

Silverton, B. C.,
September 8, 1951.

Mr. Robert Crowe-Swords,
423 Hamilton Street,
Vancouver, B. C.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with your instructions I have spent a few days at Sandon, B. C., in an endeavor to estimate the prospective value of portions of the ground held by the Golden Slipper Mines Ltd. The following notes describe the mining claims visited and indicate my opinion of the prospects of developing ore on them.

ALTOONA (KOOTENAY BELLE)

082FNW015

As an indication of what might be expected on the Mercury-Redress claims I obtained permission to visit the Altoona Mine which is developing and shipping to the Kootenay Belle Mill at Whitewater.

The main shearing strikes N 65 E to nearly east and west and dips 60° to 75° southeast on the average, although there are considerable local variations. It generally follows the bedding planes of the argillites, and occasionally contains a little ore. The important ore bodies, however, lie in fractures, which diverge from the "main shear" and strike about N 35° E into its footwall; they dip around 60° southeast, except in one instance where the dip is reversed. Two or more of these veins are now being developed. Ore widths generally vary from a few inches to 3 or 4 feet, but at one point, at the intersection with the main shear, reaches a width of 24 feet.

The ore consists of sphalerite and a little galena with much pyrite, disseminated or in massive streaks, and traces of chalcopyrite, in a gangue of chiefly crushed rock and quartz. The formation is argillite, argillaceous quartzite and occasional limestone; it is moderately thick bedded. In places faulted blocks of porphyry form one wall of the vein. The "main shear"

or a parallel shear, outcrops on the old K and S railway grade at the switch to Cody, perhaps 400 feet west of the Altoona tunnels. From this point westward to the top of the cut-bank east of the creek on the Silver Bill Claim the bedding of the rocks swings from N 65° E and dip 70° south to N 45° West and dip 65° north. Just west of the top of the cut-bank there is a strong 50 foot shear striking N 60° W and dipping 65° southwest. Near the creek itself there is another strong shear in thin bedded slates which strikes N 80° W and dips 70° south. No other strong shears were noted westward to the west side of the Silver Bill claim.

Eastward from the Cody-Sandon switch on the K and S grade to the Altoona tunnel the bedding varies from N 45° to 75° west and the dips from 65° to 90° southward. A short distance eastward of the tunnel, where the rocks become more slaty the bedding is more variable and contorted.

REDRESS AND MERCURY CLAIMS

082FNW016

Two short tunnels, 70 feet apart vertically, have been driven on the Mercury, and one on the Redress; all are on the same vein and are caved. The strike of the vein is N 10° E and dip 55° east, (given by Cairnes, Memoir 184, as N 35° E and 55° E). Dr. Cairnes also states that the vein varies from a fraction of a foot to four feet in width. The contained minerals are given by Cairnes as gray-copper, galena, blende, pyrite and chalcopyrite with siderite and quartz. A small pile of ore on the dump of the lowest tunnel shows little but sphalerite and quartz.

Production from the Mercury claim is reported as 193 tons containing 163 oz. silver per ton and 38% lead; from the Redress 8 tons containing 237 oz. silver per ton and 60% lead. The wall rocks are black, rusty weathering, and somewhat slaty argillites which are cut by the vein at a rather acute angle. At the upper Mercury tunnel portal a porphyry dike forms the footwall of the vein.

Sample #623 sphalerite in quartz from a hundred pounds of ore on the upper Mercury tunnel dump.

Two, or possibly more, open cuts have been dug on the Big Timber claim above the Redress claim which are apparently in line with the Mercury-Redress vein. They show small fissures with narrow quartz and pyrite in argillite.

PAYNE MINE

082FNW016

This is the oldest mine in the district and is credited with a production of approximately \$5,000,000. Memoir 184 gives the following data: - "The property is underlain by Slocan sed-

iments which are largely massive argillaceous, quartzitic, and calcareous sediments possessing a general anticlinal structure disrupted by faults." "It strikes N 55° E and dips 50° to 70° southeast." In the vicinity of #3 and #4 tunnels where the vein has been stoped to the surface its strike is N 50° E and the dip approximately vertical. The formation in this section is argillaceous quartzite striking from N 35° W to N 45° W and dipping from 75° to 90° northwest.

Apparently no surface work has been done on the Carpenter Creek side between #5 tunnel (said to be a crosscut for several hundred feet from the portal) and #15 Tunnel portal which is on the east side of the gulch 1000 feet, more or less, west of the Mercury vein. This tunnel, said to be a crosscut for 3400 feet, is now being re-opened by the Keetenay Belle Mines Ltd.; it is not known if, or where, the Payne vein was cut, although the tunnel is said to be connected by a raise to the upper workings.

Whether the Altoona and the Mercury-Redress veins are the same or not is problematic. They line up very well and are similar in appearance and attitude, except that the strong pyrite of the Altoona is not evident in the Mercury. The Mercury-Redress vein, projected northward, would contact the Payne vein at an acute angle, probably in the vicinity of the #3 or #4 tunnels, but I did not note any indication that it does or does not do so. It seems to me more probable that the two veins are nearly parallel and that the Mercury vein would lie a few hundred feet east of the Payne vein where, I am told, a vein showing 6 inches of galena is now being explored. Whether or not the Mercury vein is the extension of a producing vein, I believe that its showing justifies the re-opening of the lower tunnel and the Redress tunnel.

GOLDEN SLIPPER #8 (?)

I looked at a one foot shear in a small open cut on the south bank of Carpenter Creek a few hundred yards above Sandon. It is probable that this showing is west of the Golden Slipper #8 claim. The shear is in argillite and strikes due north and south with a dip of 40° east. In the shear there is an inch or two of quartz with a little pyrite and I saw one speck of Galena. I was not impressed with the showing and it is doubtful if it is on Golden Slipper ground.

GOLDEN SLIPPER #4 AND #5 CLAIMS, NEAR THREE FORKS

082K5W155

This property has been opened by two short tunnels, the lower of which follows a weak shear 1" to 6" wide striking N 13° W and dipping 55° west. It cuts through a small porphyry dike, otherwise the rock is an argillaceous quartzite.

A second tunnel, about 50 feet higher is caved. An outcrop nearly over the portal shows hard, sheared argillite

alongside a porphyry dike striking N 10° W and vertical. A lense of porphyry 4 feet long and 3 inches wide is silicified and shows a little sphalerite, the only metallic mineralization noted in place.

It is reported that extremely high grade silver ore was found in one of the tunnels. Sample No. 624 is across the silicified lense over the upper tunnel, 3 inches wide, plus a few pieces of mineralized quartz from the dump. On the whole the showing is hard, tight and discouraging.

Yours very truly,

Chas. C. Starr