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## Porcupine Camp to Have Outstanding Year in 1928 ground to provide the necessary ton- work is to be started soon on the old west Dome ground.

Situation Never More Favourable for Substantial Increase in Gold Production. Operations Being Extended at Established Mines. New Mines Coming in to Production.

John M. Grant, says:-

Undoubtedly 1928 will be an outcamp, which is Ontario's largest and one of the greatest mining fields in the world. The year just closed was a somewhat disappointing one, as a decline of about \$750,000 was noted in year. Compared with 1925, the output was down almost \$1,750,000. Production last year was the lowest for all time.

It is questionable if the situation in the Porcupine camp was ever more favourable than at the start of 1928 duction of gold. In the past two Operations are being extended deeper and deeper, construction plans are being rushed for larger tonnage and the outlook for some of the properties, which was somewhat obscure a year ago, is now such that they have taken on a new lease of life.

Mills in the Porcupine camp were handling about 10,000 tons of ore a survey of the properties indicates the probability that this will be extended from 2,500 to 3,000 tons a day in the present year. Increases at the master, along with the completion of a 500-ton mill at the Coniaurum and the possibility of a couple of the prereason for the enthusiasm prevalent here regarding the outlook for the present year.

Nine mines shared in the production from the Porcupine camp in the last year. The addition was the Scottish Ontario Syndicate, which is operating the property bearing that name, and which has been idle since the early days of the camp. A small mill has been installed and considerable high-grade is being mined from the surface.

Close to 3,500,000 tons were milled in the Porcupine camp last year for a production of approximately \$23,

In an article in the recent special | 100,000. In 1926 there were 3,180,-Financial Number of The Toronto | 943 tons milled, and the production Globe special attention is given the was worth \$23,810,700. Although Porcupine Camp. The writer, Mr. the milling capacity of the mines was about 300,000 tons higher, the production was down around \$750,000. The standing year in the Porcupine gold grade of ore was low and the average was around \$6.60. Hollinger's output was the lowest since 1924 and was down over \$500,000 from 1926 and declined about \$1,500,000 from 1925. Dome's figures will not show much the production from the previous change from 1926, while McIntyre will report a good increase, despite the

handling of a lot of development rock. With Porcupine's production at the since 1924. A big factor in the les- end of 1927 considerably in excess of sened output was the Hollinger Con- the \$200,000,000 mark, the question solidated Mine, where a lot of low- is being frequently asked as to the grade ore was cleaned up during the amount of ore that will ultimately be summer. The shut-down of a couple extracted from this 18-year-old camp. of mills and reduced tonnage at an- Many more millions of dollars worth other also tended to lower produc of gold will be milled, and it is contion. The future appears to be un- servatively estimated that less than usually bright and there is every rea- one-quarter of the gold that will be son for believing that this large gold developed has already been mined to camp will not only reach its old high date. It is estimated that the area is level, but will establish a new mark good for total production of \$1,000,-

The following figures clearly portray the growth of the camp to date: 1910, \$35,539; 1911, \$15,437; 1912 for a substantial increase in the pro- \$ 1,730,628; 1913, \$ 4,294,113; 1914, \$ 5,206,006; 1915, \$ 7,462,111; 1916, years preparations toward this end | \$ 9,391,408; 1917, \$ 8,228,744; 1918, have been aggressively carried out \$ 7,767,907; 1919, \$ 9,941,803; 1920, and are now close to the climax. \$10,597,572; 1921, \$13,103,526; 1922, \$18,374,658; 1923, \$17,313,115; 1924, \$22,135,534; 1925, \$24,733,120; 1926, \$23,810,700; 1927, (estimated), \$23,-

A wonderful dividend record has been attained by the Porcupine camp, and it is steadily growing. Up till the end of last year dividends paid are not far from the huge total of daily toward the end of the year, and \$65,000,000. To date Hollinger has paid out in excess of \$40,000,000 in dividends, Dome Mines over \$12,000,-

000, and McIntyre close to \$7,000,000. The present year is expected to Hollinger, McIntyre and Premier-Pay- witness an increased interest in the Porcupine stocks, as big developments are taking place at all the large mines in the camp. The changed situation sent idle mills resuming, is ample at Dome Mines, the better outlook for the Vipond, the steady increase in tonnage at the Hollinger, the big expansion in operations looked for at the McIntyre, the fact that Coniaurum is close to the producing stage, and the revival of activity in some of the camp's oldest properties are all factors which are leading those who are in close touch with the situation to anticipate a much keener interest in this camp this year than has been the case recently.

