

GRAND FORKS INTELLIGENCE.

Pathfinder.

Grand Forks, Nov. 31.—Thomas Parkinson president of the Pathfinder, returned today from a visit to the property with the intelligence that No. 3 shaft started several months ago, is now in ore at a depth of 25 feet. Sinking will be continued. Shipping ore has been disclosed in every working of the mine. It was expected to cut the ledge at a depth of 65 feet, so encountering the ore at 25 feet, or 35 feet from the foot wall, was a great surprise to the owners.

Sunset.

R. A. (Volcanic) Brown has returned from the Similkameen district whither he recently went to resume operations on the famous Sunset claim. If one-half of his optimistic predictions are verified, the property will soon become a world-beater. The enormous extent of the ledge, and the apparent improvement and continuity of the ore with depth, augur well. Mr. Brown never does things by halves. His scheme for future development has been devised on a colossal scale. Apart from the early establishment of a matting plant, it embraces a project for a railway tunnel a mile and a half long to tap the vast copper deposits at a depth of 2,000 feet.

"The Sunset beats anything I ever saw," said Mr. Brown to your correspondent. "At a depth of 56 feet the shaft is all in burnite, and is improving every hour. This is evidenced by the fact that the miners on the surface who hoist the ore in buckets are complaining of its increasing weight. A series of assays made from the mineral at the bottom of the shaft, gave an average of \$56.58 in all values. I am satisfied that the ledge is at least 800 feet wide and 1500 feet long. The Sunset today is the greatest property in the world. A steam plant, pump and hoist will be in operation within 10 days. As soon as the 100-foot level is reached drifting will be commenced to the north and 400 feet in the opposite direction. The same operation will be repeated when the 200-foot level is reached. We will be down 100 feet within a fortnight.

"A matting plant with a capacity of 50 tons per day will be established early next summer. I confidently anticipate that the ore at the 200-foot level will be almost solid burnite, running 50 to 60 per cent in copper. In all likelihood later on a railway tunnel a mile and a half long at a depth of 2,000 feet will be run into Copper Mountain.

"As an instance of what people on the ground think of the property I may mention that the foreman, Isaac Lougheed, has stipulated that his wages for the next six months be paid in stocks, while the miners have also bought 15,000 shares. In Princeton I disposed of 35,000 shares, and the demand still continues. I heard that a Mrs. Allinson had announced her intention of investing the entire proceeds from the sale of her ranch near there in Sunset stock."

Mr. Brown also stated that he had recently completed at his own expense a good wagon road from Princeton to Copper mountain, a distance of 12 miles. Sunset shares, he predicted, would be quoted at \$5 within six months.

The officers of the company include Mr. Brown, Dr. G. W. Averill, J. S. M. Morrison, Alex. Miller, manager of the Merchants Bank of Halifax, Grand Forks, and Smith Curtis, of Rossland.

IN THE BOUNDARY COUNTRY.

Mining Development of a Permanent Character and on a Substantial basis.

The enthusiasm throughout the Boundary country, over the enormously rich showings being made on our principal mines and prospects, continues unabated—is rather increased if anything—as winter draws on.

Each week marks some new strike which impresses more firmly than ever upon the people of the district the fact that we have here one of the most wonderful mineral districts in the world.

This consistently increasing faith is evidenced by the substantial nature of the towns which are springing up all over the district.

Nowhere in a mining country can be found better or more solidly built towns than are Grand Forks and Greenwood today, while Phoenix and Elhot are examples of the marvelous progress possible in a rich developing mining country. In both of these places, which were but one short year ago practical wildernesses, there have sprung into existence flourishing towns, with large, handsome business houses and giving every evidence of permanence and substantiality. And nowhere in the country can be found a people with firmer faith in the future of their respective towns than in the places just above named.

Another evidence of the faith reposed in the future of the mines here is the almost unprecedented amount of development being done in all parts of the district and in the vast amounts of mining machinery being installed on properties in various sections of the country.

Two years ago there was hardly a piece of machinery in operation on a mineral property in this district, while to-day there is hardly a prospect of any importance but has machinery of some sort either already in operation or in contemplation for the near future. This machinery ranges all the way from the big compressor and hoisting plant of the B. C., which will permit of the property being worked to a depth of 1,000 feet vertical depth, down to the little horse whim of the prospector who has not the capital to purchase machinery but who presses his pack horse into service to help him open up his claim sufficiently to attract the attention of capital.

