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EXTRACTS FROM REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF MINES.

(Continued.)

Corren - During the past season a good deal of interest has been shown in the search for workable deposits of ores of this metal throughout the Province. The increased value of the metal has stimulated the output of producing mines all over the world, and as many were able to furnish the ore or metal at remunerative rates, it has naturally followed that all deposits in any respect promising have received much attention.

For a number of years past the demand for this metal has been to a certain extent defined. Now, however, the extension of its adaptability to several important industrial developments, especially to that of electricity, has brought out the fact that like tin, it must in the future be one of the semi-royal metals.

In view of the fact that in this Province there are extensive areas of Carboniferous and Laurentian rocks containing important indications of the presence of this metal, it may not be amiss to refer to the attempt now made to open copper-bearing strata on a working scale.

In a paper read by me some years ago before the Geological Society of London, I gave a description of the then known deposits of Copper ore and their Geological relations.

During the year 1888, the Copper ores of Tatamagouche were further prospected and samples shipped. The Margaretsville, Annapolis County, Copper Licenses were renewed. At this point the "Volcanic Ash," of Trassic age as well as the overlying "traps" carry stringers and disseminated grains of native Copper. The explorations hitherto made have given promise of belts of cupriferous rock of workable value.

In Antigonish County, at several points, the Carboniferous Limestones carry near their junction with Devonian strata, voins and masses of rich Copper pyrites, and the diocitic dykes cutting the latter measures are frequently Copper-bearing. As yet, however, explorations have been carried far enough only to warrant expectations of future value.

In Cape Breton the Laurentien measures appear to show greater copper values than the rocks of any other age. At Coxheath, near Sydney, vigorous and successful developments have proved the fact that veins of Copper ore of workable value do exist in Nova Scotia.

The Eastern Development Company, Limited, have secured two leases, giving them a title to the copper and associated gold and silver over a tract about three miles in length. Their property, situated about four miles from the head of Sydney Harbor, lies along the northern side of the Coxheath hills.

The easterly lease is known as the "Coxheath," and the westerly as the "Argyle." On the Coxheath two shafts have been sunk, known as the Eist West shafts. When they reached the depth of about 175 feet and and machinery b come needed, it was decided to push explorations in the west shaft on account of the surface at this point being more favorable for the convenient location of the necessary machinery, etc.

The western shaft is two hundred feet deep, from the bottom a cross cut has been driven south 210 feet, which cuts at 67 feet a vein 5 feet wide, showing copper ore. At the shaft bottom a level has been run east about 110 feet, and a cross cut made south to the five foot vein referred to is a promising vein, averaging, as far as I could judge, 3 to 4 per cent of copper in the lode. A cross cut going north from the face of this level, at 120 feet, cut a vein from 6 to 12 feet wide, and it was followed to the west until opposite the shaft, when it was cut by a prolongation of the south cross cut to the north, and the vein further driven on to the westward for 85 feet This lode, where cut by the cross cut, should average 10 per cent. copper, and I think that the vein, as opened for a distance of 200 feet, should average in the lode 6 per cent of copper. At the upper 120 feet level some stoping has been done on a vein averaging 4 feet, lying in the shaft. This has been driven in, and a considerable amount of ore taken out, This vein holds in depth, as shown at the lowest level, is smaller, but holds purple ore in quantity enough to keep its value. The stoped ore yielded 10 per cent. copper.

A cross cut is now being driven from the 140 feet level to cut the ten feet vein. This should open up a very large extent of good ground.

It is proposed to sink deeper and to cut these three veins again.

will open up a large extent of stoping ground, and an output of 100 tons a day should be easily maintained. There is already at hand about 100 tons of 12 to 18 per cent. ore, and several hundred tons running from 3 to 8 per cent., collected during the development work.

The surface work comprises five Rand duplex drills and compressor. Hoisting engine having two cylinders, 8 by 8 inches, and a five feet drum There is also an ample supply of pump power, but at present eight hours discharge through a 21 inch column keeps the mine dry. Steam is supplied

by three portable boilers aggregating about 125 horse power.

An engine with 10 by 20 inch cylinder drives the saw mill, lathe, crusher, and screens. There are all necessary shops, magazines, and boarding houses for about 150 men.

At the time of my visit an ore dressing house 60 feet square was being built, and arrangements were being made to add another compressor, seven drills, and a 50 horse power boiler to the present plant.

A line of railway has been located and the right of way arranged for from the mine to a leading and smelting ground on Sydney harbor., about 6 miles from the mine. The work on the westerly or "Argyle" lease has so far been confined to surface explorations, which have exposed the crop of two very promising veins supposed to be the continuation of those now being worked on the "Coxheath."

(To be Continued.)

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