A concrete evidence of the revival of interest in this gold camp is to be found in the number of mines that have been inactive for years that are resuming operations. Talk of starting work on such properties as the Scottish Ontario, Hunter Gold Mine, Hayden Gold Mine, Holtyrex, Porcupine Davidson Gold Mines and Beaumont 'Gold Mines has been heard in the past few months. Some of the properties have already been reopened. A new company has been formed on the Hunter Gold Mine; the Scottish Ontario is now producing gold, the Hayden has given a contract for diamond drilling, and the Holtyrex is preparing to start development work.

In giving consideration to the future possibilities of this camp it should be noted that operations are being steadily conducted to greater depth. At the McIntyre-Porcupine Mine the work is now the deepest of any gold mine in this country. A new shaft has been put down to a depth of 4,150 feet, and already highly encouraging results are marking the work there and proving that the

Hollinger's central shaft is down to a depth of 3,200 feet, and the one on the Schumacher property has reached a depth of 2,800 feet. Dome Mines is working at a depth of 3,000 feet. The Vipond and Consolidated West Dome Lake both have shafts down 1,200 feet. Coniaurum recently completed its shaft to a depth of

ore is deep-seated.

2,000 feet. With upward of 100 miles of underground workings, the Hollinger Mine represents one of most intensive developments in the Dominion, and it

is rapidly becoming the largest gold outlook for this year. A close study Mine mill expansion will likely bbe foundations for the mill were all laid. and will start about the beginning of stalled by May. June. All through the district plans sive development.

and it is estimated production will to-

A big increase in milling operations is looked for this year at the McIntyre Mines, following the completion of a construction programme that necessitated the expenditure of about \$2,000,000. Capital expenditure here

considerable confidence is felt in the mention.

mine in the world. Developments of conditions was made here toward here have not been carried to as the close of the year, and it is hoped great a depth as fast as on the ad- additional ore will be opened up. joining property—the McIntyre—ow- | Preparations for bringing Coniaurum ing to the multiplicity of the vein lo- Mines through to production are gocated in the upper levels. The Hol- ing ahead rapidly. The shaft here linger mill is now equipped to handle has been deepened to the 2,000-foot 8,000 tons a day. At the McIntyre level, and early in December the dealt with early this year. Coniau- An up-to-date mill is being erected, rum promises to be the next producer, and all the machinery should be in-

Premier-Paymaster Mines has takassure a higher production and a en in the adjoining United Mineral continuation of the present aggres- Lands Corporation, which was being operated under the same management. A survey of conditions at the dif- The hope of the management here is ferent mines bears out the expecta- to have the plant ready to handle 3,tions that the present year will be one | 000 tons a day and the mine in shape of the best the camp has so far ex- to feed it, in about a year's time. perienced. Hollinger last year hand- Ankerite Mines is preparing for exled a new high tonnage, but the fact | ploration at depth, and the outlook that a lot of low-grade ore was hand- here lately was somewhat better. led during that period detracted from | March Gold is now carying out an exthe benefits that would otherwise have tensive exploration campaign, and accrued. At this property 7,000 tons does not propose to resume milling a day will likely be handled this year, until sufficient ore is in sight. Further development is also being carried tal about \$16,500,000. Preparations out at the West Dome Lake, and the are being actively carried out under- mill here is also closed. Lateral

## EXPECTS TOURIST TRAFFIC TO BE DOUBLE THIS YEAR

The 1928 tourist traffic into Northern Ontario in 1928 will be double is thought to be over, except for mill that of any previous year, Hon. Mr. expansion. It is considered likely Finlayson told a North Bay audience that the proposed tonnage increase last week. It will need to be, so far will bring production close to \$5,000,- as this part of the North Land is con-000,000 a year. Underground devel- cerned. There was not enough touropments here are quite encouraging, ist traffic to this district to make any and in the eastern section of the pro- special difference to anybody. Of perty point to a successful operation. | course, the road through to the North A decided change for the better in was not ready for use until late in the the fortunes of the Dome Mines was season, and in the meantime, many apparent toward the close of the year, hundreds of people had motored as and it appeared that the life of the far as Cobalt, Haileybury, New Lismine would be extended for some keard and Kirkland Lake. But even years, at least. The outlook is better | for the short time the road was open than it has been for a long time, and, the number coming through this far in addition, the past year was more was rather disappointing. There is satisfactory than was generally ex- little doubt but that the adoption of pected it would be. Old ore bodies | the belt line of roads for the North were extended, new ones were locat- would help attract tourist traffic to ed, and now it looks as if a new mine the far North. If tourists could come might be located in the green-stones, up by one route and return by anwhere the other large producers in the other, the trip would have more camp got their production. The double its present attraction. Pracpast year was closed with about \$4,- tically twice as much country would 000,000 each on hand, which was the be seen, and in every way there would best cash position the company was appear to be advantage. With a belt line of roads the tourist traffic Vipond's developments recently to the North would be so greatly inhave also been more encouraging, and creased that it would be well worth





