

Canada's Mining Industry

Giving the Workers a Voice

Kerr Lake Mine Operating the New System of "Industrial Democracy," and Promises Well—Combines Union and Non-Union Men

During the month of October the Kerr Mine produced 112,000 ounces of silver, the output being the highest for several months. This is at the rate of close to the average monthly output during the fiscal year ending August 31st when a total of 1,483,649.40 ounces was produced. The Kerr Lake has put into practice the proposed system of workmen's committees, the personnel of which is men employed by the company, and the new plan promises to give entire satisfaction. It will be recalled that during the labor strike of last summer the mining companies refused to recognize the Western Federation of Miners, but made a proposal to the men that if they return to work the companies would agree to the men forming workmen's committees at individual mines and thus discuss with the management matters concerning the welfare of the employees. In this way union and non-union men alike share in a full measure of recognition as employees at the mines.

Mr. M. P. Van der Voort of Toronto, secretary of the Gold Centre Mines, Limited, has received from Mr. B. M. Walton, M.E. a report on his visit to the property which is located in the Porcupine mining district in the Township of Tisdale and one claim removed from the McIntyre Mine. After describing the excellent location of the property and its promise geologically the engineer says he is strongly of the opinion that the property with serious development will amply justify the expenditure of a considerable amount of money with favorable chances of development into a producing and paying mine. He recommends that the property be first proven by diamond drilling of about 5,000 feet and is convinced that the area would indicate a mine of large size and immense possibilities. "Should the diamond drill holes along the contact prove the existence of commercial ore bodies," he says, "it would then be reasonable to assume that the entire line of contact will extend clear across the property running northeast by southwest for a distance of over 3000 feet in length and would mean the probable existence of a very large mine which would compare favorably with some of the largest producing and dividend paying mines in this camp.

Digby Grimstone, a well-known prospector, has just returned to Porcupine from Painkiller Lake district, where he has been doing considerable development work. His properties are located between the Premier and the Hattie mines. On the Grimstone properties he reports a very promising vein about fifteen inches to three feet wide, which has been traced from three to four hundred feet on the surface. It is learned that the Premier mines have now got their shaft down 250 feet, at which depth cross-cutting is being carried out to cut the ore body which is indicated along the surface.

The resumption of operations by the Cartwright Gold mines further indicates the amount of activity in this section. It will be remembered at the time of the Matheson fire this company's plant was totally destroyed. It is understood a strong syndicate, composed of French capitalists, has been formed to fully develop the company's holding as soon as restrictions have been removed by France from capital invested in foreign countries. According to the report of Major E. H. Birkett, resident mine manager of Nipissing Extension in

the Peterson Lake area of the township of Coleman, that officials has commenced a careful campaign for development. He has submitted favorable reports concerning the property and its possibilities and states that on Oct. 9th last he discovered a new vein on the Nipissing Extension property which had never before been located or heard of. This new discovery, he says, has been stripped for sixty feet. It averages one inch wide of smaltite and Cobalt Bloom and the wall rock carries leaf silver. According to the manager the new discovery has been assayed and the vein carries 830 ounces of silver to the ton. The company bases their faith in the property on the richness of the veins as found by Consulting Engineer Strong. No. 2 vein has been opened 140 feet on the first level and samples have been taken from it showing a very high value in silver.

F. A. Bourne, consulting engineer of the Northern Custom Mine has been appointed consulting engineer of the Nipissing Extension.

Development work, started last February and for which \$70,000 was set aside and expended by the Porcupine Keora Mining Company, Limited, to date has produced very satisfactory results, according to the reports of the engineers. The property consists of 200 acres located in the township of Whitney, Porcupine district, and on it considerable surface work has been carried out, diamond drilling done, shafts sunk and buildings erected. This work was undertaken to test out the northern ore body. To develop the low grade ore bodies will require an expensive plant and the company is not in a position to undertake this at the present time, so a start is being made with the high grade ore and the company will, from the treatment and sale of that, raise enough money for the their own mill. Between 400,000 and 500,000 shares are still in the treasury. Veins tested by extensive drilling have just been completed. Nos. 1 and 2 diamond drilled holes are down to 905 and 997 feet and Nos. 4, 5 and 6 were put down to a depth of 350 feet, while No. 7 is down 1,000 feet, with the result that No. 1 vein, which was the objective in the deep diamond drilling, has been proven to contain the same values at the depth as is shown on the surface. In putting down No. 2 hole 75 feet below the surface a new ore body was encountered which is now known as No. 5 and which showed an average width of 9 feet and an average value of \$17.44. This discovery caused the company to put down No. 4, 5, 6 and 7 holes over a total length of 700 feet and results show an average grade of ore of \$20 to the ton except in No. 4 hole where the highest assay obtained was around \$12. The results from this diamond drilling encouraged the company to commence the sinking of a shaft to open up No. 5 and 6 veins at a point cut by No. 5 drill hole where vein No. 5 is shown to be 20 feet wide and averages \$110 per ton. No. 6 vein, one hundred feet to the north, which will be opened up in the same work, shows 10 feet of \$47.56 per ton. The money is in the treasury to cover the cost of bringing the mine to a producing stage and it is expected that in five months' time a minimum production of 25 tons daily will be coming from No. 5 vein, netting the company between \$30,000 and \$40,000 monthly, according to the statement of the manager.

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