

Such is the extravagance of Mr. Hawthorne's methods and so complete is his disregard of fact that we must confess ourselves to be convinced that he is either a fool, a knave, or a rare combination of the two. So much for Mr. Hawthorne.

We would have commented upon the Hawthorne Silver and Iron Mines much sooner had we not had cause to believe that certain responsible persons were doing their utmost to ascertain the precise value of the Wilbur iron mine, which, by the way, is the physical backbone of the flotation. Our hand was held merely because we wished to give the project the fairest possible chance. We understood, moreover, that Mr. Hawthorne himself was to be removed from the organization. Instead of this we find Mr. Hawthorne in charge of publicity in Great Britain. We find also that his methods have drawn harsh comment from leading financial critics who, naturally, think the concern that he represents is Canadian.

What we most regret, however, is that the honoured name of Dr. Robert Bell, former acting Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, has been dragged into the matter. That Dr. Bell should consent to associate himself with Mr. Hawthorne is beyond understanding. Dr. Bell is not a mining engineer. The estimation of the extent and commercial value of ore deposits is not and never has been a part of his proper duties. His opinions on these things are of uncertain commercial value. He is an explorer—a very distinguished explorer—and a field geologist. In permitting Mr. Hawthorne to capitalize his reputation, Dr. Bell has lost sight of the duty he owes to the country and to himself. It is painful to be forced to write thus of an honoured Canadian.

In fairness to those who have supplied the sinews of war to the Hawthorne Silver and Iron Mines, it may be stated that, to the best of our knowledge, they are reputable citizens of the United States. They believe that in the Wilbur iron mine they possess an asset of large value. They are at present pushing work systematically. But nothing can offset the stupidity of allowing Mr. Julian Hawthorne to spread himself in Great Britain.

By the latest prospectus we notice that the names of two prominent Canadians have been added to the directorate. These are Mr. A. Claude McDonell, M.P., and Mr. W. R. Smyth, K.C., both of Toronto. These gentlemen must realize that they are assuming large responsibilities. In the first place, their names are being used to lend colour to statements that are absurd and untrue. In the second place, they cannot escape the moral onus of all the acts of the promoters in Great Britain. Mr. Hawthorne's name smells to heaven. Both Canadian directors must do their best immediately to clear the atmosphere.

We are surprised that responsible journals in the old country, especially our contemporary, "The Mining

Editor's Note.—As we are going to press we are informed that Mr. A. Claude Macdonell, M.P., has resigned from the board of directors.

Journal," of London, which decidedly should know better, accept without question the reading notices that Mr. Hawthorne has been circulating. It will now be their manifest duty to set their readers right.

#### MINING WORK FOR STUDENTS.

Mr. H. E. Haultain's letter in this issue of the CANADIAN MINING JOURNAL should be read carefully by all who are interested in the training of the young mining engineer.

In a former editorial we suggested that the professors of mining in our various universities get together and pool the possibilities of summer employment for their students, with a view to the suitable allocation of each man.

Mr. Haultain's letter shows how things are managed at the University of Toronto. The certificate that each student must hold as a record of work performed, is well conceived. But in the letter of introduction that is given the student there is a clause to which objection can be raised. Whilst it is quite true that a student should be willing to take any job that he can get, yet we doubt the wisdom of proclaiming this fact from the housetops.

Time was when the student was considered a "pink-tea" artist, an essentially frivolous and privileged being. This idea no longer holds. Our students are men. They are able to hold their own in the bush and in the mine. There is no need of undue humility. The student needs a position in which he can learn something of professional use to him. He is to be a mining engineer and not an artisan. His chief need, apart from strictly technical requirements, is to know something about business routine, managerial administration, company organization, and promotion. In the last direction, promotion, there is opportunity for the clean professional man to establish new standards. But, as a warning, we must remark that promotion is at once the most trying, the most difficult, and the least honoured branch of honest work.

Also, it is imperative that the young mining engineer should realize that his first obligation is to become a real mining engineer. He must round out his experience, mature his judgment of men, mines, and affairs; and must seek diligently to make good in all points. And one of these points is that he become an active member of the Canadian Mining Institute.

#### M. E.

Our opinion has been asked as to whether a person holding the baccalaureate degrees in arts and science, and, in addition, a diploma of graduation from the leading coal mining college in Great Britain, is or is not justified in writing M.E. after his name. This is a question that is susceptible of several answers.

In the first place, the letters M.E. have specific significance. They imply that the person using them has actually had the degree conferred upon him by an educational corporation. Hence, a person not holding this