

Special Correspondence

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Test of the Fleet Process of Electric Smelting.

Having the financial support of the Provincial Government to the extent of a grant of \$2,000 the Vancouver Magnetite Iron and Steel Smelting Company, of Vancouver, B.C., has arranged for a test of a new electro smelting process which, it is hoped, will prove that the magnetite ores of British Columbia can be treated electrically with the assurance that the quality and cost of the product will permit it to meet competition in the open market. This company, of which J. H. Fraser, of Vancouver, is the managing director, is the owner of the Ronaldsay plant, Howe Sound. The experiments, by arrangement with the B. C. Electric Ry. Company, are being facilitated by the use of the latter's old power plant at Highland Station. The Provincial Government, through the instrumentality of the Minister of Mines, has shipped a quantity of magnetite ore from Texada Island properties. Wm. M. Brewer, District Mining Engineer, has had charge of this work which he reports to have been completed. The furnace is expected to be blown in on or about the 6th of August. Representatives of the Department of Mines are to be in attendance. Wm. D. Fleet, of Montreal, is the inventor of the process on trial. He was superintendent of the Canadian Copper Smelting Company at Sudbury, Ont., for six years and later installed the electrical equipment of the hydro plant of the Calgary Power Company at Kananaskis and Horse-shoe Falls. Subsequently he was a member of the Manitoba Public Utilities Commission.

It is interesting to note in this connection that general interest in the problem of developing the iron and steel industries in this province continues. The Hyatt Steel Products Company reopened its rolling mill at Port Moody recently after temporary embarrassment due to a strike. Several improvements have been made to the plant, as a result of which it is possible to turn out both a larger quantity and a better grade of steel than heretofore. Public sentiment is behind the proposal that these small firms and any other concern which might be induced to launch an iron and steel industry should have every encouragement. Many think that the Dominion Government should supplement the bonus now offered by the Provincial Government on pig iron produced within the Province from local ores. They take the position that if the resources of Canada are to be developed this basic industry must be stimulated, pointing out that less than five per cent of Canadian iron enters into iron and steel products manufactured in the Dominion, although there are unlimited quantities of raw material available.

An editor can feel grateful for such freedom of his pen as comes from the fact that he is called upon to write on matters that do not affect the pocket nerve of his advertising supporters. Such detachment—not degenerating, however, into vacuous aloofness—is the best guarantee of reasonable independence; absolutely independent no human being can be, for every man has prejudices and pre-occupations that color his views of life; but we confess that the editorial ideal, expressed though it may be with some lack of literary refinement, is the truly American notion of living so as to be able to look any man in the face and tell him to go to hell, most politely, most politely.—Mining & Scientific Press.

BARTER.

Bills of exchange and sight drafts fade afar,
With tedious detail of the ocean trade;
And dreaming I can see past foam and bar,
Primeval barter; in this eastern raid
Essential oils and simsim seeds are spread
For gleaming cutlery and iron bars;
And eyes strain westward where the sun sinks red,
Seeking a market under alien stars.

Textiles are asked in trade for caraway,
And coriander for enameled kid;
In ardent Africa the merchants pray
For roaring motors; in their eager bid
They offer almonds and pistachio
And dates conveyed through distant desert haze
On patient camels rocking to and fro,
Through far, entrancing, slow Algerian days.
Thos. J. Murray in the New York Times.

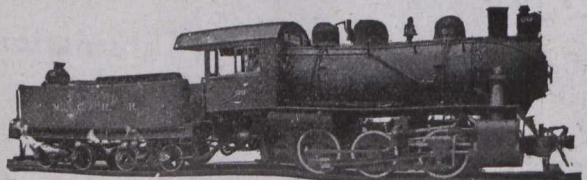
PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTION OF MINING ENGINEERS VISITING CANADA.

G. Blake Walker, the President of the British Institution of Mining Engineers is visiting Canada and the United States, and is expected to arrive at Quebec about the 23rd of August. Mr. Walker is one of the best known mining engineers in England. He is a charter member of the Institution of Mining Engineers, past President, and Hon. Secretary of the Midland Institute of Mining & Mechanical Engineers, and the recipient of a number of medals from the technical societies in Britain in recognition of his services and the interest he has taken in the problems surrounding the safety of coal mines.

The Deister Concentrator Company of Fort Wayne, Ind., have had prepared for distribution a very interesting map of Europe revised to show the new boundaries agreed on by the Peace Conference in comparison with the old outline of all countries. It bears the imprint of the Deister Concentrator Company from a publicity standpoint, and will be sent free to any of the readers of the Journal on request of the company.

SALES ENGINEER—With connections among Mines and Mills in Northern Ontario, wants position with live concern manufacturing Mining Machinery and Supplies. Salary and commission. Write in first instance to Box 10, Canadian Mining Journal.

PORTER LOCOMOTIVES



LIGHT AND HEAVY
STEAM AND COMPRESSED AIR LOCOMOTIVES
CONTRACTORS' DINKEYS
PREMIER HAULERS FOR FIFTY YEARS
Literature on request

H.K. PORTER CO., PITTSBURGH, PA.