

Mr. J. Obalski, Superintendent of Mines for Quebec, reports¹ that he visited the Kewagama river in September, 1907, and found that the Height of Land Mining Company had prospected the country between the two rapids on that river. He says: 'The Company has taken out a mining licence on the west side, and, a little above the lower rapid, has sunk a shaft, which was thirty-five feet deep at the time of my visit. The shaft first cut through a vein of pegmatite six feet thick, and afterwards another at the bottom.

'These veins, wherein quartz predominates, have an east and west direction, and seem to cross the river. Molybdenite, in crystals and in masses, is found in it, also bismuthenite, or oxide of bismuth, in fairly considerable quantities, and native bismuth. These minerals seem to be regularly scattered throughout the mass. A little chalcocopyrite and native copper are found more accidentally, and only in small quantities. Accompanying the pegmatite some crystals of a yellowish mineral are also found, which seems to be beryl.

'It is impossible to give a definite opinion regarding the value of this prospect, but the presence of these minerals in fairly abundant quantities is an encouragement to continue the work.'

Gold and Bismuthenite.

A sample of quartz from the point on Kewagama lake, collected by Mr. Johnston, was assayed under Dr. Hoffmann's direction, and gave 0.117 of an ounce of gold to the ton of 2,000 lbs. Other adjacent quartz veins carried bismuthenite.

Iron.

Slight indications of iron were noted at a few points, but nowhere in sufficient quantity to be of economic value. Rocks resembling those associated with iron ore in other Keewatin districts were seen on the portages from the Nawapitechin river to Lois lake, and on the railway line to the north, but whether they represent the regular Lake Superior iron ore formation I could not determine. As most of the area is not readily accessible, and few rock exposures are visible, only careful and thorough prospecting can decide whether this or other valuable minerals occur.

¹ Mining Operations in the Province of Quebec, 1907, by J. Obalski.