

Mines of nickel ore may be made workable under a license fee if the ores are not refined in Canada, but for the present this provision of the Act is held in abeyance.

Any person may explore for mines and minerals on any Crown land not staked out or occupied, and not withdrawn from sale by Order in Council as being valuable for pine timber or other reason. Crown lands supposed to contain ores or minerals may be sold as mining lands, called mining locations, or may, when situated within a mining division, be staked out and worked as mining claims under miner's license.

Mining locations containing not less than 40 acres, are sold as follows : If in a surveyed township and within six miles of a railway, \$3.50 per acre, if within twelve miles, \$3, if beyond twelve miles, \$2.50 ; if in unsurveyed territory, \$3, \$2.50 and \$2, according to distance from railway. All these mining locations revert to the Crown in default of the expenditure in actual mining operations of \$1 per acre during the first two years and of \$1 per acre in each year of the next five years.

In addition to granting mining lands in fee simple, the province also grants leases of such lands for a term of ten years, and if at the end of the term all rents have been paid and working conditions performed the lessee will be entitled to a patent. The rental is \$1 per acre for the first year and fifteen cents to thirty cents per acre per annum (according to distance from the nearest railway and situation in townships or unsurveyed lands) for subsequent years.

Miners' licenses in territories which may be set apart as mining divisions are granted for one year on payment of \$10, renewable for another year on payment of a like fee. The holder of a license may stake out a claim of 15 chains square, $22\frac{1}{2}$ acres, or 20 chains square, 40 acres, and he can hold it as long as mining operations are carried on upon a scale of one man's labour for five months, or its equivalent if two or more men are employed during each calendar year. Where the licensee desires to procure a patent or lease of a claim he may do so by completing the working conditions at a rate of ten months of one man's labour on a claim of $22\frac{1}{2}$ acres, or of 15 months on a claim of 40 acres. But he is required to procure a survey of the land and to pay in the purchase money or first year's rental.

In unsurveyed lands of the Crown outside of mining divisions the holder of a prospector's license (fee \$10) may stake out two claims of 40 acres each and hold them for a period of two years by expending \$3 per acre in the first year and \$7 per acre in the second on development work, when the licensee may proceed in the usual way to acquire the property by survey and payment of the purchase price or the first year's rent.

The Legislature of Ontario created a Bureau of Mines in 1891. Mr. Archibald Blue was made director, and he has issued several valuable reports.