

Work on the buildings for the additional plant has been commenced. The building will consist of a fence mill, 60 x 200 feet, two storeys; galvanizing building, 40 x 250 feet, and warehouse, 100 x 200 feet. The additional machines to be installed will consist of a 250 horse-power water tube boiler and a compound condensing engine of 150 horse-power, to drive a 100 k.w. generator.

It is announced that the Imperial Oil Co., of Sarnia, is about to erect a coal-handling plant, to cost about \$40,000, and also has arranged to build a short line which will be equipped with two locomotives and sixteen cars, for handling the coal.

The Gladstone Development Co., of Ontario, was recently organized with a capital of \$75,000, to acquire and operate property in Gladstone Township, owned by a Mr. N. J. Morrissey. According to assay returns, the ore here contains good copper values. The claims cover an area of 400 acres, about seven miles from the C. P. R. tracks and north of Dean Lake.

The United Gas and Oil Company, of Windsor, who suspended operations in the Wheatley oil fields some time ago, but have lately commenced work again, have struck a large well about two and a half miles from here on the farm of Fred. Wright. It has flowed 150 barrels and is still flowing. This well has not been shot, and is thought by the company to be one of the best in this section.

In the Manitou district there appears to be some slight revival of interest, steps having been taken in the resumption of development operations at the Golden Rod Company's property, while good progress is being made in the development of the Minnehaha Gold M. & S. Co.'s property. Work is also under way at the Big Master Mines Company's property. The district has recently been visited by many mining men and prospective investors.

Important discoveries of iron ore have recently been made by prospectors in the vicinity of Iron Lake, east of Port Arthur. Messrs. Wiley Bros. report that the quality of this iron is good, being sufficiently low in sulphur and phosphorus to be suitable for the manufacture of Bessemer steel. At the instance of Prof. Miller, the Provincial Geologist, a party has been inspecting the ground for the past month, and now reports that the field is much more extensive than was originally believed. Little can be said, however, of the quality or actual value of the new discovery until development operations are commenced.

The Ontario Government. It is understood, has engaged the services of an eminent mineralogist from Saxony, reputed to be the highest authority in the world upon Cobalt ores, to investigate and report upon the rich Cobalt areas of Nipissing near New Liskeard.

A dispatch from Port Arthur, Ont., states that Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann and Marks & Wiley have concluded arrangements by which all their iron mining properties on Atikokan Steep and Rockinge will be transferred to the Port Arthur Iron Mines Co., Ltd., which is being incorporated with a capital of \$500,000. Active mining operations are to commence immediately, arrangements having been made by which 50,000 tons of sulphur ore are to be shipped annually to the States. The deal will embrace between 20,000 and 25,000 acres of land, taking in the whole Atikokan range outside of claims held by McKellar, Pumpelly, Smith and Coleray. The arrangement assures active development work upon the property, but it is improbable any ore can be shipped before the end of the year.

ALBERTA.

The oil from the wells, which have not yet been productively developed owing to litigation between the Canadian Pacific Railway and the Canadian Government, which only ended last month, is alleged, as it comes from the wells, to be sixty-five per cent. pure and of the non-sulphurous kind, which gives off no smoke.

The Big Seepage springs, where the work is most developed, lie fifty-five miles north of Belton, Mont., ten miles across the boundary line. The country is rough and uncultivated, and is only reached from Belton by stage or horse back.

The extraordinary purity of the oil found in the Big Seepage Springs, in Alberta, has been much commented on, although the circumstance itself is unfavourable, having regard to the permanence of the occurrence.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The Coast.—The Western Construction Company of San Francisco has undertaken to supply the United States Government with several million yards of cut and dressed stone from the Newcastle Island quarries, near Nanaimo. It is estimated that it will require three years before the contract is filled.

Crushing operations have commenced at the Britannia mine, Howe's Sound, and shipments are shortly to be commenced to the Crofton smelter.

Mr. H. Wild, M. E., of New York, has secured an option on the Van Anda Mines, Texada Island. These properties were owned formerly by an American company, who, as a result of bad and extravagant management, came to grief. The mines have been bonded twice in the last few years.

