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CONTENTS

	PAGE
EDITORIALS	65
ANNUAL MEETING OF MINING SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA	67
THE LONDONDERRY IRON AND MINING COMPANY'S PLANT	71
POWER FROM THE PIT MOUTH	72
A COMPARISON OF UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRIAL METHODS AND DISCIPLINE	73
ELDORADO COPPER MINE	76
BREATHING APPARATUS FOR RESCUE WORK IN COAL MINES	77
GRAPHITE IN CANADA	79
THE COALS AND COAL FIELDS OF ALBERTA, SASKATCHEWAN AND MANITOBA	81
THE SUPPLIES AND RESERVES OF IRON ORES	83
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN MINING IN THE SOUTHERN YUKON	87
THE WORKS OF THE ROBB ENGINEERING COMPANY, AMHERST, N.S.	89
CORRESPONDENCE	90
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE	91
MINING NEWS	93
MEN AND MATTERS	94
CANADIAN PATENTS	95

DR. W. H. DRUMMOND

The death of Dr. Drummond deprives Canada of a singularly gifted son. For the past two or three years Dr. Drummond had been associated with his brothers in the development and operation of the well-known "Drummond" Mine in Cobalt, where, latterly, he spent most of his time. It was here that he died, after a brief illness, on April 6th.

Dr. Drummond's kindly muse was both robust and homely. Many of his "Habitant" poems are already accepted as permanent additions to Canadian literature. His books are looked upon as an essential part of any camp equipment. He wrote of Canadians, for Canadians. His field was his own. As a sympathetic interpreter of French-Canadian rural life he stands unapproached. His untimely death came as grievous shock to the whole nation.

FORESTRY

The Canadian Forestry Association held its eighth annual meeting in the Railway Committee Room of the House of Commons, Ottawa, on the 14th and 15th of March. The growing sentiment in favor of a more conservative and far-sighted policy in regard to our forests has been strongly in evidence at recent meetings of this association, as also in discussions of the subject in the press, and in the efforts which have been made in recent years to found forestry schools in Canada. The subject is of far-reaching importance in engineering. Wood is now and always will be cheap, strong, and easily worked structural material. For many purposes we can hardly hope to replace it. For example, it is doubtful if it can be advantageously replaced for railway ties or for mine timbers. Civil engineers are in this and in other ways intimately concerned in the question as to how we in Canada can best conserve our forest resources, and how best provide a growth of timber in those parts of the Dominion where the supply is insufficient for local demands. For in the long run it will surely be cheaper to grow the timber reasonably near the place where it is to be used than to transport it over great distances. Our great railway companies, particularly those which control extensive tracts of land, might consider whether it will not be better to set aside lands to grow tie timber for the future, rather than to sell it for a few dollars an acre.

The question is also one of deep concern for mining engineers. A constant supply of mine timber is needed, not to speak of lumber for buildings. But a more serious problem for many mines is the one of fuel. The waste in this respect is painful to contemplate. Many mines are so far from cheap transportation that coal is almost out of the question for fuel. And when the wood within reach has been used up, it often happens that the manager has nothing but a barren prospect of hopeless old brule to contemplate when he looks around for fresh supplies. The last report of the Ontario Bureau of Mines mentions a case in which a mine was closed down owing to scarcity of fuel.

Metallurgists are also interested in this subject. Charcoal is a pure fuel for reducing purposes. At Radnor