

Mining Throughout British Columbia

Receipts at Trail—Results at Le Roi, No. 2—Development at Sheep Creek—Greenwood Smelter Closes—Effect of Peace on Reduction Works—Phoenix Smelter Blows In.

The following is a list of the ore received at the Trail smelter, November 15th to 21st, inclusive, 1918:—

Mine.	Location.	Gross Tons.
Arlington	Slocan	30
Centre Star	Rossland	440
Cork Province	Zwicky	47
Couverapee	Field	78
Galena Farm	Silverton	48
Jessie Bluebird	Woodberry Creek	7
Josie	Rossland	302
Mountain Chief	Renator	203
North Star	Kimberley	274
Queen Bess	Sandon	50
Silver Seal	Clines, Wash.	19
San Poil	Republic, Wash.	330
Sovereign	Sandon	46
Silversmith	Sandon	48
Sullivan (zinc)	Kimberley	2631
Sullivan (lead)	Kimberley	683
J. H. Thompson	Adamant	35
Van Roi	Silverton	50
Western Minerals	Toketio	2
Yankee Girl	Ymir	50
Total		5373

The Le Roi No. 2, Limited (Josie), operating at Rossland, produced 19,000 tons of ore in the fiscal year ended on September 30th last, according to Ernest Levy, general manager.

"Ore has been found in the old No. 1 mine after many years of exploration," said Mr. Levy. "The body is 200 feet long, two and a half to three feet wide, and has been followed up for 50 feet. The grade is of the average in gold, but below the average in copper. We are breaking and shipping ore from this body.

"Sinking has been resumed in a 200-foot winze from the 1650-foot level. Ore extracted below the collar of the winze compares favorably with that extracted elsewhere in the mine, especially in copper, but in both copper and gold. Conditions in the winze are encouraging.

"Operations were resumed two week ago after an interruption of two weeks because of the influenza, and are proceeding with two shifts. As health conditions improve the force will be increased and development and production engaged in continuously.

"Considerable hardship has attended mining in the last year or so. It resulted from sickness, labor troubles, and high prices of materials among other things. Powder is 100 per cent. higher, and steel 60 per cent. We use much powder and of a high grade, as the ground is hard. Steel has been hard to get."

A. W. McCune, the Salt Lake and New York mining man who has been one of the most successful operators in British Columbia, has consolidated four large groups of valuable claims in the Sheep Creek district, and expects to expend \$200,000 in developing and equipping these properties to again make heavy producers of them.

These claims in the past gave the world \$1,417,626 of gold. They are the Queen, Vancouver, Kootenay Belle and Alexandra groups. There are 19 claims included in the deal.

Gold was produced by the Queen from 1900 to 1916, in which time its output amounted to \$1,312,654. It has been the chief producer of the Sheep Creek camp. The Kootenay Belle produced \$104,972.

It is intended to increase the present force of men from 25 to 200, to build a new 200-ton mill, rebuild or repair buildings and drive a 3000-foot crosscut tunnel from the

Malwaaz claim across properties to the Alexandra, cutting several veins.

Salmo, on the Great Northern, easily accessible to Trail by motor, is the railroad point for the Sheep Creek district.

According to a letter from General Manager Van Wagenen, of the Canada Copper Corporation, to the Greenwood Ledge, the closing of the company's smelter at Greenwood comes because of high operating costs with the very low grade ore obtainable in the Mother Lode mine.

Contrasted with this the story in the Province that the closing down at Greenwood will be permanent, the smelter will be dismantled and the machinery shipped to Copper Mountain and to Trail. This item reads:

"The Greenwood smelter, owned by the Canada Copper Corporation, will close down permanently this month, according to a report in mining circles. Considerable of the machinery will be moved to the company's operations at Princeton and Copper Mountain. The dismantling of the smelter is to commence immediately, and some of the machinery will be sent to Trail, where the Trail Consolidated Mining & Smelting has use for it. In connection with the plans of the Canada Copper Corporation at Copper Mountain they are building a concentrator of 2000 tons capacity, and the concentrates will be shipped to Trail for treatment. Mining men are at a loss to understand the decision to close down the Greenwood smelter, which has been in operation for years, unless it can be explained by the working out of the ore of the Mother Lode mine, near Greenwood, which was very low grade. But as the company owns other mines in the district it was expected sufficient ore to keep the smelter in operation would be obtained from these. On account of the news that the Consolidated has purchased the Voigt properties on Copper Mountain, giving control of practically the whole great copper deposit to the large corporation, local mining circles are led to believe that a working arrangement has been arrived at for the joint development of the enormous copper deposits."

Mr. Van Wagenen's letter to the Ledge follows:

"In response to your request for a statement from me in order that you may have something authoritative, I wish to say that due to the fact that the Mother Lode mine contains now ore of a grade insufficient to meet present day costs, and because the quality of ore which is obtainable is so inferior, and because freight, wages and supplies are all so costly under war conditions that to develop our Phoenix mines is inadvisable at this time, we are going to discontinue smelting operations at Greenwood and cease mining at the Mother Lode.

"For just what period of time this shut-down will continue is impossible to foretell. It will require a return to a more nearly normal supply of labor and of costs than prevails today to encourage us to lay the foundation for an operation in this district. We have much faith in our Phoenix mines and in the Lone Star, and there are encouraging prospects at two other of our properties. It is my personal belief that we will eventually reopen our Boundary operations, but there is nothing of assurance which I can give. For this latter I am very sorry as I know how hard it will hit property owners and merchants whose business depends, at least to a large extent, upon the action of the smelter. Very truly yours, Hugh R. Van Wagenen, General Manager. October 29, 1918."

The Greenwood smelter will close down some time next week, and H. R. Van Wagenen, manager for the C. C. Co., informs The Ledge that he regrets to say the close-down will be a permanent one. There is not enough of pay-grade ore to carry on smelting operations here, and not enough ore of a fluxing character to warrant concentrates from Copper Mountain being treated here, hence it would not be advisable to build a reverberatory furnace in Greenwood. The Greenwood smelter and Mother Lode mine will be dis-