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**Big Research Programme for Ottawa Mine Dept.**

Three Research Projects in Regard to Treatment of Gold Ore. General Programme Includes Four Branches:— Ore Dressing and Metallurgy, Fuel Research, Ceramics and Road Materials, Mineral Resources.

Announcement is made by the Department of Mines, Ottawa, of its Mines Branch laboratory and field programme for 1936. With the exceptionally heavy volume of work on gold ores a notable feature, the programme reflects the steady and widespread improvement in mining throughout Canada. Within its four sections, ore dressing and metallurgy, fuel research, ceramics and road materials, and mineral resources, provision is made for tests and investigations on practically all the principal, and many of the lesser known Canadian minerals.

John McLeish, Director of the Branch reports that receipts of gold ore for testing during the first half of the year exceeded those of any like period in past years. In the majority of cases the ores are from the many gold properties throughout Canada that are entering or nearing production. Full advantage is being taken by operators of the Department's modernly equipped ore dressing and metallurgical laboratories, where the ores are being tested mainly to determine suitable mill treatment processes for the several enterprises.

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son, R. J. Traill, M. H. Haycock, and R. K. Carnochan assisting. This year's work on Canadian fuels includes a series of tests being made to determine the suitability of a variety of coals and their tars for hydrogenation treatment for direct conversion into motor fuels. Test runs have been made on coals ranging from high grade bituminous to peat, and continuous experimental tests are underway on Princess coal from Nova Scotia. The major problem has been to devise a method of testing from which the behavior of materials in commercial equipment can be predicted. It is of interest to note that the United States Bureau of Mines has recently taken an interest in the subject of hydrogenation, and is installing an experimental plant similar, but somewhat larger than that developed by Mines Branch fuel research engineers.

Small scale laboratory work includes the development of two coal friability methods for testing the relative handling qualities of coals, with the ultimate objective of determining a means whereby coals for any particular purpose may be readily selected. It includes also an analyses survey of the different domestic-sized coke marketed in central Canada; and the continuation of a similar survey of the gasolines and lubricating oils sold throughout the Dominion.

A comprehensive field study is being made on the sizing and other preparation of Canadian coals to meet varying market conditions in different parts of the country. In this work the suitability of specially prepared and sized coals for use in large and small heating installations, in preference to imported coals, is being given particular attention. A limited number of full-size cooking tests on Canadian coals are being made in commercial plants. Attention in this direction is being given to the possibility of introducing certain low temperature carbonization processes for the use of domestic coals. Field investigations are being made also on the refractories employed in the furnaces of industrial boiler plants. The purpose is to determine how refractories suitable for the lining of combustion chambers for burning low ash fusion coals can be developed from Canadian raw materials.

These and several other fuel projects under way this year are largely extensions of previous projects, designed to promote the more extensive and more efficient uses of the fuel resources of Canada. B. F. Haas is in charge, and has assisting him R. E. Gilmore, R. A. Strong, E. S. Malloch, P. V. Rosewarne, and T. E. Warren.

In the ceramics laboratories, tests are being continued on the physical properties of Canadian bricks. In progress for several years, the project involves a thorough evaluation of all classes and grades of building bricks as a means to determine their suitability for various industrial uses, and their ability to withstand extremes of climate. Bricks produced in Eastern Canada are being examined this year.

Semi-commercial scale production of firebrick and other refractory products is under way on samples of Mattagami river clays collected last year 50 miles north of Kapuskasing. This is to aid in promoting the manufacture of refractories from domestic clays. The quality of the products will be tested and a suitable method of manufacture will be determined. Visits will be made to several refractory manufacturing plants to study the method of manufacture and the raw materials used. Industries using refractories will be visited also, to observe certain test installations and to examine refractory requirements. Experiments are being continued to improve the quality of clay products, and to overcome troubles encountered in their manufacture. The effect of chemical additions, and of special physical treatment during processing is being observed. Tests are nearing completion on samples of sodium uranate, a valuable by-product in the extraction of radium from Great Bear Lake ores. The substance is used chiefly as a colorant for ceramic glazes. The cause of trouble encountered in its production has been located, and a means of overcoming the fault has been recommended to the producers.

