

Santa Cruz-Mambulao's Position

(Notes Submitted by James M. Robb, of the administrative staff)

The Santa Cruz-Mambulao Mining Company has not been content to devote all of its energies and capital to the development of its 90-odd claims in the Municipality of Mambulao, barrio of Santa Cruz, Paracale, Camarines Norte. Besides copper claims in Zambales, chromite claims in Masbate, and numerous other groups of claims in various portions of the Islands, the Company has acquired all of the Placer claims on the Island of Lahuy, Province of Camarines Sur, and has financed the acquisition of fifty-two lode gold claims in the barrio of Pudaal, Municipal District of Itogon, sub-province of Benguet. The Treasure Island Mining Company will develop the lode claims on Lahuy Island, leaving the rich Placer to the Santa Cruz-Mambulao Com-

pany.

A new company has been formed to continue the development of the Benguet claims, Benguet-Itogon Goldfields, Inc. Taking its name from the location of the property, Benguet-Itogon Goldfields has filed its application with the Securities and Exchange Commission for a permit to sell P450,000.00 worth of stock. Reports on the properties by General Management Company, Inc., and by various members of R. Y. Hanlon & Co., consulting mining engineers and geologists, consulting engineers for the new company, plus progress reports rendered at frequent intervals by D. L. Finley and Barney Finley, in charge of operations, have indicated a real possibility of a commercial mine. Some P65,000 has already been spent in development

work, and ten main tunnels have been driven, ranging in length from 600 meters to 13 meters.

The company's engineers have advised concentrating on 3 of the veins encountered, namely, the "C", "D", and "Valentin" veins.

It is hoped that the lowest adit, the No. 5 tunnel, if driven about 11 meters further from its present 600 meter length will cut vein "D", and, if driven 100 meters further, will cut vein "C". On these veins, assays ranging from a trace to \$16.80 per ton, old price, have been obtained by the General Management Company at higher levels than is expected to be reached by this No. 5 tunnel.

The Valentin vein has also given high values near the surface, and a tunnel has been driven 90 feet along this vein. If the No. 5 tunnel cuts veins "C" and "D", it is planned to drift on both of them, and, possibly, winze or sink a shaft from Tunnel No. 3, which is at a higher level. A serious attempt is being made to determine whether the

Base Metal . . .

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ippines have a keener customer than usual for their iron ore. But Japan will naturally keep the price below parity with scrap plus haulage from ports of supply.

It is interesting to note that England has abolished her duty on iron and cut the steel duty to 10% ad valorem. She is remote from the Philippines, however. All in all, a real supply of coking coal would be an industrial godsend to the Islands. Pig iron would stand a long-haul freight charge and tend to put ore prices more nearly on a level with world demands. But the coal has not come to light. Ore at the best bargain possible with a Japanese customer is the salable product.

Mountain Farmers and the Mining Prospects

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with the people. They have pulled down his timbering as fast as he put it up. I have not met him, as we live considerably beyond where he turns off to reach his diggings, but he has stopped off in Sagada frequently, and he apparently thinks he has a good thing. A friend of mine from Balatoc, who visited us last year, took a busman's holiday by sampling some of the ore which had been dug up in a nearby tunnel, and did not think it worth much.

"The resistance to . . . has been raised on the same grounds as against his forerunners, interference with the supply of water to the fields. I inquired closely about this today from an intelligent and educated Igorot. I had assumed that the people feared diversion of their water supply, but I find that what they fear is contamination of the water by chemical changes. They have heard that this results from mining. My guess is that the results they dread are caused in the mill rather than in the mine. The Igorot to whom I spoke seemed to think the people were acting on unfounded hearsay. But the prejudice is stubbornly ingrained and may well lead to serious trouble. I believe this present enterprise has done all it could to placate the people and, by assigning shares (in just what form I would not care to state offhand) to some of the Agava people, has enlisted a number of supporters. It seems to be a private enterprise with legitimate aims; whether it will find its claims worth pursuing I doubt.

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main vein of the Macawili Mining Company, whose properties adjoin those of the Benguet-Itogon Goldfields group extends into the property. The General Management Company also advised of this possibility.

There are no so-called escrow shares set aside for claim owners. The company owns in its own right nine of the claims, and will be put to no expense in connection with the acquisition of the other 43 claims. There are 550 shares subscribed at no par value, while the sales value of the issue has been placed at ₱1,000 per share. The present subscribers will relinquish part of their shares to the claim owners for the 43 claims, and will also relinquish part of their shares to wipe out the ₱65,000 that has been spent in development thus far. The claims will be turned over to the company without charge, the idea behind all of this being to start the new company out as a going concern.

The Benguet-Itogon property has just been inspected by Robert Duce, geologist and mining engineer, a member of the staff of R. Y. Hanlon & Co. Mr. Duce is a University of Colorado man with ten years' field experience since graduation. He took samples during his inspection from Tunnel No. 3, one from the Valentin vein. The average value of the samples was ₱115 new valuation. He recommends driving on the Valentin vein at least to 200 feet in all, and stripping the ore to ascertain consistent assay values over this distance; and to raise on the vein in No. 3 tunnel with the same objective in mind.

Bailey Willis Submits . . .

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is due to the recent development of the mountain face, which has been pushed up several thousand feet. At the same time the whole mountain block has been tilted toward the west. The movement which can thus raise and tilt a mountain block is much like that of one hand over the other; the left hand, for instance, palm up and fingers slightly bent, the right hand laid on it palm down and pushed forward. The right hand is the mountain block, and the surface of contact of the two palms is the surface of the thrust or overthrust. But the Abra overthrust originates beneath the China Sea and the displacement of the upper block is an eastward movement of several kilometers at least.

"The Abra overthrust is a more superficial effect of the pressure that are squeezing the foundations of the central range.

"A series of three parallel overthrusts was observed in driving down the west coast between Tagudin and Bauang. They trend No. 20 to 30 degrees W. Each one defines a valley and lies along the northeastern base of a low range of hills. One runs from Balaan to Santol and beyond. Another of much greater extent passes near Baenotan on the coast, past Disdis on the Naguilian road, underlies Mount Santo Tomas, and is identified below the Zigzag on the Kennon

Road in Bued canyon. It is a thrust of very considerable magnitude and is the cause of the dominant height of Mt. Santo Tomas, overlooking Baguio. A third, very minor thrust forms the valley between San Juan and Naguilian. This series is pushed up from the direction of west by south and appears to be independent of the east-west pressures farther north.

"It is desirable to note that the forces which thus appear to have affected the mountain region of northern Luzon are deduced from effects in the existing topography. The forces are now active and have been so during very recent

geologic periods. It is generally true that such forces have acted from time to time, with greater or less intensity and have produced similar results. Fissures appropriate for vein formations may thus have originated at any time in the past, may have been mineralized at any later time, and may have dislocated in any subsequent movement. This makes the task of the mining geologist, in trying to unravel the intricacies of vein structure, a very difficult one and taxes the skill of the most experienced.

"This progress report is written in the field, while the studies are in progress and is to be regarded as a preliminary account only."

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