

Clarence A. Marsh, secretary of the company, who recently inspected the properties, is also interested in the Gold Cure mine, six claims situated on the South Fork of Kaslo, adjoining the Gibson leases and the same district as the Silver Bell and Index. A considerable amount of ore has been shipped from this mine.

It is intended to start developing at once and to follow the original idea of crosscutting for the old ore shoot opening up both north and south. Values show 174 ounces of silver and 38 per cent. lead, equal to \$300 in value. A good mill site is available, and it is planned to erect a concentration and flotation plant, to handle 50 tons a day.

Altogether Mr. Marsh expects his companies to lay out \$50,000 in development alone during the season, and to have everything going within the next two weeks.

Grand Forks Sun gives interesting statement regarding the matter of transportation for the North Fork country. A portion of the article follows:

It is now almost certain that the Granby smelter will not open up again as far as Grand Forks is concerned. However, that does not mean that mining prosperity will stop, nor does it mean that the C.P.R. is through with Phoenix; but it does mean that the system of giving ore a ride on the train before reducing or concentrating it, is out of date. Only limited quantities of ore can be hauled over any distance in the rough state.

It is a well known fact that tributary to Grand Forks there are valuable mines which are only now being prospected, and it behooves the people and the business men of Grand Forks to stand behind the prospectors in their struggle for better roads, railway transportation and supplies if they hope to get the business which will mean so much to this city.

It will be news to many of our citizens to learn that in Franklin camp the ores are not only rich in silver, gold, copper and lead, but carry exceptional values in the platinum group of minerals. Hitherto, only limited tests for platinum were made. Recently the Maple Leaf Company, after waiting for some three years on the government for information promised them, with negative results, have spent a considerable sum of money on the complete analysis of their ores, consulting some of the best authorities in New York City and Seattle, besides a number of others, and the

results were very encouraging. The ore is very complex. As shown by the analysis, all of the ores carry copper, gold and silver in varying amounts. Some of the ore is nickel-copper; others carry good values in lead, but the principal value, well distributed through all of the ore, is iridium, platinum, palladium, osmium, rhodium and ruthenium. The first is worth \$600 per ounce, and the last five together \$162 per ounce. The last car of Maple Leaf copper ore shipped to the Granby smelter, yielding \$28 per ton net, would now be worth \$128 per ton independent of the metals then paid for, and which would now be looked upon as merely a by-product. The significance of this can be better understood by comparison. One ounce of iridium in the matte is equal to 20 ounces of gold, and each ounce of the other platinum metals equals eight ounces of gold, or about 150 ounces of silver.

Recent assays on pulp from car lot shipment yielded over three-fourths of an ounce per ton of crude ore, the values of the palladium and iridium exceeding that of platinum, giving the Black Lead of Franklyn camp an unique place in the history of mining, when you consider the chief source of platinum, so far, is the Ural Mountains in Russia, where 100 tons yields only three-fourths of a pound of platinum, or 0.09 ounce per ton, and a very small quantity of the other platinum minerals. The Salt Chuck mine, north of Vancouver, recently discovered 0.07 ounces of this precious metal in a low-grade copper ore, and their concentrates, shipped to the Tacoma smelter, yielding about \$1,000 per car, are now worth from \$20,000 to \$26,000 in the east. The copper-nickel ores of Cobalt, Ont., carry small quantities of the noble metals, and the British American Nickel Corporation considers it of sufficient importance to put in an up-to-date electrolytic refinery for their recovery.

Compare these sources with our own Franklin district, where the platinum mineral in the Black Lead ores hold out in such superior quantities for a distance of four miles across the camp, and are also carried by the Union ores, which when concentrated will amount to considerable.

The Bertha-Pathfinder, a mine which has been proved as a shipper, is to be put in full operation on a big scale, and there are scores of other properties which deserve mention, and if we will make it a point to inform ourselves, we must decide that we are living in the center of one of the best districts in the world.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Mineral Province of Western Canada

TO END OF DECEMBER, 1918

Has produced Minerals valued as follows: Placer Gold, \$75,436,103; Lode Gold, \$97,121,786; Silver, \$46,839,631; Lead, \$42,294,251; Copper, \$145,741,060; Other Metals (Zinc, Iron, etc.), \$13,278,058; Coal and Coke, \$187,147,652; Building Stone, Brick, Cement, etc., \$28,843,272; Miscellaneous Minerals, \$651,759; making its Mineral Production to the end of 1918 show an

Aggregate Value of \$637,353,581

Production for Year Ending December, 1918, \$41,782,474

The Mining Laws of this Province are more liberal and the fees lower than those of any other Province in the Dominion, or any colony in the British Empire.

Mineral locations are granted to discoverers for nominal fees.

Absolute Titles are obtained by developing such properties, the security of which is guaranteed by Crown Grants.

Full information, together with mining Reports and Maps, may be obtained gratis by addressing—

THE HON. THE MINISTER OF MINES
VICTORIA, British Columbia.