

Prices in Middle East send bullion, oil prices soaring

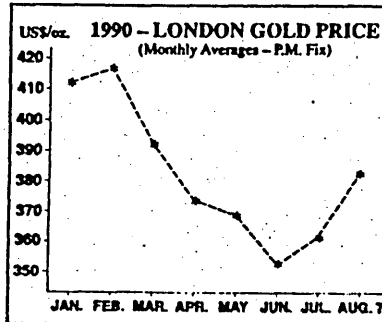
extremely volatile with the oil crisis in the Mid-East. It peaked as an armada of U.S. forces headed for the Gulf, oil hit a 5-year high of \$8.31, up nearly 70% from \$4.92 as of July 2.

Analysts said the prospect of surging oil prices will most likely bring higher inflation, and has caused gold share prices to rise wildly.

Some observers feel the market is over-reacting, other ana-

lysts suggest North American gold equities may now face a period of relative improvement.

"The recent developments in the Middle East are very positive for gold," said Catherine Gignac, an analyst for securities firm McNeil Mantha. "Investors who are not currently holding gold equities may now move into the market," she said, adding there will likely be some heavy selling by profit takers, but some large buyers could also come back into the market.



Gignac is forecasting a gold price of US\$400 by year-end and an aver-

age price of US\$425 in 1991.

"This is an obvious buy signal for investors who have not been holding gold stocks," she said.

Often considered as the last refuge of security in times of economic uncertainty, investors can find plenty of reasons for insecurity these days.

"Gold is an emotional metal," explained Ron Coll, an analyst with securities firm McLean McCarthy. "Probably 50% of what affects the price of gold is emotion."

See GOLD, Page 2

Princeton surveys potential for Similco reserve expansion

Princeton, B.C. — When a successor company to Princeton Mining (TSE) acquired the 700-million-ton open pit copper mine in this picturesque community in June, 1988, it was given a view to provide a much-needed diversification from aspen fibre.

Having accomplished that objective at a bargain basement price in time to benefit from a price upswing for the red metal, Princeton is turning its attention to expanding reserves at Similco. At the same time, the company is continuing work to modernize and refit the 30-year-old mill to increase its overcapacity and availability.

Work on both fronts was in progress when *The Northern Miner* visited the Similco property 70 miles east of Vancouver, in late July. The 1990 exploration program, funded by a \$2-million flow-through issue, is largely focused on the Lost Horse Gulch project. Definition drilling is continuing to return encouraging results from the Virginia and Alameda deposits.

By the end of this year we

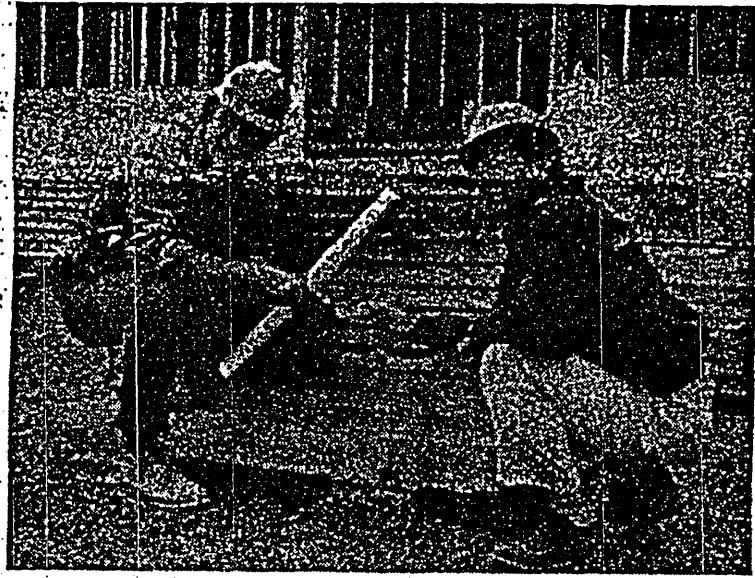


Photo by The Northern Miner

Bill Epp (left), senior exploration geologist, and Robert Hamaguchi, general manager of Similco Mines, examine drill core from an ongoing program to define new reserves at the open pit copper mine near Princeton, B.C.

"We should have a minable reserve in the Virginia deposit at a higher grade than we initially thought," said Robert Hamaguchi, general manager at Similco. "We now see the kind of potential we need for a 10-year mine plan."

The Lost Horse Gulch project is one of several exploration targets examined by Princeton since

it acquired the Similco property from Newmont. Bill Epp, senior exploration geologist, said the targets were selected after a review of previous drilling and exploration work going back to the 1920s when Copper Mountain came to prominence as a result of high-grade copper discoveries.

See PRINCETON, Page 19

Major ready to veto deal at Louvicourt

by Peter Kennedy

A senior official in Noranda Minerals group has told a Quebec business paper that Noranda (TSE) is opposed to an agreement designed to end the legal dispute over the massive sulphide discovery of Aur Minerals (TSE) and Societe Miniere Louvem (TSE).

While Noranda has until Aug. 14 to make a decision on the proposed deal, Michel Lefebvre, vice-president of Noranda Minerals' eastern mining group, said his company will exercise its right of veto.

In Quebec's *Finance* magazine, Lefebvre described Louvem's decision to settle the lawsuit by selling to Aur a 10% stake in the Louvicourt Twp. massive sulphide discovery, east of Yal d'Or, Que., as unrealistic.

"That would mean the (36-million-ton of 3.11% copper and 1.34% zinc) deposit is worth \$50 million," he said.

Under the a proposed agreement that would essentially end all of the litigation relating to the deposit, Aur would end up with a 60% interest in the project while Louvem retains 40%.

In return, Louvem would receive

See AUR, Page 2

by vanishing Karna gold find



from Ski disappoint investors
VANCOUVER — Assay results released by Adrian Resources (ASR) for the first two holes drilled on the Ski project north of Stewart, B.C., and adjacent to the Eskay Creek project, owned by Prime Resources Group (VSE) and Sillkine Resources (TSE).
 The long-awaited results appear to have generally disappointed investors, as the share price of Adrian slipped \$1.25 to \$7.75 in active trading immediately after the results were announced.
 The first hole of the program, 90-1, returned 0.10 oz. gold and 8.93 oz. silver per ton over 4 metres (13 ft.) at 322-326 metres.
 The second hole, 90-2, returned an average of 0.11 oz. gold and 6.36 oz. silver over 3 metres at 322-325 metres.

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Corrections
 Contrary to an earlier story (T.N.M., Aug. 6/90), Flagship Resources (COATS) has not changed its corporate name. Another over-the-counter firm, Delbridge Mines, recently changed its name to Hoverspace International.
 The employer of project superintendent Ron Koebel, who is stationed at the Eskay Creek gold project in northern British Columbia, was incorrectly identified (T.N.M., Aug. 6/90). Koebel works for Tonto Mining.

