

Attention has been directed to the possibility of reviving or extending some of the older producing oil fields of Canada and a thorough study of the fields of southwestern Ontario was made by M. Y. WILLIAMS (1).

Platinum.—The shortage in recent years of platinum for use in laboratories and in the chemical industries led to considerable attention being given to the possibility of increasing the recovery of this metal in Canada from the known sources and of discovering new sources of supply. Notes on investigations in Alberta are published by G. C. MACKENZIE (6) and in British Columbia by G. C. MACKENZIE (6) and CHARLES CAMSELL (1). A number of quartz veins in southeastern Manitoba reported to carry platinum were sampled by E. L. BRUCE (1), but no platinum was found. WILLIAM THOMLINSON published in the *Canadian Mining Journal* the results of assays of samples of a number of mineralized veins at Franklin camp in southern British Columbia; some of these were ascertained to be platinum-bearing. J. J. O'NEILL (1) presented a review of the platinum situation in Canada and an article by W. L. UGLOW appeared in the *Engineering and Mining Journal* on the "Geology of platinum deposits," in which he described the mode of occurrence of the known platinum deposits.

Pyrite.—Pyrite is a mineral from which, by burning, sulphur dioxide is evolved for use in the manufacture of sulphuric acid. It is produced in considerable quantities in Canada. Deposits in the Michipicoten district have been described by W. H. COLLINS (1). Most of these deposits belong to the iron formation, which is composed essentially of banded silica, pyrite, and siderite, or sideritic limestone, arranged in stratiform fashion. The segregations range from ore carrying ninety per cent of pyrite down to carbonate or schist sparingly impregnated with pyrite. There are a few smaller bodies of high grade pyrite that do not occur with banded silica or siderite, and that are thought to be fissure-fillings or replacements deposits.

Radium-bearing minerals.—Descriptions are given in the *Canadian Mining Journal* by C. W. KNIGHT and R. E. HORE of the occurrence of pitchblende in the township of Butt, Nipissing district, Ontario. The mineral occurs in grains about the size of peas or larger, associated with a red feldspar in a pegmatite dike.

Road Materials.—Reports (1) were published in 1919 on investigations made on road materials in Montreal and vicinity and in the vicinity of Regina by H. GAUTHIER and L. REINECKE respectively. In Montreal and vicinity bedrock in the form of dolomite, limestone, and igneous rock is utilized in road construction. In the vicinity of Regina the only materials available are glacial boulders, gravels, and sands.

Salt.—The discovery of the salt beds at Malagash, Nova Scotia, is described by A. O. HAYES (1). In view of the large amount of salt utilized in the fish curing industry of the maritime provinces this discovery is of economic importance. The salt is now being mined.