SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

COBALT, GOWGANDA, ELK LAKE AND SOUTH LORRAIN

Draining Kerr Lake.—Already the draining of Kerr Lake has revealed veins of ore which appear from their surface indications to be likely to reimburse the Crown Reserve Mining Company and the Kerr Lake Mining Company for their trouble. The pumps have lowered the lake more quickly than was anticipated.

Six new veins, which the underground plans do not show below, have been picked up. All these veins show some native silver. The largest of the new veins was found on a point of rock about 150 feet straight north of the old No. 1 shaft. The vein has been traced for 50 feet and runs from two to four inches of two thousand ounce ore. This strike is almost due east and west, and is supposed to be one of the Fleming series. Another series of small veins, three in number, were found just west of the pipe line. The largest of these, nearest the shore, is two inches, and can be traced for several hundred feet in places, showing as a mere crack in the rock. Fifteen feet south is another vein, quite narrow, but traced for some distance, while eight feet further is the third of the series. These veins are immediately north of No. 9 shaft. Further to the west are two other veins, running from mere cracks to two inches in width. Plans will immediately be made to cross-cut these veins from levels that are already being worked under the lake. Until these new ore bodies are more carefully surveyed, it cannot be said with certainty that they are not being worked below, but with the data at present available it does not appear probable. All these leads have excellent possibilities.

It has been found necessary already to move the scow upon which the pumps are placed further into the lake, as the waters are receding much more rapidly than it was at first thought would be the case. The water level has been already lowered sixteen feet, and, as a result, the bay at the Crown Reserve end of the sheet of water is bare. Now one pump has been laid off in order that hydraulicking operations in sluicing off the mud at the bottom may be commenced. The Crown Reserve will sluice off the thick covering of mud which overlays the conglomerate formation, but will not trouble to lay bare the diabase for some time.

Beaver.—The quarterly report of the Beaver Consolidated mine shows that the net balance on Aug. 31 was $127,910. A vein, which has been worked with advantage on the 450 foot level, has reecntly been cut at the 500 foot level, and shows there four or five inches of high grade ore. On the 530 foot level, 52 feet from the No. 3 vein, a new vein was cut two inches wide, of 1,900 ounce ore, and on a branch of the same level is also yielding good ore. On the 460 foot level there is a shoot of ore on the main vein for 400 feet in the drift, and it is holding good in both faces. Other developments are satisfactory. But the main development for the Beaver Company is at the Beaver Auxiliary at Elk Lake, the property they took up under option last year. In the south drift on the vein some remarkably high grade ore is now showing. When the vein was first cut 60 feet east from the new shaft the values were not at all promising, running only a few hundred ounces. But now a rich ore shoot is being worked in the south face, the values running five or six thousand ounces over the width of two and a half to three inches. There is no pay ore in the north face yet. Another interesting vein was cut; but it has not been drifted upon yet. There are still three payments of $5,000 to be made on the property.

The Lumsden Mining Company, South Coleman, announces the interesting fact that at the 250 foot level the vein they were drifting upon in the Keewatin also holds good across the contact in the diabase. There have been some very rich but quite short shoots of ore on this vein, but the ore in the diabase runs higher than any previously encountered.

Bullion Shipments.—An announced rise of $2.50 per hundred pounds express on silver bullion shipped to London has induced the Nipissing to consign their shipments to New York. The steamship companies state that they have been getting little or nothing out of the freight and intend to raise the price of oversea shipment at the end of the month. If no compromise is arrived at, nearly all the bullion will go to New York, as the slightly better rate allowed by the London brokers will not counterbalance the increase in the express rate. The Nipissing at first did ship all their bullion to New York, as did the Buffalo mine, but they afterwards found it to their advantage to make London their market.

South Lorrain.—While the shutting down of the Wettlaufer in a month or six weeks deprives South Lorrain of its only consistent shipper, the good luck experienced at the old Keeley and the Curry has caused a little revival of interest in that outlying silver section. In the Wettlaufer mine the fifth and lower levels are already flooded, and in a month's time the water will be allowed to rise to the 200 foot. Before the winter actually sets in the mine will be closed down tight. While recent reports have been quite pessimistic as to this property, there is a feeling among mining engineers acquainted with the property that the possibilities of the mine have not yet been exhausted.

On the other hand, forty feet of high grade has been opened up on the new strike at the Keeley mine, now being worked by the Associated Gold Mines of Western Australia, of which Dr. Bell is the representative in Canada. This is their first entry into the Northern Ontario field.

The Curry claim, which is being worked by the Pittsburg syndicate, is mining good ore on two levels. Other properties working are the Maidens and the Proudfoot fraction, upon which the late Dr. Beattie Nesbitt once had an option. This latter property is being diamond drilled. The Bellellen has just closed down.

McKinley-Darragh-Savage.—The production from the McKinley-Darragh-Savage for the month of August amounted to 212,098 ounces, which is a slight decrease in comparison with the month of July. But the quarter ending in August has been so productive that the McKinley could easily have maintained the old rate of dividend. However, the management does not count on a recurrence of the good fortune in the striking of unexpected high grade ore shoots.

PORCUPINE, SWASTIKA AND KIRKLAND LAKE

Hollinger Gold Mines, Ltd., is adding twenty more stamps to the mill, making sixty in all. Ground has already been broken. It is understood that the addition is in part intended to accommodate ore from the Dixon property, which the Hollinger Gold Mines is now working.