

THE CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL

VOL. XXXIII.

TORONTO, March 15, 1912.

No. 6

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 - - - - - 17-21 Manning Arcade Annex, Toronto

Branch Office - - - - - Montreal, 425 Coristine Building

London Office - - - - - Walter R. Skinner, 11-12 Clement's Lane
London, E.C.

U. S. A. Office - Ward & Smith, 931 Tribune Building, New York

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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 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.

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

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THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CANADIAN MINING INSTITUTE.

It is hard to strive each year to bestow more encomiums upon those who manage the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Mining Institute. It may be said that it is no exaggeration to characterize the meeting that has just been held as equal to any in the history of the Institute, better far than several within our memory.

A more highly representative lot of visitors from the United States we have never had. A better consignment from Great Britain we could not have had. Further, the presence of delegates from British Columbia and Nova Scotia added to the effectiveness of every session.

The new order-in-council issued with horrid effrontery and accentuated by the presence of an incontrovertible sand-glass, made possible the presentation of a larger number of papers than usual. That was good. But evil effects also flowed therefrom. Some speakers require a curb, some a snaffle; others the spur. A curb uniformly applied is too drastic. The paucity of discussion was marked, although what discussion there was reached a remarkable pitch of interest. As with the suggested amendments to the by-laws, the audience had not the wherewithal to begin a discussion.

Here, we believe, it lies with the council further to change the conduct of the meetings. Certain chosen papers should be printed and distributed. This obviates the necessity of reading in extenso, and also primes the audience.

Since the membership of the Institute is growing so rapidly, and since we are always assured a large attendance, it is time that provision be made for the sectionalizing of certain hours of each session. For instance, papers dealing with geology might be read before one group. Ore mining and metallurgy could be taken up before another group simultaneously. Matters pertaining to coal, or to non-metallic minerals, might be similarly handled. General papers, or papers of especially wide and timely interest might be read before the whole meeting. Tact, care, and much experimenting will be necessary before such an arrangement can be consummated. But none will deny that it is necessary.

A clearer system of announcing the programme for each day is desirable. We may repeat, also, that arrangements should be made for welcoming and looking after the younger members.

A last suggestion is that manufacturers of mining and metallurgical machinery be encouraged to exhibit at