

BIG MILL FOR SOUTH POLE.

Equipment Will Probably Go
in Next Fall.

FORCE INCREASED.

Company Has 2,500 Feet of Development
Work—Property Situated on Mother
Lode System in Same District as North
Pole and Other Big Mines—Assays
Show High Values—Operations to be
Pushed Through Summer—Absolutely
Demonstrated That Mine is Gilt
Edged Proposition.

It is now thought by the management of the South Pole Consolidated Gold Mines company, that a point in the development of this celebrated property will be reached this summer or early in the fall, which will warrant the installation of extensive mining and milling equipment. Just what this will be the company is not prepared to say at this early date, and will not know until development work has sufficiently advanced to give some definite conclusion as to quality and dimensions of the ore bodies and the character of the machinery needed. From evidence in hand already, however, it is safe to assume that it will be one of the biggest plants in the district. There is already a five-stamp mill on the property, but this does not figure in the situation. It was there when the property passed to the present owners, and has been used only in making small mill runs.

While development work has been prosecuted steadily through the winter at the South Pole, it has been more or less hindered by the weather, and the force of men necessarily had to be reduced. The company, however, is making preparations to increase the working force of the mine and open up operations on a more extensive scale.

Volumes could be written descriptive of this property, and the possibilities which it holds for becoming one of the great mines of this district. While the preliminary work has not advanced to a stage to warrant the statement that the South Pole company has a mine which will equal the North Pole, the Columbia, the E. and E., or other big payers located on the same mother lode system in the same district, but the indications present even greater possibilities than are found in these properties. This fact is evidenced in that the South Pole group of claims is located in the same mineral zone, in the same lode system, of which it is a continuation. It joins the North Pole on its end lines, and owns with it jointly undivided interests in two claims which are supposed to lay against the North Pole's rich ore shoot. Another particular which it is of interest to mention is the fact that the South Pole's claims lay, in the main, directly under the apex of the mountain which gives a working depth of 3,200 feet on the vein on a level corresponding to the other properties which give a depth of only about 800 feet. Thus the South Pole will have this depth of ore on a corresponding level which affords

only an 800 foot depth in the other mines.

The company now has about 2,500 feet of development work all told, which will be largely extended during the summer months. Tunnelling is now proceeding from the Rock Creek side of the Oregon Clipper claim, and a crosscut is being driven for the ledge on the Deer Lodge claim to follow up under the other tunnels. Tunnel No. 5 on the Raley is now in fifty feet. This is to be the main working level of the mine and will give 1,000 feet of backs directly under the apex of the mountain. Last fall when surface work had to be abandoned on account of the snow, assays from the outcrop alongside tunnel No. 1 revealed values as high as \$700. At the same time assays from the saddle of the mountain showed values amounting to \$100.

Tunnel No. 2 is being driven to tap the rich ore shoots which from surface indications have been demonstrated to exist. The crosscut on the Yankee Jim shows the ledge to be eighty feet wide. A winze sank a distance of twenty feet in the hollow of the tunnel disclosed some of the highest grade ore ever discovered in the camp.

Thus it has been absolutely demonstrated that the South Pole lies on the same mother lode system as the big payers and well developed properties which join it, and it is safe to assume that future operations will place it in the category of gilt edged mining properties.

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