

FRANKLIN CAMP, BOUNDARY DISTRICT.

The editor of the *Phoenix Pioneer*, who recently visited Franklin camp, has published an account of his visit. Summarised, his comments are as follows: No other undeveloped part of the Boundary mining district is to-day attracting so much attention as is Franklin camp, situated between 40 and 50 miles north of the town of Grand Forks, at the headwaters of the north fork of Kettle River—a section that is still without railway communication and to which a wagon road is only now being completed by the Provincial Government. This camp, according to the map compiled by Prof. R. W. Brock of the Geological Survey of Canada, who in 1901 did some field work in this locality, has a mineralised area of 13 by 5 miles. This much of the drainage area of the north fork has been proved, though it is known to extend much farther. The geological formation is lime, porphyry and conglomerate surrounded by granite hills, and the ledges mostly have a northerly and southerly trend. Locally the district may be said to be divided into three smaller camps known respectively as McKinley, Banner, and Mineral Hill, with others coming into prominence as development proceeds.

Generally the ore of Franklin camp is a sulphide copper carrying also some gold and silver, and running rather higher in average value than that of the larger mines of the other of the Boundary district. In some parts of Franklin camp galena and zinc have also been found, but it is the great ledges of copper ore, like those of Phoenix and Deadwood camps, that are looked to to provide a large tonnage of ore after railway transportation shall have been provided and development work well advanced.

The leading property of the camp is the McKinley, in which Mr. F. Aug. Heinze is understood to be largely interested. Development here includes 350 ft. of tunneling, which has proved an ore body some 200 ft. in width, and much surface stripping and ground sluicing, these showing the continuity of the ledge. The Diamond Drill Contracting Co., of Spokane, Wash., is now carrying out a contract providing for the boring of several thousand feet of drill holes.

The Gloucester group is understood to be under bond to the Dominion Copper Co., owning mines and a smelter near Phoenix and Greenwood. A 50-ft. shaft sunk in ore of good grade, and a 250-ft. cross-cut tunnel comprise the chief development work on this property. The Maple Leaf group has lately been bonded by Mr. H. W. Warrington, superintendent of the Kettle River Valley railway, and others. Open cuts show the occurrence on these claims of a large body of copper sulphide ore of excellent quality. On the Mineral Hill group a big ore body is exposed by a 200-ft. tunnel and a number of open cuts. On the Banner, development includes 200 ft. of tunneling and 60 ft. of sinking and cross-cutting, chiefly in a concentrating copper ore, with four ft. of galena ore also occurring on the property.

There are numerous other claims in the camp, some of them with large surface showings of mineral. A contract has been let for the construction of 50 miles of railroad, from Grand Forks to the camp, so with the prospect of transportation facilities being provided much development work will be done during the ensuing summer and fall.

A published report of the Wallaroo and Moonta Copper Mines, situated on Yorke's Peninsula, South Australia, shows that from 1860 to 1905 the mines yielded 1,583,530 tons of copper to the value of £12,627,000 (or at \$4.86 per £, \$60,347,220) and paid £1,830,254 in dividends. The total expenditure was £10,770,718 and the average annual expenditure £234,150. The average yearly production was 34,424 tons and the number of the company's employees in December last 2,318. The report shows that the Wallaroo brand, which is noted for its purity, commands a ready sale in Europe, India and China, and that this is the first mining company in Australia to exceed £1,000,000 in dividends.

COAL NOTES.

The *Similkameen Star*, Princeton, says: Snowden Bros. have driven a tunnel on the B. C. Collieries Co's coal property on the western borders of the town and have exposed a 6-ft. seam of excellent coal.

A press report from Fernie, in the Crow's Nest Pass district, says that the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. is making plans to open up its coal property near Hosmer, Crow's Nest Pass, and it is likely that a force of men will soon be put to work there. Mr. B. L. Thorne, one of the engineers who opened up the McInnes property for the C. P. R. at Crow's Nest and who has done engineering work at their colliery at Bankhead, was in Fernie recently with Mr. John Brown, another coal expert. These men purchased supplies for a camp to be established at Hosmer.

The following is a press despatch from Lethbridge, Southwest Alberta, under date May 30: To-day the Galt Company resumed mining operations and one hundred and fifty tons have been realised, most of which has been sold locally at the old rate of \$3.25, delivered. The existing coal famine has thus been relieved for the present.

Press Bulletin No. 1 of the Geological Survey of Canada contains the following note on Coal in the Rocky Mountains: "Mr. D. B. Dowling will be employed during the coming season making explorations in the eastern portion of the Rocky Mountains, between the Red Deer River and the Athabasca. From the Red Deer the extreme northern end of the coal basin that is being mined as far south as Canmore, will be mapped out, and other basins within the above-mentioned area will be sought for. It is in the disturbed area of the Rocky Mountains that the hardest and best coal is to be found, so that it is important to ascertain all the possible coal-bearing areas so situated. The building of new lines of railroad through these northern passes has drawn attention to this very little explored portion."

The following notes are from the *Frank Paper*:

It is reported that the sale of what is known as the Ambrose coal property south of Pincher Creek, Alberta, has been completed and that Louis Stockett of Bankhead is now the holder. It is the general impression that the property was purchased in the interest of J. J. Hill.

Mr. Louis Stockett, manager for the C.P.R. at the Bankhead collieries, was through The Pass recently on a visit to Hosmer to look over the preparations for the beginning of work on the C. P. R. coal property at that point. It is stated that supplies are being shipped there; that development work will start soon and that the company will drive a 6,000-ft. tunnel to attack the coal.

Contractors Frayer and Sinclair started work last week on the construction of the tipple of the Canadian-American Co's new handling plant. The timbers are going up rapidly and already an excellent beginning has been made. The machinery for the plant is ordered and will be here ready for installation by the time the carpenter work is out of the way. The plant will entail an expenditure of \$60,000 and will enable the company to increase its output to 1,000 tons a day immediately it is ready for operation.

Mr. F. H. Sherman, president of the district board United Mine Workers of America, has stated that the affairs of the coal miners of this district were never before in as good condition as at this time, as, with the exception of Lethbridge, Southwest Alberta, the union has contracts with every colliery in the district and conditions everywhere are eminently satisfactory. At Lethbridge he said there are not more than 200 of the men on strike out of employment; all others having been found work at other mines. He expressed the greatest confidence in the outcome of the strike there. The company, he claimed, had not succeeded in getting more than 35 men to go to work and these were farmers who knew nothing about coal mining. He expressed the belief that the company would never secure a full complement of non-union men.