

GRANBY COMPANY ENLARGING ITS FIELD OF OPERATIONS

(By E. JACOBS, VICTORIA, B.C.)

From Spokane, Washington, has been received information concerning an intended early enlargement of its field of mining operations by the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting & Power Company, Limited. As Mr. Jay P. Graves, vice-president and general manager of the Granby Company, has his headquarters in Spokane, and, further, as it has been known to me for several months that the Hidden Creek Copper Company's mine was under offer to the Granby Company, I am assuming that the following statement, received from a publicity agent resident in Spokane, gives a generally correct outline of the transaction under notice. The statement is, in part, as under:

"Eighty per cent. of the capital stock of the Hidden Creek Copper Company, which owns the largest copper deposit in northern British Columbia, was acquired for \$400,000 by the Granby Company in Spokane on October 25th, when the deal was closed and a substantial payment made to J. M. Hodgens and Ralph Hodgens, of Butte and New York. M. K. Rodgers, manager of the property, who owns the remaining 20 per cent. of the stock, refused to sell his interest. Mr. Jay P. Graves announced that a matting plant will be erected as soon as sufficient tonnage is developed, and added:

"It is our intention to reduce the ore to a low-grade matte, say 20 or 30 per cent. copper, and to ship the matte to Grand Forks, B.C., to be smelted and converted there in conjunction with our Phoenix ore. By so doing we expect to cheapen our cost of operation, through increased tonnage, and at the same time reduce our metal losses in the slag owing to the larger percentage of iron in the charge. The increase in sulphur will enable us to reduce the percentage of coke consumed. The addition of this matte to our smelter charge also will admit of our treating a larger quantity of silicious ore than we can do at present.

"We feel confident that in acquiring the Hidden Creek mine we have secured one of the greatest copper mines on the Pacific coast. The main ore body appears to be fully 100 feet wide and, allowing for the considerable mass of low grade ore it contains, we feel we are conservative in placing the copper content at the low average of 3 1-2 per cent. In area the property is nearly as large as that of the Granby mines at Phoenix."

The remainder of the Spokane communication is descriptive of the property but since it was visited by Mr. Herbert Carmichael, provincial assayer, in 1909, and his account of it was included in an official bulletin published by the British Columbia Bureau of Mines, it will, perhaps, be better to quote from that publication, which thus deals with Observatory Inlet:

Observatory Inlet.

"Observatory Inlet is a branch of Portland Inlet running practically parallel with Portland Canal but 15 or 20 miles apart. Thirty-five miles from the entrance, Observatory Inlet splits into two arms, namely, Hastings and Alice Arms, the former heading north and south and the latter east and west. Goose Bay is a large sheltered inlet, the outlet being on the west shore of Observatory Inlet, at the entrance to Hastings Arm. While there is a deep waterway of ample width, no de-

tailed survey has been made of these waters and the chart should be used with caution.

Hidden Creek Copper Company.

"This company owns nine mineral claims in the neighbourhood of Goose Bay, namely, Rudge, Revenge, Donald, Alpha, Manson, McKinley, Kenneth, Salamander, and Bunker. The principal work has been done on the Alpha and Revenge. There is an excellent plank road two miles long extending from the deep water at Goose Bay to the main tunnel, which is 530 feet above sea level.

"Prospectors were first attracted by a round-topped hill, about 1,000 feet high, which was more or less covered by a typical 'gossan' or iron cap. Prospecting showed that this gossan was thicker and more strongly marked in some places than in others, and attention was specially directed to these points. The first of this work was done on a large exposure of these oxidized ores, which proved to be 5 feet thick. This gossan was cut with a number of trenches which disclosed a body of mixed pyrite and chalcopyrite ore, and this was prospected by four tunnels, aggregating 200 feet. These tunnels developed a large body of ore carrying 4 to 6 per cent. copper, which was called the 'Cabin Bluff,' and is at an altitude of 700 feet.

"About 500 feet back round the hill and 200 feet higher than the 'Cabin Bluff,' another and larger exposure of ore was discovered and named the 'Mammoth Bluff.' This has been cleared off to a large extent by surface stripping and shows a height of 300 feet of mixed pyrite and chalcopyrite ore, carrying 4 1-2 to 5 per cent. copper. This ore deposit has been prospected by several tunnels, in all 350 feet in length.

"There are several smaller showings on this hill, and these, with the 'Cabin' and 'Mammoth' bluffs, have been prospected by 2,000 feet of open-cut, beside the tunnels. To tap these ore bodies at depth and form a main working tunnel, a long drift has been started on the hillside 200 feet vertically below the 'Cabin Bluff,' and when the property was visited this drift was in 732 feet. At 430 feet in, the ore seen in the 'Cabin Bluff' above was struck, the tunnel cutting through it, the strike of the ore being N. 10 deg. W., dip 65 deg. W. The thickness of the ore body is estimated at from 25 to 40 feet, running from 4 to 5 per cent. copper. Drifts 70 feet long have been run on either side of the tunnel in ore all the way, the direction of the tunnel being 90 deg. from the strike of the ore.

"Round the hill to the south 285 feet, and at an elevation of 100 feet above the main tunnel, a drift known as the 'Pyrites tunnel,' is being run in to connect with an upraise from the main tunnel. For the first 100 feet this tunnel runs through loose granular pyrites, made up of small detached iron pyrites crystals, similar to those found on the Ecstall pyrites deposit, near the Skeena River. At 100 feet in, solid mixed iron and copper pyrites ore was struck, carrying 4 per cent. copper for 10 feet, when a lower grade iron sulphide ore was met, and the tunnel is still in this ore at 200 feet from the portal.

"The vertical height between the main tunnel and the top of the 'Mammoth Bluff' deposit is 450 feet, and with the prospecting done it is reasonable to infer that