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MINING NEWS.

IRON MASK.

Superintendent Hall reports that sinking on the east shaft is progressing very nicely at the rate of about 45 feet per month, a foot and a half per day. There is also sinking on the No. 2 winze in the west end of the mine for the 500-foot level. The winze is now at the 450-foot stage. Drifting is also in progress through the big main fault of the mine to the east from the 400-foot level, and it is expected that the ore on the other side of the fault will be caught in a few days from now. If the ore proves of the same value east of the fault, as it has on the west, it will open a considerable new reserve for the mine. The new S. K. C. motor installed a few weeks since is running in a highly satisfactory manner. No ore is being shipped as no new ore is being broken. The energies of the management are centered upon the drift through the fault and upon No. 2 winze which is not following the ore body. However, a nice ledge has been uncovered in the winze. As soon as this development has been completed, shipping will proceed as before. Superintendent Hall wishes to report that everything is going well in the mine, the management is satisfied, the men are satisfied and there is no kick coming.

LE ROI.

All mining work has been suspended on this property pending the acceptance by the miners of the contract system offered by the company. It is expected that their decision with regard to this will be known early this week. It is then to be hoped, says Mr. Macdonald, that the mine will open up full blast. Though actual work underground is completely in abeyance for the present on this property, yet there is much surface work proceeding. The facilities for framing timbers at the mouth of the Black Bear tunnel are being improved. Grading for a new blacksmith shop and machine shop has commenced. The new compressor building, with its foundations for the plant, has been finished for some time past, and the management is now awaiting the arrival of the compressor,

now overdue. The boiler room building is finished, and the foundations for receiving six 100 horse-power boilers are complete. These 100 horse-power boilers, though nominally only of the numerical strength expressed are really capable of exerting 120 horse-power. Besides the six new boilers to come in there are three others now in place at the compressor in use on Black Bear flat. These will eventually be removed to the new boiler house as soon as the others are installed.

NICKEL PLATE.

The remarkable strike that was made during the week is the feature of this mine not only for the week but during the period of the mine's existence. The ledge was encountered while cutting a pump station just above the 500 foot level in the main shaft. It is eight feet wide, of good ledge matter, and is of high grade shipping ore equal to ore anywhere in the camp. There is no examination of the ledge were found, but on attaining the 500 foot level an examination will be made, and then the shaft will be continued downwards to the 600 foot level which will be eventually the main working level of the mine. Superintendent Macdonald withholds the results of the first assays, as sufficient of the ledge is not uncovered to allow it to be known whether the results found at the present are really representative of the worth of the strike. Later on, within the next few weeks, when the attainment of the 500 foot level has permitted an examination to be made there of the extent and value of the find, fair average values can be obtained. The surface water finding its way into the shaft is a heavy tax on the pumping capacity of the mine, and work is consequently somewhat retarded.

WAR EAGLE.

Again the fact that no men are being employed below the surface has to be recorded. In the meanwhile, however, work has by no means ceased. The new steam hoist is finished and is in place. It has been erected between the shaft and the compressor. The old electric hoist is still in position, but the cables have been unwound from the drum for some time past. The new plan is by Webster, Camp & Lane of Ohio, and is a doubledrum, link motion friction hoist of two ton capacity, and is constructed on the very latest principles. The throttle, in case of runaway, closes automatically, forcing the air brakes to act simultaneously. Thus the skip is as safe to ride upon as the ordinary cable car. The new steam line from the boiler house on the Center Star ground, has nearly reached the hoist. The two temporary hoists installed some time since on the 250 foot level, will now be removed. This mine, like the Le Roi, is now ready to start in working to the utmost of its capacity.

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