

Let's Get Acquainted

To be a "veteran" mining engineer at the age of thirty-three is an unusual accomplishment and speaks well for the training and experience of the man.

Ralph W. Crosby, youngest member of the Board of Consulting Engineers, is such an engineer. He will not celebrate his thirty-fourth birthday until next November but his mining experience and his accomplishments in the industry give him the rating of "veteran."

Mr. Crosby was born at Waverley, Nova Scotia and is a Canadian citizen. He received his early education in Mexico, Canada and the United States and attended the Texas College of Mines at El Paso, from which he received his degree of B.S. in mining in 1924.

His first job was with the United Verde Copper Co. at Jerome, Arizona. He was mucker and timberman helper, engineering helper, and draftsman for the steam shovel department, of that organization.

He came to the Philippine Islands in December, 1924, to become engineer and assayer of the Benguet Consolidated Mining Company. He served in that capacity until January 31, 1926, when he transferred to the Benguet mill as mill shift boss. In May, 1926, he was placed in charge of exploration work on the Gomok lease of Benguet, later returning to his position as engineer.

From October 1926 to November 1927 he was construction engineer at Benguet and was in charge of hydro electric pipe lines and flumes, camp construction and sanitation, construction of shops, camp, etc., and was in charge of the first 1200 feet of the driving of the Colbath drain tunnel.

In November 1927 he was transferred to the Balatoc Mining Company. He

was superintendent in charge of mine development, installation of mine machinery, aerial tramway, 100 ton cyanide mill and construction of camps, water supply systems, etc.

From January 1929 to May, 1930, Mr. Crosby was general superintendent at Balatoc in charge of operations.

He joined the Marsman organization May 23, 1930, as mine superintendent of Itogon Mining Company. While he was mine superintendent he also assisted in the supervision of mill construction and general expansion work.

In May 1933 he became acting general superintendent of Itogon, serving in this capacity until October.

From October 16, 1933 to October, 1936, Mr. Crosby was general superintendent at Suyoc Consolidated, one of the then-newly-organized projects of the Marsman interests.

At Suyoc he was in direct charge of mine development, the installation of mine machinery, the installation of a 100 ton flotation cyanidation mill, the installation of a power plant and water system and the construction of camps, roads, bridges, etc.

Under his supervision Suyoc Consolidated was developed and brought into successful producing stage and its activities greatly expanded.

In October, 1936, he was promoted to the position of assistant manager of the Northern Division of Marsman and Company.

Mr. Crosby has distinguished himself particularly by the excellence of his detail work. His reports on operations are comprehensive and accurate, and his estimates on various engineering projects invariably hit the nail on the head.

Mr. Marsman Addresses A. I. M. E.

Members of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers at their annual meeting in Washington on March 6 were told by Mr. Marsman that he believed the gold production of the Philippines would exceed twenty-five million dollars for 1937. Insular production will be valued at forty-five million dollars annually by 1945, Mr. Marsman predicted. Considerable interest was shown by the organization, which is the largest of its kind in the world, in Philippine mining. Mr. Marsman commented on the favorable outlook for chromite ore in the Philippines. He predicted that general industrial activity in the United States would eventually result in large scale scrome production here.

Extensive exploration, working toward the development of the oil resources of the Philippines, is being conducted, Mr. Marsman reported, and he added that the outlook was encouraging.

Great Britain and Japan, as well as the United States, have been showing active interest in expanding mining in the Philippines, he said.

Mr. Marsman arrived in New York from London early in February. Part of his time in the United States was spent in conference with President Manuel L. Quezon and his party in Washington. Mr. Marsman is a member of the National Economic Council and his arrival in Washington was timed so that he could be of assistance to President Quezon.

Mr. Marsman plans to leave the United States late in March for Amsterdam. The Marsman interests are investigating mining possibilities in the Dutch East Indies and Mr. Marsman plans to complete negotiations with the Dutch Government.

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Mr. Crosby was married in 1929 to Miss Flora Colbath, daughter of the superintendent of Benguet Consolidated at that time. Mr. and Mrs. Crosby have one child, Jimmie, and they now make their home in Baguio.

They are both interested in outdoor sports, and in their spare time may usually be found on the Baguio Country Club golf course.

HOMESTAKE GOLD MINES, INC.

Prospecting operations went ahead during the month of February as planned. Intensive work on the northwest section of the property revealed several interesting old workings.

The two groups of field prospectors did a great deal of trenching in shallow open cutting during the month. Tunneling operations were carried out in several places.