Investigations on road materials include a survey of the quality of the gravels for road building in that section of Ontario lying between the Lindsay-Sarnia highway and Lake Huron, and also in limited areas in Eastern Ontario. It is intended also to examine certain roads in Ontario and Quebec, and in the States of Michigan and New York, where experimental work has been done on the use of salt, and of lime as stabilizing agents. Ceramics and road materials investigations are in charge of Howells Frechette, with L. P. Collin, J. F. McMahon, J. G. Phillips, and R. H. Picher assisting.

More than 60 annual reviews of Canadian minerals have been prepared by officers of the mineral resources division. In the case of each mineral data are given on the ores mined and producing localities, production and trade, and important developments. The reviews are incorporated in a report entitled "The Canadian Mineral Industry in 1935."

**When Shareholders Pay Visit to Mines**

Is the Following Humorous Story True? But Why Bring That up?

All will agree that happy times are often enjoyed by groups that visit the North Land. Directors of new mines and parties of shareholders visiting the North to see their new mines seldom have a dull time. Sometimes, of course, they are so interested in the object of the visit that ordinary entertainment does not interest them, but on other occasions entertainment and business are agreeably mixed.

All this is a preface to an article in MacLean's Magazine for August. Here is the article:—

**Happy Party in North**  
 Great is the rejoicing when a new gold mine is brought into production. Recently an old property in Northern Ontario was finally persuaded to disgorge the precious metal and a private Pullmanful of company officials, shareholders, brokers and financial newsmen went up from Toronto. For three days the railway car was their hotel. Each day was filled with rejoicing. It was inevitable that personal belongings—clothing, shaving

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equipment, shoes, cameras and what-not—should become somewhat scattered. But, with the thoughtlessness of men rejoicing over a new gold mine, no attempt was made to straighten things out until the train was pulling into Toronto.

Then three perspiring porters proved completely inadequate for the situation. It was chaos. But it was hilarious chaos until a Toronto mining man announced with icy calm that his wallet was missing from the pants pocket "where he always kept it." Hilarity died as the embarrassing significance of this development dawned on those in the car. Embarrassment grew as belts and grips were ransacked and no wallet found. But no one was more embarrassed than an apparently respectable Toronto lawyer who, as the train was slowing up at the station put his hand into his pocket and felt his fingers close over a strange wallet. Stuttering his apologies and amazement, he returned the fat purse to its owner, and turned to flee. However, something about his personal appearance caught the attention of one of the porters. With a clarity of thought made possible by the fact that this porter had not been rejoicing over a new mine, the colored flunky yelled: "Hey, that gentleman's got yo pants on, and youse got his'n."

**Mining the Only Industry to Fully Regain Losses**

In continuing discussion of the topic "The Role of Mining in Canadian Business," the July Review of the Bank of Nova Scotia says that "Among the main industries of Canada, mining is the only one that has fully regained the losses of depression." The letter is the second devoted to the mining industry and concerns the general subject of the part played by mining in the Canadian business structure during recent times and particularly with its role in the partial recovery that has taken place since the early months of 1933.

The output of Canadian mines in 1935 was valued in round figures at \$310,000,000, which represents an expansion of more than 60 per cent. since 1932, the low year of the depression, and almost equals the record figure of \$311,000,000. One branch of mineral production—metals—is entirely responsible for this remarkable showing. The value of metallic output last year at \$222,000,000, was the highest on record being nearly double that of 1932 and over 40 per cent. greater than that of 1929.

Gold has played the leading role in the growing value of metal output for unlike other branches of production there has been no depression in gold mining. Year by year, since 1929, the value of output has steadily risen from about \$40,000,000 to \$116,000,000. Up to 1932, enlarged receipts were mainly a reflection of growing production. Since then, however, the primary factor in expansion has been the increase in price from \$20.67 to about \$35 per fine ounce although production was somewhat higher in 1935 than in 1932. Gold was responsible for over half the value of all metal production in 1935, as contrasted with slightly more than one-quarter of the total in 1929.

Although base metals played the main part in the reduction in the value of metal output in the peak of prosperity to the depths of depression, they have been of importance in the subsequent revival. The value of the combined production of copper, nickel, lead and zinc decreased from \$98,000,000 in 1929 to but \$32,000,000 in 1932. The total has since risen, however, to \$88,000,000. Nickel in 1935 surpassed its former record and zinc has nearly attained it. Copper and lead were still considerably below the peak level. Each of these base metals was produced in larger volume during the past year than in the peak year previous to the depression. In the case of nickel, the price of which remained unstable, enlarged output has been reflected in greater receipts. Increased production of the other three metals, however, has been more than offset by lower prices.

