

#### Alberni Mining Division.

Owing to various causes, and especially the high cost of labour and supplies, the development-work carried on in connection with the mining industry in this district during 1918 failed to reach the proportions indicated early in the season as likely to be accomplished; there being no mineral claims in the Division that were developed up to the stage of regular shippers at the beginning of the year, and the owners of most of the prospects being poor men with a large proportion away on military service, it is no wonder that the high costs retarded development.

The *Monitor* mine is situated about seventeen miles down the Alberni canal from Port Alberni. The most serious attempt at fully developing a shipping mine was carried on at this property, where a compressor plant, ore-bins with a capacity to hold about 1,000 tons, and wharf were built near the portal of the main drift-adit on the ore-body known as the *Leonard* showing. The adit was extended about 100 feet, an upraise made partly in ore to a height of about 75 feet, and two other upraises were started. The mine was closed down temporarily about September, after a shipment of ore had been made to the Tacoma smelter of about 125 tons, because the results showed that the property belonged to the concentrating class rather than to the smelting direct, and that very considerably more development-work was necessary to block out available ore before the erection of a concentrating plant was considered.

The *Canadian* group of mineral claims, on Alberni canal, was further prospected by Wm. Hutton, one of the owners, and a dump containing about 100 tons of good-grade chalcopryite ore has been accumulated ready for shipment.

The *Big Interior* group of mineral claims, about twelve miles northerly from the head of Great Central lake, was examined during the summer of 1918 by Messrs. Archibald and Kilbourne, mining engineers for the Consolidated Mining, Smelting, and Power Company, of Trail. The report made by these gentlemen has, of course, not been made public, and so far as is known no deal has been made for the property.

#### Clayoquot Mining Division.

The *Indian Chief* mine, on Sidney Inlet, has been the only mining proposition in this Division that has been at all active during 1918. A reorganization of the old Tidewater Copper Company has been effected, the new corporation being registered in British Columbia. A new management has been appointed and is at present engaged in extending the development-work in the mine in order to determine the actual tonnage of ore available for concentrating. Water-power is to be developed to replace steam for power purposes, and if the development-work in the mine demonstrates that it is advisable, the capacity of the present concentrating-mill will be increased.

During 1918 the mine and mill were operated during a portion of the year, the mill being closed down in the summer, since when a force of miners has been engaged in development. Concentrates and such shipping-ore as was mined as the development-work progresses have been shipped to the Tacoma smelter.

#### Quatsino Mining Division.

The *Old Sport* group of mineral claims, on Elk lake, near Quatsino sound, has been active during 1918; the development-work on the 400-foot level in the incline winze has been extended, and diamond-drill boring has been done on the southerly end of the main mineral-bearing zone. It is reported that the Consolidated Mining, Smelting, and Power Company has completed the payment for the property, and it is assumed that in the near future work will be commenced on construction of the railway that has been surveyed to connect the mine with deep water on Quatsino sound.

The *Yreka* group of mineral claims, on the South-east arm of Quatsino sound, has been idle during the past year, but late in the fall this property was examined for the newly organized Tidewater Copper Company, Limited, by Wesley Warren, the former mine manager, and a bond secured from James Breen and associates, the owners, of Butte, Montana, for the purchase. It is the purpose of the Tidewater Copper Company to extend the development-work on the *Yreka* property, and if the results are satisfactory, to mine ore and ship to the concentrating-mill on the *Indian Chief* group, Sidney Inlet.

A geological survey has been carried on in the Quatsino Mining Division during 1918 by Victor Dolmage, of the Canada Geological Survey.