

News From the Mining Camps

Atlas Mine Assay.—McIntyre Dividend.—Temiskaming Production.—Beaver Consolidated to Resume.

(From our Toronto Correspondent.)

President Bickell has just returned to Toronto from an extended visit to the Blue Diamond and Canadian Gold-fields companies of Alberta, which McIntyre-Porcupine and Temiskaming own, and reports excellent progress being made. Actual production figures have been increased about 50 per cent and an output of 700 tons daily is now being recorded. New machinery is being installed as rapidly as received and, it is expected, by the end of the year a further big increase in production will be made. Present operations are now being carried along upon a profitable basis and this point has been reached by the management much quicker than was expected.

Atlas Mine Assay.

Official assay returns from the same shipment of 1,500 pounds of ore from the Atlas mine have been received from the sampling plant at Cobalt, and these show average gold values contained therein to run \$80.68 to the ton. Every effort to remove all visible gold from the shipment was made by the mine management, which product was sent to the company's head office in Montreal. This high-grade ore was taken out in development work along the Evelyn vein, and an open cut about 25 feet deep has been made preparatory to sinking a shaft to 300 feet in depth. At the bottom of the open cut the vein shows a width of several feet with the ore carrying heavily in visible gold associated with sulphides, the latter factor being indicative of the high-grade "pay" values continuing to considerable depth. In the several hundred feet of stripping and trenching already completed on the Evelyn vein, free gold of a very coarse nature is easily discernible along the entire length, and the management believe that this vein will develop into the main lode of the West Shining Tree camp and become a heavy producer of gold for the Atlas Company. The new four-drill compressor plant is expected any day now and labor conditions are reported to be improving rapidly.

To Establish Mining Schools.

Mr. W. L. Goodwin, formerly Dean of the Faculty of Applied Science at Queens University, Kingston, has arrived in Toronto. Dr. Goodwin has been requested to act as principal and has accepted the task in connection with the establishment by the Ontario Department of Mines, of schools of instruction at the various mining centres. It is expected that the schools will be at Belleville, Madoc, Cobalt, Porcupine, Fort William and Sault Ste. Marie.

Oil Boring Operations.

Oil boring operations will be carried on all winter in Alberta and Saskatchewan by ten rigs of Imperial Oil, Limited, according to an announcement by President A. W. McQueen

who has just returned to Toronto from the West, where he completed arrangements. This will embrace all the rigs of the company now operating in the West, with the exception of the two that were in the Fort Norman territory of the far north, where the weather is too severe for winter work. No further announcement has been made as to results in the latter section as work was closed down for the winter some time ago. The continuance of boring in the more southerly regions may bring announcement of success in other places in the course of the winter months. In any case the company's program in the West is being prosecuted with vigor.

Encouraging Results in Flavell Township.

Encouraging results have been achieved in the working of seventeen claims in Flavell township about twenty miles west of Boston Creek by a number of returned men who held the claims before they went overseas. The bulk of the claims are along a 1,200-foot zone in width, alternating quartz, schist and porphyry. Considerable surface work and some pits have produced assays of a satisfactory nature.

After having been closed for over a month, the Peerless Gold Mines, operating the Mondeau property, have started operations again and are sinking a new shaft. This work will develop a vein which has not been reached underground.

Miller-independence is considering a new diamond drill program from the 500-foot level. The idea is to test the ground not tapped so far by cross-cuts. Work is being done on three faces on the 500-foot level. The Miller has a steam boiler installed so as to

prepare for a possible power shortage.

It is stated that on the Timiskaming property, this year's production will exceed that of last year but the amount of high-grade handled this year will be lower. Timiskaming mill is now handling about one hundred tons daily but the decrease over recent months is due to the power shortage and not an ore scarcity. It is understood that there is three months capacity run of broken ore on hand. Underground development and exploration are in a measure retarded by power shortage but it will be some months before a serious effect on the mines output would result. Recent exploration has brought to light some excellent milling ore but the amount of the high-grade found has been small.

McIntyre Dividend.

McIntyre is said to be the first of the Northern mines to break into the 1921 dividend column by the declaration of five per cent as a New Year's gift to shareholders of record November 19. McIntyre paid this year fifteen per cent or a total of \$546,042.46 and brought its total dividends to date to \$2,175,174.30. The New Year's payment will bring the mines percentage of money returned in dividends up to 65 per cent of the capital issued, besides piling up over a million surplus and paying its share of the western coal deal.

The northern Customs at Cobalt has halted operations on the Silver Cliff which it has been working under lease. This is due to the power shortage which in a measure reduced efficiency. Silver Cliff produced an average of fifty tons daily of fairly good milling rock and it was taken to the Bailey Silver mines mill.

With the discontinuance of the handling of sands and slimes by oil flotation a larger tonnage of mine ore is being treated by the Coniagas Mines. About 300 tons of ore are being handled daily as compared with 250 tons last month.

SOME TRADE MATTERS THAT NEED ATTENTION.

Commenting upon the report from London, England, that a large number of British firms show a preference for doing business with Canada through agents in the United States—a matter brought to the attention of the Overseas Trade Dept. in London by Col. Grant Morden, R. W. Gould, Secretary of the Quebec Branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, says that his association has been well aware of this situation for some time, and has had it under active consideration.

"We are doing our best to bring about more satisfactory conditions in this respect," he said, "and a gradual improvement in these business relations can be safely predicted. We do not, however, take the stand that either the British or the Canadian Government is to blame for these divergencies. The righting of such matters rests with the individual British and Canadian importers and merchants."

"Granting that the majority of British exporters, whose sales to this country may represent but a small part of their total business, cannot be expected to have an intimate knowledge of conditions in this country," explained Mr. Gould, "it is not difficult to see what takes place. The British exporter appoints an agent for North America, whose headquarters are usually New York, through whom he does practically all his business on this continent."

"In other words," Mr. Gould added, "the British exporter who does his Canadian business through his agent in the United States, does it more from motives of convenience, and sometimes of ignorance, than of any set purpose prejudicial to Canada."

"A more aggravating feature to present Inter-Empire trade," Mr. Gould pointed out, "is the payment of extra duty on various raw products, such as gum arabic, crude rubber and ivory, which originate in the British Empire and find their way to Canada through England first and then the United States. This matter is also receiving our attention."

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