

A MUTUAL COMPANY NORTH AMERICAN LIFE

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Matachewan Coming into Its Own After Years of Struggle

Expected to Have Three Producers Before the End of the Year. Rise in Price of Gold Assisting Matachewan. Activity Spreading Over Wide Area. Prospects Unusually Good for Establishing Important Camp.

Recently The Advance has had enquiries as to the progress of the new Matachewan gold camp south of Timmins and on the route of the proposed highway between the Porcupine and Sudbury. Ever since interest developed in the Matachewan area The Advance has had repeated references to the camp and its prospects. The recent enquiries, however, seem to suggest that many readers would like something in the way of a review of the promising properties of Matachewan and for this purpose there could be nothing better than the following extended resume from the annual number of The Northern Miner. The Miner says:—

Matachewan Coming Into Its Own
After many years of spasmodic exploration the Matachewan gold area has come into its own. It will have three producers by the year-end and prospects are that intensive development will gradually spread to include properties that have been idle for many years.

A very large sum has been spent on Matachewan. Many thousands of good British pounds were lost there ten or twelve years ago when one of the most ambitious diamond drilling programmes ever attempted in Northern Ontario was carried out on two properties now coming into production. The interpretation of the drilling was that average values were low, an interpretation which in the case of the large porphyry

ore bodies has been substantiated by more intensive development. But the price of gold has greatly changed the outlook and it would appear that Hollinger, which has secured one of the outstanding properties and Ventures and Sudbury Basin the other, have made very valuable acquisitions.

Few mining camps were boomed like Matachewan in its early days. Some of the outcrops are deeply oxidized and panning for gold gave surprising results. So did surface sampling, in some instances, and quartz stringers were found to contain some very fine specimens of coarse gold.

Northern Miner readers were early informed of the trend of significant developments in Matachewan last December, after a trip to the principal operations by a staff member. Today the two major projects have decided on production units and in each case there is an excellent chance of the properties enlarging to many times the initial unit size. The tonnage possibilities of both are great but it will take some time to work out. The slow development of the camp may denote solidarity. Naturally a keen interest has been revived throughout the Matachewan camp and many are on the search for other mines.

Big Porphyry Body
The Young-Davidson ore is a big red porphyry body and Matachewan Consolidated, while it has much ore from quartz lenses in basalt, has a large tonnage in a porphyry dike zone, in addition to a deposit similar to its neighbour. Porphyries, therefore, have been receiving a good deal of attention. Most of the quartz veins that have been explored so far are narrow, typified by the Ashley Mine and the projects at the head of the east branch of the Montreal River, namely Baden Syndicate, Thesaurus Gold, Central Matachewan, and Woman River. Larger quartz veins do occur but gold has not been consistently obtained across them. The favourable basement formation from experience to date is greenstone, although the possibilities of the sedi-

ments have not been fully explored by any means. Porphyry and syenite associations are looked for particularly in greenstone, where structural movements have occurred. Shear zones and disturbed areas make good hunting ground.

There are numerous prospectors and syndicates at work in many contiguous townships. In traversing the area last week many were interviewed and the following properties were visited by The Northern Miner: Ashley mine, Young-Davidson, Matachewan Consolidated, O'Connell Gold, Arbade Gold, Woman River Syndicate, Baden Syndicate, Central Matachewan, and Thesaurus Gold. Details have been carried in separate articles on Young-Davidson, Matachewan Consolidated, Arbade and O'Connell Gold. The others are here described.

Ashley Gold

The Ashley mine is located up in the north part of Bannockburn township, about 18 miles by road from Matachewan townsite and 42 miles from Elk Lake, the end of the steel. Production is proceeding steadily with average grade of millheads somewhat down in past months. The mill is treating 130 tons daily with ten to fifteen per cent. sorted out. In May, 3,650 tons of ore was treated with a recovery of 1,070 ounces of gold and 159 ounces of silver, valued at \$37,466. April production was \$56,477.

Operating costs for June are the lowest on record. The reduction of unit grade has not been purposely obtained but reflects the vein situation underground for the time being. On the second level drifting is going north in basalt on the Ashley vein and the so-called "West" vein; the former is strong but values are inclined to be erratic. The veins are changing their strike direction, to the north also, veering east. On the fourth level the vein is being worked south, west of a fault. The second throw of the Ashley vein from faulting has not yet been picked up; for a time it was thought obtained again to the west but that is not clear now. The Ashley vein and its west-faulted section, known as the West vein, do not exist as yet on the bottom level, although only limited work has been carried out there. Diamond drilling has been going on, some from surface but there has been little exploration below the existing bottom level.

