

The postoffice authorities recently experimented with mail collections by electric auto-cars. The electric delivery wagon built by the Still Motor Syndicate for the Parker Dye Works was used. The trip extended about 9 miles and was covered in one hour and three minutes, including 2-minute stops at each of the eleven postoffices on the route. The actual running time was not more than thirty-five minutes, just about half the time required by the ordinary mail wagon. The Syndicate has sent in a tender to the department for a mail wagon, capable of running from fifteen to twenty miles an hour, with a carrying capacity of 1,500 pounds.

A special general meeting of the shareholders of the Standard Light and Power Company was held a short time ago in Montreal; W. McLea Walbank, the president, in the chair. The object for which the meeting was called, was to approve of the construction of the new fire-proof station on Chenneville street, now in course of construction, and of ratifying a loan of \$75,000 which had been taken up by three of the Ottawa shareholders of the company. Both of these matters were agreed to. The following contracts were awarded: That for engines to the Westinghouse Co. of Pittsburg; for rotary converters to the Canada Electric Company, of Peterboro, and for boilers to Babcock & Wilcox.

A patent has been granted to a resident of Vienna, Austria, Anton Othmar, on a composition for arc light carbons, consisting of finely ground wood charcoal or carbon from gas retorts, or both, mixed with finely-ground quartz and diamond dust. The mixture is made up into a dough by incorporating it with a solution of copper salt and with jellied salicylic acid the pencils being moulded from this in the ordinary way and afterwards burned, as usual. The proportion of ingredients by weight are: Carbon, 83 parts; quartz, 7 parts; diamond dust, 10 parts. To 20 parts of the thoroughly mixed powder are added about one quart of a concentrated aqueous solution of copper sulphate and one quart of jellied salicylic acid. The inventor claims that carbons made in this manner burn much more slowly than those in present use.

Mining Matters.

A winding-up order has been issued against the Eastern Townships Chrome Iron Mining and Milling Company.

Leopold Myer, representing a Belgian syndicate, has purchased from T. B. Caldwell, Lanark, Ont., the Calabogie iron mine, for \$100,000, paying \$10,000 down.

Another attempt will, it is said, be made to utilize the magnetic iron sand of Moise, Bersimis, and other points on the north shore of the St. Lawrence and Gulf.

The announcement has been made that thousands of tons of iron ore have been bought in Newfoundland by Philadelphia capitalists for shipment to that port, to be manufactured into steel.

It is said that the deposits of nickel ore near St. Stephen, N.B., will be thoroughly investigated at once by the English owners, and a perpendicular shaft is to be sunk to the depth of two hundred feet.

The compressor plant reported in our issue of July as being sold to the Rosa Marie Mines on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, was sold and built by the Canadian Rand Drill Co. instead of the Jenckes Machine Co., as reported.

The Graham-McKellar group of iron properties on the Atikokan range, consisting of 16 locations, containing 1,200 acres, and covering $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the range, has been bonded to Ronald Hunter, representing American capitalists, for \$350,000, for 18 months, so that the parties may test the properties. The sum of \$10,000 was paid for this option.

The additional thirty stamps intended for the Dufferin mill at Salmon River, N.S., are in course of erection, the foundations and mortars being already in place. It will be some months yet before the entire complement of sixty stamps are working, as another compound Corliss engine is to be installed to provide the required power.

The Vancouver, B.C., Province, publishes a story to the effect that rich placer fields of gold have been discovered near the upper entrance to the Alberni Canal on the Pacific coast. The distance to that part of the country is about 150 miles by water, from Victoria. It is said that as high as \$2 to the pan has been gotten by prospectors.

There have been discovered in the Lake Temagamingue district vast deposits of arsenical iron, carrying gold, which, it is reported, are the largest and richest deposits of this mineral in the world. The ore is in a solid body, it is said, over 1,020 feet long by 310 feet wide. It would take over three generations to take a layer 10 feet deep off the whole tract. The assays show over 47 per cent. of crude arsenic to the ton and \$8.20 of gold.

The Foley gold mine in northwestern Ontario has been sold to the Canadian Mines Development Company, Ltd., of London. The Foley Mines Company treasury receives \$50,000 cash, and \$354,000 in stock, to be divided pro rata among the shareholders. The mine will be started up at once, and the 20 stamp mill will soon again be turning out bullion. The British company is capitalized for 300,000 shares of £1 each. Of these, 150,000 shares go to pay for the property; 75,000 shares, par value \$375,000, will be retained unissued in the treasury for a working capital, or to acquire other properties. Still 75,000 more shares have been placed on the market at par in London.

The Ontario Bureau of Mines has arranged for a series of summer mining schools to be held at points in the mining districts of the province, including Parry Sound, Rat Portage and Mine Centre. At each of these places there will be a course of ten days' instruction by lectures and demonstrations by Professors Goodwin and Nicol of the School of Mining, Kingston. The classes will be free to miners, prospectors and others who may desire to take advantage of them. In addition to the regular classes, popular lectures are to be given by Professors Goodwin and Nicol on mining subjects, at other points in the mineral districts. The class of instruction has been already opened at Parry Sound, where there is great activity, stimulated by the recent copper discoveries. So far 72 students are enrolled and the average daily attendance is 55. Two sessions per day are held, each being of two or three hours' duration. Lectures have been given at Marmora, where the Delora gold mine is in splendid shape. Manager Kirkgaarde has improved the plant in many respects, and the stamp mill is showing good returns. The old Arsenic Works are being overhauled and will be in operation in a few weeks.

Marine News.

Two Yukon steamers, the "Nahleen" and "Louise," have been totally consumed by fire at Victoria. The total loss will reach \$100,000.

The Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Co. has already filed up receipts in advance of last year, though the season was much later in opening.

From the opening of navigation to the end of July over five million bushels of grain were received at Depot Harbor for the Canada Atlantic Railway.

The Canadian Canoe Co., Peterborough, Ont., reports a very busy season, being still crowded with orders. During the past season in addition to the home trade, this company has shipped several consignments abroad to Great Britain and other countries.

A. T. Wood, M.P.; Wm. Southam, C. E. Doolittle, C. Wilcox, Wm. D. Long, and A. B. McKay, Hamilton, Ont., have applied for the incorporation of the Quebec, Hamilton & Fort William Navigation Company, Limited. The capital stock of the company is \$1,000,000. The head office is to be in Hamilton.

Recently the Calvin Company's new steamer "India" had a trial run around the harbor. Her engines worked well, and she answered her steering gear to perfection. Her first trip was to Cleveland, Ohio, to load coal for Fort William, after which she went to Serpent River, Wis., to load iron ore for Deseronto, Ont.