

SURVEY OF THE WEEK

Royalty on Copper Ore Suspended.

The Federal Government, following representations made by the Flin Flon Syndicate and the Mining Institute of Canada, has agreed to a modification in the mining regulations by suspending the royalty on copper ore for another period of ten years. The Government has also given assurance that everything will be done to facilitate the mining of the property at once. As a result of this arrangement, it is understood that on March 1, 1921, \$1,000,000 will be paid by the purchasers to the prospectors and their partners as the first payment on the purchase price. Commenting on the outcome of the representations, Professor Wallace, Commissioner for Northern Manitoba, says that it means that American and Canadian capital has joined in undertaking to operate this rich and large body of copper sulphide ore. He adds that he sees no reasonable obstacle now in the way of immediate action, looking to the construction of a railway, and that the greatest encouragement had been given to mining in the Province of Manitoba.

Willys-Overland Passes Dividend.

The Willys-Overland Company last week passed their regular quarterly dividend of 1½ per cent. on preferred stock. In the explanatory statement issued by the directors, it is stated that while the preferred stock dividend for the entire year has been earned by a wide margin, the directors "consider it to the ultimate advantage of the company to conserve cash resources until normal conditions again prevail in the industrial and financial world." The statement added that a "conservative manufacturing program looking toward reduction of inventories and establishment of the utmost manufacturing and merchandising efficiency," had been adopted and declared that this had considerably strengthened the financial position of the company.

New Brunswick Bonds.

The Province of New Brunswick is offering for public subscription \$1,750,000 fifteen-year, 6 per cent. debentures, of which \$1,000,000 will be expended in the development of the Musquash Falls Power near St. John. The remaining \$750,000 will be used for the purpose of paying 60 per cent. of the cost of building permanent roads. In its advertisement concerning the issues, it is stated that the province does not tax income, real estate or personal property for revenue purposes, and that it meets all obligations promptly.

Grain Markets Stronger.

There has been very little change in the wholesale trade during the past week, says Bradstreet's report. The Canadian Council of Agriculture in the West are taking steps for the pooling of wheat, both in the Western Provinces and Ontario. The grain markets were stronger this week, wheat prices showing an advance. The Montreal flour market is dull but there has been a good demand for Spring wheat grades from American buyers, and some large sales were made for shipment to the different markets in the United States. Grain in storage at the different public elevators in Canada show an increase of 1,550,348 bushels as compared with the week previous. A large firm this week discovered much to their surprise that express rates from Montreal to some points in this Province were lower than the present freight rates now in force.

Vanadium Cuts Dividend.

The Vanadium Corporation of America is another concern that has found it advisable to cut dividends in order to conserve cash resources during the present period of depressed business.

The quarterly dividend was cut to \$1 a share, as against the previous rate of \$1.50 for three months. Naturally, the announcement of the dividend reduction following upon suspension of dividends by several other companies, resulted in an increasingly bearish sentiment in the New York stock market.

Ontario Municipal Bonds.

The town of Walkerville has sold an issue of \$300,000, fifteen-installment, 6 per cent. bonds to A. E. Ames & Co. The bonds are guaranteed by the Province of Ontario, and at the price paid the town borrows at about 6½ per cent. The bonds will be offered at prices to yield from 6½ to 6.70 per cent., according to maturity. The successful tender was at the price of 94.094, and the keenness of the competition is shown by the fact that the second bid, that of Wood, Gundy & Co., was 94.07. Other bids, so far as known, included: Dominion Securities Corporation, 93.00; R. C. Matthews & Co., 92.78.

York Township disposed of a block of bonds of \$129,612 to A. E. Ames & Co., and another block of \$37,000 to a private investor. The larger block is in ten-year instalment, bearing 6 per cent., while the second block is twenty-year instalment 6's. At the price paid by Ames & Co., 95.303, the township borrows at 7.02 per cent. Tenders were submitted for the entire block of \$166,610, as follows; Ames & Co., 94.863; A. Jarvis & Co., 94.836; Wood, Gundy & Co., 94.156; R. C. Matthews & Co., 93.76.

