

Canada's Mining Industry

Power Work on Montreal River

Proposed Undertaking Will Greatly Benefit Gowganda Region—Heavy Shipments of Bullion from Cobalt—Mining Notes

(From our Toronto Correspondent.)

There appears to be good prospects for power development at an early date at Indian Chutes, on the Montreal River, a short distance north of Elk Lake. It is stated that the interests behind the scheme are proceeding with final surveys and preparation of plans. The growing need of power in the Gowganda area and also in the Matachewan gold camps has rendered advisable development of power at this point, which is only twelve miles from the end of steel at Elk Lake. It is expected that power will be available by the fall of 1920. It is said that between 4,000 and 5,000 horse power can be developed. The distance from Indian Chutes to Matachewan is fifteen miles and to the Gowganda camp twenty miles.

According to a report from Timmins, some of the directors of the Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines are not in favor of increasing dividend disbursements to one per cent every four weeks as compared with eight weeks as at present. It is understood that President Timmins is desirous of building up a much larger surplus before placing the mine on a dividend-paying basis that would tax the present organization to the full limit to meet. The minds of the directorate seem to be fixed on a conservative policy, and as a matter of fact it is said that an adequate number of men is not yet available, the mine being held down to about two-thirds of its capacity.

The Wasapika Mine in the West Shining Tree district is said to be planning to consolidate with three adjoining claims. Under the terms of the proposed consolidation an extra three million shares will be at issue and with an additional two million in the treasury. One million shares will be paid for the new property.

Reports from Cobalt show that while during the week ending November 22nd the ore shipments were low, the shipments of bullion were comparatively heavy, the Nipissing sending out two consignments and the Mining Corporation one, the

whole amounting to close to one-quarter of a million ounces. The combined values of the silver at present quotations and the value of the ore amounted to upwards of \$350,000.

The Northern Customs Company has purchased a part of the Chambers-Ferland mine of the Aladdin Cobalt Company. The parcel of ground involved is located on the east side of the La Rose. Owing to its not being equipped with a mill of its own, it is understood that the Chambers-Ferland has been obliged to pass up a large tonnage of rock containing values which it could not afford to mine and ship. The Northern Customs, with its mill situated in close proximity to the property, could handle the proposition with commercial success. One of the chief obstacles met with in connection with the closing of the deal has been the fact that The Chambers-Ferland has been obliged to pay royalties to the Ontario Government. The matter was placed before the department, and it is probably one of the first important questions relative to the mining industry concerning which the new minister has found it necessary to pass judgment, and upon which action future cases of a similar nature will refer back to as offering a precedent.

According to late information, costs at the Dome Mine have been reduced to less than \$4 a ton, amounting to less than fifty per cent of the value contained in the grade of ore now being treated. Mill heads are said to have averaged upwards of \$8 a ton during recent months. Now, however, with costs reduced considerably it will be possible to reduce mill heads to around \$6 a ton, thus leaving a margin of \$2.25 a ton net profit. Running at two-thirds capacity as at present (30,000 tons) the net profit, even on \$6 ore, would amount to over the \$66,000 monthly required to disburse dividends at the rate of 50c a share every three months.

International Nickel

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to increase their well-being. The effect of this gift upon the ambitions of its workmen will be great, but we venture to suggest that the effect upon the mining profession may be even greater. Many of the finest miners and smeltermen we have today were recruited from the ranks of what for a better term, are often called "practical men". The "school of hard knocks" develops character of a kind that is often denied those whose earlier years are surrounded by more luxury and less industry. Young men who have toiled hard for their living and who know the disadvantage of lack of training, upon winning a scholarship of this kind will take up their technical course with a full understanding of its benefits, an ability to correlate theory and practice, and an energy that will not let slip any opportunity for acquiring a thorough knowledge of their work. We should advise those that tread the softer path to "watch their steps"; it is probable that in a few years these lusty young sons of the stope and the blast-furnace will be looming large in the mining profession.—Mining and Scientific Press.

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