

The group consists of the Big Interior Nos. 1 to 7 (both inclusive) mineral claims. Practically the entire face of the cliffs, along a distance of about 4,000 ft. and averaging something like 1,000 ft. in height, appears to be strongly mineralised, the whole having a red colour. It is a granitoid rock, with copper pyrites, pyrrhotite and pyrite showing freely all along the face of the cliffs, the mass being generally of low grade with streaks of higher-grade ore occurring at irregular intervals. The mineralisation continues beyond the snow lying above the cliffs, the grade of the ore at an elevation higher than the highest point shown on the extreme left of the view herewith appearing better in places than in the face of the cliffs. At the base of the cliffs there lie thousands of tons of mineralised rock that has been eroded and has fallen down during ages of exposure to the elements.

But little development work has been done, this consisting chiefly of a tunnel driven into the face of the cliffs 31 ft., but the nature of the enormous surface exposure of mineralised rock is such that the few hundred feet of underground work it would be practicable for prospectors to do would not aid greatly in determining the value of the property. Development must be on a large scale to prove the extent and general grade of the ore, and this can not be undertaken by the present owners. However, the attention of capitalists has been directed to the property, so that it is probable it will ere long be bonded and arrangements be made for opening it up extensively.

Mr. Carmichael emphasises three points in particular, viz., that the property is of great size, that it is by no means so inaccessible as generally supposed, and that apparently the ore is suitable for concentration by a water process, the gangue being of a quartz character. As regards the question of accessibility, he says that there is a valley of considerable size towards Ash Lake, appearing to afford a fairly easy grade for a railway from the direction of Comox and that lake. The property, though, is one suitable only for operations on a scale commensurate with what surface indications suggest is its enormous proportions. A great deal of development work will have to be done to conclusively show whether large expenditures in connection with the provision of reduction and transportation facilities will be fully warranted. There should, however, be no great difficulty in thoroughly proving the property if ample capital be available, for, notwithstanding the altitude, the snow does not lie very deep on it in winter, and the climate is by no means severe, so that necessary communications could be maintained and underground operations carried on throughout the year.

The owners of the Big Interior are developing a small quartz vein on a claim situated in the same neighbourhood. It is about 30 in. wide of quartz mineralised with arsenical iron and carrying good values in gold. They have been heap-roasting some of the ore and have put in an arrastra for the purpose of recovering the gold from it.

WHITEHORSE, SOUTHERN YUKON.

WHITEHORSE mining district, as proclaimed in January, 1905, for the purposes of the mining regulations in force in Yukon Territory, has been divided into two mining districts, to be known respectively as the Conrad and Whitehorse mining districts. The former comprises all that portion of Yukon Territory tributary to Lake Bennett, Lake Nares, Lake Tagish, and Lake Atlin. The remaining portions of the old Whitehorse district now constitute the newly defined district of that name. The proclamation of this change took effect on August 1.

Discoveries of gold-quartz have been made in the Watson and Wheaton River districts, at points from 15 to 25 miles southwest of Robinson Siding on the White Pass & Yukon Railway. Although float rock carrying gold has been found in these districts from time to time since 1898, no claim to have discovered a gold-quartz ledge has been made until lately. President Graves, of the White Pass Railway Co., when in Dawson a fortnight ago, was reported by the *Yukon World* to have said: "The strike at the head of the Watson Valley is unquestionably genuine, though I have not had time to visit it in person. It is very accessible, as one can ride direct to the mines on horseback."

In the Windy Arm section of the Conrad district much development work as well as prospecting is being done. It is stated that in all there are about 500 men employed on some 40 claims, nearly half of this number being engaged in developing the various properties of the several Conrad companies. The question of whether the ore can be most economically dealt with by smelting in its crude state, or whether it is suitable for other concentration at low cost, is being carefully looked into by the management, which is arranging for exhaustive tests to determine these matters. Meanwhile few bulk shipments are being made, but a close record of assay values of the ore mined in the course of development is being kept. Good progress has been made with the work of constructing Riblet aerial tramways from the mines to the lake shore. The White Pass & Yukon Railway Co., which has had two different routes for a branch railway surveyed, is delaying construction until after the mining companies shall have decided the question of ore reduction—both as to method of treatment and location of reduction works.

The source of the fine specimens of native copper obtained at the head of White River and exhibited in Dawson in the summer of 1905, is reported to have been discovered by M. C. Harris and partners. Mr. Harris states that they found the vein some 700 ft. up the side of a steep mountain and that at a depth of ten ft. there is 30 ft. of copper ore between well defined walls. Upon news of the discovery spreading, between 100 and 150 men from the head of White and Tanana Rivers, Copper River and down to Valdez, and Klucane in the Whitehorse district, stampeded to the