Princeton drilling

From Page 1
 Although Epp noted only minimal exploration work was done by Newmont during the 1970s, he said the historical review showed numerous areas where adits and shafts had been driven on 1% copper (or better) by earlier operators only to be abandoned when grades fell to roughly half this level.
 "This left us with a tremendous opportunity to evaluate these targets with modern exploration techniques in light of the economics of the day and in view of the fact that our capital costs are paid off," Epp said. (Princeton paid off the costs of its Simlico acquisition in less than a year, with the exception of a concentrate return obligation to Newmont that was recently satisfied.)
 The Virginia and Alabama deposits are currently reported to each contain possible reserves of 10 million tons grading 0.32% copper. This year's program is focused on infill drilling to better define the geometry, grade and tons in these deposits, although some earlier stage exploration is under way or planned for promising targets elsewhere on the property. All are near or adjacent to existing operations.
 The company recently reported that results from the initial 20 diamond drill holes on the Virginia definition drilling program "indicate significant potential to increase both grade and tonnage of the deposit." All holes are vertical, drilled on 100-ft. centres, and average close to 700 ft. deep.
 One of the more significant holes drilled in this series, VB90-10, encountered 228 ft. of near-surface mineralization (from 107-335 ft.) grading 0.44% copper, and an additional 306-ft. intersection (from 400-706 ft.) grading 0.59% copper. The deeper intersection in this hole included 56 ft. of massive magnetite-chalcopyrite-pyrite mineralization (558-614 ft.) grading an impressive 2.21% copper, 0.031 oz. gold and 0.14 oz. silver. These intersections are expected to increase potential reserves in the northeast corner of the deposit which remains open.
 As an interesting aside, Princeton plans to drill a deep hole (about 2,000 ft.) in this area later this year, after more geological information is compiled, to test a tantalizing theory that a large, deep-seated but higher-grade deposit might be associated with the Lost Horse intrusive, possibly acting as a plumbing system for mineralization in the Copper Mountain area.
 Meanwhile, the company is also encouraged by "significant" results from several holes that opened the eastern end of the Virginia deposit, both near surface and at depth. Selected results here include 270 ft. grading 0.39% copper (0.48% copper equivalent after taking into account precious metal assays), 206 ft. of 0.35% copper (0.44% copper equivalent) and 183 ft. of 0.39% copper (0.52% copper equivalent).
 "We could be looking at a grade increase from 0.32% copper to about 0.41% copper in the Virginia deposit," said Hamaguchi.
 Although precious metal assays are still pending from some holes, Princeton estimates that the average precious metal contributions converted to copper equivalent will add about 25% to the copper grades in this area. The increase in grade at depth noted in this area also prompted a decision to do deeper drilling to determine the extent of mineralization (some holes ended in mineralization), and a number of holes to about 800 ft. have already been drilled.
 In addition, recent drilling is revealing a possible connection between the Alabama and Virginia deposits. Two holes drilled in this area, VA90-8 and VA90-9, returned 139.5 ft. grading 0.36% copper and 180 ft. of 0.50% copper respectively.
 Based on preliminary investigations, it is also projected that material in this area (Virginia deposit) will have a markedly lower work index and increased recoveries than the pits currently being mined. The strip ratio is also expected to be favorable, at less than 1-to-1.
 Hamaguchi expects that the Virginia deposit could be ready for mining sometime in mid-1991. In the meantime, mill feed is being blended from the new pit one and from pit three, which has been the source of feed for the past several years.
 The introduction of feed from the new pit one was not without problems, particularly in the first quarter of this year. Recoveries were lower than expected because of oxidation levels in the upper benches, strip ratios were higher than anticipated, and the ore was found to be fine-grained and harder than originally estimated. After some modifications to the mine plan, including the introduction of a more desirable blend of ore feed, Princeton was able to report increased copper output for its most recent quarter ended June 30. Output totalled 14.9 million lb., up from 11.7 million lb. in the first quarter when production was affected by poor copper recoveries and by extra scheduled maintenance in the mill.
 Work is still continuing to modernize the concentrator across a valley from the open pits. (Ore is delivered to the mill by a 2,370-ft.-long conveyor system and suspension bridge.) Mill superintendent Tim Smith, whose position appears to be one of the most challenging on site, estimates budgeted mill improvements will total \$2 million this year. The concentrator has been averaging about 20,400 tons per day for the year to date. The long-term objective, however, is to increase daily throughput to 30,000 tons.
 Princeton also owns a chrysotile asbestos mine near Cassiar, B.C., where a new underground deposit, the McDame, will replace production from open pits early next year. The new deposit will be mined by bulk tonnage, block-caving methods. Both operations generated net earnings of \$4.1 million for the company's most recent quarter ended June 30, compared with \$10.5 million for the same period in 1989.

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First phase complete at Iskut project
VANCOUVER — The initial phase of drilling on the Iskut Joint Venture Project has been completed. The project is an equal joint venture between Prime Resources Group (VSE), American Ore (VSE) and Golden Band Resources (VSE).
 The property is immediately adjacent to the Iskut mine, 66 miles northwest of Stewart, B.C.
 A total of 10 holes have been drilled to date. The first four holes of this year's program were designed to test the strike and dip extensions of the RPK zone discovered in 1989 by hole 189-10 which intersected 10.6 ft. grading 0.43 oz. gold per ton.

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MEETINGS
 Aug. 20, 9 p.m. Starves Mtg. — annual, general.
 Toronto Board of Trade, Toronto, Ont.
 Aug. 20, 4 p.m. Metallurgists — special, 1 Dundas St. W., Toronto, Ont.

COMING EVENTS
 Aug. 24-26 The Lapidary Rock and Mineral Society of British Columbia — "B.C. Gem and Mineral Show." South Delta Recreational Centre, Delta, B.C. Contact: Wayne Belcar (604) 946-8214.
 Aug. 28-30 Metallurgical Society of CIM — Int'l Symposium on Extraction, Refining & Application of Light Metals — 29th Annual Conference of Metallurgists, Hamilton Convention Centre, Hamilton, Ont. Contact: Patrick C. Gagnon, CIM Headquarters, Tel: (514) 939-2710 Fax: (514) 939-2714 or Pierre Tremblay, Alcan Int'l Ltd., Avide Research & Development Centre, 1955 Melton Blvd., Jonquiere, Que. Tel: (416) 699-3878 Fax: (418) 699-3956.

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Pegasus, Pioneer face off in legal battle

VANCOUVER — Court dates have been set for several ongoing disputes involving Pioneer Metals (TSE) and Pegasus Gold (TSE).

The two companies' falling-out can be traced back to November, 1988, when Pegasus loaned Pioneer \$12 million by way of a convertible debenture secured by Pioneer's Stibnite and Bonito gold properties in the U.S.

In November, 1989, Pegasus served Pioneer with a notice of non-monetary defaults under the terms of the convertible debenture and demanded immediate repayment of the debt.

At this point "the gloves were off," with Pioneer responding to the default by commencing action in the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Pegasus in turn began foreclosure action against the Stibnite in Idaho and filed a defence and counterclaim against Pioneer in British Columbia.

The hearing proceeded on April 6, with Pegasus putting its argu-

New mines boost Minnova's profit

Production contributions from the new Ansil and Samatosum mines in the first quarter of 1990 resulted in higher earnings for base metal and gold miner Minnova (TSE). Net income for the quarter increased to \$4.5 million (31¢ per share), compared with \$233,000 (2¢ per share) in 1989.

Net sales grew to \$47.8 million, more than double the \$22.6 million at the same time a year ago. The results reflect strong production performances by the company's operations and contributions from its two new mines which began production on July 1, 1989.

Minnova anticipates that a preliminary feasibility study should be available in the third quarter for its 50/50 joint venture with Audrey Resources (TSE) on the Mobern 1, 100 lens polymetallic deposit near Rouyn-Noranda, Que.