Only last week machinery to the amount of many thousands of dollars was contracted for, to be installed on different properties in the Boundary just as soon as it can possibly be manufactured and delivered here; and the agent for one of the biggest and most important companies engaged in the manufacture of mining machinery in Canada, said in an interview here that he could dispose of twenty times as much machinery were his company capable of producing it.

In addition to this there are over 100 properties in this vicinity which have been equipped with machinery of one kind and another.

Up the North Fork alone over a dozen properties have either installed compressors, hoists and pumping plants or have them ordered, while there are twice as many contemplating the immediate purchase of a plant of some kind.

When it is considered that the great development already evident here has taken place in the face of the greatest difficulties, including lack of transportation, high freight rates, etc., it is easy for the thinking man to foresee what is ahead of the country now that railway connection with the outside world has actually been secured.

The Columbia and Western is now engaged in laying its spur lines into the various camps and it is safe to say that never before in the history of mining has a railway given the mining properties of a new district such universally good and impartial treatment; for not only have the spurs been built right up to the dumps, but in many cases the graders have opened up new and valuable ledges, hitherto unknown to exist upon the properties.

Among the claims upon which such strikes have been made may be mentioned the Jeanic May, Oro Denoro, Emma, Main, Golden Crown, Winnipeg, Hartford, Snowshoe and a dozen of others all of which have thus had thousands of dollars worth of development gratuitously done for them by the railway company.

This branch of the C.P.R. has been without a doubt one of the most expensive pieces of railway ever constructed, still the company expresses itself satisfied with the investment. And well it may be for there is enough tonnage in sight in this district to pay for the road in ore haulage alone, to say nothing of the freighting of supplies and machinery into the country.

A year ago we estimated the possible output of this district at considerably less than 5,000 tons per day, and for our pains were laughed at as entirely too optimistic. Yet the development of the past 12 months have proven that our claims were rather pessimistic than otherwise. Two properties alone, the Ironsides and Knob Hill, will soon be in readiness to produce one third of the daily tonnage we figured as possible for the entire district a year ago, and the Mother Lode and Morrison will produce as much more. The B. C. has contracted for the shipment of 60,000 tons of ore and the Winnipeg for nearly 200,000, while there are several scores of other properties which will do equally as well.

Two years ago hardly a property in the district had a shaft down to the 100 foot depth while today the 300 foot level is considered the commencement of active development. And the beauty of the whole thing is that the ore values invariably increase as depth is attained, thus giving encouragement for still deeper investigation.

It might be said that eastern capital has but recently become interested in this section and in most cases the investments have increased in value to many times the original outlay. And as yet there are comparatively few of the notable properties developed past what can rightly be called the prospect stage. There are in this district right at the present time better opportunities for profitable investment than have ever existed heretofore; therefore, when everything is taken into consideration, there is small wonder that the faith of our people in the district is so universal and deep seated.

WILL BUILD TO CAMPS FIRST.

The Canadian Pacific has decided not to extend its line from Greenwood to Midway for the present as there is a decided shortage of steel rails. The rails now on hand are to be used to construct the spurs from the main line to Summit, Wellington, and Greenwood camps, where are located a number of big properties, including such well known mines as the B. C., Oro Denoro, Winnipeg, Golden Crown, Old Ironsides, Knob Hill, Brooklyn, Stemwinder and a number of others, all of which are ready to ship as soon as the rails are laid up to them.

COPPER CLAIMS SOLD.

Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 28.—Mr. L. J. Boswitz, of Victoria, some time since purchased the Britannia group of seven claims on Howe Sound, and expended some \$40,000 on their development. The representative of one of the wealthiest Montana copper interests has now purchased them after careful investigation, the price paid being in the neighborhood of \$200,000, Mr. Boswitz retaining an interest in the property.

DECCA.

Drifting on vein No. 1 at the 200-foot level has been progressing for some time. The east drift is especially interesting as the vein is widening and the values increasing. The pay chute dips from the shaft at about 150 feet depth, but the east drift at 200 feet has encountered it again. The assays from the face of the drift 300 feet from the shaft run over \$30, where ore is 3 feet 8 inches wide, solid quartz. Crosscutting is also progressing on this level and ore likely to be met with at any moment.