

ground, building roads, and putting in mining equipment. Therefore, it is simply nonsense to talk of selling or buying mines in the Montreal River districts. Let the ardent investor remember that fancy prices are permanent burdens.

Again, when 25 per cent. of your investment disappears in the brokers' pocket, it is not to be gainsaid that only 75 per cent. remains for developing the prospect into a mine. Now, if the stock that you buy is labelled "treasury stock" there is a fair chance of some of your money being applied to the development of the mine. If, however, your company is taking up a page or half a page, or even quarter of a page in the daily papers, it means that you are contributing your quota to an advertising bill amounting in some cases to more than \$15,000 per month. This aids the pulp industry.

The happiest issue from your troubles as an investor (and perhaps the best in the long run) is to buy stock that is labelled promoters' stock, or is not labelled at all. You may then be morally certain that your money will not return to you after many days.

THE CONIAGAS MINES, LIMITED.

During the year ending October 31st, 1908, the Coniagas Mine, of Cobalt, Ont., yielded 1,444,229 ounces of silver at a cost of about 15.6 cents per ounce. Among the fortunate shareholders the sum of \$440,000 was distributed in dividends. There is still, as will be seen from the statement on another page of this issue, a healthy balance left over.

It is gratifying to note that the ore in sight is estimated as carrying thirteen million ounces. In other words there is approximately enough ore developed to maintain production for four years with the present annual output doubled.

There will be, sooner or later, substantial profits reaped from the Company's smelter at Thorold. The concentrating mill at Cobalt has passed through its bilious period. The production of power has been cheapened by means of a gas producer. The mine is in good condition. Twelve of the forty acres held by the company, have been partly developed at a relatively low cost. The deepest level is only 150 feet and we have the official assertive that there is no diminution at that depth of the silver tenor of the ore, which, apparently averages about \$230 to the ton.

We use the word "apparently" for due cause. The report, interesting as it necessarily is, leaves much to be desired. On account of the form into which the principal accounts are thrown it is impossible to determine anything but the total cost of all operations. The plans that accompany the report are clear and instructive.

The Coniagas Mines, Limited, as a corporation has made no appeal to the public. It has, from its inception, minded its own business efficiently. Its expanding operations mean employment for more Canadians and the addition of much clean money to the country's wealth.

SIR HENRY WILKINSON.

When, in the early "nineties" the Lake of the Woods began to attract men of all kinds and conditions, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Wilkinson was already a picturesque integer of the group of mining men that foregathered at Rat Portage. His mine, the Regina, was one of the producers. However, it produced gold at a prohibitive cost.

Through thick and thin, through good report and evil report, Sir Henry stuck to his mine. Manager after manager failed to make it pay. Sir Henry, with that singular British admixture of tenacity and impracticality, stuck to his guns. We believe that his faith in his mine never waned for a day or an hour.

Sir Henry died at Kenora a few weeks ago. He will be sincerely mourned by all who know or had to do with him. A courteous gentleman, he was above reproach in all his dealings.

But his life was given a deeper color by the consistent frankness with which he professed and followed the teachings of the Christian religion.

Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Wilkinson fought a losing fight, with not one thought of surrender. He fought cleanly and he fought steadfastly. What higher praise can any man merit!

RESCUE APPARATUS IN SICILY.

The use of breathing apparatus is every day becoming better known. In March, 1908, the Testasecca sulphur mine in the province of Caltanissetta, Sicily, developed a dangerous fire in the third level in a section where the sulphur ore was particularly rich. The usual course was to seal hermetically a part or the whole of the mine and wait for weeks or months until the fire died out. In this instance, however, although there was a delay of three weeks in waiting for the apparatus, it took only three days to extinguish the fire.

The rescue apparatus used was of the Westfalia type. It was reported upon as being satisfactory except for the effect of the heavy fumes of sulphur dioxide upon the more sensitive parts. It will be admitted, however, that a test of this sort in a deep sulphur mine is about as searching a trial as can be imagined.

THE BOUNDARY DISTRICT.

Within the past nine years there have been more than seven million tons of ore shipped from the mines of the Boundary District, British Columbia. This year's shipments, amounting on November 21st to 1,274,966 tons, exceed the total for the year 1907.

The largest individual contribution to the grand total of seven million tons is the Granby Mine of the Granby Consolidated. This mine shipped 65 per cent. of the total. Next in order comes the Mother Lode of