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REVIEW OF MINING DEVELOPMENT METALLURGICAL FEATURES AND FUTURE PROSPECTS OF INDUSTRY

(continued from page one)

of the Whitewater mine, where intelligent development based on capable engineering has been very successful in restoring an old property. At this time a new 125 ton concentrator is about ready to start operation, and steady production, backed by ample ore reserve, will commence.

Another interesting development of the year is the success attending the development of the Prosperity and Porter-Idaho properties in the Stewart camp.

The Ferguson property on the Ingenika River, which attracted much attention in 1926, has been secured on option by W. R. Wilson. A crew of men was sent in to the property in the fall and steady development will be carried on all winter. From surface showings this property is reported to have the possibility of being a large deposit of medium-grade silver-lead-zinc ore. During the season it was examined by Victor Dillmage, of the Geological Survey of Canada.

METALLURGICAL FEATURES
 Mr. Sloan points to the steady progress made during the year in improving and expanding the plants of the province for the metallurgical treatment of ore. Much of the successful growth of mining in British Columbia, in recent years, is due to the skill of the metallurgist. Not only have large known deposits of complex ores been rendered docile, but the possibility of treating practically any

type of ore has made many prospects, previously unattractive, look like potential mines. Only a small percentage of the metallic ores of the province is now being treated by direct smelting, as the concentration of ores has been found to be much more efficient.

During the last three years the Granby Company at Anyox has gradually changed from direct smelting to concentration of the low-grade copper ore contained in the Hidden Creek ore-bodies. The concentrator is now handling about 3,500 tons of ore a day and only enough crude ore is smelted to maintain one blast-furnace in operation, chiefly in order to smelt the sintered concentrates produced at the mill. The beneficial effects of this change of practice are shown by the fact that the company is now treating lower grade ore than ever before, and even with the prevailing low price for copper, during 1927, the company has made a satisfactory profit.

At the mill of the Britannia, as a result of improved metallurgical practice, a substantial production of pyrite is now being made which formerly went into the tailings and was lost. Experimentation was commenced in 1926 and during 1927 the recovery of pyrite by selective flotation has proceeded satisfactorily, resulting in an estimated output for the year of 35,000 tons. By additions and changes the Britannia mill was speeded up during the year, so that now it is treating 4,000 tons a day.

As a result of the valuable work continually being carried on by the research department of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada, at Trail, steady progress is being made in the recovery of more of the valuable constituents of the ores treated at the Trail plant. One problem being worked on this year was the beneficiation of the low-grade phosphate rock from the deposits in East Kootenay, discovered by the company last year. Continued experimentation is also being directed to the further recovery of zinc from smelter slags and the possible utilization of the iron content of the ores treated. This company also does much work to assist the small mining company and the individual miner by testing complex ores and advising a most practical method of treatment.

In the Slocan-district the construction of several mills, ranging in capacity from 50 to 200 tons a day, was commenced this year, in which straight selective oil-flotation will be used for treating silver-lead-zinc ores. The notable features of these new mills—which all follow the same design—is the extreme simplicity and absence of a complicated flow-sheet. They consist essentially of a fine grinding plant, two rows of flotation-cells and a filtration machine, and the necessary motive power. Under this system of concentration a minimum of labor is required and at the same time a relatively high extraction of the valuable minerals is obtainable.

MILLS IN NORTH

In the northern part of the province three new mills were started during the year—at the Dunwell, at Stewart, the Toric, near Alice Arm, and the Duthie Mines mill near Smithers. The Dunwell mill works satisfactorily, treating a larger daily tonnage than had been expected, but owing to exhaustion of the developed ore reserves at the mine the mill was closed in November. The Toric mill which was designed to treat a silver ore by amalgamation and tabling, was found on trial to be unsatisfactory and will be remodelled next year to treat the ore by flotation. The Duthie Mine's mill was designed to treat a medium-grade silver ore, carrying also some lead and zinc, by straight selective flotation. The results have been very satisfactory, a surprisingly high extraction being obtained, with the production of a lead concentrate carrying most of the silver and a satisfactory grade of zinc concentrate. This mill, which has a capacity of fifty tons a day, shows the possibility of effective, economical milling on a small scale.

PROSPECTING

Mr. Sloan points out that prospecting has not been particularly active during the year, but some discoveries have been reported when, on opening up, may prove of value. Most of the old-time type of prospectors have in recent years been engaged in "prospecting" claims they have located, rather than in looking for new mineral deposits, and there is no great influx of younger men into the ranks of prospectors. The present active mining campaign by the larger mining companies to acquire mineral properties and the rapid rate at which many claims, long located and lying dormant, are being taken up, should soon cause a revival in prospecting. British Columbia, for some years, has been well supplied with promising prospects and when the stock becomes depleted through the present demand a new supply will undoubtedly be forthcoming.

PROFITS

It is probable that owing to lowered metal prices profits of the mining industry will be somewhat less for 1927 than in the previous year 1926, which constituted a record. Dividends, which are the final indication of profits, are expected to total between \$8,000,000 and \$9,000,000, as compared with \$9,747,270 in 1926.

From a careful review of the salient features, the minister of mines believes, it is evident that the mineral industry of British Columbia is in a most satisfactory condition and that every indication points to a continuation of the present prosperity.

The report contains comprehensive summaries by each of the six resident engineers on the development work done in their respective districts during the year and also a report of activities in coal mining with a table of estimated production for the year prepared by James Dickson, chief mines inspector.

NAVIGABLE WATERS' PROTECTION ACT.

Revised Statutes of Canada, Chapter 115 BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHING & PACKING COMPANY LIMITED, HEREBY GIVES NOTICE that it has under Section 7 of the said Act deposited with the Minister of Public Works at Ottawa and in the office of the Registrar of Land Titles at Vancouver, British Columbia, a description of the site and plans of a cannery, cannery wharf and perquisites thereto, proposed to be built on the lands covered with water fronting on Lot 1295 and Lot 1485, Range 3, Coast District, in the Province of British Columbia, which said Lots are situate at Johnson Channel in the said Province.

AND TAKE NOTICE that after the expiration of one month from the date of the first publication of this notice, British Columbia Fishing & Packing Company Limited will, under Section 7 of the said Act, apply to the Minister of Public Works at his office in the City of Ottawa for approval of the said site and plans and for leave to construct the said cannery, cannery wharf and perquisites thereto.

DATED at Vancouver, B.C. this 15th day of November, 1927.

JAMES H. LAWSON,
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 Solicitor for the said Company.

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