

11th Ann. Rpt.
Mar. 31, 1945

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Vananda Mining Company Ltd. This Company was incorporated in January, 1945, to acquire from L. A. Prosser and Industrial Metals Mining Company Ltd. the Little Billy group and adjoining claims on Texada Island, as well as options on the Copper Queen and Cornell claims. These properties shipped a certain amount of high grade copper-gold ore a number of years ago. In 1943 the Little Billy mine was unwatered by Messrs. Prosser and associates and an exploration program initiated. A number of drill holes were successful in cutting good lengths of copper-gold mineralization in altered limestone near granitic contacts. Under agreement with Vananda Mining Company Ltd., Pioneer is supplying funds for, and supervising, further exploration of the properties.

Harrison Claims. The original agreement with the Harrison brothers for their property, situated at the head of White Sail Lake in West Central British Columbia, was made in the fall of 1943, but the property could not be examined until the end of June, 1944. The preliminary examination indicated values of about one-third of an ounce in gold and ten ounces silver per ton in a series of quartz outcrops several feet wide extending over a length of more than 2,000 feet. By the time trails could be built and camps established but little time was left for work on the property. Since it is situated in the Coast Range at an elevation of about 4,000 feet, the snowfall is heavy and the season for surface work is short. The re-sampling of trenches and outcrops of two sections of quartz 340 feet long and 130 feet long checked values obtained in the preliminary examination. Mapping indicated three main lenses of quartz lying in diorite near its contact with a series of sedimentary and volcanic rocks. The veins dip towards the contact at angles of 45 degrees or less and may therefore be limited in depth. There is some indication of parallel and transverse veins. A diamond drill program laid out for the coming season is designed to give a maximum of information about the structure of the deposits.

The Premier Gold Mining Company Ltd. is participating in this venture to the extent of 20% of our options.

Ranney Gold Mines Ltd. This Company owns 18 claims covering a length of approximately two and one-half miles of greenstone along the West Bay fault in the Yellowknife area of the Northwest Territories. A diamond drilling program has been under way during the winter with funds supplied by Pioneer Gold Mines and Transcontinental Resources Ltd. While some strong and fairly well mineralized shear zones have been found in the David Lake area, commercial values have not been found to date. Drilling will continue during the coming summer.

Snow Lake, Manitoba. Northern Canada Mines Ltd. and ourselves have continued to support joint prospecting parties in the Snow Lake area of Manitoba. Last season two groups of claims were staked on actual discoveries or on strong indications of gold mineralization. The Morgan Lake group was staked to cover a narrow, high grade quartz vein found on the south end of an island in Morgan Lake. Surface stripping disclosed a length of 450 feet of commercial ore with the south end open. Drilling from the ice during the past winter has failed to extend this ore shoot. The section of the vein on the island is now being drilled.

On the other claims staked in the Snow Lake area, float boulders, containing good gold values, have been discovered. An effort will be made to locate the source of this float during this coming summer.

East Amphi Gold Mines Ltd. Pioneer has been associated with a group of Eastern mining companies in financing a drilling program on the large holdings of the East Amphi Gold Mines Ltd. in the Malartic area of Quebec. Many intersections of commercial grade have been cut in a zone 2,000 feet long. The results, however, are difficult to interpret and it is felt further drilling will not clarify the picture in this particular area, but no decision has been made regarding any other type of exploration as yet.

Orcour Gold Mines (1940) Ltd. The Company has made arrangements to participate with Lapa Cadillac Gold Mines Ltd. in the financing of Orcour and has placed sufficient funds in the treasury of that Company to carry out the work which seems justified at this time. Arrangements regarding this were completed subsequent to March 31st.

Pioneer has also joined with Lapa Cadillac in purchasing the Secan Group of 20 claims in Vauquelin Township, Quebec.

I wish to express my appreciation to Mr. Emmons, his staff and crew, for their effective work during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

H. T. JAMES,

Managing Director.

Pioneer Gold Mines of B. C. Limited.

PROPERTY FILE

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As a result of extensive stripping on other parts of the south block of claims, it is believed that the productive horizon is northeast of the position formerly assigned to it. An effort is now being made to verify this and to determine if it is ore-bearing on the claims held by Barkerville.

Pioneer invited other companies to participate in this major undertaking and has retained options on 25% only of treasury stock.

