

# The Golden Land of Porcupine

**The World Needs Gold, and the Porcupine is Producing Now at the Rate of \$22,000,000 per Year, with Assurance of Still Further Increase for the Near Future. Two More Producers Added to the Big Mines in the Past Month. Work on a large number of New Properties Promises Still More Producers for the Near Future.**

One of the outstanding needs of the world to-day is Gold. Gold is the basis of the world's trade, commerce and finance. All international debts are payable in gold. Gold is the universal medium of exchange. Yet the world's production of gold has steadily decreased year by year since 1915. The world production of gold in 1915 was \$470,466,200.00. For 1922 it was \$316,000,000.00.

#### Ontario, the Land of Hope.

In Northern Ontario, however, gold production is on the steady increase. In a little over a decade the Porcupine has produced \$100,000,000 in gold. There has been an increase in the output here of over 350 per cent. in ten years. And, instead of a falling off there will be still more remarkable increases in the production in this camp in the coming years. Important increases in mill and mining facilities are now under way at the existing mines, and new properties may confidently be expected to be added shortly to the list of producers.

#### Two New Producers.

During the past few weeks two new producers have started mills in operation. The Vipond Consolidated mine has a mill with a capacity of 150 tons per day, and the Night Hawk Peninsular's mill has a daily tonnage of 200 tons. Both these properties have large tonnages of ore blocked out, ready for milling, and the grade ore is such as to give assurance of continuous operation of the mills at a handsome profit.

#### The Three Big Mines

The three big mines,—The Hollinger, McIntyre and Dome,—are treating approximately 7,000 tons of ore

every twenty-four hours. As the grade of ore approximates to an average of \$9.00 per ton, this amounts to a total daily production of \$63,000.00, or a yearly tonnage of 2,500,000 with a value of \$23,500,000.00. These three big mines have been increasing their operations and facilities from time to time and still further enlargements are planned. The Hollinger, in particular, has an important programme under way, and will increase its mill capacity to 8,000 tons per day, the increase to be effective when the completion of the new Hollinger plant on the Abitibi assures the mine of ample power for all operations. While 1923 has been a prosperous year for the gold mining industry, the commencement of the year was disappointing to the gold producers on account of the power shortage. The power situation, however, is being solved.

#### Ample Electric Power

Power is of vital importance to the progress of the gold mining industry, and the shortages in the past years have been bitter disappointments. The situation is being solved by the erection of new power plants by the Hollinger Consolidated, the Northern Canada Power Co., the Great Northern Power Co. and others, and it is expected that next year all the mines, not only in the Porcupine, but throughout Northern Ontario, will have ample electric energy to meet all requirements.

#### A Permanent Camp.

Not only are the producing mines planning increases and extensions, and newer properties working to enter the list of producers, but there is

also an apparent tendency on the part of all to build for permanency. Solid fire-proof and permanent structures are becoming the rule in the community centres such as Timmins. The same tendency in permanent buildings is evidenced at the various mines and properties. This idea is broadly and wisely based upon the theory that the life of the Camp will be a long one. This theory is very strongly supported by facts and experience so far. The popular method of expressing the idea is to say, "The surface has hardly been scratched as yet," and "The deeper the mines go, the richer the ore." Recently, Mr. J. B. Tyrell, E.M., recognized as one of the international authorities on mining and geology, put it this way:

"Northern Ontario has now attained a permanent position as one of the great gold mining countries of the world. Large areas of it are known to be underlain by gold-bearing Pre-Cambrian rocks, in which a few rich producing mines namely, the Hollinger, McIntyre, Dome, Wright-Hargreaves and Lake Shore, etc., have been opened up while others now in process of development, will soon be added to the list of producers. The ore in these mines will doubtless be found to extend downwards as far as favourable country rock continues, with no certain prohibitive mining limit but that made by the heat of the interior of the earth. As examples of deep gold mines in Pre-Cambrian rocks may be cited:—The Morro-Velho Mine in Brazil, working for more than 100 years, now 6,724 feet-deep, and still in very rich ore; the Kolar Gold Field group at My-

ore, India, working 40 years, now at a depth of 6,000 feet, having produced nearly \$300,000,000.00 in gold; the Kalgoorlie, West Australia, group operating 30 years, produced \$350,000,000.00 now at a depth of about 4,000 feet; the Homestake Mine, South Dakota, operating 45 years, has produced about \$170,000,000.00, and is now working at a depth of 2,000 feet without any diminution in the quantity or grade of the ore. Therefore, considering that these great gold mines have been operating for many years in Pre-Cambrian rocks very similar to those of Northern Ontario, that they have all reached great depths, and that their ore is continuing downwards, we may confidently rely on the permanence of our Ontario gold mines, also in Pre-Cambrian rocks, and which, down to the depths to which they have yet been worked, are following closely the laws applicable to the other mines mentioned above."

