

THE EXCHANGE NEWS.

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MINING NEWS.

THE NICKEL SUPPLY.

At the statutory meeting of the Nickel Corporation, Limited, says the London Canadian Gazette, Mr. Whitaker Wright said that: "In regard to the world's supply of nickel, there are only two sources worth mentioning, at the present time, one being the Sudbury mines of Ontario, and the other the mines of New Caledonia. The Sudbury ore containing, as they do, sulphide of iron, nickel, and copper, the process of refining is complicated and expensive; further, the nickel produced is not of the best quality, as it contains traces of antimony and arsenic, which, for nearly all purposes, are very injurious when present in refined nickel. On the other hand, the New Caledonia ores being hydrated silicate of nickel, free from copper, sulphur, or other injurious impurities, the refining is comparatively simple, and the quality of the nickel produced is of an exceedingly high grade, being in the greatest demand for all purposes. I feel justified in expressing the opinion that this corporation can produce nickel of the purest quality at less cost than it can be produced by any other company, and that you will, in the near future, practically control the nickel market."

PROGRESS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF LARDEAU MINES PROPERTY.

Rossland, March 11.

Mr. H. O. McClymont, M. E., has just returned from Lexington Creek, a tributary of Fish Creek, where he has been in charge of the operation of the Lardeau Mines, limited. Operations were commenced on these properties about four months since. "The first work done was the construction of a trail from Lexington Creek up the side of Goat Mountain to the Royal Group. As soon as this was done the lead was exploited on the surface in several places, and the No. 1 lead was found to run through the three claims. There are three parallel leads on the property. No. 1 is a silver lead, No. 2 is an iron capped lead, located 25 feet from No. 1 and higher up the mountain than No. 2. After the surface had been explored, a tunnel was started on the Lardeau Queen for the purpose of tapping the ledge at a depth of 55 feet. It is a crosscut tunnel, and is now in 60 feet, the lead being met at 63 feet. The ledge is three feet wide, and is principally iron pyrite and quartz. On the hanging wall there is galena coming in and evidently displacing the iron. Three shafts were put into the floor, and these disclosed the galena. The assays

made of the galena ore shows 64 ounces in silver and \$16 in gold. On the surface of the main ledge assays as high as \$48 were got, which includes \$8 in gold. Mr. McClymont says the leads are strong and well defined. The veins are true fissure ones. In the Chief Joseph, which is located 3,000 feet south of the Lardeau Queen, at a depth of 60 feet, ore that went 1,100 ounces in silver has been obtained. This property is being developed and is likely to be sold to an English syndicate. Mr. McClymont says that as soon as he can get in a new supply of provisions and powder he will resume work on the Royal Group. A number of properties are to be operated in that vicinity in the spring. Eight properties have been purchased outright or are under bond, and all of these are to be operated as soon as the snow goes away. It is a section which has been overlooked, but which is now attracting a great deal of attention.

The Beatrice, which is six miles from the Royal group, has been shipping out its product to the smelter all winter, and is a mine of importance, although it is only partially developed. All the ore so far sent to the smelter from the Beatrice averages about \$120 to the ton.

The snow, Mr. McClymont says, has been from 13 to 14 feet deep on the Royal group, which lies about 6,000 feet above sea level. On the flat there is only about two feet of snow. The depth of the snow makes it difficult to get supplies in. There has been so much mild weather that the snow is soft. The snow slides have already commenced to come down, being a month earlier than usual. There is every indication that the spring will be very early this year and a likelihood of a very busy summer.

CALIFORNIA.

Rossland, March 11.

California—One car load of the machinery of the 10-drill compressor plant arrived yesterday, and a portion of it was hauled to the property. Another car load is en route, and is expected to come to hand in a few days. The machinery was ordered in September last, and was built to order, and will be one of the most complete plants ever turned out by the Jencks Machine Company. It is thought it will be running in about three weeks from date. It is a compound compressor. The cylinders are 22 inches for the low pressure and 14 inches for the high pressure, and the stroke is 22 inches. It is provided with Corliss air valves, and all the latest improvements for plants of this kind. It is to be driven by a 150 horse-power electric motor furnished by the Canadian General Electric company. This motor has already been installed. There is a 25 horse-power motor, which is to be used to drive the hoist on the way, but it has not yet arrived. When all this machinery starts there will be a large number of men employed on the California, as the intention of the management is to push the development on a comprehensive scale. At present the work is being confined to the tunnel, which is being extended.

EVENING STAR.

Drifting is in progress on the lower level; in fact 160 feet of drifting has been done since Dec. 18. The showing of ore is increasing. A car load of ore is sent to the smelter each week. This is taken out in the course of the development work. The ore, according to the smelter returns, goes \$24 to the ton. Manager Chamberlain is pleased with the way the mine is developing, and is certain that when more work has been done that it will be capable of producing a large tonnage of pay ore.

THE CENTER STAR.

Rossland, March 11.

In order to make necessary changes in the machinery, the Center Star was closed down during the past week, but it is expected that work will be resumed again as usual this coming week. Work on the compressor building, which is now roofed in, and on the gallows frame for the hoist has been in progress all week.

WAR EAGLE.

The War Eagle has been closed down all week. The electrical compressor has been taken apart preparatory to being lightened up, and the hoisting apparatus in the station at the 250-foot level is being overhauled. It is expected that the mine will resume development work during the week.

THE MOTHER LODE.

The British Columbia Copper Company, who are the owners of the Mother Lode Mine, in Deadwood Camp, Greenwood, and the development of whose property has been so great that it required the installation of a larger plant for handling their immense ore bodies, have just signed a contract in New York with the James Cooper Manufacturing Company, of Montreal, for a complete Ingersoll-Sergeant equipment, consisting of a Cross compound steam, compound air, Corliss air compressor; the high and low pressure steam cylinders being 22 inch and 40 inch diameter respectively, the air cylinders to be of the piston inlet type, high and low pressure, 19 1/4 inch and 32 1/4 inch respectively and 48 inch stroke, the machine to have a capacity of 40 drills. The boilers consist of two of the horizontal iron tubular type, each 100 horse-power for 125 pounds working pressure; also sufficient Ingersoll-Sergeant drills, with all necessary mountings and fittings.

This is the largest plant that has yet gone into the Boundary country, and in point of size is second to none now in operation in Canada.

A great deal of interest has been centered in the placing of this order owing to the keen competition of a large number of Canadian and American engineering firms, and the various reports that have been circulated from time to time as to who had been successful in securing this large order.

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