VANANDA MINING COMPANY LTD. 092F 271, 105, 112

Preparations for shaft sinking started near the end of February 1945, but it was not until May first that actual sinking operations commenced. Previous owners had opened the Little Billy mine from a two-compartment shaft on the 80, 180 and 280 levels. By March 31st, 1946, the shaft had been deepened 212 feet as a three-compartment shaft, to the 480 level and lateral development work carried out as follows:

Crosscutting, 280 and 480 level.....	504 feet
Drifting, 180, 280 and 480 level.....	221 feet
Shaft stations cut.....	2
Diamond drilling.....	4090 feet

Information obtained in this work is summarized in the First Annual Report of the Vananda Mining Co. Ltd. Briefly, it may be stated that a number of relatively small ore bodies have been found, averaging about .15 oz. in gold per ton and 1½% copper.

SNOW LAKE, MANITOBA

A total of 128 claims are held jointly with Northern Canada Mines Limited in the Snow Lake area of Manitoba.

Detailed prospecting and investigation continue to uncover additional gold-bearing structures. Although no commercial orebody has been developed in any one of these to date, one or two warrant further investigation and a considerable area of drift-covered ground remains to be tested.

The Snow group has been transferred to Koon Lake Gold Mines Ltd., a company formed for the purpose of acquiring the ground.

ORCOUR MINES (1940) LTD.

The property of Orcour Mines Limited is located in the Louvicourt Township, Quebec. A drilling program financed jointly by Pioneer and Lapa Cadillac Gold Mines Ltd. was started in the fall of 1945 and is continuing. The east and west boundaries of the property have been cross-sectioned in a joint program with adjoining properties. Some intersections have been obtained carrying interesting gold values, but to date nothing resembling an ore shoot has been established. Drilling is being done at present in the northwest section of the property and will continue for some time.

RUSCANA GOLD MINE LTD.

This property lies in Vaquelin Township. It was purchased by Pioneer and Lapa Cadillac, with Pioneer acquiring a two-thirds interest. A geological study of the property will be made during the summer, to be followed by such work as may be justified.

RANNEY GOLD MINES LTD.

Diamond drilling on the Ranney property, situated in the Yellowknife district a few miles north of the Giant Yellowknife mine, commenced on November 10th, 1944, and continued to the end of August 1945. The total footage drilled in 47 holes was 20,114 feet. Some favorable structures were indicated and gold values found, but invariably the values were either too low grade to be commercial, or did not persist along the strike. One of the stronger structures encountered is a wide shear zone under David Lake near the east shore. Although well mineralized with pyrite and cut by blue quartz veins, values were almost entirely lacking.

All drift-covered areas were tested with drilling in variable degrees and the property is deemed to have been adequately prospected, in the light of our present knowledge of the district.

SOUTH PACIFIC MINING CO. LTD.

South Pacific Mining Company Ltd. is a private company incorporated under the laws of British Columbia for the purpose of conducting mine exploration and development work in the South Pacific. Its field manager is Mr. C. H. Donaldson, an engineer with several years experience in the area. It is being financed jointly by Pioneer, Transcontinental Resources Limited, and a group of private individuals.

Activities are confined, for the present at least, to the Fiji Islands where options have been obtained on properties in three different mineralized areas on Viti Levu, the largest island in the group. Rights to prospect larger areas in each of the districts have also been obtained.

The Vuda district is near the west end of Viti Levu Island, about eight miles south of the Port of Lautoka. Surface work, supplemented by X-ray diamond drilling, has been in progress on two properties in this district for some months. One of these apparently will not make a mine, but better results have been obtained from the others and the development programme is continuing. Close to £6000 (Fiji) has been recovered by the owners in a very small, inefficient mill treating ore from the outcrop of the lode on this second property.

The Sabeto area is five miles due east of the Vuda area at the headwaters of the Sabeto River. Copper mineralization carrying attractive gold values has been known for many years, small shipments having been made, according to Government reports, prior to 1908. South Pacific has staked or optioned ground covering the majority of known showings, and is now making a detailed geological survey of the area.

The Tailevu area is at the opposite end of the island, being situate in the Wainivesi River valley about 25 miles due north of Suva. The principal showing in the area is on property owned by Mt. Kasi Mines Ltd., a company operating a gold mine on Vanu Levu Island.

Arrangements have been made by South Pacific to prospect and develop the Tailevu property on terms which would be advantageous to both companies. Private reports of Mt. Kasi, in which further development of the property is recommended, would indicate that this is a most interesting prospect. Values reported are in gold, silver and zinc, with a minor amount of lead and copper. Results of our own detailed examination have not been received.

I would again like to express my appreciation of the effective work done by Mr. Emmons, his staff and crew at Pioneer, and by those in charge of our outside operations.

Respectfully submitted,

H. T. JAMES,
Managing Director,
Pioneer Gold Mines of B.C. Ltd.