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News of the Mines

AROUND PRINCE RUPERT

Another Stewart Group Is Bonded; Some Bear River History; Premier Described In New York Publication

The Peerless group of claims adjoining Premier, B. C. Silver and M. C. properties in the Salmon River district of Portland Canal has been bonded from its owners, P. J. O'Rourke and Frank Kelly, by a Montreal syndicate for \$75,000, the deal being handled through B. O. Lyon. The terms of the bond are \$500 on signing of the option, \$4500 on or before December 31, 1929, \$15,000 on or before June 30, 1930, \$20,000 on or before June 30, 1931, and the balance of \$35,000 in shares of a company to be formed by the syndicate. The first payment has already been made and preparations are being made to open up the property during the coming spring. Charles A. Mackenzie, mining engineer, who inspected the property, considers it a most valuable group from its situation and ore exposures in adjoining properties, the successful development of which would indicate that the ore runs into the Peerless. W. S. Bacon, mining engineer, also speaks highly of the property. A 300-foot diamond drill hole sunk on the property cut 41 feet of ore assaying \$120 to the ton, the ore including gold, silver and lead. A 12-foot copper vein has also been uncovered, assaying \$6.40 per ton, this ore including .14 gold, 40.40 ounces of silver and 11.50% copper. A further surface vein of galena has also been found and traced for some distance with consistent values.

Mineral deposits were first discovered in the Bear River valley in 1898 by prospectors searching for placer deposits, says a report by Dr. George, Hanson of the federal Geological Survey. Staking of mineral claims began in that year but did not attain great proportion until 1908, when, owing to relatively extensive development work by the Portland Canal Mining Co., an influx of prospectors took place. The Marmot River part of the area was prospected by 1910. Marmot River is much nearer to Portland Canal than the northern half of the Bear River valley and, if other conditions are equal, may afford, therefore, a better chance of profitable mining. Production of the Bear River district began in a small way in 1909 and has been continued intermittently by several properties. The total production from the Bear and Marmot Rivers up to and including

1926 was approximately 5000 tons of ore, from which gold, silver, lead, zinc and property were extracted, the production being worth some \$200,000, which is a very low figure considering the length of time the area has been known and the amount of money expended on prospecting and development. Most of the production has come from four properties—the Portland Canal, Red Cliff, Dunwell and Porter-Idaho, the L. and L. ranking next in production importance. Though the past mining record of the Bear River valley is somewhat discouraging at the present time, the outlook for profitable mining is decidedly encouraging. The mineral deposits are of two main types: (1) veins formed by open space filling and by replacement, and (2), replacement deposits.

In the December issue of the Engineering and Mineral Journal, New York, there is an article giving a comprehensive survey of copper and gold mining in British Columbia. Of the Premier mine, the following is said: "Premier Gold Mining, in the Portland Canal district, near the Alaskan boundary, reports that during the first ten months of this year it mined 255,790 tons, containing about 2,076,000 oz. of silver and 87,000 oz. of gold. Production has been normal and there have been no unusual occurrences. No mention is made, it will be noticed, of the large lens of new ore that is reported to have been found between No. 5 and 6 levels. This famous mine, which with the Sullivan mine, has done so much to attract the attention of the world to the mining possibilities of British Columbia, up to the end of 1928 produced 1,346,600 tons of ore, containing 913,950 oz. of gold, 22,168,200 oz. of silver, 7,000,000 lbs of lead, and 125,000 lbs. of copper. Premier Gold has done extensive exploration and development on other properties. It recently completed a 5½-mile cable tramway, connecting the Prosperity and Porter-Idaho properties with tidewater at the mouth of the Marmot River, on the Portland Canal, and it has made a first shipment—600 tons—from these properties. It also is developing the Silverado group by a tunnel that has cut the shear zone at a depth of 600 feet. The property is on the opposite side of Bear River from Stewart."

BURNS LAKE PLAY

BURNS LAKE, Jan. 15.—The Burns Lake Dramatic Society, which is an off-shoot of the local basketball team, is staging a comedy for March production, in which the cast will treat the audience to an interpretation of some of the latest songs and dances from Broadway.

WEATHER REPORT

Prince Rupert — Clear, strong northeast wind; temperature, 19.
Haysport—Clear, strong wind, 16.
Port Simpson — Northerly gale, clear, 16.
Terrace—Cloudy, northeast wind, 10.
Rosswood — Clear, northeast wind, 6.
Aiyansh—Clear, calm, 3.
Alice Arm—Clear, strong northeast wind, 12.
Stewart—Strong northeast wind, 16.
Hazelton—Clear, east wind, -16.
Smithers—Clear, calm, -21.
Burns Lake—Clear, windy cold.
Vanderhoof—Clear, east wind, -14.
Second Cabin—Clear, -25.
Fourth Cabin—Clear, -31.
Eighth Cabin—Clear, -32.
Telegraph Creek—Clear, windy, -15.
Nahlin—Clear, -50.
Atlin—Clear, northeast wind, -30.
Whitehorse—Foggy, calm, -47.
Carmacks—Foggy, calm, -47.
Dawson—Cloudy, south wind, -40.

District News

STEWART

The question of a Peace River outlet and the claims of Stewart in this connection are a live issue even in the old country. This is indicated in a letter received here last week from C. A. Mackenzie, prominent British Columbia mining engineer, who is at present in Dorsetshire, England. He says that Stewart's claim to be the outlet is being well received in the old country.

J. J. Little of Prince Rupert, manager of the Northern B. C. Power Corporation, while paying a visit here recently, said that it was the intention of the company to use the temporary facilities at present existing here until such time as conditions warrant a larger plant being put in to meet the situation. Mr. Little set at rest the rumor that a 1500 h.p. plant would be installed on American Creek next year.

Cyril Jackson returned to Stewart last week with his bride, who was formerly Miss Isabelle Webster of Edinburgh, Scotland. They were married in Victoria by Rev. Edwin Moss.

During 1929 there were 856 hospital days in the Stewart General Hospital. The total operating cost for the year was \$7300.

The Government Telegraphs may augment its northern lines in order to give Stewart a better and more regular service, it was stated last week by J. J. Dore, Prince Rupert district superintendent, who was a visitor here on inspection duties.

Uneasiness is felt here at the continued absence of Jack Harkley, well-known old-timer, who left on December 17 for the Bitter Creek mines. Bill and Tom Scott left here last week in an effort to locate him. Anxiety is also felt for Pete Swedberg and his partner, who should have been in some time ago from the Rufus-Argenta mine.

It is unofficially reported that two Canadian National boats may be back on the run to Stewart early in February.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Crawford have announced the engagement of their second daughter, Miss Muriel Crawford, to William T. Esselmont.

W. H. Wycherley of Premier, who sustained an injury to his eye recently, has left for Vancouver to receive treatment.

Every man seeks for truth; but God only knows who has found it.—Chesterfield.

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- 2 for
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- SINGAPORE PINES—2s. 95c
- 7 for
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- 2s. 4 for
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