

REPORT ON SI, PI, and HI GROUPS

BRIDESVILLE AREA

GREENWOOD M.D.

by

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for

Moly Win Mines Ltd.

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INTRODUCTION

The following report is made at the request of the directors of Moly Win Mines Ltd. The groups concerned were staked following the reported discovery of nickel bearing rock on ground held by Copper Ridge Mines on the south side of the highway at Bridesville. The writer has no first hand knowledge of this discovery but he is familiar with nickel bearing mineralization on the Ogofan and Old England properties a few miles to the north. It is reported that the face of a tunnel on the latter, now completely caved, was well mineralized, but recent stripping of a slightly serpentinized zone alongside it in the creek of Jolly Creek, immediately downstream from some old placer workings, yielded low values of the order of 0.20% Ni to 0.40% Ni and averaging about 0.30% Ni. Generally speaking there are a number of mineralized shear zones and quartz veins in the greenstones of the area which have yielded an impressive gold content, but most of the workings are now inaccessible. These will be described more fully under the heading of Mineralization.

CLAIMS AND OWNERSHIP

The property consists of 120 claims consisting of the Si 1 - 40 record numbers 837530 to 837569; Pi 1 - 40, record numbers 812301 to 812340; Hi 1 - 40, record numbers 812341 to 812380. These form a solid block of claims, 10 on each side of 6 parallel location lines which were run N 70° W.

LOCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY

The southeast corner of the above claims lies approximately one mile north of Bridesville on the southern trans provincial highway. A gravel road leaves the highway at the west end of the high level trestle across Rock Creek and extends northwesterly to Camp McKinney and thence to Mt. Baldy. Off this road there are numerous other logging roads including the Alden Road which follows the north bank of McKinney Creek westerly and passes through the property on the fourth and fifth rows of claims from the south boundary.

TOPOGRAPHY AND VEGETATION

A series of rolling ridges extend southeasterly from Mt. Baldy and one of these lies between McKinney Creek and Rice Creek which flows into it from the north, very close to the eastern boundary of the main block of claims, and about one mile north of the southern boundary. The highest point on this ridge, near the northwest corner, is about 4400 feet and the lowest point on the property at the mouth of Rice Creek is about 3100 feet. Thus the relief is quite moderate.

A very extensive and disastrous fire destroyed much of the old growth about 35 years ago and a very dense and almost impenetrable growth of young Jackpine and Tamarak covers much of the property, particularly towards its northern boundary.

Furthermore the area is covered by a mantle of glacial till. Rock outcrops, except in canyons, in the creeks, or in road cuts, are very scarce. There are sufficient outcrops to give a general idea of the geology but important features are no doubt hidden from view.

HISTORY OF AREA

The first mining of any kind in the Rock Creek area dates back to 1861 when placer gold was discovered. This was followed by the discovery of gold quartz on the Victoria, which was originally staked under the Apex Law, and later on the Old England. It is reported that several carloads of high grade ore were shipped. Then in 1887 the Cariboo and Amelia claims were staked on gold quartz veins four miles to the west, and about a million dollars in gold had been produced by 1903. Statistics published in the 1953 No. 3 Index of the B. C. Department of Mines quote a production of 69,607 oz. gold, 18,179 oz. silver, 21,508 pounds of lead and 32,692 pounds of zinc from 125,892 tons mined. Some additional tonnage has been recorded since 1953 but high underground mining costs now prevailing have no doubt had much to do with suspension of activities.

These properties all lie on the north boundary of the group under discussion.

On the east boundary there are a number of pits and dumps of heavy pyrrhotite, pyrite, and chalcopyrite ore, thought to be on the old War Eagle and Le Roi claims. It is recorded in the 1929 Minister of Mines Report that a radiore survey indicated a zone 1000 feet in length. In 1930 a contract was let to sink a shaft which resulted in a lien being placed on the property. It is further recorded that oxidation extended over an area 200 feet by 200 feet and that a picked sample taken near the shaft assayed .02 oz. Au, 4.6 oz. Ag, and 4⁰/o copper. This is close to the granite on the north boundary of the Old Nick claims, and has been kept in good standing. All open ground has been staked. On the Datun, just to the north, a shipment of 40 tons reported in 1916 is said to have assayed 2 oz. gold, 5 oz. silver, and 5⁰/o copper, but no continuous bodies of this type of ore could be found.

