

The Evening Star mine, Dayton Creek, Slocan, is being opened up, and there is every reason to believe that it will be shipping again soon. Pumps and other plant necessary for the unwatering of the shaft and workings of the No. 3 Cameron group were installed some time ago, and have done their work well, it being stated that a body of high-class ore has been uncovered. Work has commenced on the construction of a 50-ton flotation mill for the Ottawa mine, Springer Creek, near Slocan City. L. H. Biggar and A. L. McPhee hold this property under bond from the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company, and the mill referred to has been designed by Mr. Biggar, who is an Eastern Canadian engineer. A tramway from the mine to the mill is to be built, the distance being about half a mile, and a pipeline also is to be installed. It is planned to have the mill ready for operation in the course of a month or more, but the heavy machinery is to be taken over the snow.

A recent press despatch says: By minutely examining the rocky shoreline between Barclay and Quatsino Sounds Dr. V. Dolmage, of the Dominion geological survey, this summer completed the geological map of the West coast of Vancouver Island. The expedition was made on the Vancouver motor yacht Shellena, which cruised during the three months from June to September more than 2,000 miles. The navigating officer was Captain C. Spring, and the craft was manned by a crew of six, exclusive of Dr. Dolmage and an assistant geologist, Mr. R. C. Emmons, who graduated recently from the University of British Columbia.

While no unusual happenings occurred and good weather favored the party during the entire period, some very interesting discoveries to the scientific world were made. Fossils were found at Malksope Inlet and the impressions of sea shells left on these rocks confirmed the previous supposition of geologists that the whole of the northwestern portion of the continent dated back to a very early period in the world's history. The shells had evidently been deposited at a time when the island, then a portion of the mainland, was covered by the Pacific Ocean. Scientists have decided that this area was inundated by the sea at several distinct periods, succeeded by some subterranean upheaval, which restored the continent to its former position. It has also been conclusively proved that the North

Pacific coast never at any time extended further than its present boundary into the Pacific, the depth of several miles to the ocean precluding that possibility. The glacial period was a comparatively modern event in the history of the country.

The fossils indicate the period with a fair degree of accuracy and it is then an easy step for men of science to forecast the rock formation of the period, and consequently the minerals which would likely be found. Hence the value of such geological examinations to the prospector and miner.

The southerly portion of the West coast from Barclay Sound to Sooke had been gone over by Dr. C. H. Clapp, and from Quatsino Sound to Cape Scott had been completed by the eminent geologist, Dr. George N. Dawson, brother of the principal of McGill.

Mercury deposits have been discovered by Dr. Dolmage at Sechart, Barclay Sound, although it is a question whether they exist in sufficient quantities to be developed as a commercial proposition. His survey this year started at Ucluelet Arm and embraced Clayoquot Sound, Sydney Inlet, where an important copper deposit was being worked by the Tidewater Copper Company, Hesquiat Harbor, Nootka Sound, where certain magnetite deposits were found, particularly at Head Bay, Deserted Creek, then to Kyuquot Sound and Quatsino Sound. Dr. Dolmage also took the opportunity of visiting Kennedy Lake, on the shores of which some gold deposits have been discovered. Copper also abounds, he said, in considerable quantities at Kokshittle Arm.

The Shellena completed her voyage, returning via Cape Scott, so circumnavigating the island. A number of mineral specimens were brought back and these will be analyzed. Dr. Dolmage's report will first have to be submitted to Ottawa before it will be released for publication.

Four returned soldiers were found prospecting on the shores of Kyuquot Sound, the men being grubstaked by the Provincial Government as part of the arrangement by the authorities to assist the returned men.

Mr. R. C. Emmons has left for Wisconsin University, where he will pursue postgraduate studies in geological work.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Mineral Province of Western Canada

TO END OF DECEMBER, 1919

Has produced Minerals valued as follows: Placer Gold, \$75,722,603; Lode Gold, \$100,272,431; Silver, \$50,432,304; Lead, \$43,821,106; Copper, \$153,680,965; Other Metals (Zinc, Iron, etc.), \$17,605,405; Coal and Coke, \$199,123,323; Building Stone, Brick, Cement, etc., \$29,991,757; making its Mineral Production to the end of 1919 show an

Aggregate Value of \$670,649,894

Production for Year Ending December, 1919, \$33,296,313

The Mining Laws of this Province are more liberal and the fees lower than those of any other Province in the Dominion, or any colony in the British Empire.

Mineral locations are granted to discoverers for nominal fees.

Absolute Titles are obtained by developing such properties, the security of which is guaranteed by Crown Grants.

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