Canada Comes Second.

It is gratifying to learn from official statistics that Canada is now the second country in the world in the manufacture of automobiles, says the Canadian Gazette. The automobile industry in Canada now represents a capital value of \$50,000,000 and employs 15,000 people. The annual pay-roll exceeds \$15,000,000. During last year the sales of Canadian-made automobiles amounted to more than \$100,000,000, which is a convincing testimony to the quality of the cars produced, and is a great credit to those engaged in the industry. A very few years ago Canada had practically no automobile-building industry at all, and she has jumped into the second place in what is a surprisingly short time.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

EDITORIAL.

The Prince of Peace	10
The Luxury Tax	10
Did the German Emperor Desire War? ..	10
The Sovereign Unshamed	11
An Irish Disappointment	11

SPECIAL.

Growing Granby	1-2
Labor Wages and Deflation	4
Unemployment Insurance	9
Canadian Banks and the Public	14
Life Assurance in Canada	8

GENERAL.

Survey of the Week	3
Earnings of Canadian Car Co.	5
Halifax Shipyard Surplus	6
Effect of Exchange on U. S. Export ..	7
Canadian Exports Hard Hit	7
Insurance	12
Mining News	13
Banks and Bankers	14-15
Pulp and Paper News	16

Arranged Financing for New Hotel.

At a meeting held in Montreal, last week, final arrangements were completed for the organization of the Mount Royal Hotel Company, Limited. It is understood that all the financing in connection with the company has been provided for and that arrangements will likely be made for the placing of a portion of the securities on the United States and Canadian market early in the New Year. The new company will have a total capital of \$9,000,000, divided into \$4,000,000 8 per cent. debentures to be converted into 8 per cent. cumulative preferred stock, and \$5,000,000 of common stock of a par value of \$100 a share. There will also be a first mortgage bond issue of \$3,000,000. The new hotel will be built on the site of the old High School on Peel Street.

Canadian Knit Goods Output.

The output of the Canadian hosiery and knit goods industries during the year of 1919 amounted to \$45,052,002, according to figures compiled by the Department of Trade and Commerce. The figures show that in that year there were 114 plants at work throughout the Dominion, with a total invested capital of \$34,149,593, and employing 11,691 persons. An interesting feature of these figures is the large preponderance of women employees over men. There were 7,406 women to 3,628 men working in these plants, while 465 girls and 192 boys, all under the ages of 16, were also employed.

Southern Canada Power.

The annual statement of the Southern Canada Power Company, Limited, for the twelve months ended September 30, shows a gross for the year of \$663,587 as against \$566,097 the year before, and \$475,009 in 1918. The net, too, shows a gain from \$263,293 in 1918, and \$210,517 in 1919, to \$324,467 this year. During the year the distribution plants were extended to take care of the requirements of over 1,500 new customers, bringing the total to slightly over 10,500 customers. Among the new companies which have located in the district during the past year, are:— Jenekes Canadian Co.; Canadian Manhasset Cotton Co.; Kenworthy Bros. of Canada, Ltd.; Dominion Hair Felt Co.; Butterfly Hosiery Co.; Canadian H. W. Gossard Co.; Macdonald Wire Goods Co.; Edwin G. Schutz, Limited, and Waterville Veneer & Panel Co.

Empire Steel Merger.

Directors of the Dominion Steel Corporation were in session at Montreal the greater part of Friday, but nothing of a definite nature was forthcoming as to the status of the steel enterprise in the proposed Empire steel merger. It is understood that legal technicalities are retarding developments although, it is stated, these will be straightened out soon. It is now generally accepted that the scheme will not go through as originally planned, and this would seem to find confirmation in a despatch from London in which Sir Newton Moore foreshadows the appointment of a committee to carry out a modified plan of amalgamation.

Cotton Mills on Short Time.

Five hundred employees of the Canadian Cottons, Limited, mill at Marysville, N.B., have commenced on a reduced schedule of hours, the reduction being from six to four days a week. How long the curtailment will be continued is not known, but conditions are expected to pick up early in the new year.