

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE

PORCUPINE AND SWASTIKA

Goodfish.—There is an excellent chance that the development which is taking place in the Goodfish Lake district may bring forth fruit in the shape of productive mines. In consequence of the great shortage of money for prospects, only the most essential work is being done; but the results to date have been quite satisfactory. Goodfish is an extension of the Kirkland Lake belt. The claims there were staked shortly after the Tough-Oakes and neighboring claims had been staked, and many of them have been held since. Little more than the assessment work has been undertaken until this year. Goodfish is partly in the township of Morissette and not more than an hour's brisk walk over an excellent trail from Kirkland Lake. A bush road is now being built.

The Costello, in which Mr. C. A. Foster has a third interest, is the pioneer claim of the section. Some years ago it was stripped, a few test pits sunk, and it was thoroughly sampled, with the result that on the surface it gave an assay of seven to eight dollars over a width of from fifteen to twenty feet. Nothing of any importance has been attempted on it since, though it is now said that it is going to be developed.

The Martin claim adjoins it. Upon this property a shaft has been put down twenty feet, with the result that some very spectacular ore has been found. It is similar in character to that obtained in the Tough-Oakes vein, and is of good width. Much of the ore which does not show visible gold upon roasting exhibits beads of it.

The Gibson claim, at the other end of the same lake, is under option to a New York and Buffalo syndicate, for whom Mr. Frank Loring is acting. A shaft has been put down on the incline following the vein to eighty feet. At that depth there are two distinct veins of ore showing much molybdenite and some visible gold. Careful sampling indicates that four feet across the shaft an average assay will go at least sixty dollars and will often run up as high as eighty dollars. On the surface the vein was very narrow indeed.

There is no machinery in the camp at all yet, but a road is being built, and some may be taken in before the summer is much further advanced.

Tough-Oakes—Two properties are working in or near Kirkland Lake. The Tough-Oakes mill is now running at full capacity and regular clean-ups are being made. In the month of May the clean-up ran between \$50,000 and \$60,000. About 2,400 tons of ore was treated. It is the endeavor so to mix development ore with that stoped that a grade of twenty dollars a ton should go to the mill. At present, owing to some peculiarities of the ore, the Hardinge mill is not crushing more than eighty tons a day, while the tube mills can handle 60 tons each and the cyanide plant is capable of treating far more than is at present going to it. If it is not found practicable to tune up the Hardinge mill so that it will treat a hundred tons a day another and smaller mill will be installed. The mill is making an extraction of about 90 per cent. at present, and the tails, which are running about \$1.40, are being impounded for further treatment. Several minor mechanical changes have yet to be made, and the management is confident that the extraction will be raised very considerably. In the mine all the ore is coming from the main shaft in the west drifts. Both at the 200 and the 300 ft. levels the vein has faulted

and crosscuts are being run to pick it up beyond the fault. A crosscut is also being run to connect with the No. 3 shaft and to pick up the No. 6 vein.

At the Lake Shore mine, operating on a bay of Kirkland Lake, some interesting conditions have been found. The vein was followed down the shaft to 84 ft. when it dipped out. The shaft was carried down vertically. Upon crosscutting, the vein was soon picked up, but it did not give pay ore across a milling width until the contact between the porphyry and the conglomerate was reached, when the assay across 5 ft. jumped up to about sixty dollars. While the average values were not maintained at that high figure, yet as long as the vein followed the contact the ore was of good grade. To the east, under the lake, the vein has been followed for some distance and some crosscutting done. It is of good width and it is well defined and carries some gold. A diamond drill is now being operated boring a flat hole, and some small leads have already been crosscut in the porphyry. It is hoped by this work to pick up the extensions of the Wright-Hargreaves and the Teck-Hughes ore bodies which undoubtedly both run into the lake.

Porcupine Crown.—The diamond drilling and crosscutting to the south of the present workings at the Porcupine Crown has produced most satisfactory results. On the 200 and 300 ft. levels crosscuts have picked up the vein beyond the second fault and drifting is now continued in good high grade ore. On one level the drift is in good ore 60 ft. beyond the fault, in another, 40 ft. A considerable amount of exploration work was necessary before the extension of the vein was found.

On the 500 ft. level a horizontal hole was pushed to the south from the south end of the workings, with the result that the vein has been cut very much where it was anticipated it should be found. This discovery indicates that below 550 ft. or thereabouts the ore body should be continuous instead of being broken by the faults. The mill is still making a remarkable extraction. On several days last month the extraction amounted to no less than 98.41 per cent. on a \$16 head. It has now been determined to treat the residues in the tailings pond before they are covered up with the waste dump, and fifty tons of it will be handled a day. These residues run a little more than three dollars per ton, so that the production from the mine will be cut down while they are being treated. On the other hand more drills will be available for development of the territory to the south, which has just been opened, and the mine will not be required to furnish a hundred tons of ore a day.

Imperial.—The steam plant of the Porcupine Imperial is now working and two drills are being operated. It is also understood that a contract for diamond drilling has been let.

McIntyre.—The new directorate of the McIntyre visited the property recently for the first time. It is understood that it has been determined to carry on a most aggressive policy of development underground, as it is considered that the prospects of the property fully warrant it.

The production from the McIntyre was considerably lower last month owing to the fact that a larger proportion of ore was taken from No. 4 shaft, where there is a considerable amount of sericite in the ore and it is difficult and slow to settle.