Baden Syndicate

The Baden Syndicate property at the head of the east branch of the Montreal River has considerable interest, very thorough preliminary work having been carried out under the direction of H. Crawford. While a number of veins have been opened up, principal attention has been conferred on No. 6 vein, elaborate trenching, stripping and pitting has been carried out on all the veins. In diamond drilling No. 6 vein with a light model machine, three intersections were obtained which gave quite interesting results, 12 other holes could not get down to cut the vein on account of the overburden and fractured nature of some of the rock.

The vein shows widths up to two and three feet and has given gold values small patch as the gold is clearly visible; it will be interesting to open up. It is contained in a wide break, mineralized across and containing a good deal of irregular silicification and alteration. It has been traced across nearly three claims with rock trenches and while some good assays are officially reported, the general results of channel sampling have been low grade. The break has a strike 10 degrees north of west and to the southeast across the river a long distance, work is being followed out on what may be the continuation of the break. There is a quartz vein, about a foot wide, had been opened up in two pits for a length of 600 feet. It was mineralized and is reported to pan gold well. Other surface indications were also being investigated on this side of the river.

Central Matachewan
An interesting surface development was under way at the property of Central Matachewan Mining Company when visited. Toward the west end of No. 1 vein, visible gold was noted in a rock trench; the formation consists of narrow quartz veins in a sheared zone in Keewatin tuffs. The gold in place was seen in one of the quartz veins of which there were three or four in a four-foot width; the total shearing was wider. In the same occurrence more visible gold was obtained about ten feet farther along the strike. Officials report some very high assays over narrow widths of 12 to 15 inches.

The property adjoins to the east of Baden Syndicate. A lot of surface work has been carried out and deep rock pits are being blasted out for 75 yards along the present interesting place. The strike is northeast and immediately in that direction low ground is encountered; 400 or 500 yards farther on the same break is believed to have been picked up with three feet of vein material showing which gave values up to \$4.00. To the southeast it cuts through some granite and heads into Baden Syndicate ground; the strike veers slightly, more south. Mineralization was good and appearance healthy. The projected strike of the main occurrence on the Thesaurus Gold property to the east is only 40 feet off the line of the Central Matachewan vein. Other veins have been partially explored, all narrow; some encouraging assays have been received. J. W. Morrison is consulting engineer for the company and D. M. Coghill of Elk Lake is secretary; six men are employed. Diamond drilling may be carried out. Capitalization is 2,000,000 shares.

Thesaurus Gold
Work had just started on the Thesaurus Gold property after a lapse of ten years, when the property was visited. The steam plant has been put into working order and the collar of the two-compartment shaft was being repaired. The boiler is a 35-horsepower one, a two-drill compressor, a good hoist comprise the plant. The reopening of this old property at the

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In the others have not stood up. The property adjoins on the west of Central Matachewan Mining Company, and the latter's interesting vein is striking into it under a swamp. Plans are now underway to either put in a heavier diamond drill or get underground and develop the No. 6 vein. The east swamp area is regarded as an interesting drilling proposition. Most of the veins strike northeast and are dipping steeply. Gold is easily panned from No. 6 vein and the values are finely disseminated with sulphides mostly.

Woman River Syndicate
The visible gold show of the Woman River Syndicate property in the southeast corner of Baden township on the east branch of the Montreal River was also viewed. It created some excitement two or three months ago and since that time it has not yet been blasted into. Teck-Hughes, Kirkland Hudson Bay, and Dik-Dik all had a look at it; the syndicate is actively carrying on surface operations as a syndicate and while company plans have been approved by shareholders, it has not yet been formed.

J. Paddon, vice-president, stated that diamond drilling of the extensive holdings would be followed out and a gas rock drill tested to expedite surface work. The claims have been all surveyed and some 15 men are employed under Wm. Goudge. C. Bond is secretary. The syndicate also holds 39 claims in Mallard township which are to be diamond drilled right away. Financing offers have been received but the syndicate is carrying on by itself for the present.