The 1100 lens could be in production by the end of 1992, the company said. Underground drilling is nearly half complete and a drift to reach the mineralized zone has commenced with bulk sampling to follow. Preliminary reserves were last reported at 10 million tonnes grading 0.9% copper, 6.2% zinc, 43 grams silver per tonne and 1.6 grams gold.

Cash and short-term securities increased by \$3.6 million during the quarter to a balance of \$15.4 million at March 31. Capital expenditures, principally on deep development at Lac Short, declined to \$3.7 million for the quarter.

Minnova (TSE)	\$000s except per share items	1990	1989
Quarter ended Mar. 31		\$47,755	\$22,580
Net sales		4,479	233
Net income	per share	0.31	0.02

Cal Graphite split

Cal Graphite (VSE), operator of a graphite mine in the startup phase north of Huntsville, Ont., is proposing a 3-for-2 share split. Shareholders will vote on the proposed split June 12 in Vancouver. The company, with about 7.3 million shares outstanding, is currently processing 2,500-3,000 tons of material per day. President John Stirling said the company expects to commence shipping its product by the end of May.

Business Opportunities

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ments before the court. Pioneer will present its position on June 15. The decision will then rest with the court, which will either grant one company's order or refer the matter to a full trial currently scheduled for May, 1991.

Pegasus' litigation in Idaho to seek a foreclosure of the company's smorgage on the Stibnite mine will be settled in a jury trial set for Oct. 1 in Cascade, Idaho.

Pioneer has made a counterclaim against Pegasus.

As a result of these actions, Pioneer has asked the court to order that the mortgage indebtedness of \$12 million be cancelled, that the court award \$20 million in damages against Pegasus, and that Pioneer also be awarded punitive damages against Pegasus.

Pioneer notes that it has raised more than 20 defences to Pegasus' foreclosure action.

Pioneer alleges that following a management change at Pegasus in

January, 1989, the company was attempting to influence and control Pioneer and that Pegasus was attempting to find a way to acquire Pioneer U.S.'s interest in the Stibnite gold mine in Idaho as early as August, 1989.

Pegasus' primary argument relates to the non-monetary defaults. When the original lending agreement was put in place, Pegasus required that there be certain covenants under the loan arrangement, some of which required Pioneer to keep all of its financial obligations current. Essentially, this means the company must continue to operate as a going concern with sufficient cash flow to pay off its indebtedness.

Pegasus specifically cites Pioneer's inability to meet cash calls made by Westmin Resources (TSE) for the Premier project north of Stewart, B.C. Arrears owed by Pioneer are estimated at more than \$11 million.

Princeton president confident of healthy balance sheet

VANCOUVER — With net earnings of \$2.3 million for the 1990 first quarter, Princeton Mining (TSE) is still firmly in the black and paying dividends even though this year's results are off considerably from the 1989 comparable period when earnings totalled \$7.3 million.

At the company's first annual meeting of shareholders since a corporate reorganization was completed last winter, President James O'Rourke said the reduced earnings were largely the result of lower copper production and prices and increased costs at the Similco mining operation near Princeton, B.C.

O'Rourke stressed, however, that earnings for the balance of 1990 for all operations are expected to show considerable improvements from first-quarter results at current product prices.

The company produces about 60 million lb. copper each year from its open pit Similco mine near Princeton, and about 100,000 tonnes per year of asbestos fibre from its mine near Cassiar in northwestern British Columbia.

At the Similco mine, earnings were adversely affected in the 1990 first quarter by higher production costs and reduced recoveries resulting from the introduction of ore from the newly developed Pit 1.

O'Rourke said the increased production costs were mainly the result of a temporary accelerated waste stripping program, while the reduced recoveries were the result of higher than expected oxidized ore from the upper benches of Pit 1.

The strip ratio is expected to improve later this year, and recoveries are expected to return to normal levels as the mining progresses below the oxidation.

As part of a new 5-year mine plan implemented in mid-1989, about 30% of the ore mined last year came from the new pit where the ore was found to be fine-grained and harder than originally expected.

In order to keep throughput levels up to target, O'Rourke said the mine plan was "revisited and readjusted" so that mill feed would be an approximate 50-50 blend from the new pit and from Pit 3 which has been the source of mill feed for the past several years.

This year Princeton plans to continue upgrading the mill at Similco and it will also carry out an aggressive exploration program. The 1989 drilling program at Similco outlined a potential deposit which is still open to the west, northwest and at depth. This will be further tested as will other known targets on the property.

Meanwhile, up at the Cassiar operations, Princeton is continuing development of the McDame underground mine which will soon be-

come the primary source of ore into the next century. Production is expected to start later this year.

Having eliminated its long-term debt associated with the 1988 leveraged Similco acquisition, Princeton is now looking to continue its objective of diversification in the mineral business.

The company has set up a subsidiary in Chile to examine a number of base and precious metal targets in that country. Drilling is planned to start shortly on the Holy gold project where preliminary work has already been completed with encouraging results.

Princeton appears satisfied with its approximate 20% equity interest in Ken Gold (TSE) which has a 30% interest and a 5% net smelter return at the producing Samatosum polymetallic mine near Kamloops, B.C.

But O'Rourke said the company may sell its stake (about 2.6 million shares in Western Canadian Mining (TSE), "if the right opportunity came along."

In a more recent development, Princeton announced plans to gain control of Cliff Resources (TSE) which is building a wet milling process plant to treat asbestos tailings in Newfoundland. A due diligence study is continuing. If the proposed transaction is completed by Princeton, it would be with a view to apply the wet milling technology to treat tailings at its Cassiar operations.

Northern Dynasty involved with Placer

VANCOUVER — Following the acquisition of the WX Syndicate, Placer Dome U.S., a unit of Placer Dome (TSE), is an equal partner with Northern Dynasty Explorations (TSE) in the Little Bald Mountain mine.

The mine, an underground heap leach gold-silver operation in Nevada, produced 5,425 oz. gold and 1,589 oz. silver in 1989.

Placer has also entered an agreement allowing it to earn up to a 60% interest in the property surrounding the mine by spending US\$1.5 million over four years. Placer must spend US\$350,000 in 1990, and a minimum of US\$200,000 in each subsequent year.

Dynasty will retain a 44% interest in the current mining operations and can retain up to 31.6% working interest in the area outside the mine.

Dynasty will remain the operator of the mine while Placer will manage its exploration program. The company notes that the exploration program will likely concentrate on areas of projected mineralization across claim boundaries with Placer's adjacent Bald Mountain property.

Cache to resume Courville drilling

A new drilling program will soon be under way on the Courville gold property in the Val d'Or area of Quebec, the president of Parquet Resources (ME), William Plex-

man, said at the annual meeting. Explorations Cache (ME), which is earning a 50% interest in the property, will perform surface work and undertake a drilling program this summer. Plexman said eight holes will test the A zone laterally and at depth.

To date, Cache has completed 24 holes representing 15,000 ft. Plexman said the zone has been traced along a strike length of 1,000 ft. and to a depth of 500 ft.

Cache may earn its interest by spending \$3 million on exploration work during a 3-year period and making cash payments to Parquet of \$300,000. The option deal was signed near the end of 1989.

Work is also expected to start up shortly at Parquet's Duparquet base metal property in the Rouyn-Noranda area of Quebec. Noranda Exploration, a unit of Noranda (TSE), has an option to earn a 50% interest in the property by spending \$500,000 during a 3-year period and making payments to Parquet totalling \$80,000.

Shares of Silver Spur Resources Inc. (SLC:VSE) have been split on a 5-new-for-1-old basis. Royal Trust is the transfer agent.

