

How to Find Radium

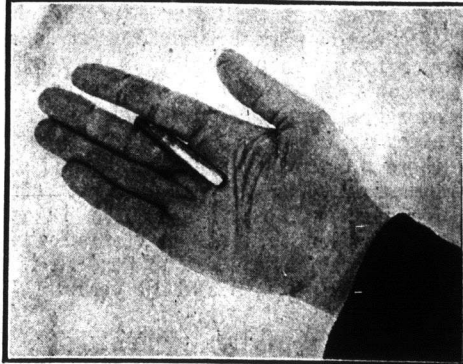
S. J. Wigley, Edgerton

Considerable interest was aroused last year when substantial rewards were offered for the discovery of radium bearing rocks in Canada.

Many of the world's greatest and most valuable discoveries have been made by accident and it will be a lucky accident if by chance a radium bearing rock should be found in Canada. Old methods of prospecting in this case are useless, for radium makes its presence known only in a scientific way and human senses are unable to detect its existence.

Nineteen years ago Professor Rontgen found that certain unseen rays from electricity had an influence on a photographic plate and to-day these X-ray photos are common. This discovery led earnest workers to experiment with different substances, to ascertain if any of them would emit radiations of a similar character. M. Becquerel found that salts of uranium would affect a photographic plate and that these unknown rays could even act through other substances.

residue rock was thrown away. One firm in London had been selling its old pitchblende rock at a dollar a ton for house foundations and road ways.

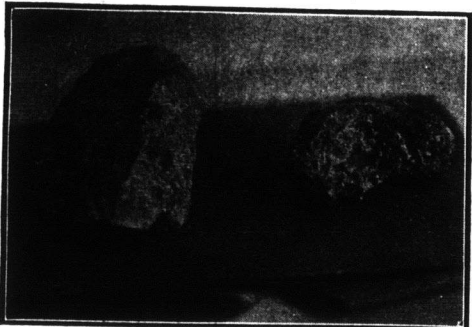


A little glass tube holding 15 grains of Radium would give out light and heat for over a thousand years and be worth \$25,000

Then Madam Curie and her husband found that this wasted pitchblende rock contained much more radium than the uranium salts and affected a photographic plate much more strongly.

The peculiar properties of radium have been repeatedly published but to obtain a very small pinch, worth some \$25,000, many tons of rock are used. Radium is quite the dearest substance known to man and though a factory has been working for some years in London less than one ounce is the total production.

To test rocks for the presence of radium a photographic plate should be carefully wrapped in black paper to exclude all daylight. The rocks to be tested should be placed on the paper and the whole shut up in a box for at least twenty-four hours; X-rays act on the plate in a few seconds but radium is much slower. If, when the plate is developed you find the rock has made a dark shadow then get busy for fame and fortune await you.



Testing Rocks for Radium

Now uranium salts are obtained from a rock called pitch blende, and were used for decorating expensive china and glass. Pitchblende is obtained in Cornwall, parts of Germany and the United States. After the uranium was extracted the

Tumular Relics of a Prehistoric Manitoba

By J. D. A. Evans

From Great Lakes to Rocky Mountains slope, he of Indian ancestry has inhabited the plains and forestic areas. Yet in far more remote period than this tenure, a populace armed with copper implements have dwelt in Manitoba, monumental testimony of whom is evidenced within certain localities of the Province to-day. To wit, Southern Manitoba wherein Pembina's lofty ramparts are located, in one district of which five tumuli or barrows exist; others may be found in the neighborhood of Snowflake.

Under auspices of the Historical Society of Canada, research has been conducted by Professor Nicholson of Toronto. At the apex of Star Mound, a barrow three feet in height, circumferential measurement of twelve feet, symmetrical figure very imperfect, formed a matter of investigation by the eastern archaeologist. Adjacent to the surface of this tumulus, a skull of Indian male was exposed; five yards beneath, fifteen skeletons were disinterred, the physiological structure of which would attribute the remains as of other than Indian race, rather to a human tenancy of fifth century, and possibly anterior to that date. Amongst the bones lay tools antique in construction, from the workmanship of which it can be assumed were utilized in the fashioning of copper instruments the metal from which these were manufactured. The chain of history has thus been augmented, the story of a copper mine aboriginal inhabitant is stated to have known as once operated by a people in centuries long, long ago, and supposed to have been located at or in the vicinity of the Lake of the Woods, is hence given color. Various trinkets were discovered and strange though it be, a marine shell; its conchological formation tending to the opinion that it had been obtained from Pacific Ocean. Arrowheads of flint, hammers of stone were likewise found, and research is now progressing at other tumuli in an adjoining district.

Grain Growers' Grain Co. Opens Saskatchewan Office

Farmers throughout the Canadian West will be interested to hear that the Grain Growers' Grain Company of Winnipeg have opened an office in Regina, Saskatchewan. This marks another step in advance for this Pioneer farmer's company. Operations are now carried on with offices in each province from Ontario to the Pacific Coast, with headquarters at Winnipeg, branch offices at Fort William, Ont.; Regina, Sask.; and Calgary, Alta.; and an agency at New Westminster, B.C. It is somewhat remarkable that at times such as these, when retrenchment is general, this company should find it absolutely necessary to establish new branches in order to take care of its growing business. The main object in establishing the Regina branch, is to be able to give Saskatchewan farmers the best possible service in supplying their needs or in handling their grain.

The Regina office and warehouse is located at the corner of Lorne street and 11th Avenue, right in the heart of the city, only two blocks west from the Post Office. Ground floor space of 5,000 square feet furnishes ample accommodation for displaying a full line of implements to good advantage. The office is in charge of J. L. Williamson, who for over six months has been connected with the company, looking after their interests in the Regina district. Farmers everywhere and others who are interested in the welfare of the agricultural class throughout the West, will be given a hearty welcome at the Grain Growers' Grain Company's office in Regina. Implements, engines, vehicles, etc., that are kept on display are well worth seeing.

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