

AMONG THE COMPANIES

Northern Ontario Mining Notes

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

Cobalt, Sept. 30.—The general complaint in the Porcupine camp today is the prevailing shortage of labor, and the exasperating delays in the delivery of machinery ordered. The labor shortage is becoming a very serious question and it can only lead to a curtailment in production. While the monthly production reports of the various gold mines operating show no decrease as yet, in fact increases are mostly shown, but this is possible only because most of the companies pushed development and exploration last year and with sufficient drifting done ahead for several months stopping is being done on these veins for present mill supply. Development is suffering, however, and in this regard Hollinger will be one of the main sufferers for the reason that with the present increased mill capacity and the new extension under construction, which will double the present mill capacity, the shortage of labor for development at this time is serious. It will mean that within a very short time the majority of the companies will be obliged to increase their underground staffs to maintain the present rate of production.

At the Vincent mine the raise from the 500-foot level to the 400-foot level. The new transformer house has been completed and with this improved equipment, better will be started at once to the 400-foot level. The mill is treating about 4,000 tons per week. On the 500-foot level the ore shoot has been enlarged considerably but owing to the difficulty of getting men it keeps the regular staff busy as much as the regular work. Nothing further has been done regarding the proposed amalgamation with the North Thompson, although negotiations are still being made.

Another vein was discovered on the Newray this week. This is located between the Anchor vein and the Han on vein and is about twelve feet wide on the surface. The vein is quite spectacular. A test pit is being put down on this and down to the depth of six feet free gold was still showing in the quartz at the bottom of the pit. The other veins on the Newray are very promising as well, especially the Han on vein, upon which three test pits, of varying depths have been sunk and from which some spectacular free gold was taken. In the last find, in addition to the free gold, there is a considerable amount of cobaltides. Surface prospecting will be continued until the cold weather sets in after which a cross-cut will be run to cut the Anchor, the new vein, and the Han on vein, probably at the 200-foot level. The company has a good steam plant and a hoist of sufficient size and power to operate to a depth of 600 feet.

Some of the most spectacular samples of free gold have been found in the Porcupine camp have been taken from the Davidson property, located about 1½ miles from South Porcupine. On the main vein an ore body 12 feet in width has been developed, showing values of \$15 in gold to the ton on the 100-foot level. At the next level 200 feet down, assays as high as \$39.60 were obtained, from an ore body 22 feet in width. Some distance from the main vein a new vein was struck last week. The latter is about 25 feet in width. The company resumed work in May last.

About three-fifths of the old tailings dump from the old amalgamation mill of the Porcupine Crown has been run through the present mill. The new 200-ton crusher, which was promised for the first of the month, has not yet been received. The vein on the 600-foot level looks very promising but considerable work will have to be done on this level before much can be said about it. The winze is now down a distance of 880 feet to the 900-foot level where a station will be cut. The mill is maintaining its average tonnage but it is expected that when the new crusher is installed that the mill may be able to handle a slightly increased tonnage.

The shaft of the Dome Lake mine is now down a distance of 460 feet. On the 180-foot level, up 70 feet in the stope, one vein faulted. The fault has since been crossed through and stopping is now being done above in good ore. On the 300-foot level No. 2 stope has been lengthened to the south and west. The average width is about from 10 to 15 feet, and the average value about \$30 to the ton. The latter is the bissest stope of high grade ore in the mine. East of the dyke, on the 300-foot level, No. 1 stope is about 150 feet long, in ore running approximately \$6 to the ton. Drifting is in progress in two faces of ore on



Mr. MARK WORKMAN,

President Dominion Steel Corporation, of which company United States interests are said to be endeavoring to secure control.

the 400-foot level, east of the dyke and a large tonnage of ore is being developed here. The company has a large tonnage of \$4 ore above the 300-foot level and the mill enlargement will permit of the company with the Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Co. Both companies running by the middle of October. By a shifting around of the machinery in the present building it has been found possible to increase the original capacity four times without enlarging the mill building to any extent. The foundations for the machinery have been completed.

One drill is running in the old shaft, drifting on the original vein. The eighth diamond drill hole is being put down on the east side of the property. The company some time ago proposed the sinking of a four compartment central shaft at another part of the property but nothing has been done in that direction as yet.

DOMINION STEEL CORPORATION.

