

Mining Throughout the Province

Granby Returns for May—Use of Steam Shovel at Grand Forks—Hazelton Development—Oil Boring at Otard Bay—Oil Smelting at Copper King Mine.

The Pioneer Placer mines on French Creek in the Big Bend country, which have been shut down since February, have recently reopened with 75 men in the workings. Mr. E. A. Bradley, superintendent, returned to Revelstoke for supplies and men.

He states that a great many prospectors are going into the Big Bend districts, some of which are old Alaskan miner. In addition to French Creek, McCollough Creek and Smith Creek are being actively prospected.

A despatch from Invermere states that a large deposit of coal has been discovered in Tobey Creek Valley, which was uncovered by a landslide this spring. Tobey Creek is a tributary of the Columbia River and rises in the Selkirks.

The Granby Company are returning to former methods for a portion of their mining at their big Phoenix property, an electric shovelling outfit now being installed at the mine. Steam shovelling was the original method of mining obtaining at the Old Ironsides, the claim from which Granby made its first shipments of ore, but this was superseded about a dozen years ago by the stope, tunnel and shaft system with underground electric transportation. The latter system will of course continue through the greater part of the mine, but by it the undermining and caving of the early workings have made the latter one huge "glory hole." While steam shovelling gave way to underground mining the development of the property has arrived at a stage when the power shovel may now be adopted to advantage, the shipments being made through what have been underground outlets of the mine.—Grank Forks Gazette.

Granby smelter treated 104,915 tons of ore during the month of May, 103,421 tons from Granby mines and 1,494 tons from foreign properties. In the same period the Granby shipped a total of 1,652,643 pounds of blister copper to the refinery. The following table gives the smelter returns in detail for the first four months of the year:

	Blister Lbs.	Granby Ore Tons	Foreign Ore Tons	Total Tons
January	1,729,995	97,569	2,621	100,190
February	1,740,000	93,450	2,372	95,822
March	1,738,555	102,141	1,940	104,081
April	1,692,102	100,089	1,064	101,153
May	1,652,643	103,421	1,494	104,915
1st 4 months 1914...	8,553,295	496,670	9,491	506,161
1st 4 months 1913...	9,222,697	517,386	4,706	522,092

Oil Drilling at Otard Bay, Graham Island, is progressing favorably, according to a Prince Rupert report. One private syndicate has driven a well down 850 feet, and another is driven 450 feet. In the former case at 600 feet, hot water was struck, which was a favorable indication in the Texas field.

It will be remembered that two years ago several oil indications were brought to public attention, with the result that exploitation work was started with the above result to date.

In striking contrast with customs collections of ports generally throughout the Dominion, which are showing big decreases, those of Grand Forks for the month of May, this year, stand out conspicuously, representing as they do an increase of 100 per cent. over those of May, 1913, and an increase of 300 per cent. over the corresponding month in 1912.

The customs collections at the port of Grand Forks and

subports for the month of May, 1914, as reported by Collector R. R. Gilpin, were as follows:

Grand Forks	\$13,205.42
Phoenix	3,736.96
Carson	128.42
Cascade	86.09
Total May, 1914.....	\$17,156.89
Total May, 1913	8,309.65
Total May, 1912	5,498.52

The heavier shipments of ore from across the International Boundary for smelting at Grand Forks are responsible for the increase in customs noted above.

Test runs of the oil smelter just completed at the Copper King mine outside of the Chewelah have demonstrated the efficiency of the new plant, according to the operators, and after adjustments are made this week the smelter will be put into continuous operation.

"The smelter was started up last Saturday," said C. S. Batchelder, chemist in charge of the tests, "and demonstrated during a short trial its entire ability to smelt the ore. The matte produced assayed better than 34 per cent. copper though the ore was of the lowest grade, and the working conditions are not of the best. After two pots of the melted ore had been run off, a defective casting at the spout burnt out, and now is being replaced. The fixture is only a very minor portion of the equipment, and another can be easily put in."

RECENT ANNUAL REPORTS—Continued

NORTHERN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, LIMITED

Registered Provincial Office, Vancouver Block, Vancouver, B.C.

Balance sheet as of Dec. 31, 1914:

LIABILITIES—

Accounts and Bills Payable	\$3,826,715.12
Wages Payable	51,233.88
Dividends Unpaid	639,505.67
Capital Account	200,000.00
Surplus	700,869.08

Total

ASSETS—

Accounts and Bills Receivable	\$4,037,777.90
Cash on Hand and in Banks	3,179.94
Plant, Machinery, etc.	597,669.86
Real Estate	11,942.01
Investments	367,774.21
Other Assets	26,963.63

Total

C. V. CUMMINGS, Secretary.

THE PRINCESS ROYAL ISLAND MINING COMPANY

Room 1, 407 Hastings West, Vancouver, B.C.

LIABILITIES—

Authorized	\$1,000,000.00
Outstanding	650,005.00
H. G. Sprague	230.00

Total

ASSETS—

Mining Property	\$ 645,000.00
Mines Development	5,113.02
Bank of Nova Scotia	13.71
Mining Supplies	62.67
General Expense	45.60

Total

F. A. BORDEN, Sec.-Treasurer.