

If, as Mr. Cochrane, stated, the Government's answer depends on a question of tonnage, the miners should carry the day. All other considerations being equal (and there is no doubt that there will be more pulpwood and other timber products brought out from the Temagami Forest Reserve than from the Porcupine district) the tonnage of silver-bearing ores which is already being mined and shipped, even under the existing adverse conditions, is infinitely greater than any tonnage of ore that can ever be expected to come out over the new branch line being built by the Government into the Porcupine district. The Porcupine gold ores will be treated in stamp-mills and cyanide plants on the ground, only the resultant product being shipped in the form of gold bars. These will be taken care of through the banks, or brought out in smug suitcases when the successful operators desire reasonable excuses for making periodical trips to civilization. But the receipts of the T. & N. O. will not be greatly enhanced thereby.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Hon. Christopher Chisholm, Commissioner of Works and Mines, recently introduced a bill in the Provincial Legislature of Nova Scotia, providing for the compulsory use of locked safety lamps in all the collieries of the province. Certain clauses are added permitting the use of electric lights when approved by the proper authorities. An expression of opinion is to be obtained from the miners of the province.

Diamond drilling was conducted under the auspices of the Nova Scotia Department of Mines, during 1910, at an average cost of \$0.93 per foot. Boring by Calyx drill cost on an average \$1.44 per foot. The Calyx cores were of 6-inch diameter, the diamond cores from 15-16-inch to 2-inch.

Supplementing our editorial notice of the three leading corporations that have invested in Porcupine, it may be noted that the firm of Bewick, Moreing & Company, which has undertaken the development of certain claims in Porcupine, has offices in London, Melbourne, and Kalgoorlie. The firm manages the affairs of thirty Australasian and African mining companies.

There appears to be no immediate prospect of rendering uniform the statistical methods employed by the Dominion Mines Branch and by the various Provincial Bureaus. Until uniformity is secured there will be endless confusion and duplication.

The Canadian correspondent of the Mining Journal (London, Eng.), in a letter that appears in the February 11th issue of our contemporary, makes a serious blunder. In writing of the New Brunswick gas- and oil-fields, which are being developed privately by Dr. J. A. L. Henderson, of London, the correspondent confounds these operations with those of the Maritime Gas and Oil Company, a Nova Scotian concern capitalized at \$5,000,000. Dr. Henderson's company is Maritime Oilfields, Ltd., and is, as stated above, composed entirely of private subscribers, who have no intention of asking anybody for money until the field is proved.

The Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, Ltd., is the corporation that has acquired a large interest in the Rae mine, Porcupine. At a shareholders' meeting in London, on February 22nd, Lord Harris, the chairman, explained the need of the proposed new issue of second preference shares. In addition to the Porcupine venture, new enterprises are being undertaken in the United States, Mexico, and Rhodesia. Although the new issue has not found favour with all the shareholders, the majority have raised no objections.

## CANADIAN MINING INSTITUTE, THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING — Held at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, Que., March 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1911.

Early on Tuesday, Feb. 28th, there were signs of activity in the Chateau Frontenac. Several of the councillors, and a sprinkling of other members, had already arrived. But the bulk of the delegates drifted in on Wednesday and Thursday.

The total attendance was large, aggregating about 200. Cobalt, Toronto, Montreal, and Eastern Quebec were heavily represented. The delegation from the United States was exceptionally large. But only one Nova Scotian, and not one Albertan or British Columbian appeared on the scene. Distance is, of course, an adequate excuse for the Westerners; but the lack of maritime mining men is regrettable. More especially is this the case in view of the fact that Ontario and the Dominion are always represented at the meetings of the Mining Society of Nova Scotia.

#### WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION.

In the unavoidable absence of the Premier, Sir Lomer Gouin, the convention was formally opened by the Hon. C. R. Devlin, Minister of Mines, Quebec. Mr. Devlin, in the course of an exceedingly witty and cheerful speech, referred to the good work done by the Chibougamou Commission. He announced that three new expeditions would be sent out during the coming summer. Another interesting announcement was to the effect that the Quebec grant to the Institute is soon to be increased. Mr. Devlin's speech was received with hearty applause.

The President, Dr. F. D. Adams, now followed with a survey of progress made during the past year. He predicted great things for the Province of Quebec, and warmly congratulated the local Government on possess-