

and possibly be a long way from being worked out then. At any rate there is in sight in the mine to-day over one hundred thousand tons of ore, and the vein in the bottom of both shafts is strong and solid as it ever was.

If there is anything in the old miner's theory that a vein continues in depth as far as it does in length, then the ore that may be expected to be produced will have to be counted by the millions of tons.

There is a smelting plant on the property, but it has not been in use for some years, consisting of roasting ovens of a capacity of 1,200 tons a month; two water jacket cupola furnaces, with engines, boilers fans, etc., capable of smelting 2,000 tons of ore monthly.

MR. J. R. WOODWARD moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Blue.

MR. S. L. SPAFFORD, seconded.

PEAT FUEL BY THE DICKSON PROCESS.

By. A. A. DICKSON, Toronto.

Peat is a vegetable substance and is produced in several ways, viz:— By the decomposition of forests, by the growth and decomposition of grasses, and the decomposition or disintegration of the Sphagnum moss, but the best and purest peat found in Canada is produced from the Sphagnum moss which grows on ponds and comparatively shallow lakes.

Peat produced by the latter process forms very rapidly, the moss making very rapid growth, and can be found in bloom at the top while it is disintegrating or decaying at the bottom. This mass grows on the top of the water and as it is gradually disintegrated by the action of the water its own weight makes it gradually sink, and if the growth is old and the depth of the water in the lake not too great it will in time descend to the bottom. It is not generally known that the average peat bog is floating on the top of the water like a plank or board, sinking only as its own weight increases, but such is the case. I know of one large bog in the province of Quebec, covering about one thousand acres, which some seventy-five years ago was an open lake. I have conversed with an old resident who when he was a boy used to fish and shoot water fowl on