

and which has been closed for the past eighteen months, is being reopened under the supervision of J. C. Ryan, manager of the Soho Mining Co. Although only from ten to twelve men will be employed during the winter it is the intention to increase the force materially in the spring, and to that end it is proposed augmenting the camp accommodation.

There are four veins on the property, on one of which there has been development of something like 3,000 feet, while on another a 100-foot shaft has been sunk, from which there has been some drifting. Two carloads of ore were taken from the shaft in the working. It is said that there is about \$10,000 worth of ore on the dump awaiting shipment, basing the computation on present present.

Another Slocan property recently heard from is the Ottawa, now under lease from the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. by A. L. McPhee and P. Maguire. They are said to have encountered a shot of high-grade ore in a raise from a lower drift, there being a vein of ore, eight inches in width, assaying approximately 1,000 ounces to the ton.

Still another Slocan property, known as the Anna group, situated near Slocan City, is reported to have rewarded those engaged in development. Here again it is asserted that a rich vein has been struck, the ore of which assays very high in silver. The work of opening this up is proceeding.

W. E. Somerville, a prospector and mine operator of the Portland Canal District, and associates, are reported to have bought the Homestake Group of five claims situated in the Alice Arm section. It is said that the lead has been traced for 3,000 feet by tunnels and open cut and a good deal of diamond drilling has been done.

The Florence Silver Mining Co. has resumed operation of its mine and mill, situated on Princess Creek. This property has been closed down for between two and three weeks owing to plant trouble experienced during the severe cold of early December.

Development work is steadily proceeding on the main leads in the Stewart mining district and the Premier mine has sent its first big shipment of the season of silver ore,

states Mr. Grant Mahood of Stewart, one of the camp's most prominent operators and one of the original locators.

The shipment from the Premier consisted of 300 tons. The last consignment of similar ore brought \$337 a ton. He said it was expected that the total shipments from the Premier this season will run between three and four thousand tons. Hauling by tractor was tried out, Mr. Mahood said, but had to be abandoned and horse transport substituted.

The opinion was expressed by the mining operator that the proven claims warrant the expectation that Stewart will gain the distinction of being the biggest silver-producing district on the American continent. The Premier, he believes, will be the greatest mine of its kind ever opened up.

He commented that a strike of silver has been reported on the '49 Mine, where ten to twelve men are working and good results are being shown, that a cross-cut is being developed on the Big Missouri where big surface showings were uncovered, and that the Joker and New Alaska mines are being worked.

Keen interest is being shown, he remarked, in the working of the Lakeview mine on the Bear River side of the canal, which was taken under bond last fall by Mr. Pat Welch and associates, as the developments there will be a criterion for other prospects in the same locality.

The contractors on the Alaska group, Portland Canal district, have struck a fine body of ore, believed to be high grade, and have crosscut twenty-four feet with no wall in sight.

The strike is on a new group of silver lead claims at 11-mile, recently taken by C. F. Caldwell and associates, as a side enterprise to their main mining project there.

Development was taking the form of a drift of the big vein by contractors. When the drift ran into the ore they started to crosscut to determine the width of the body.

It is stated that British interests are looking into the possibilities of the establishment of an iron and steel industry in British Columbia.

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.

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