The heavy buying of Dominion Steel common shares on the Montreal and Toronto stock exchange, during the last few days is said to indicate a movement on the part of United States interests with a view toward effecting the amalgamation of that company with the Nova Scotia Steel Company. Both companies are now in excellent condition financially, the Steel corporation having just announced the retirement of the remainder of its short term obligations two years before they fall due, and the consolidation of these interests would undoubtedly make for a very strong organization. It is possible to say what truth there is in the various rumors that are now going the rounds of the street, although it is well established that the heavy buying of Steel stock is from the States. Toronto reports have indicated various meetings between the two interests, while the fact that steel interests in the States have long cast envious eyes on the resources of the Canadian companies lends color to the rumors that these interests are seeking control. The dealing in Steel shares produced the heaviest movement ever recorded on any day on the Canadian exchanges.

CANADA CEMENT COMPANY.

The Canada Cement Company is now said to be making excellent headway with its munition plant, and production is greater than expected. A party of Montreal brokers and others inspected the plants last week to their entire satisfaction and in a measure exploded the contention that the company was having undue trouble with the munition end of their business. The electric furnaces are said to have turned out most satisfactory, and are effecting a big saving.

The Canadian General Electric Company has secured munition orders amounting to \$15,000,000 since the beginning of the war.

NOVA SCOTIA CAR WORKS.

A circular addressed to the shareholders of the Nova Scotia Car Works, from the committee in charge, favors the purchase of the property for the Canada Corporations, Limited for \$167,500. The following recommendations are submitted:

"That the proposal of Canada Corporations, Limited, should be acted upon, and that a new company to be known as the Nova Scotia Car & Foundry Company, Limited, or similar, name, be formed for the purpose of taking over said property at cost from Canada Corporations, Limited, in the terms set out in the resolution referred to.

"That an issue of \$1,000,000 capital stock, divided into 10,000 fully paid shares of the par value of \$100 each, be made and offered by Canada Corporations, Limited, for subscription by note certificate holders and shareholders at the rate or price of \$50 per share. The proceeds of these shares will provide cash to the amount of \$500,000, less the actual cost of property.

"This offering to subscribe is made solely to note certificate holders and shareholders of the Nova Scotia Car Works, Limited. The list will close on October 10th."

FORD MOTOR COMPANY.

The Ford Motor Company did a gross business of \$206,867,347.46 during the fiscal year ended July 31 last, on which actual profits amounted to \$59,994,118. At the end of July, 1916, the cash balance amounted to no less than \$52,550,771, according to the company's accepted figures. Besides the increase in money on hand, over 1912, the Ford Company's materials increased in the same time from \$6,629,533 to \$31,895,434, while the investment in buildings grew from \$2,596,115 to \$17,293,283. Where the Ford Company had about \$15,500,000 in cash, materials and buildings in 1912, it now has \$101,700,000 in the three items alone.

The employees of the Ford Company number 49,870, all of whom are employed eight hours per day. Seventy-four per cent of the total number employed have been sharing in the profits of the company according to wages or salary earned and the length of time employed by the company. The Ford Motor Company, Limited of Canada, employs at its factory and Canadian branches 2,515 shopmen and 490 office men. Shop rates in Canada are from 30 cents to 75 cents per hour. The Ford Motor Company of Manchester, England, employs 2,000 shopmen at from 30 to 50 cents per hour and 80 office employees. The Ford Motor Company, of Paris, and Bordeaux, France, employs about 100 men.

DULUTH-SUPERIOR TRACTION.

Earnings of the Duluth-Superior Traction Company for the month of August were \$125,932, which is an increase of \$29,080, or 30 per cent., over the earnings for August, 1915, which are recorded as \$96,852. The earnings for the year to date are \$897,477, which is an increase of \$153,803, or 20.7 per cent., over the corresponding period of 1915.

NIPISSING MINES COMPANY.

A bonus of 5 per cent along with the regular quarterly distribution of 5 per cent was declared by the directors of the Nipissing Mines Company last week.

The extra payment is the first to be made by Nipissing in nearly three years. From October, 1909, until the end of 1913 the company paid 5 per cent, plus 2½ per cent, extra every quarter, but the extra payment was dropped at the dividend meeting for the first quarter of 1914. Since then payments have been confined to the 5 per cent, quarterly.

Recent reports on the company's outlook have been encouraging and some time ago it was predicted that an extra disbursement would be made this quarter. The company has benefitted by the higher price of silver, new development work has been satisfactory and a new method of treating mill tailings is said to have been productive of satisfactory results. With the dividends declared yesterday, Nipissing will have paid next month a total of 249 per cent, on its \$6,000,000 capital.

The report circulated at Port Arthur and Fort William to the effect that the Appleton Pulp and Paper Co., of Wisconsin, had secured pulp lands in Northern Ontario, through the Department, has been denied by the Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines.

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