

of the concentrator as Mr. Cronin had suggested. Owing to the condition of the roads at present it will be impossible to take heavy machinery over there for some time.

Owing to conditions over which they had no control the owners of the Silver Standard mine sent instructions the first of the week to close the property and those instructions have been followed out. Only a few men are on the job yet, putting the property into shape for the winter, and in a few days they will be gone. Mr. and Mrs. Norrie will soon be leaving for the south also. The shut down is for an indefinite period depending on the length of time it takes conditions to readjust themselves. The reason for the mine closing are not different to those that are causing other mines to close, viz., excessive freight rates, ever increasing power costs, high cost of all material, and, worst of all, the steady decline in the price of metals. The closing of the mine will have an effect on a number of local families, although the tie and pole camps will afford employment to all who can do that class of work.—Omineca Herald.

Lakes of soda are being unearthed along the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, with every promise that their carbonate of sodium yield will eclipse all records. The latest find is that of the Soda Mining & Products Co., of Vancouver, which concern is completing arrangements for the complete development of their property near Mile 74 on the P.G.E. A lake sixty miles in extent is found to contain, upon expert analysis, not less than seven per cent pure carbonate of soda. Machinery is being purchased and other equipment secured. The plant will be constructed before next spring and shortly after the snow is gone shipping will commence.

According to W. Burley, a member of the firm, a policy of development will in future be followed instead of selling the undeveloped property to outside capitalists. The company recently sold a magnesite property to a Vancouver manufacturing company but will develop their other magnesite property themselves. This non-metallic mineral is used in making fire brick and in blast furnace operations.

A group of other non-metallic minerals, such as dolomite, gypsum, gypsite and sulphite will also play a part in the company's plans. Historic Cariboo is branching out into new fields and the development of her so-called second-

ary minerals promises to renew her mining fame. Gypsite is a fertilizer. Carbonate of soda is used in the manufacture of soap, paper and glass.

The latter mineral is easily recovered. Every cubic foot of the lake water contains over four pounds of carbonate of soda and evaporation is a rapid proceeding.

Fred H. Jacobson, of Rossland, with Denver, Colorado, associates, have bought the White Swan group in the Burnt Basin. Development work is to be started in the spring. Assay returns from the White Swan run high in gold. This property adjoins the Molly Gibson group.

A lease has been taken by a group of six Ainsworth men on the No. 1 mine, of that camp, owned by the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Co. of Canada, and work was recommenced on the property recently, according to arrivals from Ainsworth, says the Nelson News. The group of leasers consists of Thomas Haws, George McPherson, Joseph Haws, Glenn McLeod, E. McLellan and D. McLellan. This mine was formerly an important producer, and some great stopes were chambered out. It is situated high up the mountain, back of Ainsworth, about eight miles by the wagon road, and is equipped with a tram to the landing at Cedar Creek. Both tram and compressor are included in the lease. It has been the property of the Consolidated for about eight years.

With abundance of unskilled labor applying at the mines of the Slocan for work, the mine operators of that district regard their labor troubles, consequent on the strike declared by the One Big Union last spring as definitely over. Most of the men applying for work are from the Prairies, says The Nelson News. The Noble-Five at Cody has a crew of between 65 and 70 men; the McAllister has a full crew; the Rambler-Cariboo has all the men it requires; both the Noble-Five and the Rambler-Cariboo are operating their big concentrators; the Rosebery-Surprise Mining Company has started up the Surprise Mine at Sandon with a crew of 20; the Bosun Mine at New Denver, has its complement of men. Miners and timbermen can still be taken on at most of the properties, but unskilled labor is equal to all demands. It is said that one day last week 16 men applied at the Noble-Five for employment.

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