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NEWS OF THE MINES.

MONTREAL BOUNDARY CREEK.

Mr. W. L. Hogg, who has just returned from a visit to the proposition of his company, is more enthusiastic than ever over the outlook. As the work of development proceeds the property gives evidence that it is a valuable bonanza. The Boundary Creek Times under date of the 21st October, says:

On Saturday last the writer was the guest of Mr. W. L. Hogg, who took a party to visit the mines. Included in the party were Mr. Edward Woodhead, a wealthy business man of Liverpool, England, Mr. F. J. Finucane, manager of the Bank of Montreal, and Mr. John Hamill, of Armstrong, B.C. Under the guidance of Mr. Henry Johns, the manager, the party visited the workings saw the big ledges and were interested in the extensive preparations that are being made to install the big plant.

A few months ago Mr. Hogg floated the Montreal Boundary Creek Mining Company, limited, to acquire and still further develop the properties mentioned.

The properties owned by the company occupy a unique position, so far as cheap, economical shipping of ore is concerned. They are situated in Deadwood camp, about two miles from the city of Greenwood. The Deadwood camp branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway passes within 30 feet of the working shaft on the Sunset. There is a down hill grade to the smelter, which is being built within a mile of the company's properties.

Development Work.

The tunnel on the Sunset is 480 feet in length. There are four crosscuts from the tunnel, aggregating 175 feet of work. Ninety feet from the mouth of the tunnel is a winze 60 feet deep. The working shaft strikes the tunnel at a depth of 100 feet and continues another 85 feet. At this level (185 feet) there are 300 feet of drifts and crosscuts. The first shaft has been enlarged to a double compartment working shaft, 4½ x 5 feet in the clear. It is lined from the collar with 12 x 12 timbers to a depth of 25 feet, and then by 10 x 10 timbers. The whole work on the property, including the shaft, totals 1,350 feet.

The ledges are genuine Deadwood camp ledges, over 100 feet wide and traceable for long distances, with chutes of good values. The dip is about 65 degrees. The visitor to the mine has no difficulty in locating the vein. The railway graders cut through the bright magnetic iron and it has been again uncovered in the excavations for the shaft house. The railway follows the big ledge for a distance of 300 feet. It is at least 75 feet wide, where exposed at the shaft house and it has been traced to the Crown Silver, an adjoining property.

Generally speaking, the ore is magnetic iron, carrying gold and copper and yielding average values of 925. There are chutes of

calcite carrying chalcopyrite which return much higher values. The ore will receive a glad welcome at any smelter. It is practically a self-fluxing ore.

The development work so far has not been directed towards blocking out the ore bodies, but rather to place the mine in a position to engage in this work on a large scale. It would be difficult to surmise the quantity of ore that can be taken out of a drift along one of the big ledges. From surface indications, the ledge on the Primrose, that has been cut by the railroad, is a continuation of the ledge running through the Sunset and Crown Silver. In addition to this there is another parallel vein to the west, fully 150 feet wide. It has not been opened up to any great extent, but has been exposed by surface work for 200 feet. The values are similar to those on the first ledge mentioned.

The Montreal-Boundary Creek company were fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Henry Johns. His long and successful connection with other big mining properties ensures careful and competent management. Mr. Johns is at present engaged in the work of preparing for the big plant that has been purchased by the company. The shaft house which is being erected will be a substantial frame building, 30 x 30; and 55 in height. Inside is the gallowe frame, 45 feet high, built of timbers, 14 x 16, and of sufficient strength to haul two double-deck cages from a depth of 1,500 feet. The hoist house is 50 x 30 and 35 feet high. There is a wing 50 feet in length and 36 feet wide. Here will be installed the electric dynamo, engine and compressor. There are also a carpenter shop, 16 x 12; a blacksmith shop, 16 x 12; offices, bath rooms, bunk houses, boarding-house, etc. The manager's residence, which is nearing completion, is a model of neatness and comfort. It occupies a delightful position on a slope convenient to the mine. Indeed, no better site could be imagined than that occupied by all the buildings. It is in this respect a happy contrast to that at many other properties where there is nothing to relieve the monotony of barren rocks.

The Plant.

The plant for the mine is now on seven C. P. R. cars on its way to the mine, and is the largest yet purchased to develop a Boundary Creek property. It comprises a 20-drill compressor and a 25-horse power hoist with a Ledge wood friction drum and an inch steel cable. There are two 80-horse power boilers and all the necessary appliances that go with a mining plant. This plant will be installed and in running order by the first of the year.

Water.

Water for the plant and residences will be secured from Deadwood creek a mountain stream that empties into Copper creek. A pumping station has already been erected on the stream and a large reservoir will be built on the knoll above the mine. This will be sufficient elevation to throw a stream over the shaft-house—thus affording good protection against fire.

When Mr. Johns gets his plant working he intends to attack the big ledges on the properties. The shaft will be enlarged to the 200 foot level. From here a drift will be run along the ore to the Crown Silver, a distance of over 1200 feet. From this drift a large quantity of shipping ore will be taken. Work will be continued in other directions so that within a reasonable length of time the Montreal-Boundary Creek company's properties can be classed among the shippers.

Mining, in many respects, is a speculative business, but the Sunset group bear all the earmarks of making a big mine. Big ledges, good values, a powerful plant, a strong company, plenty of capital and a highly efficient manager are sure to bring such a

result as will be satisfactory to the shareholders in the Montreal-Boundary Creek company.

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