

015941

\$30 Million Mine Development Set

Noranda to Bring Babine Lake Copper Holding to Production

Noranda Mines Ltd. will spend \$30 million to bring its Babine Lake copper property into production within two years, the company announced Thursday.

Site of the operation is 35 miles east of Smithers, near the open-pit operation of Granisle Copper Ltd.

CANADA'S HIGHEST

Milling rate at Noranda's Newman property will be 10,000 tons daily, the company said, highest of any Noranda copper mine in Canada.

The production rate was not stated, and no details were released on tonnage and grade.

In Toronto today, J. R. Bradfield, Noranda's chairman and chief executive officer, would give no other details other than those on production and expected startup date.

Granisle has published reserves of 22 million tons of .53 per cent copper, and it is generally believed the Newman property has about the same tonnage, although one reliable source said today the figures for Noranda are 50-60 million tons of .7 per cent copper, with traces of precious metal.

Granisle's production rates is 5,000 tons daily.

Bradfield would make no comment on markets, but exports to Japan of concentrates are a possibility, or concentrates could be smelted at Noranda's own smelter in Quebec.

DRILLS PERSIST

Sources close to the Newman exploration program said that at the start of drilling, after an electromagnetic survey, the three first holes encountered no commercial ore, but the company twice returned to the property and in the fourth hole, struck commercial grades.

The Babine property will be the first wholly-owned copper mine in B.C. to be operated by Noranda. The company also has a 19.7 per cent interest in the highly-successful Craigmont mine near Merritt, and owns Boss Mountain molybdenite mine.

In other activity in this province, Noranda now is awaiting a production feasibility study for Brenda Mines' copper-molybdenum property near Peachland in the Okanagan.

After Noranda exercises all its options, the company will have bought from the treasury of Brenda a total of 1.1 million shares at \$8 a share out of a total of 3.35 million issued shares, leaving in excess of \$7 million in Brenda's treasury.

It is not known where Noranda now will stand in the Brenda proposal, having announced the major Babine start-up.

NEWS SCARCE

Dozens of other companies have property in the lonely Babine area, although exploration news has been sparse. Such well-known firms as Falconbridge, Kerr-Addison, Bethex, Buttie Lake and Trojan, and Torwest are all shown as having property ownership around the lake.

In the department of mines and petroleum resources report for 1965, a rundown on Newman said the claims were located in 1962 following a reconnaissance geophysical survey.

The report says that work the following year included silt and soil sampling, and in 1964, 98 holes totalling 24,000 feet were drilled.

An additional 34 holes totalling 15,889 feet were drilled in 1965, the report said, and 10 men were employed for most of the year under the supervision of G. C. Camrell.

It said initial work on the property was done in 1913. Area of the claims is fairly flat, and is covered by glacial deposits of gravel and clay.

Bill Yorke-Hardy, Smithers Chamber of Commerce mining spokesman, called the Noranda announcement: "The most exciting piece of news in this area in some time."

ROAD URGED

He said it will spur exploration in the area and he called on community leaders to "get cracking" on plans to build a 35-mile access road between Smithers and the Granisle and Noranda sites.

Mayor Joe Macdonald of Smithers said: "I had been expecting an announcement but I'm overjoyed at the prospect of further mining development in the area."

"We must now work to develop our community at a faster pace. We will definitely be in the hub of things around here."

It is expected that the Granisle and Noranda development will use some common townsite facilities.

Shares of Noranda rose \$1.50 to \$59 on news of the copper project.

Ocean Freighter Clearings Drop

A total of 144 deep-sea ships of 290,821 net tons entered Vancouver harbor in January, compared with 162 of 954,807 tons in January the year before.

Cleared outwards were 154 ships of 971,080 net tons compared with 157 of 877,835 tons in the same month the year before.

The U.S. has issued over 3,250,000 patents since 1790.

Purchases of Canadians during 1966, exceeded second month in Canadian Life insurance.

A total of 127 furs and thousands of furs will be Canadian Raw Feb. 23.

Foster K. D. couver has been elected president of the Canadian Travellers' Association.

Col. R. L. H. director of the Trade Council, is coming to Vancouver Trade.

Royalite Oil Co. earnings of \$3. combined 1966 compared with \$2.7 before.

Construction in Richmond on a \$100 million Ault & Wib Interchem Canada.

The plant, at Crystal Estates, will double Ault & Wib's making capacity operation by July.

Alcan Sells U.S. Sales Increase

Special to CLEVELAND ALUMINUM

bigger role in the aluminum market having growth of more than 10 per cent in total American sales since 1961.

Alcan president Davis of Montreal speech here. Total sales revenue in excess of \$250 million.

He said the shipments of primary aluminum last year were 1.5 million tons, an improvement over 1965.

Davis said U.S. sales increased 35 per cent of sales.

He said that Alcan sells 12 U.S. fabricated products (sheet, plate, coil, powder and coil) located in eight company also employs the U.S. and operates semi-fabricated products in 30 states.

Total U.S. plant which started in stands at \$95 million.

Vancouver Stock has approved an increase in capital by Venture from three million to four million shares.

NORTHWEST SENIOR

For supervisor

The successful the supervision the forest industry.

Please give full training, experience application.

Relocation allowances available. Interested.

Industrial Relocation

NORTHWEST SENIOR

Box 9000

Prince George, B.C.

Phone: 542-2222

Telex: 542-2222