

MINING ACTIVITIES

The way this season is starting out 1957 should be the best year in our experience for exploration work by mining companies in Alaska. The companies are not so numerous yet, but the number is growing and the ones that are here are equipped with crews and gear and are doing real exploration work rather than just looking around at an occasional prospect. For the information of Alaskan prospectors who may wish additional contacts, we list here the names and addresses of most of the companies now actively looking for properties in Alaska or interested in hearing of promising prospects. Additions to this list will be made upon request.

American Exploration & Mining Co.  
H. Rea Beckwith  
Box 119  
Anchorage, Alaska

American Metal Co., Ltd.  
John DeLeen  
6587 Granville Street  
Vancouver 14, B. C.

American Smelting & Refining Co.  
Gavin Diron  
425 Birks Bldg., 718 Granville Street  
Vancouver 2, B. C.

Anaconda Company  
William M. Reed  
Box 1764  
Spokane 10, Washington

Bear Creek Mining Co. (Kennecott subsidiary)  
Lowell B. Moon  
713 Peyton Bldg.  
Spokane, Washington

Climax Molybdenum Co.  
John J. Curzon  
Mines Park  
Golden, Colorado

Coronado Copper & Zinc Co.  
(Cyprus Mines Corp. subsidiary)  
S. K. Garrett  
209 Tabor Bldg.  
Wallace, Idaho

Utah Company of the Americas (Utah Construction Co. subsidiary)  
L. C. Clark, Room 1502, 736 Granville St.  
Vancouver 2, B. C.

DeCoursey Mountain Mining Co.  
Red Devil Mine  
McGrath, Alaska

Fremont Mining Co.  
John McKee  
Box 125  
Forest Grove, Oregon

Moneta Porcupine Mines, Ltd.  
Robert Seraphim  
408-402 W. Pender St.,  
Vancouver, B. C.

Newmont Mining Corp.  
Donald M. Cannon  
Room 604, 749 W. Hastings St.  
Vancouver, B. C.

Pacific Mining Services  
C. J. Brown  
Room 604, 789 W. Pender St.  
Vancouver 1, B. C.

Sulgas Properties, Ltd.  
(Texas Gulf Sulfur subsidiary)  
Room 1120, 355 Burrard St.  
Vancouver, B. C. - Dr. W. R. Bacon

Sunshine Mining Co.  
Exploration Division  
Peyton Bldg.  
Spokane, Washington

## OIL NEWS

Drilling equipment for the first test well in the Kateel River area was to start arriving in Fairbanks during the past month. The drilling will be done by Global Enterprises Company of Denver, presumably for the Texota Oil Company which has a large share of the area under lease. New filings bring the total for applications and leases for that region to 2,360,180 acres.

Drilling by Richfield in the Swanson River area on the Kenai Peninsula and by Colorado Oil and Gas near Yakutat has passed the 8,000-foot depth in both places, according to reports.

### ANOTHER PROPOSED WILDERNESS AREA

The Tanana Valley Sportsman's Association of Fairbanks has voted to support a withdrawal of an area in the northeast corner of Alaska for a wilderness area. The area as described in an item in Jessen's Weekly is "bounded on the north by the Arctic Ocean, on the west by the Canning River and the East Fork of the Chandalar and on the south by 68 degrees latitude and on the east by the Alaska-Yukon boundary. The item also describes it as an 11,000 square mile area, but either the description or the arithmetic is wrong, for the area as described actually scales off about 15,700 square miles or just a little over 10,000,000 acres. Quite a withdrawal. Of course, about half of this area is already withdrawn by Public Land Order 82 which reserves it for Navy oil exploration in addition to the original Pet 4 withdrawal. If FLO 82 were to be revoked and the proposed area subsequently withdrawn as a wilderness area, it would still leave only the strip between the Colville and Canning Rivers out of the whole Arctic Slope as access to the Arctic Sea and open for possible future commercial enterprises.

On a mimeographed sheet entitled "Suggested Plan of Administration and Regulations" (author not indicated) it is stated that legitimate mining and prospecting shall be unrestricted in the proposed area with certain exceptions which are already part of Federal mining law. This provision in the plans is undoubtedly in good faith and we appreciate its honest intent. However, one only has to glance at the proposed Congressional legislation on wilderness areas to realize that this provision protecting mining and prospecting will go down the drain the minute the proposed legislation passes. Therefore, as stated in earlier bulletins, we must still stand against proposals for new wilderness areas. The above-mentioned Congressional legislation was reported on in detail in our last bulletin.