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Minera to seek funds for development

Toronto-based Minera Rayrock (TSE), a company whose main mining assets are located in Latin America, is gearing up to raise major development funding for two advanced-stage projects in Chile and Costa Rica.

Shareholders at the annual meeting were told Minera could eventually require up to US\$50 million to develop its Bellavista gold deposit in Costa Rica and another US\$35-\$45 million for development of the company's Ivan copper project in Chile.

"Financing the company's projects will be the main objective for 1990," said President David Crombie, who hopes the company can also develop a larger shareholder base.

Minera's parent is Rayrock Yellowknife Resources (TSE), which owns 58.7% of the company's outstanding shares.

Nearly five years after Minera began its first exploration programs in Latin America, the company has successfully outlined two significant orebodies, the Ivan copper deposit in Chile and the Bellavista gold deposit in Costa Rica. Minera's corporate strategy has been to seek low-cost mining projects in the less-developed countries of Latin America where the geological setting and investment policies are favourable.

"We're working in Latin America for geological and economic reasons," Crombie told shareholders, adding that both Chile and Costa Rica have been experiencing

a resurgence of foreign investment in recent years.

In Costa Rica, Minera's Bellavista deposit is situated about 112 km northwest of the capital, San Jose. The deposit hosts minable reserves of 14.5 million tons grading 0.05 oz. gold per ton, and operating costs for a proposed open-pit mine are estimated at between US\$200-\$225 per oz., based on an annual production rate of between 65,000-75,000 oz.

Crombie said Minera's objective is to complete a final feasibility study at Bellavista this year and finalize negotiations with the Costa Rican government regarding foreign exchange policies.

Following a planned merger with Westlake Industries (VSE), which owns 40% of the Bellavista project, Minera will end up with 100% control of the gold deposit. Westlake also holds 3.2 million shares of Minera, which will be cancelled upon completion of the merger. The arrangement is still subject to the approval of Westlake shareholders. Following the merger, Minera would have \$4.7 million in cash and nearly 16 million shares outstanding with a float of about 9 million shares.

In Chile, the company's 100%-owned Ivan copper project could receive a positive production decision later this year following completion of a feasibility study. The deposit, which hosts 5.8 million tons grading 2.3% copper, is small but of good grade and is well-located near Antofagasta, northern Chile's largest city.

Minera has also formed a 50/50 joint venture for general exploration in Chile with partner Hecla Mining (NYSE). The joint venture, operated by Minera, is focusing on copper and precious metal properties in northern Chile. About \$1 million will be spent during each year of the 3-year exploration agreement.

Shareholders also approved resolutions at the annual meeting reducing the company's stated capital by \$11.3 million, as well as increasing its authorized capital to an unlimited number of common shares.

Princeton encouraged by drill program

VANCOUVER — An exploration program at the Similco copper mine near Princeton, B.C., is turning out "encouraging" results for owner, Princeton Mining (TSE).

The company believes the area of exploration north of the existing mine could be the site of a new pit exceeding 20 million tons with a low strip ratio.

The drilling, part of a \$2 million program, points to a link between two zones, the Virginia and Alabama. Copper values in the two zones indicate an average of 0.32% copper, while precious metal values appear to be about three times the mine's present average (Similco produced 17,277 oz. gold and 432,220 oz. silver in 1989).

Drilling in another area, dubbed the Oriole Pits, defined a vertically-dipping linear sulphide zone south-east of Pit 3 grading about 0.5% copper. The average thickness encountered is 150 ft., while the strike length is in excess of 600 ft. with the zone remaining open to depth.

About 3,000 ft. southeast of the Oriole Pits, a drill hole intersected 130 ft. of 0.7% copper in an area where, in 1989, hole 89-3 intersected 53 ft. of 0.97% copper and hole 89-6 returned 217 ft. grading 0.58% copper.

The continuing exploration program will concentrate on delineating the Virginia and Alabama for inclusion in the mine plan, The

Varitech, Major General agree on Tam copper-gold option terms

Vancouver-based Varitech Resources (VSE) has signed a letter of intent to option a 50% interest in Major General Resources' (VSE) Tam copper-gold-silver property in British Columbia.

The agreement calls for Varitech to make a cash payment of \$60,000 as well as issue 150,000 shares to Major General and spend \$600,000 on exploration over a 3-year period.

The property, formerly owned by UMEX, is located in the Omineca mining district about 93 miles northwest of Fort St. James, B.C.

Previous drilling by UMEX in 1973-75 outlined a deposit containing preliminary reserves estimated at 7.7 million tons grading 0.55% copper with unknown gold values. The property is situated in a porphyry-copper-gold setting.

Core from some 19 previous drill holes will be reassayed for gold as part of the future work program, Varitech said. Strong exploration potential is indicated on the Tam property by large surface geophysical and geochemical anomalies trending northwest from the Boundary deposit. Additional claims have been staked to cover the northerly extensions.

Some of the better results from previous drilling on the property include 578 ft. grading 0.67% copper, 536 ft. grading 0.38%, 183 ft. grading 0.56% and 170 ft. grading 0.40%.

Varitech said preparations are currently under way to commence field work on the property. The company recently completed two private financings.

Elsewhere, Major General has two drill programs under way on its other gold properties in Ontario and Newfoundland. The first program is on its Rendell-Jackman joint venture with Noranda (TSE) near Springdale, Nfld., the second on its Dorothy Lake gold property near Pickle Lake, Ont.

The 7-hole program at Rendell-Jackman is designed to test the depth and strike extent of the Hammer Down and Rumbullion gold zones where preliminary reserves stand at 429,593 tons grading 0.34 oz. gold per ton (0.57 oz. uncut).

Additional work is also planned this summer for the Lochinvar zinc-silver showing situated half a mile east of the Hammer Down gold zone. The Lochinvar program will test the depth and strike extension of zones which yielded intersections of 16 ft. grading 3.95% zinc and 15 ft. grading 2.3% zinc with silver and lead values. Work will consist of a deep electro-magnetic survey and two drill holes totalling about 1,600 ft.

A deep EM survey is also planned for another copper-gold prospect situated 2.8 miles east of the Hammer Down gold zone.

Melina Resources completes drill access road in Honduras

Dallas-based Melina Resources (VSE) has completed construction of a drill access road into its 100%-owned Macuelizo mineral concession in northwestern Honduras.

The 55-square-mile property, which is being re-evaluated by Melina for its gold potential, hosts a deposit with preliminary reserves estimated previously at around 17.5 million tons grading 0.04 oz. gold per ton.

According to W.F. Johnson, a Melina director, a preliminary

sampling program was initiated last month over portions of the Macuelizo concession, formerly known as the Vueltas del Rio area.

Previous work on the property has indicated a large tonnage of low-grade gold and copper reserves, minable by open pit methods.

Samples from the gold zone were sent to Assayers Ontario Laboratories for confirmation and later forwarded to Lakefield Research for metallurgical testing. Mr. Johnson said the initial five bottle roll tests indicate acceptable levels of cyanide consumption (under 1.7 lb. per ton) with gold recovery averaging 91% in 48 hours. In addition to the metallurgical work, four 30-day column tests are under way with results expected soon. Two of the column tests are using agglomerated material and two are unagglomerated to determine whether that processing phase will be necessary.

Mr. Johnson said "the results to date are encouraging, and it appears that the gold zone is amenable to low-cost, heap-leach gold extraction."

