

Omineca 93A
860317

DEPARTMENT OF MINES
CANADA.

Vancouver,
British Columbia.

*Report by Geo. M. Dawson
1879-1880*

Geological Survey
British Columbia Office.

THE Omineca Gold & Silver District.

ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE:

The main points which seem to bear on the possible future of the district are as follows:

(1) The existence of rich deposit of gold, and the possibility that with greater facility of access the known area covered by these would be increased, and that it would become possible to work those of a lower grade.

(2) The occurrence of pellets of native silver or amalgam in association with the gold. It may not be found possible to trace this material to veins of workable dimensions, but its presence seems in some degree to show the general argentiferous character of the district.

(3) The chief promise of future importance as a mining centre seems to lie, however, in the fact that highly argentiferous galena occurs in some abundance, and, it is reported, in well-defined and wide veins. These it is at present impossible to utilize, owing to the cost of labour and carriage, but the subjoined particulars may serve to give some idea of the character of the deposits.

ARGENTIFEROUS GALENAS:

According to Mr. Woodcock, of Victoria, some of the most important veins are in the vicinity of a stream called Boulder Creek.

*Aurora?
Trench?*

That known as the "Arctic Circle" is said to be about twenty feet wide, and to show about four feet of highly metal-liferous ore. It is exposed by the break in a face about thirty feet high. The claim adjoining this is called the "Black Warrior" and shows a vein eight feet wide of nearly pure galena. Other specimens have been obtained from places within a radius of eight miles from this locality.

Near Lost Creek a vein known as the "Champion ledge" is found, and runs nearly parallel with the stream. Particulars as to its size are wanting. Another vein on this creek is reported to be twenty feet wide.

*Yamaska?
Popular?*

ANALYSIS OF GALENAS:

Mr. Woodcock has favoured me with copies of the following analyses of two specimens of the ores from this district.

Arctic Circle Vein

Lead	26.80
Iron	2.50
Silver	0.13
Sulphur	6.35
Silica	61.60
Alumina	1.40
Combined water	0.95
Oxygen and loss	0.27

(44.2 g/ton?)

Silver equal to 44.2 oz. per ton of 20 cwt.

A second analysis of the Arctic Circle ore gives the following result:-

Silver, per ton, 40.81 oz.
Gold, trace.
Pig Lead would contain about 150 oz. to the ton.

Black Warrior Vein.

Lead	20.25
Iron	2.15
Silver	0.99
Sulphur	4.60
Silica	69.60
Alumina	1.60
Combined water	1.00
Oxygen and loss	<u>1.41</u>
	100.00

Silver equal to 29.8 per ton of 20 cwt.

A second assay of the "Black Warrior" showed the sample to contain 98 oz. of silver to the ton, equal to \$187.10 per ton of pig lead.

Two assays of specimens of ore from a deposit known as the "Mammoth Ledge" gave the following results:

Gold, per ton 1/10 oz.	\$ 2.06
Silver, do. 32-4/10 oz.	<u>21.89</u>
	23.95

Clean galena would assay \$151.85.

Gold, per ton	\$ 6.28
Silver, do.	<u>21.13</u>
	\$97.41

Pig Lead would contain 207 oz. to the ton.

A specimen of quartz with galena, from a stream near Hanson Creek in the same district, was examined by Mr. Hoffman some years ago and found to contain 8.971 oz. of silver to the ton, with traces of gold, but, as Mr. Hoffman remarks, the silver is confined to the galena, of which a small quantity only occurs in the vein-stone, and which must consequently be highly argentiferous. An analysis in the laboratory of the Survey, of a sample of galena from the Arctic Circle vein, separated as far as possible from the gangue, gave 128 oz. of silver to the ton. A specimen of ore from the Champion Ledge, including galena and gangue, showed 20 oz. of silver to the ton and a trace of gold.

GENERAL CHARACTER OF GALENAS:

It would thus appear that a considerable percentage of silver occurs in all the galenas examined from this district, and that if the veins are sufficiently large and constant in character, the region must be of importance when sufficient means of access to it are provided.

All these ores might, by ordinary process of dressing and washing, be raised nearly to the grade which they show when the precious metals are calculated to the proportion of galena contained.

CHARLES F. LAW

BROKER

GOLD AND SILVER MINES, COPPER, LEAD AND ZINC PROPERTIES
COAL AND PETROLEUM LANDS

Dominion Bank Building,

BANK OF MONTREAL BUILDING

505 HASTINGS STREET, WEST

VANCOUVER, B. C.

