

Bureau of Mines, and on the mines of Canada have been received during the year. No publications corresponding to the annual reports asked for are at present issued by the Federal Government.

The report of the Government Mining Engineer, Mr. A. J. Beaudette, gives much detail relative to the Munger 2-stamp mill and the assay office together with full particulars of the work done in the latter establishment. The following information concerning some of the mining localities is also included in it:

"The best prospect in the territory is situated on a ridge between Eldorado and Ophir creeks, known as the Violet group, which might develop into a mine. The development work started last year has been continued off and on ever since. It consisted of two shafts to a depth of 50 feet each, and cross-cutting in one shaft, and also an open cut on the outcrop of 40 to 50 feet long. The deposit appears to be between two and six feet wide, composed of iron stained quartz of a rose colour (a colour very characteristic of that of the quartz found in a deposit known as the White Channel), containing free gold and traces of galena. The galena occurs in spots irregularly distributed through the deposit. I sampled the open cut on the outcrop, which represents only a small amount of the ore in sight, and which gave an average of \$10.33 a ton. This proves that there is gold in the quartz not visible to the naked eye. I did not sample any place else, as the other parts were not accessible, being under water. I think instead of sinking shafts of 40 and 50 feet deep at different places upon the deposit, it would be better to sink one shaft only to ascertain if the ore has any depth and proof of continuity, to cross-cut it, and then to ascertain the length of the outcrop, and then to sample the ore in sight. Thus a decision can be arrived at as to the advisability of erecting a plant thereon. At present, I think there is enough prospect in sight to warrant development, but not enough ore in sight to erect a plant. According to my observation in connection with the gold-bearing quartz in the territory, I find that the gold occurs in the form of crystals, and leaf-like sheets, situated between the wall and vein matter, and very seldom in the vein matter itself. This vein matter being quartz is deposited in the form of large striners meeting each other, forming a network. On the ridge between Bonanza and Eldorado creeks an outcrop occurs two feet above the surface of the ground, out of which I took small crystals of gold in perfect octahedrons and small nuggets adhering to the surface of the quartz, and only in exceptional cases could I find any gold on breaking the quartz. To confirm this, I had an assay made of a piece of quartz, which showed no gold adhering to the surface, and found it to contain but little more than traces of gold. This quartz is white, slightly iron stained. The quartz found in the Violet group appears rose in colour, although some has a grayish appearance, iron stained and spots of galena irregularly distributed through it. An assay of a specimen which showed no visible gold gave \$10.33 per ton. The occurrence of the two deposits above mentioned is, I think, in every respect the

same, but as to whether it is possible from the general appearance of the quartz to judge of its gold-bearing properties, I am not prepared to say definitely, although as far as my experience goes, all the pure white quartz so far examined contained very little or no gold, whereas quartz of a grayish appearance or of a rose tint, more or less iron stained, always contained upon assay fairly good values. In placers the gold occurs, as usual, associated with light quartz wash lying immediately on top of the solid rock, called bed-rock. If the gold is fine it is found as high as three feet above bed-rock. On Eldorado the gold has been found as far down as 55 feet below the present pay streak. I am not prepared to accept the supposition that there is a distinct pay streak at that level, but that this strange occurrence may be explained as follows: The bed-rock is fissured in many places to a considerable depth, the pay gravel lying on top of the bed-rock admits water, to percolate through it, and the gold finds its way down into these fissures."

A detailed and illustrated report, by Messrs. R. G. McConnell and R. W. Brock, of the Geological Survey of Canada, of the great landslide that occurred at Frank, Alberta, on April 29, 1903, also accompanies the general report of the Superintendent of Mines, but as a summary of their conclusions was widely published last year interest in that disaster has by now very considerably lessened.

PROVINCIAL MINING ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

THE following is an excerpt from an editorial published early last month in the *Victoria Colonist*: "The Convention of the Provincial Mining Association has called public attention more particularly to the mining industry than is usually the case, and there is a general feeling that it is in a better position now than it has occupied at any previous time in the history of the Province."

Shortly after the close of the recent Annual Convention the *Ashcroft Journal* published the following news note: "Delegates to the Mining Convention from Ashcroft and Cariboo have for the most part returned to their homes. They speak in satisfactory terms of what has been accomplished and think the Association is now on a solid progressive footing. Messrs. R. Borland (150-Mile House) and W. Adams (Soda Creek) spent a day in Ashcroft this week before leaving for their homes."

The *Boundary Creek Times* (Greenwood) makes the following comment: "If the Provincial Mining Association does not flourish, it will not be from lack of ability on the part of its officers. John Keen has already demonstrated his fitness for the position, and the new secretary, E. Jacobs, is peculiarly fitted for that important office. Careful, painstaking and industrious, and with a wealth of information regarding the mineral resources of all parts of the Province, the Association is to be congratulated upon having secured his services."

The *Atlin Claim* says: "Despite the predictions of its detractors, the Provincial Mining Association accomplished a considerable amount of good work at the Convention lately held at Victoria, which closed its labours on the anniversary of its organization. As to the permanency and efficacy of this organization little doubt can reasonably exist, backed up, as it is, by representatives of high standing from every in