Boundary District.—The owners of the Sally Mine on the West Fork of Kettle River last month received a cheque for \$4,143.50 from the Trail Smelter, in payment for twenty tons of ore shipped recently from this property. The group is situated at Wallace Mountain, near the junction of Beaver Creek with the West Fork of Kettle River. There are a number of promising prospects in this vicinity, and it is expected that many of these mines will be able to begin production when the Midway & Vernon Ry. (which is about to be constructed) affords the necessary transportation facilities. The ore in this camp gives very high silver values, shipments from the Sally having averaged over 225 oz. to the ton.

Slocan.—The installation of a compressor plant and mill is to be made shortly at the Argenta mine. It is also proposed to build a tramway $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length from the mine to the waggon-road.

Milling operations are in steady progress at the Jackson mine, where four hundred tons of zinc concentrates were produced last month and are ready to be shipped to the Kaslo sampler. At the Ruth mine, mill operations are to be resumed directly the contemplated additions shall have been made to the Kaslo works, as at present the sampler is not in condition to receive ore. The company has ordered three new zinc machines from the United States, which are expected to arrive in the course of the next two weeks.

Nelson.—The Nelson press makes rather much of the fact that a sample of ore brought from the Molly Gibson mine was found to assay 2931.8 oz. in silver. Of course, the assay returns from a mere specimen may have no special significance. It is not unlikely, however, that the Molly Gibson will prove to be a very rich property, from which handsome profits will be realized under good and careful management. Ore is now being taken out, ready for shipment, there being employed at the mine a force of twenty-five men.

The British Columbia M. & D. Co., of Rossland and Chicago, have instructed their manager to proceed at once with development work upon the Bon Ton group of claims on White Grouse Mountain, east of Kootenay Lake. There is said to be an excellent showing on the property, which has been opened by surface cuts.

Rossland.—The Privy Council has allowed the Centre Star Mining Company the right to a cross appeal in its suit against the Rossland Kootenay Mining Company. The action was brought against the Rossland Kootenay Mining Company by the Centre Star Mining Company, which claimed (1) Damages for the original trespass committed by the Rossland Great Western Mines, Ltd., the predecessors in title to the defendants; (2) Damages for a large quantity of ore taken by the Rossland Great Western Mines, Ltd., from the Centre Star property; (3) Damages sustained by the Centre Star Mining Company owing to water which was allowed to escape from the Nickel Plate mine along the trespass workings into the Centre Star mine; (4) An injunction against the Rossland Kootenay Mining Company to prevent a repetition of the aforesaid damages.

The Canadian Gold Fields Syndicate of Rossland, has distributed a quarterly dividend of 2 per cent. The syndicate has paid in dividends in all \$72,000, of which \$36,000 has been paid since the 15th of December last.

At the Centre Star mine preparations are being made to extend the shaft down from the 9th level, and work was to have been commenced at the beginning of August. An electric locomotive is to be installed at the mine to transport the ore from the shaft to the bunkers. Stopping meanwhile continues on the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, and 8th levels, where development work is also in progress.

The Rossland Miner states that the new chute on the 6th level of the War Eagle is opening up in a very satisfactory manner, and the ore that is being stoped from it is of excellent grade.

Both the concentrators at the Le Roi and the Le Roi No. 2 are now running steadily on second class ore. The Le Roi concentrator is said to be giving good results, although this method is still regarded as experimentally treatment only.

At the Trail smelter the lead stack was blown in during July, while the work of enlarging the refinery is making good headway.

There is still some prospect of an amalgamation between the White Bear and California Companies, though the Rossland Miner points out that the owners of the California appear to have an exaggerated idea of the value of their property, which is practically undeveloped. The White Bear, on the other hand, has a good showing of ore, and some of it is of an exceptionally high grade. Besides this it has a valuable concentrating mill, a good plant for hoisting and a compressor plant. It would seem as though the advantages, so far, as having the more valuable property and plant are concerned, are on the side of the White Bear.

East Kootenay.—Mr. S. S. Fowler, who recently visited the Paradise mine in the Windermere section, reports that a discovery of high grade silver has been made on the north fork of Toby Creek. This strike is said to be one of the largest and most important yet made in Northeast Kootenay.