

C. C. S. Letter-head

413 Granville St.

Silverton, B. C.  
August 4, 1956.Western Miner & Oil Review,  
505 Metropolitan Building,  
Vancouver 1, B. C.

Dear Sirs:-

Herewith is a short statement of operations at the Monarch-Hecla and Buffalo-Mammoth mines of the Western Exploration Co. Ltd. which I believe might be of interest to your readers and which we would be glad to have published in the next issue of the Western Miner.

This article has the O. K. of Mr. A. M. Ham, Manager of the Western Ex. Ltd.

Yours truly,

Box 514  
Van

THE WESTERN EXPLORATION CO. LTD. of Silverton, B. C. after being closed down for four months due to severe winter conditions, made a mill-run of ore from box-holes on the Monarch - Hecla 5000 level early in June. This ore, amounting to 550 tons with a head assay of 3.0% lead, 5.5 % zinc, and 15.5 Oz. silver gave smelter returns of approximately \$23, net, per ton.

In July a second mill-run of Hecla development ore of 312 tons was made, the head sample of which assayed approximately 4.0% lead, 6.7 % zinc, and 20.1 Oz. silver per ton. While the net smelter returns from the concentrates have not yet been received, it is estimated that they will be approximately \$30 per ton of ore.

Development is continuing on the Hecla 5000 level and in the raise from the Hecla level to the Monarch level, with a distance of 250 feet still to be driven, most of which will be through the high-grade orebody found in diamond drill holes last year. It is still uncertain whether the orebody found last year belongs to the same ore-shoot as that now being developed on the Hecla 5000 level, nor has the rake been determined if the two are separate bodies. Diamond drilling has been underway on the Hecla 5000 level for several weeks, but has been slow on account of broken ground, and has not yet determined the rake of the ore, or whether there is one continuous ore-shoot or two separate ones.

On the No. 9 level of the Buffalo-Mammoth mine development on the level and in box-holes has been underway for the past several weeks and is showing very good ore up to four feet in width. The next mill-run, early in August, will be from development ore from this level, which contains good lead, and should give an estimated net smelter return of around \$40 per ton, based on channel samples. This 9th level development, showing ore for 270 feet in length with the east face still in ore, is directly below and 230 feet distant along the dip of the vein from No 8 level and continuous ore is expected to extend upward to the present stop bottom on No. 8.

The current shortage of good miners is causing serious delays in the planned development program. The Company will continue to treat ore from the Violanc mine, as well as some leasers ore and the Company's own development ore.