

15 tons of ore which assayed gold 0.04 oz. and silver 98 oz. to the ton, lead 30 per cent., and zinc 14 per cent. There is on the dump about 600 tons of ore worth \$35 a ton, and 3,000 tons of ore of a similar class developed in the mine and ready for stoping whenever capital shall be obtained to provide milling facilities. The Provincial Government wagon-road to the Nine-Mile basin, that has been in course of construction for several years, was completed last year, thereby facilitating the development of mining properties in the basin.

Owing to delay in completing the wagon-road to the Babine-Bonanza Mining and Milling Co.'s group of mineral claims, situated at the head of the Tuchi river in the Babine range of mountains, shipment of ore will not be undertaken as soon as had been intended. The mine is at an elevation of about 5,300 ft.; it is just over the divide from the head of Driftwood creek, and is distant about 22 miles by trail from Smithers on the Grand Trunk Pacific railway. The company is controlled by Mr. James Cronin, of Spokane, for many years largely interested in the St. Eugene lead-silver mine, in East Kootenay, which big mine made its greatest production during the period of Mr. Cronin's management. From an official report, by Mr. J. D. Galloway, Assistant Mineralogist, it is learned that the orebodies on the property of the Babine-Bonanza Co. occur at and near the contact of a granite porphyry with a series of highly altered sediments of the Hazelton group. Two types of orebodies are found, and the dominant minerals in them are galena and zinc-blende, together with lesser amounts of pyrite, arsenopyrite, and copper pyrites. The value is chiefly in silver and lead, although certain shoots of the ore contain a high percentage of zinc. Assay returns from samples taken by Mr. Galloway include one of ore from the bottom of a shaft then 105 ft. deep, an average of a 30-in. vein having been gold 0.02 oz., and silver 59.6 oz. to the ton, lead 54.6 per cent., and zinc 11.8 per cent. Since the visit of that official much more development work has been done, including an adit to cut the ore at greater depth. Mr. Cronin has been interested in this property ever since 1909, to which mining plant has been taken under considerable difficulties owing to lack of wagon-road communication, but it now seems as if transportation conditions will be greatly bettered by the time the winter shall set in.

General Notes.

The Provincial Government Agent at Golden, in Northeast Kootenay, has received a request from Prof. T. L. Walker, of the Royal Ontario Museum of Mineralogy, for specimens representing the different types of ores from the chief mines and prospects in the district.

The establishment of smelting works at or near Prince Rupert, which is the western terminus of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway, is being advocated there and in the country about Hazelton, from which ore is being shipped, but delays take place in getting it conveyed to and treated at existing smelting works. Meanwhile the Tyee Copper Co.'s smelter at Ladysmith, Vancouver island, is idle for lack of an assured regular supply of ore to warrant its being again operated.

A new discovery of copper ore is reported to have been made in the Nicola district, within seven miles of Merritt. Mr. Wm. Voght, who made the discovery, has recorded the location of the White Wing mineral claim; he states that preliminary surface work has shown the occurrence of bornite and copper carbonate ore.

A contract has been let for driving 200 ft. on the vein of the La Rose group, situated between seven and eight miles from the head of Alice arm of Observatory inlet, and six miles in on the Dolly Varden trail. The ore occurring here contains silver to the average value, it is stated, of about \$100 to the ton. The Dolly Varden and Wolf groups of mineral claims, also in Skeena mining division, are under bond and option of purchase to Mr. R. B. McInnis, of San Francisco, California, while the Monarch group of four claims is under bond to Mr. T. F. Hopkins, of Seattle, Washington.

At the annual Inter-State fair, held at Spokane, Washington, early in September, awards were made in the mineral department for British Columbia mining exhibits, as follows: Of the British Columbia Copper, Consolidated Mining and Smelting, Florence, Granby Consolidated, and Standard Silver-Lead companies, and of several individual mines.

Certificates of competency in mine-rescue work were lately granted to eleven men employed at Nicola Valley collieries—four at the Middlesboro and seven at the Coal Hill colliery. Several weeks ago Mr. Dudley Michell, of the British Columbia Department of Mines, conducted an examination of Nicola Valley men who had taken the mine-rescue training course, and most of them succeeded in passing. At the end of 1915 there were in British Columbia 256 persons holding similar certificates of competency.

GOLD AT BOURKES.

Cobalt, Oct. 7.—Some say all the romance has gone out of mining. At times that would seem to be true of Northern Ontario particularly, as its mining camps develop more or less into the same humdrum as an ordinary factory town. Occasionally there comes along an incident like the latest discovery at Bourkes that makes mining, particularly prospecting, as romantic as ever.

Oscar Anderson, a stalwart Norwegian, gradually made a clearing on his homestead butting onto the station grounds at Bourkes. During his clearing operations he uncovered some rock a short distance northwest of the station. Last week he decided to take a day off from farming work to prospect. He had only been looking around for a few minutes when he uncovered a vein. In the rotten stuff was some yellow metal. Oscar was not quite sure what it was, so started out with some to Albert Wickstead, the Postmaster, to get his advice. On his way to Albert's store he passed some men at the station, among them John J. Burns, who has been prospecting east of Bourkes. Oscar never got to the post office with the gold, for his farm was bought at the station by Burns. A half day's work with the pick brought him more return than all the work with the plow to date.

The discovery is one of the most spectacular in the north country. The vein is about four feet wide and has been stripped about forty feet. The Anderson find is the first west of the railway in that locality and quite a number of prospectors are in the field already. Their operations are handicapped because of the Anderson farm being surrounded on three sides by homesteads and on the south by railway land.—Northern Miner.

BOSTON CREEK.

Development work on the Benny Hollinger claims at Boston creek is being carried on successfully. A shaft is being sunk on a quartz vein which shows some free gold.