

Taylor Engineering Co's Titles.

On Saturday, July 5, Land Registrar Smith raised objections in supreme court chambers to registering the title of the Taylor Engineering Company in the Dolly Varden mineral claims because of his construction of the Land Registry Act. These objections were over-ruled by Mr. Justice Murphy, who pointed out that the legislature had passed a special act stating that in the event of two conditions being proven it conveyed the rights in question to the Taylor Engineering Company and whatever the consequences, the registrar must comply with the act. He then ordered the title registered.

W. M. Archibald, field engineer for the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. of Canada, reports that the plant destroyed by fire recently at the Old Sport Group of Mineral Claims, West Coast of Vancouver Island, has been replaced and that development work again is in full swing. Two diamond drills are at work on the surface. The showing so far, it is stated, are very encouraging, the most satisfactory result being the uncovering of a number of high-grade shots of ore. These, in addition to the large body of low-grade ore which there is no doubt is available, makes the proposition a good one. Mr. Archibald, however, is doubtful whether any extensive work will be done in the direction of opening the property on a large scale until conditions generally are more stable. In making this observation he refers to the question of labor as well as that of the cost of supplies. However, when the problems which large industries now are facing are more or less settled there is no doubt that the Old Sport Group will be made a shipping mine, second to few in importance in this Province.

M. E. Purcell, of the engineering staff of the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. of Canada, recently inspected some iron properties on Iron Mountain, near Merritt, B.C. He appeared satisfied with what he had seen and stated that it was his intention to make a more exhaustive examination at a later date.

Interest in the mining properties of the northern section of British Columbia, to which the town of Stewart is the gateway, continues keen. Charles Caldwell, the operator of the Kootenays, who recently acquired interests in Portland Canal, predicts that the Stewart-Salmon River Railway will be under construction this year. He states that a company has been formed, that the necessary capital will be provided, and that tenders for the contract will be invited in the course of a few weeks.

Meanwhile the development work on various properties which have gained considerable renown recently proceeds and, if reports from usually credible quarters are to be believed, the showings are such as to justify optimistic prophecies. The Premier Mine, for instance, is said to have encountered high-grade silver ore in one of the lower tunnels.

S. I. Silverman, of New York, is expected at Stewart during the summer and P. Welch, the Canadian Railroad Contractor, who is a heavy owner of mining property on the Salmon River, is visiting the district.

A compressor plant has been installed at the Maple Leaf Mine, Franklin Camp, near Grand Forks, B.C. This has been done to facilitate development work and in the opinion of P. B. Freeland, Resident Government Mining Engineer, is an encouraging indication of the determination of some of the owners of this camp to prove their properties.

Sir Donald Mann, who with Sir William Mackenzie, is the builder of the Canadian Northern Railways in Canada, now absorbed by the Canadian National Railway System, passed through Vancouver, B.C., a few days ago on his way to examine the Big Missouri Property, Portland Canal, as well as to inspect other holdings in which he is interested in the Portland Canal District. In a statement made before going North he stated that the Big Missouri was not a mine but was a good prospect. He was not in a position to say anything more about it, but if it looked good he would send an engineer from New York to inspect and report upon it. Sir Donald said that it was not his present intention to arrange for the operation of the railway which was constructed some years ago in the Portland Canal Country.

The development of large copper deposits on the Eestall River by the Granby Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co., is being carried on energetically and with good results, according to word from that camp. While the ore is said to contain considerable sulphur this will not interfere with its economical utilization, it being pointed out that smelting processes have been so improved that while this may have been a serious disadvantage in the past it now offers little difficulty in respect of treatment. Work of an exploratory character has been under way on the Eestall Property for two years, and it is stated that the showings developed indicate that there is a bigger mine in the making there than now exists at Anyox in the well-known Hidden Creek Mine. It is reported in this connection that there is a strong probability that the smelter at Grand Forks, which was recently closed down by the Granby Company, will be removed to Eestall River. There has been no authoritative statement, however, to this effect.

The Queen, Nugget, Bonanza and Ore Hill Mines, situated in the Sheep Creek District, are being opened up and from the information available the showing generally are reassuring. Activity in this section, however, is not confined to these properties. Development is proceeding on a number of prospects and there has been a considerable influx of miners. An illustration of the extent of the recent improvement in conditions in this section is found in the reopening, after a period of two years idleness, of "The Half-Way House." This is situated on Sheep Creek, and is reported to be well patronized.

PRINCE OF WALES TO VISIT THE NORTH COUNTRY.

The Prince of Wales is to visit Cobalt on September 2nd, and will be escorted through one of the leading silver mines of the camp.