Underlying the gold zone is an 11-million-ton preliminary reserve of copper mineralization averaging about 0.54% copper per ton. The property was examined back in 1974 by an agency of the United

Phoenix dissolution

Shareholders of Phoenix Gold Mines (TSE) and St Andrew Goldfields (TSE) have ratified an agreement under which the latter company has agreed to buy all the property assets of Phoenix for 2.3 million previously unissued shares of St Andrew worth about \$3.4 million.

The transaction was ratified by a special resolution passed by a majority of more than two-thirds of the votes cast at the recent annual meeting of Phoenix shareholders. The transaction will be completed by the end of June, the company said.

The shares of St Andrew received by Phoenix will then be distributed

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Result speculation reason for jump in Crown Butte issue

Crown Butte Resources (VSE) says it isn't aware of any reason, other than market anticipation of drill results at its Montana project, why the price of its shares increased by \$2.25 recently on heavy trading.

On July 18, the issue climbed to \$11.50 after 42,850 shares had changed hands in morning trading.

Crown Butte currently has five drill rigs running on its New World gold-silver-copper prospect in Montana where Noranda (TSE) can earn a 25% interest by funding the project to the feasibility stage.

With reserves standing at 4.64 million tons of grade 0.17 oz. gold (uncut), 0.72 oz. silver per ton and 0.81% copper, a budget of \$5.9 million has been set for this year's development program.

"Visual examination of some of the initial holes in the Miller Creek zone has identified good mineralization, but in keeping with past policy only complete assay results will be announced," said President David Rovig.

Complete information on the first set of Miller Creek deposit drill holes is expected to be available soon. Noranda holds a 23% equity interest in Crown Butte.

Durvada looking for reserves

VANCOUVER — With almost no reserve base, Durvada Resources (ASE) has been carrying out an ongoing exploration program as it moves previously stockpiled ore to a leach pad at its small gold mining operation near Sandy Valley, Nev.

That program is now beginning to show results in that Durvada recently encountered gold mineralization during a sampling program in the Condor area.

The sampling program was conducted over a 1,500 ft. long baseline at 50 ft. intervals. Values over a 500-ft. width for the length of the baseline returned an average grade of 0.05 oz. gold per ton and varied from 0.015 oz. to 0.13 oz.

The company plans further sampling to extend the surface grid as well as a trenching program. Durvada expects to follow up the sampling and trenching.

Indigo buys claims at Kitsault, B.C.

Indigo Gold Mines (ASE) has purchased an 8-claim property and two crown grants, covering about 6,130 acres, in the Kitsault Lake area of northwestern British Columbia.

The property is being acquired from International Controlled Investments, formerly Lodestar Mines, for \$25,000 in past staking costs and 100,000 shares of Indigo. The property will remain subject to a 2% net smelter royalty with a \$1-million buyout at the option of Indigo.

Exploration activity has recently been stepped up in the area as another company — Dolly Varden Minerals — has commenced a major drilling program within one kilometre of the Indigo property boundary. Initial exploration will begin as soon as regulatory approval has been given to the Indigo property purchase deal.

Program begins on SIB claims

VANCOUVER — The first phase of the 1990 exploration program on the SIB claim group in the Eskay Creek area, 50 miles northwest of Stewart, B.C., is under way. The project is a 50/50 joint venture between Silver Butte Resources (VSE) and American Fibre (VSE).

The partners plan to complete a geological mapping and geochemical soil sampling program initiated in the summer of 1989 as well as

Drill results enhance Similco mine potential

VANCOUVER — The second phase of this year's drilling program on the area north of the Similco open pit mine, owned by Princeton Mining (TSE), continues to yield encouraging results for the company. The Similco copper mine is near Princeton, B.C.

The drilling is part of a \$1.5-

million program to delineate reserves in the Virginia and Alabama zones as well as in the area joining the two zones.

Results from the initial 20 diamond drill holes on the Virginia zone indicate that the area could add substantially to reserve tonnage and grade.

Drilling on the northeast corner of the Virginia zone intersected 228 ft., grading 0.44% copper from 107-335 ft. with an additional intersection from 400-706 ft., grading 0.59% copper. The intersect included a 56-ft. zone of massive magnetite-chalcopyrite-pyrite mineralization grading 2.21% copper,

0.031 oz. gold and 0.14 oz. silver per ton. The company notes that these intersections greatly increase the potential reserves in the northeast corner of the deposit.

Drilling is continuing toward the open, western end of the deposit, and in the zone connecting the Virginia and Alabama deposits.

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NER - Impressive as-
ve been reported by
(TSE) and Delaware
(VSE) from under-
-ation and develop-
- Twin zone at their
t northwest of Stewart,

ples collected along 213
round drifting returned
tic average (uncut) of
1 over an average true
f 7.2 ft.

it venture emphasizes
omplete zone was not
by the drift and it's prob-
wider. Visual inspection

shows the mineralization extends
into the drift walls.

The Twin zone often hosts sev-
eral mineralized structures, sepa-
rated by low grade to barren wall
rock. This multiple parallel veining
has been partially exposed in a
short crosscut where raise develop-
ment is under way into the upper
levels of the zone.

The main crosscut exposed a
second zone of strong mineraliza-
tion in the footwall of the Twin
zone with an approximate true
thickness of 6.6 ft. Detailed dia-
mond drilling of the footwall and
hangingwall zones is currently in
progress.

Drifting to the east and west ...
the Twin zone by June 7 totalled
approximately 330 ft. The west drift
has been halted to allow raise de-
velopment and the east drift is con-
tinuing through a zone of complex
faulting. The east drift located the
actual pierce point of hole S-84
which returned 2.4 oz gold over a
true thickness of 27.2 ft.

Underground drilling beneath
the Twin zone and of related paral-
lel structures below the adit level is
continuing from drill stations in
the hangingwall drive. This mine
working may be extended to allow
drilling along strike and further
down dip.

Menora places bid

A letter of intent to option two
placer gold properties (the Squaw
Creek and O'Donnell) from Menora
Resources (ME) has been signed by
COATS-listed Black Cliff Mines.

The Squaw Creek property con-
sists of three placer claims in the
Yukon and three claims in the Atlin
mining district of British Colum-
bia. The O'Donnell property com-
prises 22 claims and is located 15
miles north of Atlin, B.C.

Black Cliff may earn a 50% inter-
est in the properties by spending
\$310,000 on exploration work over
three years. The agreement is sub-
ject to regulatory approval.

Abermin Corp. reports loss

OUVER - Abermin Corp.
reported a \$355,000 net loss
quarter ended March 31
and to a \$202,000 loss a year
Working capital (cash and
arm deposits) totalled \$1.5
at the end of the period.
Company is waiting for a re-
m Strathcona Mineral Ser-
-lating to operational diffi-
-at the Granges/Abermin
Lake mine in Manitoba.
ill has resumed production
mechanical breakdown and
eviously announced bulk
ing program from the 260-m
s in progress. If Strathcona's
assessment is correct the
could be run at a significant-
ed scale and other targets ex-
1 for additional reserves.
nderground development
d in April at Abermin's Lara
erty on Vancouver Island. The
am is expected to take about
onths and will provide a bulk
le for metallurgical test work
the preparation of a pre-
-bility study by early 1989.

Cassiar negotiating to buy copper mine from Newmont Mines

VANCOUVER - At press time
The Northern Miner learned that
Cassiar Mining (TSE) was negotiat-
ing the purchase of Newmont
Mines' Similkameen Copper oper-
ation near Princeton, B.C. The
move by Cassiar appears to be an
attempt to diversify out of asbestos
which it mines in the northern part
of the province. Newmont has been
selling assets to reduce its massive
debt.

