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Jan. 20th 1932.

John D. Galloway, Esq.,  
Provincial Mineralogist,  
VICTORIA, B.C.

PROPERTY FILE

Dear Sir,

re Cayenne group, Hixon creek.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 13th inst., and enclosed report and map, which I am very glad to have, and for which I beg to thank you.

You will remember that there has been previous correspondence concerning this property, to which I called your attention in my letter of April 14th 1930, under "Cariboo Lode Mines, Ltd.", (which latter company then held an option on the Cayenne group.) to which kindly refer and also to your reply thereto of April 24th 1930, file 859/30.

I might add that I have discussed this property with the Consolidated M. & S. Co., whose engineer came to the conclusion that there was a belt of auriferous schists. Mr McKechnie told me he was anxious to get hold of it early last year, and at his request I put the owners in touch with him, but have not heard the outcome. I infer from your letter that Mr W.S. Harris must have an option on it.

Most reliable engineers who have examined the property get very erratic results, but generally come to the conclusion that there is a wide belt of auriferous schists. My own opinion is that about the best way to form an accurate opinion on the matter, would be firstly to take a very large number of samples, running check assays on each sample, and then if erratic but on the whole good individual samples were secured, to erect a "summer weather" small pilot mill, and treat say about 100 tons. McKechnie planned to ship about 2 railway car lots to Trail for milling.

I have got occasional values of several dollars per ton, but never any as high as are reported by Mr Davidson. I think in the majority of cases I have drawn blanks, but I

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have never had time to do any really systematic sampling. The last time I sampled the property was in 1930, when I visited it in company with A.G. Tattie of the Duthine Mine. We took one very large sample together across 40 feet in the tunnel, quartered it down, and he took one half and I took the other. My sample assayed traces only of both gold and silver. Hattie was to let me know the result of his assay, but he left the country shortly after this, and I never heard from him.

May I point out that you yourself have examined and sampled this tunnel, and your report on it appears under Balmont group on page 128 of the 1918 Annual Report.

I have no knowledge whatever of the Mr E.G. Davidson, author of the report you kindly send me. Just what is meant by "the upper contact is gabbro" at the end of the third paragraph on page 2 of this report, I have no idea. The "slates" in this region appear to be carbonaceous schists.

I have noticed in sampling the Cayenne tunnel that the country rock contains a large number of very small quartz veinlets as well as veins of appreciable size, and possibly the gold occurs really in these, although in effect it is a dissemination.

The property certainly merits close investigation.

As to the existence of a similar state of things on the property of the old Quesnel Quartz Mining Co., I have never taken any samples of the country rock at this property, because unless one takes a large number of samples and goes to a great deal of trouble with assaying, no advantage would be gained by so doing. Moreover, until receipt of your letter I had no idea that any such results as are claimed at the bottom of page 4 of Davidson's report, had been obtained.

It seems to be that if a well known American mining engineer had really obtained results of this kind he would have had no difficulty in interesting his people in it.

You will note that while I draw attention to the Cayenne group several times in my Lode Gold report, it might be well to make somewhat more extended reference thereto in my Lode Gold report than I have done, in view of the interest that it seems likely to arouse. I accordingly enclose for your approval an erratum for insertion in the Lode Gold report, if not too late for inclusion.

I am,  
Yours faithfully,

Resident Engineer.