

**AMENDMENTS TO MINING ACT UNDER DISCUSSION**

**Deputation of Surveyors Interview Minister Regarding Amendments to Act**

A number of surveyors from Northern Ontario and other parts of the province, among whom were Stanley Code of Cobalt, H. T. Routly of Haileybury and C. H. Fullerton and Homer Sutcliffe of New Liskeard, are interviewing Hon. W. H. Hearst, minister of lands, forests and mines, in Toronto in reference to the mining Amendment act, 1912, which was given its second reading in the legislature a week ago.

The object of the interview is in reference to certain amendments in the mines act as introduced by the minister of mines, and more particularly dealing with paragraph 15 of the amendment affecting section 133 of the old act.

The paragraph reads as follows: "No such survey shall be made without the written consent or direction of the Recorder or the Commissioner or the Minister or Deputy Minister, and it shall be the duty of the surveyor, before proceeding with the survey to examine the application and sketch or plan of claim or certified copies thereof and before completing or filing his survey to ascertain by careful examination of the ground and by all other reasonable means in his power whether or not any other subsisting claim conflicts with the claim he is surveying and no survey shall be accepted unless accompanied by the certificate signed by the surveyor in the following form:"

The form follows, with a penalty for non-compliance with this act shall not exceed \$50.

It is felt by the surveyors that this clause will be a hardship on the prospectors of the north country, in that it prohibits the survey of any claim without the written consent of the mining recorder or others. This amendment would work satisfactorily when the claim lies near a recording office, but in the outlying sections it would be a decided hardship, necessitating a lengthy trip back to the recorder to get the permit to survey. A wealthy company

wanting its properties surveyed would not mind the cost, but the poor prospector, who, when the surveyor is perhaps surveying the claim next to him, would like his own surveyed to save expense, would be forced to travel a long distance for a permit.

Other amendments in the act will be a boon to the prospector, however, while the surveyors in the deputation are going down backing some of the amendments strongly.

Section 99 of the old act is amended by adding at the end the following sentence: "But no work shall be required to be done between the 16th of November and the 15th of April, both days inclusive." This eliminates the necessity of "snowshoe" claims, having to have work performed within the three months that rules during the summer months.

A metal tag, bearing the number of the claim, and given free to each prospector by the mining recorder, is required to be securely fastened to the No. 1 post of the claim. The surveyors will recommend that on account of the tags being given free, it would be better to have the metal tags on all four posts of the claim. Another amendment forcing the prospector, in subsection 4, section 113, of the old act and covered by paragraph 14 in the amendment, to place iron posts on all corners, after a certain date. This would be another hardship and the surveyors will ask for an iron post at No. 1 only, as where four claims adjoin this would mean an iron post at each corner and not four at each corner. Prospectors may use and cut down Jackpine on their property without paying dues to the crown.

There is also, in the new amendment of the act, several other matters of interest to prospectors, but not affecting staking out of claims. The balance of the amendment is given to working mines and a large number of new rules will come into effect when the bill is finally passed.

**West Dome at 200-Foot Level**

The West Dome are crosscutting from their No. 1 shaft at the hundred foot level, and are drifting west and crosscutting north from the No. 3 shaft at the same depth.

**RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN ONTARIO**

**Reliable New England Journal Comments Favorably on Possibilities of New Area**

Under the heading, "Developing Northern Ontario," the Christian Science Monitor, one of the best known New England newspapers, thus refers to development work now in progress in Northern Ontario:

"The Dominion government plans to spend five millions in the opening up and colonization of Northern Ontario, and an act intended to enable the province to put these plans into execution has been introduced in the provincial Legislature by the Hon. I. B. Lucas. The program that is mapped out includes the construction of works and improvements, road-building improvement and the devel-

ties in agricultural development, has changed the attitude of observant people in and out of Canada toward a country once generally regarded as uninviting. Although development of this vast section to any considerable extent has been recent, and although it is even now only partial it has gone far enough to justify the statement that Northern Ontario now contributes a large share of the provincial revenues. That it is in the way of yielding a still larger share at an early date, especially if the expenditures contemplated shall be wisely carried out, there can be no doubt.

"Prosperous farming settlements much farther north than were once deemed possible have been established in these latter years, not only in western but in Eastern Canada. It would appear that these settlements might be multiplied now if roads and general means of communication were provided. The work of bringing northern Ontario into closer touch with the markets and supply depots of the south will be greatly accelerated by the comprehensive undertaking now in hand."