The recent reported discovery of nickel south of the highway at Bridesville has created interest but it has long been known that low grade nickel ores exist in this area. These are found in amphibolitic and serpentized rocks on the Old England and again in carbonated rocks on the Ogofan lying between the Old England and Camp McKinney.

GEOLOGY

As mapped by W. E. Cockfield in 1934, Map 316A, Camp McKinney, Simalkameen District, British Columbia, the area of the claims is largely underlain by the oldest rocks of the district, known as the Anarchist series and made up of micaceous quartzite, mica schist, crystalline limestone, and sheared greenstone. There is almost an equal amount of intrusive rocks on the southern half of the group made up of quartz diorite and granodiorite of the Oliver Batholith. Some very recent lavas are projected to the north-east corner of the group. The map shows that practically all these rocks are drift covered.

Actually, there is a complexity of rock types within the Anarchist series. Close to the granite contact skarn zones are to be seen and there is more sheared amphibolite and serpentine than is indicated on the map area. None was noted on the claim group but an outcrop of serpentized rock was noted close to the southern contact of the granite where the Camp McKinney Road crosses McKinney Creek. It is in this type of rock that nickel occurrences can be expected. However, none

of the nickel mineralization so far seen by the writer can be considered as ore. This is not saying that further work on them would not expose bodies of ore, but it is saying that they do not look very encouraging as presently exposed. The results from the Copper Ridge drilling on farmland south of the highway, as reported to the writer can therefore be assumed to be correct, but whether this nickel is in a recoverable form remains to be seen. Rocks seen in the area were greenstones and sediments, and from a distance other outcrops looked similar, but all were not examined at close quarters.

MINERALIZATION

There is considerable variety to the mineralization of the area. There are gold and silver bearing quartz veins with values predominantly gold, as at Camp McKinney and Victoria, Old England, etc. These are typical contact metamorphic types in skarn zones and running heavy to pyrrhotite, pyrite and chalcopyrite, as at the Le Roi and War Eagle about 2 1/2 miles north of the high level trestle over Rock Creek. There are the ultrabasics carrying nickel and copper and carbonated zones with gold, silver, lead, zinc, copper, and nickel, as at the Ogofan.

The claims are surrounded by mineral occurrences but so far nothing other than old placer diggings on McKinney Creek occur within the claim boundaries as far as the writer knows.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Because much if not most of the group is under an almost impenetrable jungle of tamarack and jackpines which would make any kind of ground survey costly, because no mineralization of importance has been seen in the few outcrops of rock that do exist on the property, and because of the varied nature of the mineral occurrences on the adjoining properties, some of which are definitely magnetic and others good conductors, it is concluded and recommended that an airborne magnetometer survey be run over the northerly 6 rows of claims and the southerly 2 rows. This would cost about \$8,000.00 and would pick up any contact metamorphic zone that may exist close to the granite contact and any ultrabasic body with potential nickel values. The Camp McKinney type of gold quartz veins would not be picked up this way but by adding E. M. equipment it would be possible to detect them. This would require much heavier aircraft and add to the difficulties. The writer would therefore recommend a magnetometer survey now with follow-up ground investigations if indicated. Arrangements could probably be made to fly over known occurrences for a comparison of results.

E. M. investigations can be reserved for later. If the magnetometer survey results in discoveries of importance the E. M. survey would be justified on the premise that the full potential of the property should be investigated. On the other hand, if the magnetometer survey fails to meet with any success at all, the chances of finding auriferous quartz veins by E. M. — that would have real mine making potential by themselves under the present framework of costs. — would probably not justify this further expenditure.

In the writer's opinion the best possibilities lie in finding bodies of copper-silver ore similar to the War Eagle and the Le Roi, along one or the other of the granitic contacts crossing the property.