

but eventually production was suspended until, late in 1916, concentrating operations were commenced at the rebuilt Ivanhoe mill, Sandon. The Surprise mine is owned by Congressman William Kent, of Kentfield, Marin county, California, and Mr. Alex Smith, of Toronto, the latter having been in charge of development work for about twelve years until the mine was established on a producing basis.

Production of concentrates at the Slocan Star mill has been resumed. For some months the water supply has been short for power drills in the mine and the enlarged concentrating mill, but it is expected this difficulty will shortly be overcome, a new water-line having been put in. It is reported that some 70 tons of silver-lead concentrate of an average value of \$150 a ton, and 150 tons of zinc concentrate, worth about \$25 a ton, have been shipped lately.

Vancouver Island.

Mr. J. M. Savage has assumed charge, in the capacity of general manager of the affairs of the Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir), Limited, operating the Extension and Comox collieries on Vancouver Island. Several years ago he was actively associated with Mr. John Arbuthnot, formerly of Winnipeg, Manitoba, in the business of the company known as the South Wellington Coal Mines, Ltd., afterward reorganized as the Pacific Coast Coal Mines, Ltd., and in the operation of the company's coal mines a few miles south of Nanaimo, V.I.

The Valdes Copper Co. has arranged to ship about 400 tons of ore from its property on Quadra island, of the Valdes group, situated on the east side of Discovery passage, between Vancouver island and the Mainland. Some time since the company let a contract for doing development work on some of its Copper Mountain group of ten mineral claims, and now sufficient ore has been opened to admit of shipments in bulk being made to the extent above indicated.

One of the Island metalliferous properties that is expected to benefit as a result of the intended early reopening of the smelting works at Ladysmith, V.I., is the Blue Grouse mineral claim, Cowichan lake, Victoria mining division. The property is situated on the west side of the lake, about seven miles from the end of the railway and three-quarters of a mile back from the water, the elevation above the lake being 500 to 800 ft. One carload of ore was shipped to the Trail smeltery last January for test purposes; recently two cars were shipped to Ladysmith, and it is intended to get out about two cars a week. The ore is taken from a big open cut; it runs from 5 to 8 per cent. copper. It is hauled down to the lakeside and taken thence to the railway terminus in a scow. The expectation is that when the snow shall have melted, and the smelting works be in operation, the output of ore will be increased.

The Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir), Limited, is building more coke ovens at Union bay, V.I., where are situated the company's bunkers and shipping wharves for coal from the several mines of its Comox colliery, a coal-washery, and a brickyard for making fire-brick. The existing 100 ovens were built in 1895-6, and thereafter up till 1911 coke was made in them. Following the closing of the Tyeé Copper Co.'s smelting works in the last-mentioned year, coke-making ceased until the latter part of 1915, when a contract was entered into to supply coke for the Granby Consolidated Co.'s new smelting works at Anyox, Observatory inlet. By the end of 1915 the output of coke for that year was 5450 long tons, and for 1916 it was 28,044 tons. Now that smelting is to be resumed at Ladysmith, provision is being made, by building additional ovens, to meet the increased demand for coke for the blast furnaces.

NORTHERN ONTARIO.

Elliott-Kirkland.

The extension of the power line from the Teck-Hughes to the Elliott-Kirkland Mines is now completed, resulting in development work at the latter property being greatly facilitated. At present the main shaft at the Elliott-Kirkland has reached a depth of ninety feet, and will be carried to the 125-ft. level, where a crosscut will be run in an endeavor to encounter the Kirkland Lake gold vein, which was located on the property near the western boundary of the Kirkland Lake Gold, where, however, the low-lying nature of the ground made it impossible to sink a shaft from the surface. It is anticipated that very little difficulty will be encountered in locating the vein at depth on the Elliott-Kirkland, owing to results obtained on the Kirkland Lake Gold, where the working on the same vein has reached a depth of 500 ft.

Boston Creek.

The recent spring weather has brought a decided feeling of optimism to the Boston Creek gold district, where growing faith is being exhibited by prominent mining men. At present among the properties in this section which are receiving more or less attention, with very favorable results, are: The Boston Creek, R. A. P. Syndicate, O'Donald, Boston, Hollinger, Miller-Independence, Gold Leaf, McRae, Hill and Currie properties. A number of important discoveries have been made and it is understood some diamond drilling will be done on a number of the properties this spring and summer. The O'Donald claims are under option by the Crown Reserve Mining Company of Cobalt, and the McRae claims were purchased by strong Montreal financial interests a short time ago, and active development work will be proceeded with on these in a very short time on an extensive scale.

Staking in Thackeray.

Free gold was found in a vein from five to seven feet in width in the Township of Thackeray late last fall, with the result that about forty claims were staked in this vicinity and a number of very promising veins are awaiting the disappearance of the snow when further exploration work will be undertaken. The scene of the new discovery is about twelve miles north of the Townships of Teck and Lebel, in which are located the Kirkland Lake gold area. The formation is Keewatin, and the veins are said to contain some molybdenum. There are two trails leading into the township. The shortest one is from Scottish Springs at Mileage 188 on the T. & N. O., a distance of about twelve miles, eight of which can be traversed by canoe in the summer time. The other route is by trail north-east from Bourke's Siding, a distance of about seventeen miles.

Elk Lake.

The Taylor property in the McKenzie Lake section of the Elk Lake district has closed down. It was generally understood that the company were starting on an extensive development program and the news that the work was being discontinued came as a big surprise. Financial difficulties was given as the reason for the shutting down of the property, and it is not definitely known when operations will be resumed.

Larder Lake.

Work on the Larder Lake Goldfields property at Larder Lake is being energetically pushed at the 300-ft. level and the vein at this point is said to be well mineralized and carries considerable free gold. Among the other properties in this district which are contemplating opening up in the near future are the Larder Lake Combine on Larder Lake, and the Lincoln-Nipissing in Skead Township. One reason for the