

The Eureka Gold Mining Company, Limited. Capital \$100,000, in \$1 shares.

The Soo Mining and Exploring Company of Algoma. Capital \$90,000, in \$1 shares.

The Oriole Gold Company of Wabigoon, Limited. Capital \$24,000, \$50 a share.

An officer of the Foley Mines Co. Limited, writes :

" Since we have had any communication with you we have increased the capital stock of the company by fifty thousand new shares, of the par value of five dollars each, and have issued to shareholders only thirty-six thousand of new stock, at a discount of sixty per cent., making a total amount of capital of the company outstanding, \$1,180,000, and leaving unissued in the treasury 14,000 shares of stock, representing a capital of seventy thousand dollars. We have our new 12 drill compressor plant, which is being furnished by the Canadian Rand Drill Company, well under way, and we expect to have it in operation by the beginning of October. Mr. William M. Strong, M.E., has been appointed General Superintendent, with full charge of everything at the mines, at a salary of \$175 per month. Mr. Foley desired to be relieved from the responsibility, and has accepted the position of Inspector and Consulting Advisor of the Board at the mines, at a salary of \$100 per month, where his long experience of the district in question will make him extremely useful to the company. Mr. Strong comes to us very highly recommended, as an engineer of repute, and of experience in free milling properties, both in Colorado and California. Mr. Flaherty has retired from our employment, after having done the company excellent service. The results since the beginning of May have been very disappointing, on account of our inability to keep our mill running anything like continuously. We are advised that it was practically impossible to get competent miners, capable of stopping ore in narrow veins, and with experience of that character, at any reasonable figures, and those we did get wanted unreasonable wages, were generally incompetent, and preferred to go prospecting with the opening of navigation rather than accept what was fair. We consider that the new compressor plant will reduce the expense of operation at the mine, and will not leave us at the mercy or caprice of any small body of miners. Of course, in Colorado and California, where there are plenty of mining camps, it is easy enough to get experienced miners; but if you have to pay their expenses up into the new country like ours, and you have no police regulations whereby if they break their contracts to work with you you could deal with them summarily, you are practically at their mercy after they have been with you a short time. With railroad and telegraphic communication this of course in time will be obviated to a considerable extent. These difficulties are usually attendant on a new enterprise in a new district, and we seem to have had more than our share. We are advised that the north shaft, on which they are working day and night is now down 245 feet, the vein is 5 feet wide and looks splendid. We hope to reach the three hundred foot level by the first of October, and we hope to have our compressor plant in operation not later than the beginning of October. With our new manager, with the experience we have gained in dealing with the difficulties of the situation in the past three years, and with the new plant, we feel satisfied that at an early date we will begin to realize the good opinion which all those who have visited the property have so far formed of it."

The Mikado mine, which has attracted so much attention to the possibilities of the Lake of the Woods district as a gold producer, was opened up in July, 1896. Work has been pushed for the last twelve months with great perseverance, and a 20-stamp mill is now ready to commence work on the ore mined. The vein is situated in the contact of the schist and granite. A shaft has been sunk to a depth of 125 ft., and a crosscut of 35 ft. on the 100-ft. level has been made, which proves the vein to be holding its original promising indications. In the month of October, 1896, about 300 tons of the ore were shipped to the reduction works at Rat Portage, and an average return was obtained of 2½ oz. per ton. The mill has been erected under the superintendence of the manager, Mr. Theodore Briedenbach. He has had some 20 years' experience in various gold fields, and is a graduate of the Academy of Mines, Berlin. The mill is one of 20 stamps, of Fraser & Chalmers make, the stamps being 850 lbs. apiece. The crusher is also of Messrs. Fraser & Chalmers' Comet pattern. The tailings are to be run direct from the amalgamating plates to leaching cyanide tanks, the concentrates being very heavy.

An Order-in-Council has been passed, which gives the Burley Gold Mining Company of Ottawa, the right to construct a crib in Lake of the Woods opposite the Sultana mine, for the purpose of sinking a shaft. The matter is rather an interesting one. The Burley Company, which is composed chiefly of Ottawa men, holds a mining location under the surface of Lake of the Woods. The location is believed to include the prolongation of the Sultana lode beneath the lake. They accordingly applied to the Dominion for a permit to put a crib in the lake. The permit has now been granted, and the company will get to work to put down the crib work, beneath which to sink a shaft to the vein, which is over 100 ft. beneath the bottom of the lake.

Quebec.

The Central Quebec Gold Fields Company is a newly incorporated concern, whose aim is to work for gold in the Beauce region. Messrs. James King, W. Vuile, Montreal, J. L. Tache, St. Hyacinthe; J. P. Tache, Quebec, are its chief promoters.

The principal operators continue to be the Wallingford Co. and the Blackburn Estate in Templeton.

The feldspar deposit at Templeton station continues to make shipments to the States where the product is being used in the manufacture of pottery.

In Ottawa County the exports of mica for the six months have increased to \$54,322 but as the Customs figures are well known to be understated it is not unlikely that the value of the product shipped is in excess of \$100,000.

