

"Owing to the limited amount of work done, it is not practicable to give any estimate of the probable ore available in these claims; it is, however, reasonable to expect that there may be some deposits of payable siliceous ore within the limits of this mineralized zone, and the little development work already done points to the Red Point mineral claim as a probable location of payable ore. A diamond drill could be profitably employed to test the orebodies on this claim. On the other claims examined so little work has been done (with the exception of the Combination) that no conclusions could be arrived at as to their possible value.

"On the Combination claim there is some siliceous ore, and an expenditure of a few thousand dollars in the present tunnel would decide whether it is advisable or not to go to the expense of a deep-level tunnel. Some more stripping and exploration work on the surface could also be done to advantage.

"It is essential that the Government pack-trail should be pushed up to the flat on the Kitsaulte above Evendsen creek as soon as possible, as no satisfactory work can be done at present, owing to the cost of getting in supplies (30 cents a pound) and the time wasted in packing, practically 15 miles, on men's backs."

BUTTE AN OPEN CAMP NOW.

Hereafter Butte will be an open mining camp, and miners may belong to any union or none. This was decided on at a meeting of mine operators on Tuesday evening, and a statement of the new policy was issued and signed by all the companies, except the Davis Daly, which was not represented at the meeting. The signatories declare that the existing scale of wages and rules as to hours will continue in effect. Contracts with all other organizations will also be carried out.

The companies say that the attitude of the new Miners' Union toward employers, as expressed in notices and their constitution, put that organization beyond the possibility of being recognized or dealt with and its jurisdiction will not be recognized.

It is claimed by the companies that fully 80 per cent. of the working men approve of the action of the companies.

After two days' holiday the mines have resumed operations. Silver Bow mine of Anaconda, with 150 men, started up Tuesday. It is understood Anaconda has 500 armed men and several modern machine guns around the Hill properties. The mines are equipped with searchlights, and the miners have to pass a line of sentries in going to work.

Some ten thousand miners, until recently all members of Butte's Miners' Union No. 1, of the Western Federation of Miners, but now divided between that organization and the newly formed Butte Mine Workers' Union, were notified that from the viewpoint of their employers it made no difference whether they belonged to either organization or none. This decision, signed by the 12 companies which represent the copper output of Butte, was reached late last night, and the town, tight in the leash of martial law, bristled with excitement today when confronted with it.

"So far as the local union of the Western Federation of Miners is concerned," the statement said, "it became apparent immediately after the dissension of June 13th that the vast body of men employed in the Butte mines were openly in revolt against that organization, and that they would in no circumstances longer be identified with it. Since then that organization has demonstrated its inability to assume control over the underground workers of Butte."

CALUMET AND HECLA.

The Calumet and Hecla Mining Co. has passed quarterly dividend due at this time. Three months ago \$5 was declared, a year ago \$6.

In a circular to stockholders the directors say:

"In view of the unsettled condition of the copper market in this country, and the interruption of the company's business with its foreign customers, the directors have decided not to declare a dividend at the present time.

"The product of the mine will be curtailed and the wages and salaries of all employees and officers will be reduced. It is planned to continue operations on three-quarters time rather than to discharge any large number of men, and by keeping the entire force at work part of the time it is hoped that the organization of the company may be kept intact and a lesser hardship imposed on them."

But once before since 1871, when dividend payments were started, has Calumet and Hecla, the premier dividend payer among the North American copper properties, been obliged to pass its dividend. This was in April, 1884, when the directors decided to omit the dividend payable the following month. For a period of 30 years, therefore, the company has had an unbroken record. It is to be noted, however, that in 1889, 1894 and 1901 the company paid but three dividends in the twelve months.

GERMAN PATENTS.

Ottawa, Sept. 8.

Definite announcement by the Government on the question of German and Austrian patents held in Canada may be expected within the next few days.

Action has been delayed pending receipt of the rules adopted by the British Government in regard to patents held in the United Kingdom. These have now been received from the Hon. G. H. Perley, acting high commissioner, and are before the Government.

They provide for the suspension of patents held by subjects of enemy states during the continuance of the war and for six months after its conclusion. It is probable that action by the Dominion Government will be along similar lines.

The Government have been notified that Norway has extended by nine months the period during which patents may be received. The prolongation applies till June 30, 1915.

STEEL PLANT ERECTION.

The erection of the Fort William plant of the Steel Company of Canada, on which construction was started last year and not completed owing to the dull season of manufacturing, has been resumed and a large gang of men are hard at work on the completion of the building. J. O. Callahan, general manager of the Steel Company, and B. H. Pratt, of the contracting firm, are at present in the city, superintending the work of construction, and have stated the plant will be ready for operation between November 15th and December 1st of the present year.

COPPER.

New York.

The copper market continues quiet, and no large orders are in sight. A few sales are being made for domestic delivery on basis of 12½ cents a lb. Export demand is light. England and France are taking copper, but in small amounts. One producer figures that the brass companies are operating from 65 per cent. to 70 per cent. of capacity.