year.

The report of the Ontario Bureau of Mines, with the figures for 1907, is yet to be published. That of 1906 values the output of Ontario's mines at \$22,388,383.

Last Year's Figures.

The latest report for 1907, up to September gave the mineral production of the Province as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Mineral Name and Quantity. Includes Silver (6,919,987 ounces), Pig iron (180,663 tons), Iron ore (147,719), Steel (120,077), Nickel (8,887), Copper (5,111), and Zinc (400).

Some twenty-five mines shipped ore from Cobalt during 1907, as follows. The amount is given in pounds. La Rose, 5,698,006; Coniagas, 4,797,550; Nipissing, 4,829,949; O'Brien, 2,731,496; Buffalo, 2,344,300; Trethewey, 1,510,138; Silver Queen, 957,148; McKinley-Darragh, 1,369,870; Foster, 691,800; Kerr Lake, 644,808; Temiskaming, 345,111; Townsite, 286,430; Nova Scotia, 493,000; Hudson Bay, 298,670; Green Meehan, 196,790; Cobalt Central, 141,877; Right-of-Way, 258,220; Drummond, 108,920; City of Cobalt, 101,230; Colonial, 74,250; University, 61,385; Silver Leaf, 93,618; Red Rock, 40,000; Imperial, 37,530; King Edward, 62,250; total, 28,164,428 pounds; or, 14,082 tons.

Psychology of a "Boom."

The Deputy-Minister of Mines, Mr. Gibson, gave some good advice in his 1906 report, respecting the probability of a Cobalt boom, and in his latest report, says:—"The prediction was amply verified, but no warning would have sufficed to stem the tide of speculation which was then steadily rising.

(Continued on Page 1283.)