

Canada's Mining Industry

Hard on Non-Producing Mines

Development of Young Properties in Cobalt is Held Up by High Costs, While Producers Do Not Suffer Because Silver is High

(From Our Own Correspondent)

Tononto, January 30.—That the development of non-producing silver mines is being retarded by the high wages being paid in the silver camps of Northern Ontario is the contention in mining circles in Cobalt. It is pointed out that at present, with machine runners being paid \$4 for an eight hour day, plus a bonus of \$1.50 on the present high price of silver, the non-producers are being hit heavy. On the other hand the producing mines do not feel the strain to any great extent, for the reason that the high price obtained for their product more than offsets the bonus paid to the workmen. In this way, it is maintained, development of new properties which otherwise would be permitted to carry on exploration work is being retarded. The present silver output continues but the development of possible future producers is restricted to some extent. It is stated that the supply of labor at the silver mines is adequate and the efficiency of the workmen is steadily increasing.

The Herrick Gold Mine of West Shining Tree which is partly financed in the United States, through F. C. Sutherland & Co., Toronto, has been diamond drilled to a depth of 800 feet at a cost, it is said, of \$28,000. At that depth the ore body is said to be 22 feet wide with values well above the average. A mining plant is now being installed and it is expected that the work of providing an up-to-date reducing plant will in a few months, be under way.

It is reported from Kirkland Lake that about eight new companies will be incorporated within the next few weeks to work properties in Lebel township where there has been a great revival of interest. It is learned that not only is interest keen around the Gull and Mud Lake sections, but it also extends as far east as Crystal Lake on the boundary between Lebel and Gauthier townships. From this point east it is only six miles to the Argonaut Gold Mines at Beaverhouse Lake where operations are being carried on aggressively, and but another six miles to Larder Lake.

High Value at Wolfe Lake

High values have been developed in two ore shoots at the Murray-Mogridge property at Wolfe Lake. It is stated that fifteen dollars a ton in two shoots of strong character have been proven over several hundred feet of drifting. Values and width have both increased at the 200-foot level and the width along one stretch is 11 feet. A new shaft is to be sunk and several other veins will be developed. The mine is two miles southeast of the Bourkes mine, where a mill is to be erected this spring.

Two directors of the Ontario Kirkland Mine, Walter E. Hurd and A. J. Bolton of Philadelphia, were in Toronto this week, having just come down from their property, where arrangements were made for installing a mill of 100 tons capacity. They report great activity in the whole Kirkland camp and that several of the mines, including Lake Shore, are rapidly getting back to normal.

During the week ending January 23rd, four Cobalt companies shipped an aggregate of five cars containing approximately 353,135 pounds of ore. The LaRose was the heaviest shipper with two cars of 144,186 pounds; Customs, one car,

87,910; Timiskaming, one car, 81,095; Crown, one car, 39,944 pounds. During the corresponding period no bullion shipments were reported.

Some very high grade ore has been encountered at the 200-foot level of the Clifton Porcupine Mine, according to official advices. The development is said to be important for the reason that a substantial tonnage of commercial ore is stated to have been developed at the 100-foot level and the present lateral operations at the 200-foot level are being carried on for the purpose of determining the extent of the downward continuation of these ore sopts.

It is stated that a high degree of efficiency has been attained at the Canadian Kirkland property, which is under option and being worked by the Crown Reserve Company of Cobalt. The deal was made about May 1st last, since which time a small mining plant has been installed and operations carried to a depth of 100 feet. The labor strike, which commenced on June 12th, and continued until fall, interfered with operations, but in spite of it the work was accomplished at a low cost.

A Million Ounces in Sight

The Trethewey has just completed 100 feet of drifting on its R. C. 101 claim at the 108-foot level. The vein has carried high grade ore all the way, retaining the same good width and high values as were encountered in the shaft from the grass roots down. "There is enough high grade in sight to bring in a million ounces of silver," said one mining engineer.

A new company under the name of North Cliff Mines, Limited and financed by Rochester, N. Y., funds, has taken over a group of mining claims about one and a half miles west of Gowganda townsite and will commence active operations at once. A mining plant has been installed and the plan of development consists of driving a tunnel into a high ridge on the surface of which a series of promising veins have been uncovered. At one point the workings will be about 150 feet below the surface. The property comprises approximately 100 acres and the work is under the direction of Normal F. Dye.

The scheme of developing power in the Gowganda silver, area is about to be resumed by the South Bay Power Company and already something like one hundred tons of material is in course of transportation to the scene of activity. It is expected that the first unit will be generating electricity before the end of the coming summer. Taken in connection with the prospects for rail transportation, it holds out big inducements for silver mine operators to increase the scope of their plans in that field.

The Right Bait.

A minister, with two lovely girls, stood entranced by the beauties of a flowing stream. A fisherman happening by, and mistaking the minister's occupation, said: "Ketchin' many pard?"

"I am a fisher of men," answered the preacher with dignity.

"Well," replied the fisherman, with an admiring glance at the girls, "you sure have the right bait."

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