

is well covered. Banksian pine, poplar, birch, spruce, and white and red pine are abundant. White cedar, various kinds of maple, elm, balsam, tamarac, and ash have been observed. The greater proportion of these woods are probably of insufficient diameter for timber. The forests will, however, become large producers of pulpwood.

Fish and game are plentiful. Whitefish and sturgeon are found in most of the lakes. Dore and pike are also common; brook and lake trout less so. The moose is hunted only to the south, but the caribou ranges through the whole district. Fur-bearing animals are abundant, particularly the rabbit.

Water powers are numerous. According to Mr. W. McInnes, of the Geological Survey, they are for the most part situated far inland.

\* \* \* \* \*

Even from these brief notes it will be seen that the District of Patricia holds promise of rich natural resources. It is important, of course, that Ontario should have access to tidewater on Hudson Bay. But it is satisfying to believe that the newly acquired territory will in itself amply repay the construction of railways and the establishment of other means of communication.

Dr. Miller's volume is most timely. It should be given a much wider distribution than is usual with other Government reports.

#### MINERAL WASTES.

The United States Bureau of Mines is making a determined effort to check the constant and costly waste of mineral substances. In a recent pamphlet there are many strong statements.

For all the coal mined in the United States, at least half as much is left in the mine in such condition that

it will be totally lost. The reckless waste of natural gas is another important item, as is also the fact that from 10 to 50 per cent. of many metalliferous and non-metalliferous minerals are wasted or lost.

Particular emphasis is laid upon the wasteful use of coal in all the industries, and the importance of utilizing water powers is accentuated. Dr. Parker's estimate of \$40,000,000 as the value of recoverable products wasted in making coke in beehive ovens, gives point to this phase.

Although the metallurgy of iron is much more highly developed than that of any other metal, yet there is much room for improvement even here. The losses in the smelting of zinc run to many thousands of tons daily. The loss of lead in mining is placed at 10 to 20 per cent.; in concentration, 15 per cent., and in smelting, 15 to 20 per cent. And so on, through a discouragingly long list of minerals, ores, and mineral products.

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

Twenty to twenty-five mines have been opened in Cobalt during the past twelve months. Leasing is becoming a vital feature of the camp.

Not only are the Foster-Cobalt and other moribund mines being re-opened, but the Waldman, which was thought to have been dead and buried, is to be galvanized into life.

Mr. A. W. Scott, by his familiarly yept "Lucky," has returned from Baffin's Land to Sydney with spikneard and precious ointments and furs, but with no gold to speak of. Also, he effected a gallant rescue of Captain Munn, who otherwise would have remained in cold storage until the last trump.

## PERSONAL AND GENERAL

Dr. J. MacIntosh Bell is in Toronto.

The American Mining Congress will hold its fifteenth annual convention during the week, November 25 to 30. Spokane, Washington, will be the place of meeting this year.

Mr. A. D. Miles has severed his connection with the Canadian Mining and Exploration Company and has accepted a post with the Canadian Copper Company. His headquarters will henceforth be at Copper Cliff and Sudbury.

Mr. B. Browitt has resigned from the position of mine manager for the Diamond Vale Collieries, Ltd., operating a coal mine in Nicola Valley district, B.C. He has since been fined for a breach of the law relating to the regulation of coal mining, the Chief Inspector of Mines having prosecuted him, under instructions from the Government.

Mr. A. J. Becker, superintendent for the Lucky Jim Zinc Mines, Ltd., has resumed shipment of zinc ore from the Lucky Jim mine, Slocan district, B.C., after

an interruption in output of two years, caused by the destruction by forest fire in July, 1910, of several miles of the Kaslo & Slocan railway, which damage was not repaired.

Mr. W. Blakemore, M.E., of Victoria, B.C., has been appointed by the Provincial Government a Commission to enquire into conditions existing in Doukhobor communities in British Columbia where, it is stated, the requirements of the laws of the country are not being observed by the Doukhobors.

Mr. J. W. Bryant returned to British Columbia a few weeks ago after having made but a brief stay in England. He has since paid a hurried visit to Alaska, and is expected to ere long again proceed to England on mining business.

Mr. Jas. Buchanan, superintendent of the big smelting works at Trail, B.C., owned and operated by the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, of Canada, Limited, has contributed a paper, on that company's copper smelting department, for reading and