Mining has been responsible for a growing proportion of natural income, and adds more to income than forestry, ranking second among great basic industries of Canada. As a source of employment mining last year provided jobs directly for about 83,000 wage and salary workers. Here, as in the case of production, metal mining has been the dominant factor in improvement. Last year the industry gave work to 33 per cent. more people than in 1929. Expenditures in plant equip-

**Makes Haying Look More Dangerous Than Mining**

If anyone should suggest that farming was a more hazardous occupation than mining, there would likely be objection right away. As The Advance has often pointed out there are several more dangerous callings than mining. Structural work is one of them. The data on the respective industries show this. According to The Renfrew Mercury last week, however, haying in that area is more hazardous than mining in the Porcupine. In any event the toll of accidents suggests that. Here is the editorial paragraph from The Mercury:—

"One of the apostles of old "stood in jeopardy every hour," and seemingly so do those agriculturists of Ontario who have hay among their products, which all or nearly all of them do. The other day an Admaston farmer fell from a load of hay and was hurt. Next day a youth met death when a team of horses took fright in a hayfield at Castleford and started to run. On the following day at Maryland, in the township of Bristol, a haymaker met with a fatal accident. Coincident with one of these casualties was a similar one in the township of Winchester, county of Dundas. And it appears that in each and every one of these four cases horses were at fault. Easily frightened by the most trivial of circumstances, they attempt to run away, or make a sudden start as if to guard against attack. In the garnering of the hay crop the horse continues to play a big part, a part perhaps altogether too big for convenience and safety. However the hay crop has in recent years been showing diminishing importance in agriculture."

**Principal Canadian Minerals Reviewed**

Nineteen Metals, Thirty-seven Industrial Minerals and Five Fuels Reviewed in Dominion Mines Branch Report.

Publication of its report "The Canadian Mineral Industry in 1935", containing reviews for the year of nineteen metals, thirty-seven industrial minerals, and five fuels, is announced by the Mines Branch, Department of Mines, Ottawa.

The report is intended as a ready source of information in respect to the minerals reviewed. In it data are presented on the ores mined and producing localities, production and trade, price ranges, and important developments. The appearance of charts showing the production and price trends since 1900 of copper, nickel, lead, zinc, gold, silver, and gypsum is a departure from the reports of past years. These charts vividly portray Canada's rise to prominence as a base metal producer during the past ten to fifteen years. Last year's copper output, for instance, at 210,000 tons compares with an output of less than 60,000 tons in 1925, and a peak output during the war years of slightly in excess of 60,000 tons. Lead output, which moved in a range from 10,000 tons to 25,000 tons between 1902 and 1920, rose to approximately 120,000 tons in 1935, and to a peak of 173,100 tons in 1934. Nickel production reached a wartime peak of 46,200 tons, which compares with 55,100 tons in 1929, and with the record output of 69,600 tons in 1935. The sharp upswing in zinc output commenced in 1921 following the development by Consolidated Smelters of a method of separating the metal from the company's complex lead-zinc ores. Output increased from 25,000 tons in 1921 to a peak of 158,000 tons in 1935, with a low for the depression years of 85,000 tons. The combined Canadian output of copper, nickel, lead, and zinc, at 606,600 short tons in 1935 compares with 112,900 short tons in 1920.

The report is a valuable source of information on the status of mining in Canada in relation to sources of mineral supply, the nature and extent of mineral development, the productive facilities of the various mining companies, and the active and potential uses and markets for the minerals. Copies may be obtained from the Director, Mines Branch, Department of Mines, Ottawa.

**Results Continue Very Encouraging at Golden Gate**

Slashing of the new vein recently encountered in the 201 crosscut at Golden Gate Mining Company has commenced and drifting on this occurrence will get under way early next week, officials state. The crosscut is being continued and to date has advanced some 80 feet. It is the opinion of the management that the high-grade discovery opened up on surface will be intersected within another 150 feet, when further expansion in the lateral campaign will be inaugurated.

Diamond drilling from the 350-foot level is progressing, and geological conditions existing down to a further depth of 300 feet reveal the faulting conditions to be local. It is expected that the downward extension of the veins on the first level will be intersected by diamond drilling at depth in the comparatively near future.

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