MINERS' UNION HALL, South Porcupine.

opment of water powers, promotion of settlement and colonization and assisting of settlers, development of transportation and means of communication, encouragement of assistance to agriculture, and reforestation in some districts. The fund to provide for all this is to be raised by the issue of bonds maturing in forty years.

"It has only been in quite recent years that Northern Ontario has attracted the attention to which the territory is proving itself entitled. Development has in the past been westward. Not only the discovery of enormously rich mineral lands, but the discovery of enormous possibili-

**Dome Extraction Is 97 Per Cent.**

The Dome Mines management report good results from the mill output and so far the extraction will average 97 per cent.

The results of the underground work have been very encouraging, in fact no disappointments have been encountered in the diamond drilling.

Only three drills are now in operation, two having been removed to Copper Cliff.

**GOLD AND SILVER FOR JEWELRY MANUFACTURE**

**Surprising Figures Used in Determining Value of Precious Metals Used**

The raw gold and silver used in jewelry manufacture in Germany are obtained from the banks or from the smelters, the important one of the latter being at Frankfurt. It is a very interesting fact that gold coins, such as 10-mark and 20-mark pieces, having a fineness of 900, are used largely as material, and the imperial mint frequently turns out these coins in vain, as they remain in circulation for only a short time. The local branch of the Reichsbank issues 20-mark pieces unstamped at the price of 20.06 marks (\$4.7743). This gold is thus money and material at the same time, and the manufacturer is in a position to melt the credit afforded him by the banker. Naturally the business standing of the various merchants is watched closely.

Many concerns have come into being through methods of reclaiming and using waste gold. By means of various processes, some very complicated, the particles of gold are extracted from the wash-water, the workmen's overalls and towels, polishing cloths, and other material. Some proprietors of these concerns furnish manufacturers with free aprons, blouses, polishing cloths, towels, and head cloths for women who do polishing work, and sometimes pay for this privilege, in return for which they retain the gold they are able to recover.

The price of gold in July, 1911, was \$666.40 per kilogram (2.2 lb.), at which it has stood for some time. The price of silver is subject to great variation. In 1905 it was \$18.33 to \$23.09 per kg. Platinum costs \$1190 to \$1356.00 per kg. While in 1892 platinum could be bought for \$261.80 per kg., or half the price of gold, today it costs double the price. Platinum is used more and more in the manufacture of jewelry, and in Pforzheim \$1,190,000 worth is used in a year.

There are great losses in the manufacture of jewelry, and on an average, in a medium-size factory, un-

sold goods of a value of about \$2380 must annually be melted up, which means a loss of about \$1600 in wages and manufacturing costs.

According to a British Government report under the census of production act, the actual cost of production, without the manufacturers' profit, of certain classes of jewelry in Great Britain in 1910 was as follows: Goods made wholly or in part of gold, including mounted articles, \$495,000 (\$2,408,900); gold leaf and gold thread, £88,000 (\$128,250); goods made wholly or in part of silver, including mounted articles, £1,844,000 (\$8,973,825); stampings, handles, and other parts for silver goods, £15,000 (\$73,000); total gold, silver, and electroplated goods, £4,939,000 (\$24,035,650); gold chains, \$654,000 (\$3,182,700); silver chains, £49,000 (\$238,450); imitation, £55,000 (\$267,650); other jewelry, gold and platinum, £1,762,000 (\$8,574,775); silver, £177,000 (\$861,370) imitation, \$231,000 (\$1,124,160); gold and silver articles not separately distinguished, £240,000 (\$1,167,960); total jewelry of all kinds, £3,292,000 (\$16,020,500); total value of all goods made of precious metals and work done in the United Kingdom, £8,563,000 (\$41,671,850).

The value of the jewelry manufactured in the United States in 1909 was over \$80,000,000, of which \$36,000,000 represents the cost of the raw materials used.—Daily Consular and Trade Reports.

**West Dome Plant Much Increased**

With the addition of a new cage and increased bucket equipment, work at the West Dome is proceeding rapidly, the men being enabled to handle the muck more expeditiously.

Work is proceeding on three faces in No. 1 while at No. 4 drifting is being done easterly in good looking quartz. A cross-cut is being made to the south for the purpose of locating new veins.

The main crosscut is already in very favorable looking ground and assays are being made of some of the stuff brought out.

The ground looks more favorable than was expected at the point reached up to the present, as the face is still between two and three hundred feet from the main ore system at the north side of the West Dome property.

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