

Government Withdraws Mining Claims

Many Protests come from Northern Ontario—Prospectors Say It is a "Raw Deal."

(From our Toronto Correspondent.)

The withdrawal by the Ontario Government of mining claims in Northern Ontario from restaking has caused a stir among miningmen in Toronto and in the industry generally. One local promoter points to the fact that several years ago he sold certain parcels of mining lands in Northern Ontario to an English financier for \$10,000 who naturally would not see the official notice in the Ontario Gazette advising the owners of the Government's intention to forfeit the unworked properties. In the opinion of a good many of the mining fraternity the situation is bound to prove a black eye for the industry as far as British investors in Canadian mining enterprises is concerned.

Magladery Presents Protests

During the past few days Tom Magladery, member for Temiskaming, has brought to Toronto the protests of the prospectors in his district against the Government's discrimination in favor of the wealthy mining companies. He reports that there is a furore in the north country on the part of the small claim owners who have worked several years on the properties, only to lose them now for the non-payment of a few dollars in taxes, while the wealthy companies are protected. Some of the protests are voiced by James Hyland, the well-known Cobalt engineer, who says:

"It is the rawest deal ever attempted and carried out in any civilized community. What would be the opinion of the farmers of this country if a similar law was enacted, and if the farmer one day found that his whole farm was confiscated because he had failed to pay a tax of possibly \$4 to \$10 of which he was unaware."

It is stated that the Teck-Hughes claims were restaked, despite the Government's order, by one prospector who hired all the automobiles and available conveyances in the north country so that nobody could beat him to the recording office. He now demands payment of his expenses from the Government.

The mining claims affected by the Government's order were advertised to be forfeited on Oct. 15th unless the assessment were paid by that date. They were to be thrown open for re-staking on Oct. 28th. It was on the latter date that the Cabinet passed the order-in-Council which saves eleven of them, including the Teck-Hughes and Kirkland Lake-Hudson Bay claims, from being restaked. But they had been forfeited on the previous date. The Mining Act does not cover such a situation as that now extant, except to place certain arbitrary powers in the Minister. Hon. Harry Mills, Minister of Mines is consulting the mining commissioner now as to the process of restoring the property to original owners.

Strike at Kirkland Lake.

A strike of major importance at the Kirkland Lake Gold Mines was made a few days ago on the 900-foot level. During the past month or so about 115 feet have been opened up in the downward extension of the main vein. The first development on the 900-foot level was carried along the hanging wall and assays ran from \$18 to \$42 per ton, whereas drilling this week along the foot wall about 45 feet apart from the hanging wall, assays it is stated, ran from \$30 to \$130 per ton in gold.

Underground operations at the mine of the Mining Corporation of Canada is reported as bringing more ore in sight than is being milled, the drillers are now breaking down high-grade ore, it is reported, at depth from the south end of Buffalo Mine. A substantial tonnage of good milling ore is being taken daily from the Foster as well as the old Cobalt Lake Mine, which are still proving productive.

According to official notices sent out, the direct-

ors of Wasapika Gold Mines Limited, will distribute among its shareholders of record, the assets of the company in the form of three shares in Wasapika Consolidated Mines Ltd. for each one share held in the old company, after which the original certificates will have no value.

That labor conditions are showing improvement in the Porcupine Camp is proven by the recent doubling of the payroll at Porcupine Crown. Recently the company had only forty men at work, whereas during the past week about ninety were employed.

Cobalt Shipments

During the week ending Nov. 5 four Cobalt companies shipped an aggregate of seven cars, containing 609,115 pounds of ore. The Nipissing headed the list with four cars, while the feature of the report is the appearance of the Bailey Mines for the first time. Following is a summary: Nipissing, four cars, 325,786 pounds; La Rose, 1 car, 109,992 pounds; Bailey, 1 car, 87,116 pounds; McKinley-Darragh, 1 car, 86,221 pounds.

Cyril W. Knight, Ontario Government Geologist, has just issued a report on the Argonaut Gold Mines, formerly La Mine d'Or Huronia, situated at Beaverhouse Lake, about half way between the Kirkland Lake district and Larder Lake. The report was compiled as the result of an examination and survey some time ago. The shaft has since been carried to a depth of 200 feet, at which point considerable commercial ore has been developed. Late in October the work of extending the shaft toward the 500-foot level was commenced.

According to a report from Kirkland Lake arrangements are being made to do some work on the Vindicator Gold Mines. This company was incorporated some years ago, but has never been aggressive. Its property, however, is favorably situated adjacent to the Wright-Hargraves and the Lake Shore mines, on the north.

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