

tage, the company's employees will be utilized in some other work as far as possible.

Last summer the company acquired what is known as the Rock Candy group of three fluospar claims, some 20 miles up the North Fork of the Kettle river from Grand Forks. Prospecting was at once started and the diamond drill evidently satisfied the management that it is a good proposition, for at one time 100 men were at work building a wagon road and developing the property.

Fluospar is used by the company for the manufacture of hydrofluosilicic acid, and the supply has heretofore been obtained from Kentucky—a long haul and of late months an uncertain one, because of congested transportation conditions. However, a number of cars were on the way to Trail from Kentucky and there is now sufficient at the acid plant here to last till next summer—so that there is now no danger of a shortage in that line.

Meantime the Rock Candy group was found, acquired and active development begun. Several carloads have already been shipped, but not to Trail. The demand for the stuff is good enough and the quality so satisfactory that the Consolidated is shipping it direct to New York and Philadelphia, where it is used in manufacturing steel.

It is giving such satisfaction that beginning in January the company hopes to be able to begin steady shipments at the rate of from 1200 to 2000 tons per month. To do this an aerial tramway is now being constructed to a point some two miles above Lynch creek, where the rails will be extended to—thus making quick and easy transportation for the fluospar. Instead of bringing the rock some 1500 or 2,000 miles from Kentucky to Trail, it is being shipped from British Columbia some 3,000 miles to the Atlantic seaboard. And it has already given and will give employment to a considerable force of men at the property itself.

Recently announcement was made that the Consolidated had taken a bond on the Voight copper claims on Copper mountain near Princeton—being close neighbors to the Canada Copper Corporation properties, for which a 2,000-ton flotation mill is now being built. Already arrangements have been made for doing some prospecting and development work on the Voight group, and by next spring that property should give employment to quite a number of men.

Nothing is being given out yet as to what definite turn development operations will take in Trail, but it is a reasonable guess that if the Consolidated handles the output of the Canada Copper Corporation, it will require greater refining capacity. This, together with heavier shipments from Rossland, in due course, will make the copper end of the works more extensive than heretofore.

The zinc plant is kept busy on Sullivan ore for the most part, and the spelter plant is steadily being brought into an even more satisfactory operating condition than in the past. The Sullivan also ships some lead ore to Trail.

The company's high grade silver-lead mines, with those of a number of custom shippers in the Slocan and elsewhere, will apparently continue to furnish a good tonnage for the lead stacks, providing the price for lead can be held around a figure that will show a profit.

Doubtless there are other plans being laid out for putting into execution this winter or next year, so that it will be noted that every effort will be made to keep the company's regular forces of men busy.

The Silversmith old Slocan Star is said to be sending out ore now at the rate of \$30,000 per month, net. The new mill, which began operations October 5th, handled \$82,000 worth of ore in October.

Consolidated company, owning the Trail smelter and operating many mines in British Columbia on November 31st declared its usual quarterly dividend of 2½ per cent., payable January 2, 1919. The distribution amounts to \$261,936, and brings total paid to \$4,995,595.

The La Rose company of Cobalt has bought the Homestake, north of Kamloops. This mine has been idle twenty-two years. The flotation process may make this property profitable.

At Copper Mountain work on the ore dressing plant is reported to be progressing. Foundations are being built to sustain a 200-ton concentrator. In connection with the concentrator and railway construction for the purpose of mining the wealth of Copper Mountain the corporation has a programme of expenditure approximating \$3,000,000.

A new strike has been recently made on the old White-water in the Slocan.

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Aggregate Value of \$595,571,107

Production for Year Ending December, 1917, \$37,010,392

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