Meridor explores Iskut property

First phase of a \$500,000 explo-
ration program was started recently
by Meridor Resources (VSE) at the
Iskut property in the Stewart gold
camp in northern British Columbia.

The program consists of ground
work and 5,000 ft of drilling. Meri-
dor, a Hughes-Lang company, says
that if results from the first phase
are favorable, a 10,000-ft drilling
program will follow. A soil sam-
pling survey was undertaken on the
property in 1987.

Meridor reports the area is
swarming with exploration and
development activity. Delaware's
Snip property claims are staked in a
block around Meridor's claims, the
company says, and Skyline's Reg
property is located about four km
to the south.

Continental Gold to drill shear zones at Trophy bet

Crews have been mobilized and
drilling is expected to begin in July
at Continental Gold Corp.'s (VSE)
Trophy property in northwestern
B.C. The \$2-million exploration
program will follow up a successful
prospecting program which out-
lined three gold-silver bearing shear
zones with a combined strike length
of 20 miles on the claims.

The 60-sq-mile property is
located 90 miles southwest of Dease
Lake and 12 miles north of the Iskut
River area where Delaware Re-
sources and Skyline Explorations
are building two gold mines.

Geology on the Continental
ground is similar to that occurring
in the Iskut camp, Robert Dickin-
son, managing director of Conti-
nental, explained to The Northern
Miner. Gold occurs as fracture fill-
ings and disseminations in shear
zones proximal to and within
syenitic intrusives.

Mapping and sampling of the
three zones on the property re-
turned gold values ranging up to
0.94 oz gold per ton across 3.3-ft in
the Ptarmigan north extension
zone. A continuous 185-ft chip
sample across the Ptarmigan A

zone assayed 0.07 oz. Included in
the zone were several narrower sec-
tions of higher grading material.
These include 26.1 ft assaying 0.16
oz gold and 14 oz silver. Another
6.5-ft section assayed 0.37 oz gold
and 14.68 oz silver.

Based on the width of some of
the structures and their length,
Dickinson expects the company to
receive strong results from the drill
program. Homestake Mining Co. is
also bullish on the project. The big
U.S. gold miner has completed a
private placement with Continen-
tal, purchasing 500,000 units for \$1.5
million. Each \$3 unit consists of
one common share and a warrant
giving Homestake the right to pur-
chase another share at \$4.50 until
Sept 30.

Homestake's association with
Dickinson and Continental Presi-
dent Robert Hunter is not new. Ear-
lier this year, Homestake acquired
control of North American Metals
from Hunter and Dickinson, who
founded the company and remain
on North American's board. The
latter company is building a gold
mine near Dease Lake, B.C., with
Chevron.

92H

June 13, 1988

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WESTERN HARVEST SEAFARMS LTD. (WHS-V)

ITEMAN CREEK GOLD BELT- Western Harvest Seafarms Ltd. has agreed to purchase the northern 12 units of the 20 unit Why mineral claim covering 740 acres from J. Allan Hilton of Kamloops, B.C. The property adjoins to the east the Huntington sources' Brett claims, in the Vernon Mining Division. (SEE PROPERTY LOCATION MAP OVERLEAF P.1, GCNL 115, JUNE 15, 1988) **ATLANTA GOLD CORPORATION (AAG-V)** acquired an option to earn a 50% interest in these farms by spending a minimum of \$300,000 on exploration. The Why claims were previously under option to **GLITTER GOLD MINES LTD. (GGM-V)** which dropped the option.

J.D. Blanchflower, geologist, reported the Why farms cover geology and rock formations similar to those in which the Brett gold discovery was made. A soil sample from the Why claims assayed 250 parts per billion gold.

CLD Financial Opportunities Limited has agreed to purchase 150,000 units at 50¢ each of Western Harvest Farms, each unit consists of 1 share and one-half warrant. One whole warrant can be exercised to purchase one share at 55¢ for one year. The net proceeds of the offering will be applied to the purchase price of the property. All subject to regulatory approval.

FLECK RESOURCES LTD. (FLK-V)

PROPERTY OPTIONED- John P. McGoran, chairman, reports that Fleck Resources has reached an option agreement with **CONSOLIDATED VEER STANDARD MINES LIMITED (CDS-V)**, whereby Fleck can acquire a 65% interest in the Smith claim, 15 km northeast of Kemano, B.C. by spending \$750,000 over 3 years and making option payments of \$50,000 over 2 years. Previous channel sampling indicates an exposed zone 290 ft long with an average grade of 0.92 oz. gold/t over an average width of 7.2 feet. Work planned for this year will include the construction of a 3/4 mile access road, channel sampling, diamond drilling, stripping and metal preparation.

FIELD RESOURCES LTD. (ETF-V) and **CANARC RESOURCE P. (CCM-V)** have staked a 44 unit claim block, the 1, 2 and 3 claims near Vernon, B.C. The claims are 8 miles south of the White Elephant/Zion crown grants 8 miles SE of the Brett claims of Huntington/Lacana.

CASSIAR MINING CORPORATION (CSQ-T)

SIMILKAMEEN COPPER MINE PURCHASED- Cassiar Mining Corp. has agreed to pay Newmont Mines Limited \$10,000,000 from a portion of future cash flow for a 100% interest in the Similkameen open pit copper mine and mill at Princeton, B.C. Annual production from the mine is 56,000,000 pounds copper, 15,000 oz. gold and 400,000 oz. silver. Annual sales at current metal prices are in excess of \$60,000,000. The mine has proven ore reserves of 35,000,000 tons grading 0.46% copper, which is sufficient to sustain 7 years of operation and additional possible reserves of 60,000,000 tons. The operation currently employs 330 people. Tony Kana, vice-president finance of Cassiar stated that at current metal prices this acquisition is expected to be repaid rapidly and have a significant impact on earnings. Cassiar Mining currently operates an open pit asbestos mine at Cassiar, B.C. with annual sales in excess of \$55,000,000, and 313 employees.

The Hon. Claude Richmond, Minister of State for the Thompson-Okanagan, and Hon. Jack Davis, Minister of Energy, Mines assisted with the transaction.

093L

HOUSTON METALS CORPORATION (HML-V)

HOLE NO.	WIDTH	OZ. GOLD/T	OZ. SILVER/T	ZINC %
No.1	33 inches	0.10	24.50	0.42%
No.2	26	.155	22.75	13.80
No.3	30	.17	13.90	1.52
No.4	5	.17	22.60	12.00
No.5	17	.38	21.80	0.78
No.6	36	.52	8.98	3.72
No.7	24	.31	36.17	11.50

SILVER QUEEN ASSAYS REPORTED- The first series of new holes in the No.3 vein above the 2,600 foot level have confirmed significant gold and silver values in the vein. Drilling is continuing to test precious metal values in the extensions of the vein to the north and to depth. The Houston Metals' property is located 30 miles south of Houston, B.C. Previous operators ignored precious metals and did not assay for gold. The intersections, including No.1-7 on the 1000 foot longitudinal section, returned the values shown in the table above.