June 3rd, 1925.

Dear Sir:-

I regret that Mr. Meikle will not be able to accompany you to Omineca because of his partner's illness, but I have arranged with Ed. Sullivan of Burns Lake to meet you at Vanderhoof and take you in to Manson Creek and stake the most important silver-lead deposits in that district.

He asks to be allowed to take his own packer at the same wages as himself and I have telegraphed him to go ahead, but to make his final arrangements with you.

The initial programme should be to go direct to Manson Creek by pack train and to take up the claims marked on survey plan herewith enclosed. I have a recent letter from the surveyor, stating "that these claims were all dropped owing to financial difficulties in the east at that time and, insofar as I know, the ground is open for staking by anyone interested. Some of these claims are considered very good and have been held for years by various interests."

Sullivan has some good claims himself, which he allowed to drop and I want you to locate them.

In the matter of recording claims, do not be guided by anything said by anyone as to prior rights.

File the records and if anyone can prove prior rights afterwards they will be protected under the "Mineral Act".

It will be wise to assume that no prior rights exist, or you may be bluffed out of valuable ground.

After you have located everything available in the Manson district, proceed at once to Tom Creek and where the trail crosses the bridge on Tom Creek you will find the old Mayflower placer claim, formerly worked by the Conditt Brothers and Jim May. There is a big, heavily oxidized quartz vein outcropping at the blacksmith's shop, which you should locate with as many claims as you consider necessary.

The next property to be located is a big vein of nearly solid gold-bearing arsenical pyrites. It outcrops on a small creek which enters into Fall River from the south below Diver Lake. If you follow up this ^{CREEK} Fall River from its mouth you will run on to the outcrop and you can locate claims along its strike. It is covered up on the hills on both sides of the creek, but in plain sight in the bed of the creek.

The way into this property is that, after leaving Tom Creek, you go to Tacla Lake and get Bear Lake Tom, who runs the ferry on Tacla Lake to take you to the Hogem Pass, where a trail runs to Diver Lake and the small creek referred to on the map as "arsenical pyrites" will be found.

After staking the ground, you can return to Tacla

✓ Lake and make arrangements to go up the Driftwood Valley to Bear Lake and take up claims on a great mass of gold-bearing conglomerates which outcrop on the south-east end of Bear Lake in a series of bluffs. These conglomerates are intercalated with sheets of quartz porphyry along the bedding planes.

✓ We panned the Talus at the foot of the conglomerate bluffs and found free gold, chiefly in the finer sediments. It is impossible to say which series of sediments contains the gold, because the bluffs are too steep to sample.

✓ The enclosed plan shows a rough section. If this prospect turns out good, a valuable water power can be taken up at the outlet of Bear Lake at the Cataract, where the Indians trap salmon. This would furnish power for milling and other purposes. There is a big deposit of low-grade copper on a mountain at the head of Skutsil River, the first stream coming in from the west on Driftwood River, at the head of Tacla Lake.

X The last three prospects are not known to Sullivan and you will probably have to get a guide from Bear Lake Tom, who knows all that country. You can make use of the following miners' licences:-

X	Chas. F. Law, No. 92264, issued at Vancouver	May 27.
	Louisa M. Law, " 92629	" " " 30.
	Arthur C. Law " 92630	" " " 30.
	Constance Law " 92631	" " " 30.

Yours faithfully,

Wishing you every success.

ROBT. E. McKECHNIE, M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S.

507-509 BIRKS BUILDING
GRANVILLE ST.

VANCOUVER, B.C. 17th April 1925.

Chas. F. Law Esq.,
Broker
504, Hastings St. W.
City.

Dear Sir,

Bld. Lk.
Replying to your note re the Omineca district
the big silver lead deposit that Jim May discovered is
easily found. It was only about 12 miles from Manson
City and has been staked and re-staked the last forty
years. We had six claims on it and did assessment
work for three years and threw it up as the property
is valueless without communication but there is a
mineralised zone for at least 30 miles. If you go
up to that country get in touch with Billy Steel who
knows all about it and also knows where we have our
big Galena ledge. This is different to the one found by
May. I will be glad to have a talk with you when
you come back from your trip and if you want to see me
before you go ring up and I will arrange a date any
time.

Yours sincerely,

Never found?
Robt. McKechnie