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5th December, 1950

MEMORANDUM

OPERATIONS OF WEST MOUNT CLAUDE

PROSPECTING SYNDICATE N.L.

ROUND HILL

Note: This account should be read in conjunction with the writer's report on the Silver Lead deposits of Round Hill (9.11.1948).

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Although this Syndicate commenced operations some three years ago, it was not until six months later (that is after the writer's visit) that serious mining operations were begun. Since then adits have been opened on three levels and driving has taken place on narrow galena formations at each level.

As mentioned in the original report a small cut had been made at road level which showed some metal in the bedding planes of the quartzites. These were driven on for sixty feet and a crosscut then put out for sixty-six feet.

Twenty-two feet below the road at this point an old adit (the Maori Queen) was cleaned out and extended. This was a crosscut and at fifty-three feet some small veinlets of galena were driven on for forty-eight feet.

The lowest adit, also a crosscut, was commenced just above creek level, that is one hundred feet below the Road or No.1 Adit level. This was extended for one hundred and sixty feet in hard quartzite. At the mouth of this adit some small veinlets of galena were driven on for sixty-four feet.

Thus the policy of the Syndicate seems to have alternated between one of normal development and the following of any ore in sight, no matter of what economic extent. It should be pointed out that no advice was sought from or given by the Geological Survey.

A small treatment plant is operated by the Syndicate at this site and this year some 263 oz. of silver and 37 tons of lead have been sold. They have some further concentrates bagged and ready for sale.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Nothing I have seen during this

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visit has upset my previous theories of the ore deposition at Round Hill. The small veinlets of galena, pyrite and siderite that have been exposed in the workings do not indicate a true lode and any further driving on these would not, in my opinion, be an economic expedient. Sometimes the veinlets grow to an inch or two in thickness but ~~this~~ is not maintained and they often die out altogether. These formations are very similar to those exposed in the old Magazine Adit and in Claude Creek South of this, and it should be remembered that, between these and the fault, lay the rich ore body, which was the Round Hill Mine.

Thus it is between the Syndicate's present workings and the fault (or as pointed out in the report, the nearest anticlinal axis to the fault) that a main ore channel should be sought.

It is indeed a pity that the Syndicate had not realised this, because the amount of work that has been done would have been sufficient, if concentrated in the right direction, to have proved (or disproved) this theory.

As it is now, the bottom adit would have to be continued some three to four hundred feet and the upper two, some two to three hundred feet to encounter the probable ore body. If the syndicate contemplates this work, I would suggest the continuance of the lower adit. However, the financial resources of the Syndicate may not be sufficient to accomplish this and I would suggest that boring would be a much sounder scheme.

Mr. A. Rowe, Sheffield, on behalf of the Syndicate desires to be advised of these conclusions and would also appreciate a copy of the original report and plans.

Sgd. Terence D Hughes

GEOLOGIST

The Director of Mines

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