

there were only open cuts around Cobalt there would be fair excuse for shakings of the head. If no steps were being taken to test the deep quality of the properties the experts would be proven incompetents. All men may be liars, but all men are not fools. They do not pay big sums for claims and then whistle for somebody to operate a wand and fill the purse of Fortunatus. At La Rose mine the shaft is over two hundred and fifty feet deep. The vein is just as good at the bottom as it was at the top. The proportions of silver and cobalt vary. Sometimes silver values predominate, sometimes cobalt.

Prospecting by Hydraulics.

At first the variations worried the owners. Events have proved that there is nothing to be anxious about. There is no reason to suppose that La Rose has the only deep vein in the camp. Broadly, the geological conditions are the same all over the area in which paying ore is being mined. Some of the properties are being worked with the aid of a minimum of scientific experience. Others are advantaged by special expert assistance over and above what is beneficently dispensed through the writings of Professor Miller.

probably millions. As a Yankee who has large commitments in Cobalt said to me two days ago, "The stuff is there."

More Machinery and Rails.

The stuff being there, what will be the future of the camp? One who has seen deserted mining towns will not predict everlasting wonders from Cobalt. Johannesburg has lasted twenty years and is producing more gold than ever. But it cannot last all the time. Dig long enough and you will convert a mountain into a plain. Cobalt is only beginning its career. It is bound to enlarge its industry for years to come. The primitive methods illustrated on other pages will not continue. Hand windlasses and cranes which have to be swung around by human strength are vanishing witnesses to the exceeding profit of the camp. Anywhere else costly machines would have to be used from the beginning.

Pneumatic drills, more powerful engines—all the appliances which elsewhere make it possible to handle low grade ores profitably will soon be used on every property. The demand for labor will grow steadily.

The photograph shows Professor Miller examining a vein on the La Rose property, the width of the silver-bearing ore being from the head of the hammer to his hand.



The Nipissing people, for instance, have put in a hydraulic plant with which to wash off the superincumbent earth, stones and stumps from the rocks around Peterson Lake. They believe that in their small acreage already deforested, there are many more veins than those hitherto discovered. So they will lay bare acre after acre. If nothing should be found, so much the worse for Nipissing stock. The hydraulics are being installed in faith that many more valuable veins will be revealed. There is no secret about such procedure.

Veins That Were Missed.

The phenomenal vein on the Jacobs property, to which I have referred, was just missed by a trench that was dug in one direction, and was disclosed when a new trench was dug across the first. I saw another rich vein on the surface of a property half a mile east of Cobalt station, which the prospector missed by six inches, and was observed one day after heavy rain had cleansed the rock. The Fosters prospected their claim for a year without striking anything. They went down almost to the bottom and made a discovery certainly worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, and

By this time next year a million dollars' worth of up-to-date machinery will be on the ground, unless all reasonable expectations are falsified.

A branch railroad is going to Kerr Lake from Cobalt. The Gillies timber limit will shortly be an ore producer. For Government mining there must be the ordinary machinery which other money-makers employ. How much the Gillies limit will do to damn or dignify public ownership of the means of wealth, it is impossible to estimate. But it must mean the appearance on the Gillies territory of all the instruments of industry which go to make up a town. As good finds of metal have been made in this fenced-off, jealously-guarded Tom Tiddler's ground as on any other Cobalt location.

Voices of Grumbling.

You must keep the Gillies property, therefore, very much "in sight," when you reckon the worth of opinions that have been backed by action. The Government action may not have been in accord with hoary, rusty precedent. But Premier Whitney and his colleagues had the accumulated knowledge and experience, and advice of men who had made mining con-