

was located during the spring of 1917 by R. H. Stewart and associates, who have carried on systematic development-work and opened up a very wide shear-zone in the "Metchosin volcanics" country-rock near the contact between that rock and the Sooke and Carmanah sandstone and conglomerate. In this main shear-zone there occur several zones mineralized with chalcopyrite. The width of each of the mineralized zones is so great as to give promise of possibly developing into a big mine. The fact that the workings are located within about two miles from the power-station, and within about 6,000 feet of the end of a logging-railway, ensures cheap power and transportation.

On the southern slope of Mount Maguire, on the East Sooke peninsula, O. H. Gurle and associates have been developing the ore-bodies on the *Margaret* group of mineral chimneys and have made several shipments of chalcopyrite of commercial grade to the Ladysmith smelter. Development-work has demonstrated that at the point where the mine-workings are located there is an ore-body of about 250 feet in length which is exposed for a maximum width of about 40 feet and a minimum width of about 12 feet by a depth of about 25 feet, with all indications pointing to the depth continuing persistently.

Late in the fall of 1917 the *Willow Grouse* group, at East Sooke, was bonded by the Ladysmith Smelting Company, from which property ore had been shipped to the Tacoma smelter.

About one mile from the southerly shore of Cowichan lake and about six miles from its outlet, the *Blue Grouse* and *Sunnyside* groups of mineral chimneys have been worked during 1917. From the former about 1,400 tons of chalcopyrite ore has been shipped, and some shipments were made from the last-mentioned group, but most of the work done on that group is of a development nature.

Nanaimo Mining Division.

Outside of the old-established colliery companies, there has been considerable activity in the coal-mining district on Vancouver Island, all of which are located in the Nanaimo Mining Division.

The most important new work done is that performed by the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting, and Power Company, Limited, in the vicinity of Cassidy's Crossing, on the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway, about eight miles from the town of Nanaimo, where several diamond-drill holes were made on tracts of land secured from old settlers, and late in the fall the construction of buildings for a permanent camp was commenced.

Diamond-drill borings were also made by Hy. Whitney Trent and associates on the foreshore near the mouth of the Chemainus river.

At Nanaimo, about ten miles north-westerly from Nanaimo, the coal-mining property known as the "Old Black" property was acquired by the Nanaimo Collieries, Limited, and opened up early in 1917, when shipment of coal to outside markets was commenced and has been continued on an increasing scale during the year.

The collieries operated by the Western Fuel Company at Nanaimo; the Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir), Limited, at Extension and Cumberland; the Pacific Coast Coal Mines, Limited, at South Wellington; and the Vancouver-Nanaimo Coal Mining Company, which operates the Jingle Pot mine, near Nanaimo, produced a greater tonnage of coal than during 1916, but the two first-named companies were considerably handicapped by a shortage of coal-miners and the limitation of the production of the old mines. The last-named company was compelled to seal up their mine, the Jingle Pot, in November owing to the breaking-out of a fire.

The Western Fuel Company reopened the old Harewood mine, south of Nanaimo, during the summer of 1917, and also carried on extensive diamond-drilling operations, with a view of locating advantageous positions at which to sink new slopes, in order to increase the output of coal to meet the greater demand that has suddenly arisen owing to the shortage of fuel-oil.

The Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir), Limited, opened a new slope at South Wellington in the fall of 1917, near the old Alexandra mine, which has been closed down for the last fifteen years, and will commence shipping coal after the railroad is built to connect the new mine with the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway tracks.

The metalliferous-mining industry in the Nanaimo Mining Division is principally confined to Texada and Quadra Islands, but there has been some further prospecting-work carried on in the mountains adjacent to the many inlets and fjords that penetrate the mainland as far north as Seymour Inlet, the most southerly arm of Queen Charlotte sound, and also near the headwaters of Little Campbell river and on Adams river, in the north-easterly portion of Vancouver Island.