#### Development of New Properties

One of the most important features of the year just drawing to a close has been the progressive development campaigns carried on at some of the newer properties, such as the Goldsle, Newray, West Dome Lake, Canadel, Paymaster, etc. More or less extensive work has been done on twenty-five or thirty promising properties in the district.

#### Large Amount of Diamond Drilling.

Thousands of feet of diamond drilling is done each year by the producing mines. This diamond drilling is part of the regular routine. Its purpose is not so much to indicate ore values as to secure information as to formation and geology. In the district this year a large number of the newer properties used diamond drilling along this line this year. In all there would be thirty properties diamond drilled on a more or less extensive scale. Apart from the big mines, where, as noted, diamond drilling is a regular procedure, the following had diamond drilling campaigns during the year:—Davidson, Newray, Vickers, Canadel, New York-Porcupine, Edwards, Goldacres, MacKenzie-Porcupine, Moneta, Paymaster,

North American Gold, Clifton, Bull Dog Gold Mines, O'Brien properties in Deloro, Whitney Syndicate, Darling claims, Porcupine Grande, Bremer-Moyer Vet., Mammoth, Keora, Two-in-One, Night Hawk Peninsular, Vipond and Canyon Gold.

#### Camp Becoming Better Known

Another pleasing feature of the year now closing was the wider publicity given to the Porcupine. The visit of the American Mining Institute members to Porcupine was an event of great importance to the district and did much to widen the knowledge of the resources and possibilities of this part of the North. Other special delegations, and private visitors also helped to spread intelligent knowledge of the Porcupine to the outside world. The friendly and well-informed attitude of the new Ontario Government has also been of material value, the Premier and the Minister of Mines being especially "boosters" of the right type for the North Land. All the Porcupine requires is to be well known to be well on the way to full success.

#### THE HOLLINGER.

The Hollinger Consolidated Gold Mines, with its main property within the municipality of Timmins, holds an undisputed place among the three greatest gold mines of the world. With the completion of the plans now under way, the Hollinger will likely take first place as a producing gold mine. The mill handles 4,400 tons every twenty-four hours, over 2,500 men are employed, the production is running at about one million dollars in gold per month. Up to date \$71,000,000.00 has been produced by the Hollinger, with nearly thirty million dollars paid in dividends to shareholders. Ore reserves at the end of this year are understood to be about \$55,000,000.00, an increase of nearly 25 per cent. over the ore reserves at the opening of the year. Plans are now going steadily forward for the increase of the plant capacity to 8,000 tons daily. The Hollinger is building its own hydro-electric power plant on the Abitibi River. This plant will have a capacity of 15,000 to 20,000

horse power, and will likely be ready for operation next summer.

#### THE MCINTYRE

The McIntyre-Porcupine Mines main property is at Schumacher, east of the Hollinger. The McIntyre's workings are now the deepest in the Camp, active operations being carried on at 2,500 feet. Production commenced on the McIntyre in 1912, when 14,500 tons, of an average of \$7.00, ore were treated, making a production of \$101,555.00. In the year 1923, 240,615 tons were treated, the total value being \$2,397,303.00. The mill is handling now about 1,000 tons every twenty-four hours. Nearly 600 men are on the payroll. The estimated ore reserves as at June 30, 1923, were \$88,504 tons of an average value of \$9.92, total value \$8,514,800.00. The main shaft is down 2,500 feet, and particularly favourable results have been achieved by the McIntyre in mining at depth. The McIntyre owns or has under option about 630 acres. To October 31st, this year, the McIntyre had paid \$3,640,284.00 in dividends.

#### THE DOME

The Dome Mines property is in Tisdale Township, and this mine is one of the three big leaders in production. In 1910 when the company was incorporated some 240 acres were taken over, and in 1920 the Dome Extension was added to the holdings, making 440 acres of highly mineralized land in a block. There was a time in its early days when the Dome was looked upon as a "low-grade" proposition, with immense tonnage as its hope. There is no reason for questioning the large tonnage, but to-day the Dome is running the highest mill-heads in the Camp, the ore averaging over \$11.00 in gold to the ton. The main shaft is down 1,650 feet with working levels every 150 feet and many miles of lateral development work. At the 800-ft. level spectacular high-grade was uncovered and at deeper workings still higher values were obtained, much of the ore running as high as \$20.00 per ton in gold. This year the Dome will produce a (Continued on Next Page)

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