

92I/10W, 11E, 6E, 7W

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HIGHLAND VALLEY, Etc.

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Since 1955 large-tonnage low-grade deposits of "porphyry copper" type have been investigated in the Highland Valley area, 20 miles southeast of Ashcroft, B.C. This area, which lies at elevations between 4000 and 6000 feet, is within a copper-bearing batholithic complex that extends almost to Merritt. Although the low-grade deposits were hitherto largely neglected, a small production during World War I came from high-grade veins in the region.

Bethlehem
Bethlehem Copper Corporation's property in Highland Valley was optioned by American Smelting & Refining Co. in 1955, since when over 50,000 feet of drilling has been done.

The Jersey and Iona zones lie 3,000 feet apart and by May 1957 their combined tonnage, indicated and inferred, amounted to more than 90 million tons grading better than 0.5 percent copper, of which more than 50 million tons grades better than 0.7 percent (Company release). In the Jersey zone, 30 million tons of indicated ore (included in the above total) is a single block which grades 0.796 percent copper (Company release). So far, measurement drilling has been done only in the northern part of the Jersey zone. In 1957 systematic rotary- and churn-drilling of drift-covered parts of this property and of the Lodge and Beaver groups to the north led to the discovery of a third important ore-zone not far from the Jersey and Iona zones. This East Jersey zone is so far known to be 300 feet wide and at least 1,100 feet long and 400 feet deep. It probably contains between 1 and 2 percent copper. American Smelting and Refining Co. have recently optioned

properties on the south of Bethlehem.

Trojan Three miles north of the Bethlehem ore-zones, the westernmost of two zones in a mineralized breccia-pipe is being explored underground by Trojan Consolidated Mines Ltd. To date, work on the 150 level has indicated 1 million tons grading 2.1 percent copper.

Krain & Bethsaida Northwestern Explorations Ltd., a subsidiary of Kennecott Copper Corporation, has begun exploration of two properties on which sizeable bodies of sub-commercial grade occur, namely those of Krain Copper Co., lying north of Trojan, and Bethsaida Copper Mines Limited, 3 miles west of the Bethlehem ore-zones.

Viny & H.C. Northwestern Explorations Ltd. has recently completed drilling on the Viny and H.C. claims, 12 miles southeast of Highland Valley, and allowed the property to revert to owners.

Jericho Phelps Dodge Corporation are major shareholders in Anson Mines Limited, formed in 1957 to explore the 1,100 claim property of Jericho Mines Limited, which largely surrounds the Highland Valley area.

Of companies presently inactive in Highland Valley, Skeena Silver Mines Ltd. have inferred by drilling and other work that the

inclined vein at the Victor adit, 3 miles southwest of the Bethlehem ore-zones, contains over 1 million tons, grading 0.7 percent copper.

Craigmont

Some 20 miles south of Highland Valley and 10 miles northwest of Merritt, a promising zone of copper-iron mineralization was discovered by Craigmont Mines Ltd. in 1957. In places containing between 1 and 4 percent copper and up to 50 percent iron, the body as so far outlined by drilling is about 1000 feet in length and 200 feet wide and dips steeply. Canadian Exploration Ltd. optioned the property in November.

By J.M. Carr,
Department of Mines,
Victoria, B. C.,
February 25th, 1958.

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