Ores indicated in the recent holes can be readily and cheaply mined from the existing 2880' mine level. Currently drill stations are being slashed on the 2,600 foot level for drilling below this level and to test for ore extension to the north of the 1981 diamond drill program. This drill program will start shortly. The decline now being driven from 2,590 foot level will intersect the No.3 vein at the 2400 foot level soon. A second level will be established at the 2200 foot level. (SEE MAP OVERLEAF AND A REVIEW OF THE METALLURGICAL PROGRESS IN GCNL NO.113, JUNE 13, 1988)

George Cross News Letter

NO. 139 (1988)
JULY 20, 1988

FAIRCHILD RESOURCES INC. (FLD-V) reported that results from tests on the company's placer properties in northern Nevada and southern B.C. warrant further exploration. At Gold Bridge, B.C., work on Fairchild's Bridge River placer claims located sufficient gold in gravels within 12 feet of surface to justify continued exploration. The next phase, to include a pilot plant, will test deeper levels of the property and provide information regarding feasibility. On the Tenabo placer claims near Crescent Valley, Nevada, preliminary exploration tested samples from a broad representation of the claims to depths of up to 20 feet. Several areas have been identified as targets for a pilot production program. Budgets and recommendations for the next phases on both projects are now in progress.

093K

CANADIAN-UNITED MINERALS, INC. (CUN-V)
TEESHIN RESOURCES LTD. (TEE-V)
TOTAL ERICKSON RESOURCES LTD. (TLE-V,T)

SECTION	HOLE	WIDTH	OZ. GOLD/T	OZ. SILVER/T
1930	1370 UG-3	4.59 feet	1.334	5.56
1940	1370 UG-5	9.55	1.289	6.09
1930	1370 UG-6	4.89	.882	4.59
1950	1370 UG-7	4.49	1.37	8.53
	and	7.61	.986	5.14
1970	1370 UG-8	4.46	.671	7.36

DOME MT. UNDERGROUND DRILLING RESULTS- Canadian-United Minerals, Inc.

reports underground drilling results from the 1370 level drift at the Dome Mountain project, 25 miles east of Smithers, B.C. The gold and silver values in the table were obtained over a 130 foot length of the Boulder Creek zone in the Summer 1987 exploration program (See GCHL No.115, p.2, 15Jun88 for previous results from this program). This data has been incorporated into the final feasibility study, which is being reviewed by all the Dome Mountain participants this week.

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092H SE 001

CASSIAR MINING CORPORATION (CSQ-T)

12 MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE	1988	1987 *
Revenues	\$36,512,000	\$28,813,000
Net Earnings	5,327,000	2,125,000
Per Share	26¢	11¢ *
Restated		

ACQUISITION INCREASES EARNINGS- Cassiar Mining Corporation reported net earnings for the second quarter were \$4,038,000 or 20¢ per share fully diluted. The increase in earnings and revenue in the second quarter reflects the June 1, 1988 acquisition of Similco Mines Ltd., a large open pit copper mine at Princeton, B.C., which contributed \$2,281,000 to net earnings and \$6,799,000 to revenue. A total of \$3,265,000 was applied to debt service in the second quarter. Long term debt is now \$22,059,000.

QUARTZ MOUNTAIN GOLD CORP. (QZM-V,T; QZMGF-Nasdaq)

PROGRESS REPORTED- Quartz Mountain Gold Corp. reports a metallurgical test program is in progress and seven large diameter diamond drill holes have been completed, providing bulk samples for column leach and flotation test. Engineering work is underway as part of the definitive feasibility studies being done on the Crone Hill and Quartz Butte deposits.

Davy McKee Corporation is conducting the two part study. The first part addresses a heap leach mine for the more than one-third of the reserves that are oxidized, and the second examines the viability of a milling process to exploit the remaining sulfide reserves or the entire resource.

Exploration work has begun on the eastern half of the 10,000 acre property. A program of geochemical and geophysical surveys has been carried out over the last month to define drill targets. Road construction is expected to begin next week when permits are in place and drilling will start soon after. Frank J. Mancuso is now in charge of the Quartz Mountain project.

Is this in B.C.?
S.2 F.N.E. 555?
Eleanor Property File.

George Cross

Reliable K

MINIF E

NO. 45(1990)

MARCH 5, 1990

WESTERN CANADIA

The Similco copper mine at Princeton, B.C. produced 57,400,000 pounds of copper, 17,277 ounces of gold and 432,220 ounce sof silver in 1989. Copper production was 4% below forecast, due in part to the lower tonnage treated in early 1989 as a result of major repairs on two of three primary grinding mills.

Lower fourth quarter earnings reflected weaker copper prices and lower than anticipated metals output at the Similco mine. Copper production was affected by lower metallurgical recoveries resulting from the mining of oxide ore in the No. 1 pit. Recoveries are expected to improve as mining progresses below the oxide zone.

Princeton's annual general meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. 24Apr90 in the Harbourside Ballroom, New World Harbourside, 1113 West hastings St., Vancouver, B.C. (SEE GCNL No. 18, 25Jan90, P.1 FOR SIMILCO REVIEW)

26,036,640 kg Cu
489,803 g Au
120,534,379 Ag

92H SE \$3001

George Cross

NO. 230(1989)
NOVEMBER 30, 1989

Reliable K

WESTERN CANADIA

SIMILCO COPPER OPERATION - Cassiar bought the Similco copper mine and concentrator in June 1988 for approximately \$18,000,000, virtually all of which has been paid. The mine and plant had an operating capacity of 19,000 tonnes per day when purchased and currently is operating at 25,000 tonnes per day. Among the new equipment purchased to provide the higher mining rate are: an 11 cu.yd. electric shovels; a 12.5 cu.yd. front end loader, bulldozers, graders, plus 4 trucks of 120 ton capacity and 3 trucks with 150 ton capacity.

Ore reserves are estimated at 64,000,000 tons grading 0.55% copper equivalent available to a 1:1 stripping ratio. In addition there are 112,000,000 tons at the same 0.55% copper equivalent grade in the No.2 and No.3 pits at a higher stripping ratio. As well there are a number of geophysical targets currently being drill tested with large tonnage potentials. Total drilled mineral reserves are 170,000,000 tons with a cutoff grade of 0.2% copper which are presently being evaluated to design a 10 year mine life. There are large tonnages of copper mineralization which could be ore depending upon the price of copper at the time of mining. What the current drilling is seeking is slightly higher copper grades in low strip ratio area which will add to mineable tonnages at current or lower copper prices.

Mr. O'Rourke said that because the mine had been scheduled to shut down in 1990, maintenance of equipment and mill facilities had been reduced over the past few years. Consequently, catch up-work in both the concentrator and mine have been underway for over a year. The bull gears on the three 32 foot semi-autogenous mills have been changed, two in 1989 and one in 1986. A ring gear requires a forward order of 12 to 18 months to replace and one is normally carried in inventory. There are further mill modifications under design and engineering which could provide an additional 10% to 15% increase in daily plant throughput and may improve on current recoveries which average 78% to 80% of the copper. The timing of these capital expenditures on the plant will be conditioned by the near and longer term out look for the price of copper.

