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Mines and Mining.

GIANT.

Work was resumed upon the Giant by Senator George Turner, Colonel W. M. Ridpath and Mr. E. D. Sanders, under a six months' option on the control of the stock. Since then the work has been confined to the thorough prospecting of the surface, during which it was demonstrated that there were two strong veins on the property—one of gold copper and the other carrying gold and white iron. A four-drill compressor, together with a pumping and hoisting plant, have been installed and are now in operation. The shaft on the gold copper ledge, which had reached a depth of 112 feet, has just been unwatered, and the intention is as soon as the stations can be cut out and a ladder-way put in, to crosscut from the 50 and the 100-foot levels, so as to strike the ledge, which is thought to be from 30 to 40 feet from the shaft. As the ore taken from the surface of this vein is nearly all of a pay grade, it is thought that there will be quite a lot of shipping ore between the 100-foot level and the surface. Ore to the extent of 75 tons has been shipped from the Giant since work was resumed under the new management. There are still about 300 tons on the dump. A ten-drill compressor has been ordered, and will take the place of the present plant as soon as it can be made.

So far, shipments of ore have been made to the Northport smelter, but it is thought that from now on the ore will be sent to Trail.

VELVET.

During the past year the main shaft on the Velvet has been extended from the 160 to the 250-foot level. On the 160-foot level crosscuts and drifts of a total length of 620 feet have been run, and a body of ore of from six to 35 feet in width has been exposed. The ore is of a good grade. On the 250 foot level, crosscuts and drifts and upraises have been made to the extent of 450 feet. The ore shoot is opened for a horizontal length of 273 feet on the 160-foot level, and for a length of 130 feet on the 250-foot level. The main adit, which is to open the mine to a depth of 230 feet has now been driven in for a distance of 140 feet. This is the mine to which the Canadian Pacific Railway recently surveyed a line from this city, over a distance of 15 miles, and there is a considerable assurance that it will be constructed in the spring. There is considerable ore on the dumps that was taken out in the course of the development, and more in the stopes, and it is certain that a large

tonnage could be furnished by the Velvet for the railway when it is completed.

CALIFORNIA.

Work was resumed upon this property some three months since. The development at that time consisted of a 210-foot tunnel driven on a north and south vein under a large iron capping, which shows a width of 80 feet. This tunnel has been lengthened since then. In addition to this a stringer of ore met in the tunnel has been driven on for about 50 feet. Most of the attention since work was resumed has been given to the erection of a combined shaft and compressor house, blacksmith shop, office building and other structures. The intention is to put in a ten-drill compressor, which was ordered three months since, and which is expected to come to hand in about a month. The motive power will be electricity. The gallows frame and some of the electric machinery is already in position, and the work of sinking the shaft is being carried on by hand, pending the installation of the machinery. The intention, as will be seen from the large scale of the preparations, will be on an extensive plan.

EVENING STAR.

The upper tunnel has been lengthened 50 feet, No. 2 tunnel has been driven for a distance of 50 feet and an upraise has been made from it for 50 feet. There has been 86 feet of drifting in the No. 2 tunnel. A winze has been made from No. 2 tunnel to a depth of 20 feet. The gold-white iron ledge has been opened up for a depth of 150 feet and for something over 100 feet in horizontal depth. The ledge is 30 feet wide. A large copper-gold ledge has been developed by means of an open cut and explorations are in progress from the 150-foot level for the purpose of finding this ledge. As soon as the reorganization of the company is completed the intention of the management is to install a 10-drill compressor.

WAR EAGLE AND CENTRE STAR.

The War Eagle shipped during the year 64,748 tons and the Centre Star 16,855 tons. The latter is expected to start the year with a weekly output of 1000 tons. The combined monthly pay roll for the two mines show 617 men and \$49,359.

NEW ST. ELMO.

Work on the property of the New St. Elmo was resumed on June after a shut down of 12 months by the recognized company, which is made up of a syndicate of Toronto and New York capitalists. Previous to this a tunnel over 800 feet had been run. Since the work was resumed by the new company 294 feet of drifting and crosscutting has been done under the superintendence of Mr. Krumb. One crosscut has been driven to the south to intersect a vein that is parallel to the main lead, a distance of 164 feet. There is a fair showing of ore in the property. A five-drill compressor plant was installed a short time since and the work of development is making good progress.

IRON MASK.

During the past year work has been done at the 200, 300, 350 and 400-foot levels until a mile of underground workings have been developed and a large quantity of shipping ore has been uncovered. The ore reserve obtained being the leading feature of the year's work in addition to the successful installation of new machinery. The mine employs a force of 60 men, has a pay roll of \$5,500 and during the year shipped 5,646 tons of carefully sorted ore.

ORE FOUND IN THE I.X.L. THAT RUNS OVER \$5,000 TO THE TON.

O. K. mountain is evidently a very rich one, as good results have been obtained when systematic work has been done. The I. X. L. mine yielded good values for the amount of development work done, and had it been well managed it would still be doing well. I. X. L., for the amount of work done upon it, has yielded very well. There are a number of properties on this mountain with fair surface showing, on which nothing has been done. On Sunday a very rich pocket of ore was encountered in No. 1 stope above No. 1 level. About a ton of this rich ore has so far been taken out, and there is considerable more in sight. Mr. Roy H. Clarke, the manager of the mine, is of the opinion that this ore will run between \$5,000 and \$7,000 to the ton. A half ton from another pocket, not as rich as this one, gave a smelter return of \$2,400 for half a ton or \$4,800 per ton. This late find is the richest pocket of ore that has yet been found in the Trail Creek division. The rock glistens with stringers and bunches of free gold. So far no stoping has been done on any level in the I. X. L. except No. 1.

GREAT WESTERN.

The management have decided to close down the Great Western mine for the present. A great deal of surface water from the swamp to the north has found its way into the mine, and as the workings of the Nickle Plate are being rapidly extended eastward it has been decided to wait until they reach the Great Western's line of operation, when both mines can be worked together advantageously. The main shaft is down 400 feet, and during the year the mine was thoroughly equipped with machinery and pumps.

CROWN POINT MINE.

Work on this Mine has been rushed to Completion.

Rat Portage, Jan. 12.

Mr. E. A. Barton, of Montreal, the secretary-treasurer of the Crown Reefs Gold Mining Co., arrived in town on Tuesday night from the mine in the Shoal lake country, and expressed himself as greatly pleased with the results being obtained on the Crown Reef mine. He found that the five-stamp mill was ready to run and that the present state of development of the mine is far beyond what would be expected when the length of time the property has been operated is taken into consideration. It is less than five months since the work was begun, yet in that time there have been camps and shaft houses, an office, manager's residence and 5-stamp mill erected on the property. There are at present 28 men on the pay roll of the company. Shaft on No. 3 vein is 73 feet deep and nearly every blast brings out free gold. A mill run will be made by Mt. Ahn, of about 100 tons, which he expects to have completed by the 22nd. He will endeavor to run on picked ore. A mill run last fall at the Keewatin reduction works on everything from the shaft gave a return of \$5.07 to the ton. It is expected that the present run will average much higher. On the big contact vein, 110 feet in width, the shaft has reached a depth of 42 feet, and the showing is very good. The shafts on the property are 8x16, three compartments and collared. At one place there are five veins converging into the contact. The property has a number of veins all of which seem more or less valuable. The miners have so much faith in the property that they are investing in the stock of the company themselves. If the present favorable state of affairs continues and the results of tests with the 5-stamp mill are satisfactory the company will place a 60-stamp mill when the development will warrant it.—Rat Portage Miner.