The argentiferous-galena property, known as the Lawn mine, on Calumet Island, Pontiac Co., is reported sold to two Americans named Meyer, from New York and Los Angeles. The new owners state that work will be commenced at once.

The shipments of asbestos and chromite from the mines of the Eastern Townships for the six months are about the same as in former years. The demand for asbestos continues good, and there is a slight improvement in prices, notably for second grade.

British Columbia.

The Cariboo Hydraulic Company, which made a clean-up of over \$72,000, will soon be ready to make another of about the same amount, and will probably wash about \$200,000 this season. The Horsefly Hydraulic Company, after washing for the first year, in which it took out \$65,000, found that there was too much cement in the ground for successful operations by this method, put in a ten-stamp mill, which started July 10th, and crushes 120 tons a day. In the same camp the Miocene Mining Company, a San Francisco outfit, with Senator Campbell at its head, has a shaft down 240 feet, sinking for the bed of the old channel, and has put in machinery to sink deeper. The theory of a number of experts is that the old channel is here 1,000 feet wide, and that the Fraser, Clearwater, Quesnelle, and perhaps other streams formerly passed through it. This theory is well borne out by the fact that the Horsefly Gold Mining Company has shown the present channel of the Horsefly river to be simply a cross-cut of the old channel. This mine is being worked by two hydraulic elevators, and will make a good showing. Nearly 40 miles of this old channel have now been located.

Colonel Baker, Minister of Mines, has given notice of an amendment to the Mineral Act, which defines the meaning of the phrase "mineral in place." The Minister of Mines has accepted the interpretation of the full court in the Paris Bell case. The section reads: "Rock in place shall be deemed to mean and include minerals not necessarily in a vein or lode, that is when discovered in the same place or position in which it was originally formed or deposited, as distinguished from loose, fragmentary or broken rock or float, which by decomposition is found in wash gravel or sand. Valuable deposits of mineral shall mean and include mineral in place in appreciable quantity, having a present or prospective value sufficient to justify exploration."

A suit has been filed in the United States Court, Spokane, Wash., making sensational charges of fraud and dishonesty against F. C. Loring, G. T. Crane and F. E. Snodgrass, of the Josie Gold Mining Company. The company's mine is at Rossland, B.C. The plaintiffs are Eli J. Smith, R. N. Gage, William Kniekel, John Wetzel, Jr., John Wetzel, John Loebis, Jacob Schlaefter, Mathias Schneider and Mrs. E. J. Smith, all citizens of Wisconsin. The complaint sets forth that the Josie Mining Company was organized at Neenah, Winnebago County, under the laws of the State of Wisconsin, and upon representations made by Loring and Crane, the plaintiffs bought a five-eighths interest in the mine for \$8,000. It is charged that the mine was worked under the supervision of Loring and Crane, who systematically depreciated the value of the property, spent large sums of money uselessly, and did not attempt to develop the property. The plaintiffs ask for the appointment of a receiver, and a restraining order taking entire control of the mine out of the hands of the present management. The value of the Josie mine is now estimated at about \$210,000.

The coking ovens of the Messrs. Dunsmuir, at Union, Comox, B.C., are now working with entire satisfaction. The output of these ovens is about fifty tons per day, forty of which are shipped to the Hall smelter at Nelson, and the Trail smelter, both of which would consume a much greater quantity were it possible to procure the same. These establishments pronounce the home-made coke equal in every respect to that imported from Wales, round the Horn to this port. Where tested in the United States the Union coke has likewise been declared to be a first-class article. The ovens will hereafter be run to their full capacity. The industry promises to be a great one, and of much value to the province.

The old War Eagle Company will pay its last dividend in a few days. The War Eagle, it will be recalled, sold its mine to a Canadian syndicate and afterwards discontinued. Treasurer Lucas was at work yesterday calculating the value of the remaining assets, and said that there would be about \$22,500 to be distributed among the former shareholders. This would give a 4½ per cent. dividend. Since the mine was sold for \$700,000 it has paid a dividend of six cents a share, or \$30,000. There are 500,000 shares of the stock, so that when the final dividend has been paid the owners will have received a trifle more than \$1.50 a share as the proceeds of the sale. Prior to the sale the mine had paid \$187,000 in dividends. So, all told, the War Eagle mine has returned its owners \$940,000. This, for an expenditure of about \$30,000, is not bad, being a little more than 31 for 1. But the original owners did better than that. The original War Eagle Company owned the War Eagle, the Iron Mask, the Virginia, and the Poorman. The big company was cut up into four companies, and the stockholders in the original company received shares in each of the new companies equal in number to their holdings of original War Eagle stock. Thus the owner of 25,000 shares of War Eagle stock received in addition to these shares, 25,000 shares in the Iron Mask, 25,000 in the Virginia, and 25,000 in the Poorman. At one time Iron Mask sold briskly around 75 cents, and some shares were sold as high as 85 cents. Virginia sold for 20, and Poorman for 12 to 14. So original owners