One of the company's profit centers which gets overlooked is the deep sea dock, bulk loading and fuel tank farm facilities at Stewart, B.C. and the

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George Cross

Reliable

NO.81(1990)
APRIL 26, 1990

WESTERN CANADA

PRINCETON MINING CORPORATION (PMC-T)

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,	1990	1989
REVENUE	\$28,600,000	\$33,200,000
NET EARNINGS	2,300,000	7,300,000
EARNINGS PER SHARE BASIC	10¢	40¢
EARNINGS PER SHARE DILUTED	10¢	31¢

James C. O'Rourke, president, told the annual meeting of Princeton Mining earnings for the quarter ending March 31, 1990 were slightly higher than the \$1,900,000 for the previous quarter. Earnings for the quarter were below those for the comparable period last year because of increased costs associated with the accelerated waste mining plan and lower production resulting from treating Pit 1 ore at the Similco copper mine at Princeton, B.C. The upgrading of the mine trucks from 100 tons to 120 and 150-ton trucks has reduced unit mining costs from 80¢ to 67¢ per ton. The stripping ratio in the last quarter of 1989 was 2:1 and is now forecast to be 0.8 to 1 for the next five years in the No.3 pit. The ore from the No.1 pit has been fine grained and harder than other mine ores. The recent increase in production from the No.1 pit has provided poor copper recoveries. To improve recoveries No.1 pit production has been adjusted to about 50% of throughput. These factors continued to impact on operations during the first two months of 1990. A significant reduction in waste removal is planned at Similco later in 1990. The \$2,000,000 in flow-through funds received for 300,000 shares at \$6.50 from CMD are to be used to explore the No.2 pit area and the Virginia and other deposits in the Lost Horse Canyon area. The 1989 diamond drilling program has added geological reserves of 10,000,000 tons grading 0.327% copper. Total mineral inventory at the mine at Jan. 1, 1989, was calculated at 170,500,000 tons grading 0.41% copper.

The Similco milling operation is being upgraded to improve recoveries and sustain copper output at 60,000,000 pounds per year. The operational performance of the plant improved considerably in March. The company has sold forward 59% of the 1990 copper production at a price of \$1.10 U.S. per pound.

92HSE VB 1

MAGNETITE IN ALKALINE CU, AU PORPHYRIES: MAGMATIC OR HYDROTHERMAL?

Kenneth M. Dawson
Mineral Resources Division, Geological Survey of Canada
100 West Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1R8

The high magnetite content of British Columbia alkaline porphyry Cu,Au deposits, in addition to being a metallotect of significance in geophysical exploration, may reflect a deep, probable upper mantle source of host alkaline magmas.

Alkaline magmatism was essentially synchronous with amalgamation of the large island arc terranes of Quesnellia and Stikinia with oceanic Cache Creek and Slide Mountain terranes to form Intermontane Superterrane in the Early to Middle Jurassic. Whereas no clear consensus exists on the petrogenesis of these enigmatic plutonic suites, modern tectonic analogues in the southwestern Pacific indicate collisional oversteepening of subduction that accompanies an abrupt transition from calc-alkaline to alkaline, shoshonitic (high K) magmatism signifies the rapid ascent of magma with minimal underplating, assimilation or differentiation. Alternatively, the generation, ascent and high-level emplacement of alkaline magmas may have been due to decompression melting of the upper mantle as a result of deep faulting related to either rapid orthogonal or oblique subduction, coupled with transcurrent displacement and transtensional faulting during superterrane amalgamation. In either case, plutonic control by profound interterrane faults is implied.

Magnetite-rich parts of Copper Mountain, Afton and Mount Polley orebodies demonstrate textures of magmatic origin, similar to classic examples at Kirunavaara, Sweden and El Laco, Chile. Other common magnetite morphologies include primary disseminations in the igneous hostrocks, endo- and exoskarns and hydrothermal veins with or without sulphides. The elevated PGE-content of sulphide ore supports a mantle source similar to that of coeval and possibly cogenetic PGE-rich zoned Alaskan-type intrusions in eastern Quesnellia, i.e. Tulameen complex, Polaris suite.

Magmatic volatiles rich in CO₂ and PO₄ assisted in the segregation of an immiscible magnetite-rich fluid from the viscous felsic melt, its ascent and emplacement as pipes, dykes and breccias early in the mineralization sequence. Magmatic Na⁺, K⁺ and Cl⁻ metasomatism accompanied emplacement of magnetite-sulphide skarns. Hydrothermal vein magnetite-sulphide-Au assemblages and accompanying argillic-propylitic alteration result from the interaction of meteoric waters with Cl-rich magmatic fluids.

Reference: *Canadian Geology and Exploration Reviews* 1991; Program
and Abstracts / GSC Open File No. _____
^ Volume.

PLEASE

092HSE 001

NO.30(1992)
FEBRUARY 12, 1992

George Cross News Letter

Reliable Reporting

WESTCOAST

PRINCETON MINING CORP. (PMC-T)
CASSIAR MINING RECEIVER APPOINTED - Princeton Mining has reported the

appointment of a receiver, for its wholly owned subsidiary Cassiar Mining Corporation, will not affect its other business activities. The receiver stopped the mining operation at Cassiar on 5FEB92, and the province of B.C. decided not to delay the closure.

Princeton's copper mine, Similco, at Princeton, B.C. has continued with normal operations since 15Oct91, following the settlement of the strike by its unionized employees. Copper production is in the 5,000,000 pound per month range where it is scheduled to remain for the balance of 1992.

Teranov Mining Corporation expects to resume operations of its wet mill at Bale Verte, Newfoundland in April. The planned installation of additional equipment prior to start-up will increase production capacity and product quality. Upgrading of the plant is planned to achieve a production rate of 2,500 tonnes of fibre per month.

John York treasurer has assumed the duties of chief financial officer following the resignation of A.T. Kana.

92HSE 1

George Cross

NO.118(1990)
JUNE 19, 1990

Reliable

WESTERN CANADA

PRINCETON MINING CORP. (PMC-T)

ORE RESERVES INCREASED BY - David K. Duval, manager,
12% IN CURRENT PROGRAM corporate relations, reports
encouraging diamond drill
results have been received from the first phase of an
exploration program on the 100%-owned Similco open pit
copper mine Princeton, B.C. SEE RESULTS AND MAP

OVERLEAF PAGE 1. Since April, 25,000 feet of drilling
has been completed on a large IP anomaly located
adjacent to the current mining. The work is being
funded by a \$2,000,000 flow-through equity issue to CMP
Funds Management. About \$500,000 has been spent to date.

The results indicate a link between the Alabama and
Virginia zones, which could result in a new low strip
ratio open pit reserve exceeding 20,000,000 tons. Mine
reserves at Jan.1,1990, were estimated at 170,500,000
tons grading 0.41% copper available to a 2.07 waste to
one stripping ratio. Copper assays in the Virginia and
Alabama zones average 0.32% copper with elevated
precious metal values up to three times the present mine
average. The mine produced 17,277 oz. of gold and
432,220 oz. of silver in 1989.

Drilling in the Oriole pits defined a vertically
dipping linear sulphide zone SE of Pit 3 grading 0.5%
copper. Average thickness of the portions drilled is
150 feet with a 600 foot strike length, open to depth.

Some 3,000 feet SE of the Oriole pits, drill hole
0-90-1 cut 130 feet of 0.7% copper. Two 1989 holes on
the same section returned 53 feet grading 0.97% copper
in hole 0-89-3 and 217 feet of 0.58% copper in hole
0-89-6. Other IP drill targets are about 4,000 ft. east
of Pit 2 and will be tested. Definition drilling is
planned for the Alabama and Virginia zones. The current
program is designed to upgrade reserves for mining.(SEE
GCNL No.81, 26Apr90, FOR MINE REVIEW)

92H SE XB 1

p. 1 of 2

George Cross

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NO. 45(1990)

MARCH 5, 1990

WESTERN CANADIA

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92H SE 18 1