Peelless Gold Syndicate is working on surface four miles up the river from Moynneur's. Campbell in Yarrow township is working on surface. G. Summers is forming a company of 28 claims in Powell and Cairo townships. Geo. Tough of McNeely Syndicate is doing surface work in Powell. The Allan property in Flavell is also being investigated. F. Fraser is prospecting in the area. Tyr-Mac Gold Mines has many holdings and is to do some work in Powell township. T. Kollies has an interesting show in Baden township about a mile northwest of High Falls. Quartz veins occur in sheared greenstones and promising gold values have been obtained in some cases over good width. While work has been carried on for a period of years it has only been by one or two men. H. Kell has been working on a group of claims in argyle township for F. Connell; J. Reid recently sampled it. S. Kell has worked on a property of his own in northwest Baden township. Bloom Lake had not yet started work, although it is planned for the property to the north of Matachewan Consolidated. Interesting porphyry occurrences are reported.

head of the east branch of the Montreal River will be followed with much interest.

Eight more claims have been added and the property now totals 15. Capitalization is 3,000,000 shares and approximately 1,000,000 are issued. Wm. Forest is sponsoring the renewed development. The shaft is down 300 feet with some lateral work at the 85, 100 and 300-foot horizons. The shaft follows the vein to a depth of 285 feet where it dips south out of the shaft, another blind vein then comes in. Visible gold is reported to have come out of every round of the shaft in the vein. At the 85-foot level a short cross-cut was put out 18 feet to cut No. 4 vein which showed a four-foot width. At the 100-foot mark about 200 feet of drifting was performed east and west along the main No. 1 vein, showing widths of two to three feet; a high grade shoot is said to exist. On the 300-foot level the blind vein was drifted on east to a diabase dike and a crosscut started north to No. 2 and 3 veins; it never reached them before work stopped.

The veins mostly strike northeast and occur in a granite; there are six altogether. A tunnel was driven some distance on a No. 5 vein and interesting disclosures are reported. The creek vein is also interesting with a good two-foot width of quartz and persistent; it will be carefully checked sampled. The general plan is to crosscut to No. 1 and No. 4 veins and drift on them, and possibly diamond drill.

Other Projects
Many other prospectors and groups are working. Matachewan Pioneer Syndicate in Cairo township has a crew of men under H. A. Stevens doing surface work. A find made 25 years ago by Pinner which gave \$18.00 in a grab sample is to be opened up. Another occurrence has been trenced for 600 feet. Matachewan Township Mining Co. in Cairo township, two miles from Moynneur's, has A. P. Dunbar doing surface work. G. Christie in northwest Yarrow township is working on a wide schist zone, well mineralized with pyrite. It strikes east-west and is traced for 1,500 feet in three big trenches. Some high assays are reported particularly from schist near any quartz. Some of the larger mines have examined it. Staking is reported around this property on the strength of Noranda sampling it. Five men are working. Three drill holes were put down on W. Young's group of claims in southwest Powell township last winter under the direction of H. Key; it is not being worked at present.

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Balloons Being Used for Fishing at Kirkland Lake

Writing in The Northern News last week the "Roving Reporter" has the following to say about the sport of balloon fishing:—

"Three travellers were busily engaged one day last week in choosing some fishing tackle in one of our stores. They were debating as to which was the best kind of lure to use on the fish that haunt the waters adjacent to Kirkland Lake and they could reach no agreement. None of them seemed to be sure fire. Along came a mutual friend. Said he, "Well, boys, what seems to be the trouble?" "Jimmy," they pleaded, "What is the best lure or bait to use around here?" Now Jimmy is a good fisherman and you know what a really good fisherman is like when he gets talking. So did they! "Balloon fishing," said Jimmy, seriously, "is the best sport there is now. Laugh if you like but if you don't try it you'll be missing something real. (No pun.) It combines all the fun of trolling without the energy usually used and has

all the thrill of still fishing. It might even be possible to try it with a wet or dry fly. The idea is this. Buy a five cent balloon and inflate it. Then use it as you would a float. In a light breeze the balloon will carry your line away from the boat and consequently your bait will be trolled through the water at a nice even pace. As it moves away all you must do is let your line out. Then when you have enough line out, begin reeling it slowly. There you are, out in the middle of a nice lake with your anchor down, sitting in the sun trolling without moving a paddle. It's great sport I tell you." So the next time you see a full grown man looking through the balloons in the 15 cent store, you may be sure he is an ardent fisherman."

P.S.—The air from the balloons is used after the fishing is over to inflate the size of the fish caught, and especially those that get away.

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