

its hardness. It is heavy, and, therefore, easily separated by panning from most of the minerals usually associated with it. In situations it occurs in sizes ranging from a grain up to individual pieces weighing one or two pounds.

Almost invariably cassiterite is found in veins cutting granitic rocks. Usually these veins are of quartz. The minerals topaz, fluorite, tourmaline, wolframite and arsenical pyrites (mispickel) are generally associated with the cassiterite. In these cases the cassiterite is of secondary origin.

But instances are known in New South Wales and the Dakota Black Hills where tinstone has been found in pegmatite as an original constituent of the rock. Presumably, the recently discovered tinstone in Nova Scotia falls under the latter category.

In a recent issue of *The Monetary Times*, some caustic remarks are made regarding certain alluring mining advertisements, which are to be seen in the daily press.

General and vague condemnation is, no doubt, valuable; but it fails of its purpose. A sure, though perhaps Utopian remedy, would consist in the concerted movement of the press against advertising any but *bona fide* mining companies.

It may devolve upon *The Canadian Mining Journal* to take specific action in the not remote future. Distasteful as this duty is, it must occasionally be done, if the best interests of the mining industry are to be conserved.

Meanwhile *The Journal* strongly recommends the excision of a few of the most efflorescent advertisements from the pages of otherwise responsible newspapers.

Knight-errant of a century that knows no romance, the prospector hits the lone trail for the tall uncut. Razorless, he perforce must grow a beard. Persecuted by the ubiquitous mosquito, suffering all the ills of exposure and privation, he eats his dough boys, smokes his twist and is content. Impelled by an urgent faith, he perseveres and fails and is forgotten, or, he finds and is famous.

Unsuccessful, he is spurned and flouted. Successful, he is fawned upon, flattered and not infrequently spoiled.

A badly regulated thirst is a not unusual concomitant of the first flush of achievement. For this the one specific is a return to the bush.

But, levity apart, his country owes to the fearless, tireless prospector a surprising debt of gratitude. Were it not for his fervid enthusiasm, Canada would not now be reaping the rich harvest of Cobalt, not would she be taking her place among the great mineral producers of the world.

Laws are made with an eye single to the glory of greedy corporations; lobbies are vocal with the clamorings of special interests. The broker, the banker, the miner and the operator howl to the legislative moon when all things do not fit their fancies.

But the prospector, unprotected, uncaring mayhap, is silent. He cannot organize, he does not strike. He dies strange deaths in lone lands. Hymned by no bard, unsung of poets, the prospector is girding up his loins against another season of peril and flapjacks. We wish him God-speed! Prosperity be with him! *Prosit!*

The present agitation over the Ontario Government's proposed taxation of mines will supply much polemical pabulum to the press. From a controversial standpoint, the question is a somewhat torrid one.

*The Journal* wishes to encourage not controversy, but (so far as may be) dispassionate constructive criticism.

The conditions under which Ontario mining legislation has been framed must be kept in mind. No body of laws can be final. They must be a growth. Additions and amendments should be made only after mature consideration. A regulation which appears innocuous and even beneficial now, may develop a surprising sting in course of time. We have a body of mining men organized under the name of the "Canadian Mining Institute." These men are responsible citizens. Why should not the "Institute" be consulted in matters so vitally important to its members' welfare? We can think of no more capable, no more representative organization. It includes men who are versed in every phase of mining activity, and it embraces a wide diversity of interests.

We do not for a moment impugn the motive which inspire Ontario's legislators. It is probable that the objectionable features of the proposed bill have not been promptly enough nor strongly enough represented to the Government.

But even the eleventh hour is not too late. Let the Government step warily. It is making or marring for all time.

From the nature of his work the practical foundryman meets with difficulties which are surmountable only by the expenditure of much time and energy. One by one, he must encounter obstacles which to him are new, but which have, in modified forms, been met by many before him.

The key to some of these difficulties is held by the chemist, the solution of others is the property of foundrymen of riper experience.

Although there is a tendency to-day to call upon the chemist for incidental help, in relatively few cases is the function of applied chemistry recognized.

And, on the other hand, the experienced foundryman is apt to look upon his knowledge, knowledge gained in the rough school of experience, as his own peculiar property.

There are, in Canada, several active foundrymen's associations. These do much good. But, we believe, that an association organized upon a national scale, with active local sections, would inevitably improve the character of foundry practice.

Few establishments are large enough to justify the maintenance of a laboratory for their own work. But it is entirely practicable for a group of foundry owners to support an efficient chemist.

And the chemist in no sense supercedes the practical man. He merely provides a ready remedy for difficulties; he offers a short cut to efficiency.

Further, nothing can take the place of constant interchange of opinions and advice. The progressive man must be alive to this. A progressive industry must establish a community of interests among its workers.

A bill, entitled "An Act to Supplement the Revenues of the Crown," was given its first reading before the Ontario Legislature on February 13.

In the preamble it states that large sums of money have been and are being expended by the Province in administering mining affairs, encouraging mineral industries and opening up railways and other facilities to mining regions, therefore it is expedient to increase the revenues of the Province.

The bill accordingly provides that every mine in the Province, the annual profits of which exceed a certain