To attack the problem of outdoor recreation areas from a different angle, S. 846 has been introduced in the Senate which would establish a National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. This Commission would "undertake a nationwide inventory and evaluation of outdoor recreation resources and opportunities, directly and through Federal agencies, the States, and private organizations and groups. The survey would include trends in population, leisure, transportation and other factors to determine the amount, location, kind and quality of outdoor recreation resources and opportunities which will be required by the year 1976 and the year 2000." The proposed bill would require the Commission to make its final report to the President and to Congress not later than December 31, 1959. The U. S. Department of the Interior is in complete support of the bill.

### NEW LAND REGISTRATION LAW PROVISIONS

Under a law passed by the 1957 Territorial Legislature, provisions for redeeming land declared delinquent under the Land Registration Law are now more liberal. All land, including patented mining claims which had not been declared by the owners were listed as delinquent in published lists last fall, and were to be foreclosed upon by the Territory 60 days after final publication date unless redeemed in the meantime. This procedure was changed to one in which the lists are given to the U. S. District Court for Court action in which the listed delinquent properties will be awarded to the Territory. The last owner of the property has until one year after the Court action awarding the land to the Territory in which to redeem his property by paying the penalties and costs to the Territorial Department of Lands and declaring ownership. The lists have gone to the Court, but to our knowledge, no Court action has been taken. Further information can be obtained from the Territorial Department of Lands, Box 368, Anchorage, Alaska.

### TDM PROSPECTORS RENTAL EQUIPMENT

We have acquired a new drill under our prospectors rental equipment program. It is one of the new Atlas Copco gasoline jack hammers. Presently at the Juneau Office, it can go to any part of the Territory, depending on the applications for its use. The rental will be on the same terms as for the diamond drills, and it is expected that this drill will be kept quite busy.

### ASSESSMENT WORK PROPOSAL

It has once again been proposed in Congress that the mining laws be amended to allow the expense of geophysical or geochemical surveys to be applied as assessment work on unpatented mining claims. S. 2039 by Senator Bible of Nevada would not exclude any of the existing legal types of assessment work, but would allow the cost of modern exploration methods if the claim holder so wishes. Congressional observers state that the proposed measure has more backing this year than in the past and has a fair chance of passing.

### PROPOSED LIBERALIZED LAND PROVISIONS

Delegate Bartlett has introduced H. R. 3358, which if passed, will supplement the land grant provisions of the Alaska Mental Health Act. Under the Mental Health Act, Alaska is to be given one million acres of land which are at the time of their selection "vacant, unappropriated, and unreserved." H. R. 3358 would allow the Territory to select lands which are subject to lease, permit, or contract under the Mineral Leasing Act or the Alaska Coal Leasing Act. At present, Alaska receives 37-1/2 per cent of revenues from oil and gas leases. If this bill were enacted, Alaska would receive 100 per cent from leases on lands selected for support of its mental health program. Revenue from all the lands subject to oil and gas leases in Alaska amounted to \$468,000 for the fiscal year 1956. The Department of the Interior recommends passage of the bill.

The following editorial, taken from Western Canada Mining News is self-explanatory:

#### WRONG-WAY CORRIDOR

It is not long ago that British Columbians and Yukoners were seeking a corridor through Alaska for their mineral output. However, according to an official Alaska Mines Bulletin, the corridor has been by-passed, thanks to B. C.'s new mining laws.

Instead, eastern Canadian companies are finding that under incentive legislation of Alaska, it is more profitable to do business in that territory than face the indecision of the iniquitous B. C. mining laws.

Whatever Premier Bennett may say about inviting B. C. operators to help write the rules into Bills 87 and 91, the damage has been done. Alaska is grabbing some important investment capital from B. C. and they've done it without having to bargain with the much-talked-of corridor.

#### E. AND M. J. METAL MARKET PRICES

	May 30 1957	Month Ago	Year Ago
Copper, per lb.	31.2¢	31.5¢	45.6¢
Lead, per lb.	15¢	16¢	16¢
Zinc, per lb.	11-1/2¢	13-1/2¢	13-1/2¢
Tin, per lb.	98.5¢	100¢	97.5¢
Quicksilver, per flask	\$255-257	\$255-257	\$264-266
Silver, foreign, New York	90-7/8¢	91-3/8¢	90.8¢
Silver, domestic, per oz.	90-1/2¢	90-1/2¢	90-1/2¢
Nickel, per lb.	74¢	74¢	64-1/2¢
Molybdenum, per lb., in con.	\$1.18	\$1.18	\$1.10
Platinum, per oz.	\$90-95	\$92-95	\$103-110
*Tungsten ore, per unit	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$63.00
Titanium ore (Ilmenite)			
per ton	\$26.25-30.00	\$26.25-30.00	\$26.25
**Chrome ore (48%, 3 to 1 ratio)			
per ton	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00

\*GSA tungsten purchasing presently suspended. Foreign import price \$19.25

\*\*GSA guaranteed stockpile price. Not quoted by E. & M. J.