

# Mining Throughout British Columbia

**Possibility of opening Grand Forks Smelter—Lucky Jim foreclosure—investigation of two iron ore deposits—mining notes.**

Just what are the plans of the Granby Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company in respect of resuming operations at Grand Forks is a question causing circulation in that district. The company's Grand Forks smelter was closed down in June, the reason given being lack of coke occasioned by labor troubles in the Crows Nest Pass district. Then the price of copper was so low that the prospects were not particularly encouraging. Since the close-down Granby officials at Phoenix and Grand Forks are said to have been working on several schemes for the handling of at least 50,000 tons of good grade ore from the Phoenix property.

Shipment to Trail smelter or to Anyox and the installation of a concentrator at the mine, are plans reported to have been considered. There is no doubt, however, that there is the quantity of ore mentioned available and that the company is desirous of treating it before withdrawing entirely from the camp. Having this in mind, and the fact that the coal mines of the Crows Nest are now in operation, which assures a supply of coke, those interested in the district are hopeful that the smelter will be re-opened. Meanwhile the citizens of Greenwood are said to have opened negotiations, having in view the acquirement of the Granby Company's ore at Phoenix. This presumably would be used by the Greenwood people in their operations of the Canada Copper Company's smelter, providing the same is secured by them in the negotiations now under way.

Immediate foreclosure proceedings will be taken against the Lucky Jim Mines, Ltd., owners of the Lucky Jim Mine on Bear Lake, in the Sloean District. It is expected that reorganization will take place immediately to the end that the property may be again put on a producing basis. Senator Landrum McMeans, of Winnipeg, trustees for the mortgagees, is responsible for the foregoing statement. Under A. G. Larsen, who acted as trustee, the Lucky Jim produced \$200,000, paying off a first mortgage, lifting a floating debt, and making a start on the second mortgage of \$35,000. The present action is based on the latter indebtedness. Senator McMeans proposes on acquiring control to place his interest in the mortgage into a new company in the formation of which the co-operation of former shareholders will be sought.

The French Complex Ore Reduction Company's plant at Nelson, has been closed down. This enterprise has been supported by the Provincial Government to the extent of about \$65,000, which purpose was to demonstrate the practicability of treating with commercial success the fractious silver-lead-zinc ores of the Kootenays by means of the French electrolytical process. A company was formed consisting mainly of Victoria and Nelson men, by whom the patents are held. In addition to the experimental plant at Nelson, one was installed at the Standard Mine, at Silverton. The Canadian Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company took an option on the process but did not close on it, having developed in its own plant an electro-chemical process which met its requirements. While the Nelson plant has gone out of operation and the loans made by the Government thus will have to be written off, it is claimed by Mr. French, that the Company's experimental work is responsible for the ultimate success attending the development of the electro-chemical processes in the handling of complex zinc ore.

That some bornite ore has been encountered in the shaft being sunk on the Mountain Chief copper property at Renata and that shipments of ore to the smelter will commence in a few days, were announcements made by J. W. Evans, manager of the Mountain Chief Mining Company.

The Mountain Chief, which has a copper-silver ore, was bonded last February by the company, from the original syndicate, which has done some development last year. Since

the change of ownership development has been continuous, consisting of a large shaft sunk from the outcrops which is now at a depth of sixty feet. While the ore has continued to improve with depth, it is the past week that has brought the greatest improvement, this being caused by a substantial percentage of bornite coming into the chalcopryite ore body which has been under development the past month.

It is now proposed to drift for a time in this new ore, the drift starting with a face of nine feet before continuing the sinking. Two shifts are being worked.

"Preparations are being made by the Nanoose-Wellington Coal company to install a \$75,000 washing plant as well as considerable additional machinery," said Louis Williams, president of the Nanoose-Wellington Coal company, who was in the city from Seattle recently. J. J. Grant, superintendent of the plant at Grant, B. C., is also here to meet Mr. Williams.

Several years ago Mr. Grant opened his property which now extends over an area of 1600 acres, but it was later taken over by the Nanoose-Wellington company. "With the new machinery we intend to install the plant at Grant, B. C., will turn out 500 tons of coal per day, much of which will be shipped to Seattle," added Mr. Williams.

Much interest is being shown in the Kootenay in the big hematite deposit that is being traced on Thompson Creek, according to visitors from Creston. Work has been in progress on the group of 40 claims ever since spring, G. A. M. Young, of Creston, being in charge of a crew of 12 to 15 men, who are engaged in trying to define the boundaries of the deposit. The group is the property of the British Columbia Iron Company, Ltd., the directors of which are F. L. Hammond, Mr. McLaws of Winnipeg, P. G. Ebbutt of Creston and E. C. Wragge of Nelson.

Mr. Wragge made the following statement regarding the property:

"The property of the British Columbia Iron Company, Ltd., consisting of about 40 claims, is situated about three miles west of Kitchener, extending in a belt north and south which crosses the C. P. R. line at Thompson Creek.

"When I visited the scene last fall, the deposit as then exposed was of comparatively small extent.

"Considerable work was done last fall, and this season Mr. Young has been working ever since the spring, tracing the deposit by means of surface trenching. The result is that we have proved quite a large body of hematite ore. The ore is from 60 to 65 per cent. iron.

"There is now no doubt that our hematite deposit is a southern extension of the known belt of hematite that the C. P. R. Company and C. P. Hill control on Goat River.

"What we have discovered so far is very satisfactory. There are some other points to be determined, however, before we can assert that we have a commercial proposition. It will take diamond drilling to bring out what we want to know, but that step is not yet being discussed."

A large iron ore body situated on a branch of the White-water River, 50 miles from Shalalth station on the Pacific Great Eastern, is being investigated at the present time with a view to development.

The provincial government is actively interested. A big party is on the ground at present, and in addition to J. H. Hawthornthwaite, representing the owners, there are W. M. Brewer, government mining engineer and John Gray, C.E. Mr. Gray is making a preliminary reconnaissance survey for a railway grade to connect with the Pacific Great Eastern and Mr. Brewer is making a mineralogical inspection for the government.

Twelve different assays by a well-known London firm give an average iron content of over 50 per cent. Another