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*See Van No.*

*Return to  
C. C. Starr*

NOTES OF BRIEF INSPECTION  
OF  
VAN ROI MINE  
SILVERTON, B. C.

To:  
Mr. Weckes, Manager  
The Porcupine Goldfields Development & Finance Co.

By:  
Chas. C. Starr.  
May 2, 1926.

#### INTRODUCTION:

About five hours was spent in going through the property with Mr. Clarence Cunningham. A part of the outcrop and the principal workings down to and including number 5 tunnel were visited, but there was no time remaining to inspect the number 7 tunnel and number 9 tunnel. The mine works are mostly open and generally in good condition.

#### LOCATION:

Property is located about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles South east of Silverton on the south side of Four Mile Creek, at an elevation of approximately 4000 feet at the camp.

#### PROPERTY:

There are an unknown number of claims in the Group of which the principal ones are, Humboldt, Vancouver, Zilor, Mountain Boomer and others which are owned by the Cunningham Mines Ltd., of which Clarence Cunningham, Alamo, B. C. is President. Mr. Cunningham called the property to our attention on April 30th.

#### TERMS:

The price asked for the property is \$250,000 payments to be made entirely from Royalties which are 20% of the net smelter returns.

#### HISTORY:

The property was first worked by the Vancouver Mining Company, who supposed they had worked it out. It was then purchased by the Van Roi Mining Company and operated as a subsidiary of the Le Roi number 2 mine at Rossland, who later sold it to Mr. Cunningham. It made an intermittent production

for a number of years, the last work having been done about a year ago. The total production is not known, but is supposed to be well over \$1,000,000.00

**GENERAL:**

Equipment is generally good but by no means new and consists of extensive camp at the mine, sawmill two miles distant, blacksmith shops with rather scanty equipment, a 150 ton concentrator, compressor located at the concentrator, aerial tram from number 5 tunnel to the mill and a smaller one from number 9 tunnel to the mill. Both mill and compressor are driven by water power which is not quite sufficient at all times of the year.

**DEVELOPMENT:**

The principal development is as follows:-

Tunnel	Elevation	Length on main vein	Length on south vein
A	4700	-	120
1	4550	10	150
2	4430	1000	-
3	4300	1500	220
4	4080	1200	800
5	4000	2300	350
6	-	-	-
7	3800	2800	120
8	3730	250	-
9	3580	1400	300

In the above tabulation the elevations are only approximate; all cross cuts, raises etc., are omitted in the figures which are simply the overall lengths of the levels. Tunnels A, 1, 2, and 3 are situated on the west side of the hill, but #3 tunnel has an entrance on the eastern side also, number 4 and all of the lower tunnels are driven from the east side of the hill facing the mill.

## GEOLOGY:

The country rock is classed as the Slocan slates, and consists of thin bedded lime-slates; it strikes nearly east and west and dips steeply to the north. The main contact between the slates and the Nelson granodiorite is a short distance south of and nearly parallel to the veins.

There are two principal veins, known as the Main vein and the South vein; there is also a newly found outcrop which may be a new vein, or may be found to be the South vein. The Main vein strikes about N 70 E and dips 70° north; the South vein strikes N 45 E in its western part and is parallel to the main vein at its eastern end; it dips 70° north. The outcrop of the new vein strikes due east and west and dips steeply north. The main vein, and parts of the South vein, lie in the bedding planes of the slates, which is unusual and generally unfavorable in the Slocan Region.

No faulting is known in the mine except in the west end of the workings, where a strong break has cut off the vein, or possibly has affected the ore deposition.

The Hewitt mine adjoins the Van Roi on the west and contains two veins which are said to occur similarly, and to probably be the continuations of the same vein.

## OREBODIES:

The ore consists of galena and sphalerite, with a little gray-copper and ruby-silver, and a small amount of pyrite, contained in a gangue of quartz, calcite and crushed slate. The ores, as mined for the mill, are said to have run from 11 to 18 oz. silver, 4 to 7% lead, and 9 to 12% zinc per ton. There has also been a considerable tonnage of high grade silver

ore shipped direct to the smelter.

The average width of the ore as stoped is said to be about eight feet, but the average width of the vein is much less than this, for the ore generally occurs in the wider parts of the vein. The stopes contain many pillars and are ragged in outline, suggesting that the ore is erratic in value; the vein walls are not well defined, but the vein itself is strong and remarkably continuous, extending from the fault on the west to hundreds of feet East of the portal of No. 9 tunnel.

To date four more or less well defined oreshoots have been developed, as follows;- The most westerly shoot lies along the east side of the above mentioned fault and has been stoped from above the No. 2 tunnel level to the No. 7 tunnel, over an average length of about 300 feet. It shows some ore in the bottom of the latter level, but presumably should not extend to such greater depth.

At about 150 feet to the eastward a second oreshoot has been stoped from the No. 2 level to the No. 5 level for an average length of about 250 feet. This body shows ore in the bottom of the No. 5 level, but it does not extend to the No. 7 level. What seems to be an offshoot from this orebody has been stoped in the vicinity of the No. 3 level but does not have any great vertical extent.

Considerably further to the east on the No. 5, No. 7 and No. 9 levels there are a number of small erratic stopes which probably indicate a very considerable zone of ore which is in general too low grade to work. No. 9 level has not been extended far to the west of this area.

At a considerable distance further east, and just

west of the portal of the No. 7 tunnel, an oreshoot has been stoped between the No. 7 and No. 9 levels for a length of 280 feet. Ore is said to show in the bottom of the No. 9 level under this shoot, and also on the surface above it.

On the South vein stoping has been done over an average length of 300 feet from the No. 3 level to the No. 7, a vertical distance of 500 feet, but it seems probable that the ore in this shoot will not extend far below the No. 7 level.

On the surface at "A" tunnel a good looking body of ore has been partly developed, but it is not certain whether this is a part of the South vein or a new discovery. The owners are inclined to the former theory, but there is a very material change in strike to be explained if this is the case.

#### GENERAL NOTES:

There is no great amount of ore to be expected above the level of the present No. 7 tunnel, although it is possible that a few score of thousand tons may be yet taken out there. To the west of the fault the ground owned by the Company is limited to a few hundred feet in length, before the end line of the Hewitt mine is reached. The real future of the mine, therefore, depends on its development at further depth. In this connection it is stated that the vein, or one of them, can be traced for a further depth of 500 feet along the steep hillside below the No. 9 tunnel portal and sites for deeper drift tunnels are good.

The concentrator is said to be in good condition, but requires the addition of flotation equipment before it can make a satisfactory saving of the silver values, or proper separation of the lead and zinc. As compared to most old

mines the property is in exceptionally good physical condition and could be started up with a minimum of expense

**CONCLUSION:**

There are several rather unusually favorable features about the property as follows:- Unusual continuity of the vein, exceptionally good sites for drift tunnels for deeper development, good equipment except for the lack of oil concentration, and a fairly good location. On the other hand a large tonnage has already been taken from the mine, and some of the ore shoots are known to have been bottomed with a scarcely equal discovery of new ones.

The property evidently has some merit and as the inspection on which these notes are based was very short, a more thorough preliminary examination is justified to, if possible, determine the relations of the "A" tunnel ore to the South vein, and the chances for favorable development of all the veins in depth.

Respectfully submitted,

*Chas. C. Starr*