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CARIBOO COAL & CLAY CO.

MINISTER OF MINES, REPORT OF 1930

GEOLOGICAL BRANCH  
ASSESSMENT REPORT

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*Lease of A. E. McGregor, G. F. McGregor, and C. Stanfield, of Quesnel.*—This lease is situated about 3 miles up-stream from that above described, on the right bank of the Quesnel river. At this point several low-lying terraces were the object of attention by early miners, who left behind them interesting evidences of their ingenuity, among which may be mentioned a car run on rollers instead of wheels. Values in the top gravels were evidently good, but the problem which confronted the early miners was that of getting water on the ground for the purpose of washing the gravels, and their method, although clearly revealed, was somewhat unusual. This consisted in shovelling the top gravels from a bench about 25 feet vertically above the river into the car mentioned, and tramping to a chute delivering to a bin situated but a few feet above water-level. Water for washing the gravels was obtained from a well sunk close to the bin. Although the collar of the well is only a few feet vertically above the river, the horizontal distance from the river is at least a hundred yards, and the sinking of the well eliminated the laborious task of carrying water from the river.

The present operators, with commendable enterprise, have installed a mobile pump-hydraulic plant for the purpose of working these terraces, some of which are quite extensive, and at several points promising values have been found in the top gravels.

The equipment devised by A. E. McGregor consists of a 4-inch centrifugal pump delivering 60 cubic feet of water a minute operated by a Cadillac car-engine. A 4½-inch canvas hose is coupled to the pump discharge and the monitor is attached to the canvas hose. This type of equipment can be used to good advantage in testing many low-lying benches which have no convenient water-supply adjacent, and which, while not offering prospects of large-scale operation, may yet, be turned to good account by the individual operator.

*Dredging Possibilities.*—The hulls of three old dredges are to be found along this section of the Quesnel river—one at the mouth of Morehead creek, another at the mouth of Dredge creek by Drummond flat, and the third at the lower end of French flats. The position of the last mentioned is shown on the Quesnel sheet of the pre-emptors' maps as "Old Hall Dredge."

It is hardly necessary to say that these dredges were not of modern design. Failure may have been due to mechanical defect or unsuitable design. What is certain is that these dredge-sites mark in each instance the point of intersection of an ancient channel by the present river. To the effects of such reconcentration are to be attributed the gold values at these points, and for that reason they are more deserving of investigation than would be the case were they bars of the modern river. These former dredge-sites merit further investigation and Keystone-drilling to determine dredging possibilities with modern equipment.

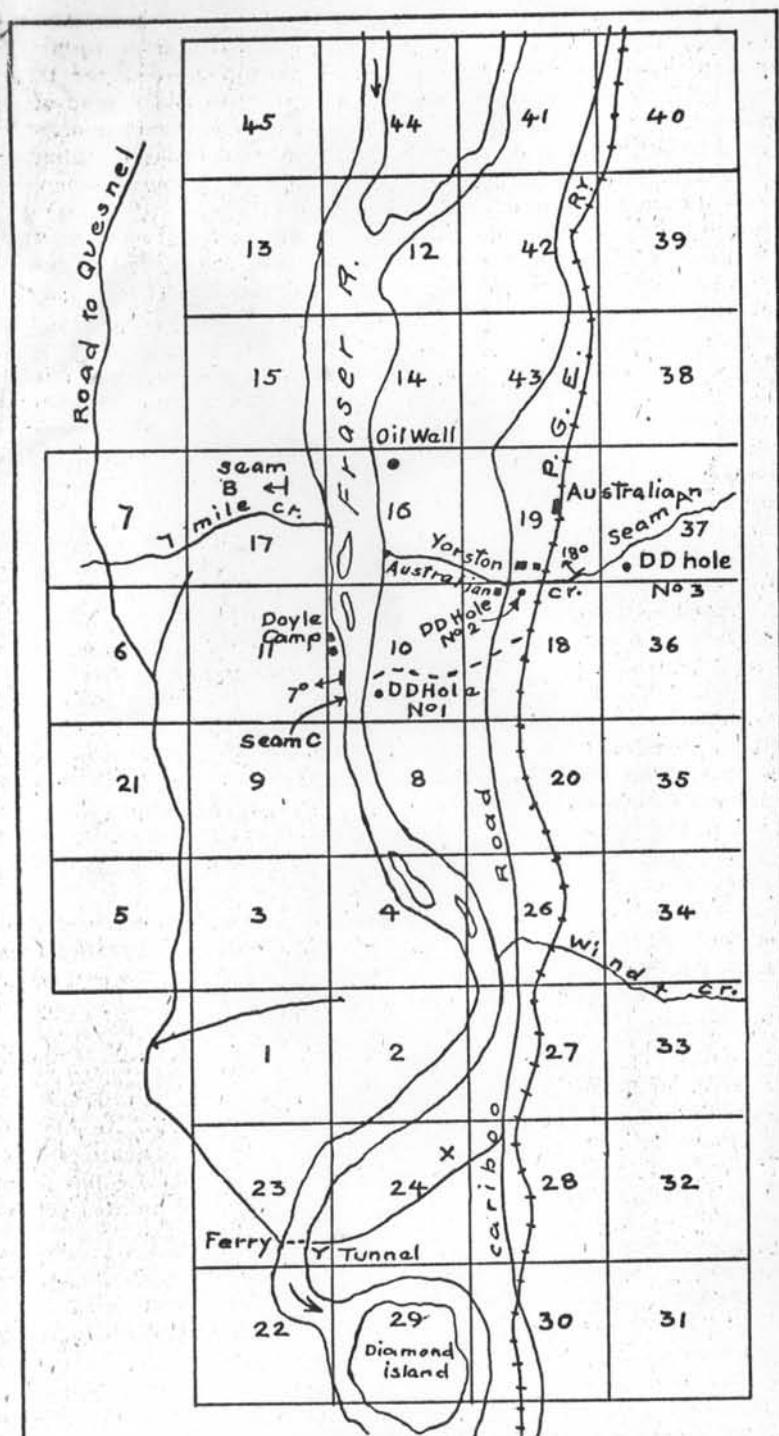
**Iron King.** This group is owned by Harry Crooks and Emil Johnson, of Quesnel, and is distant about half a mile north of the Quesnel-Barkerville road, somewhat east of the 13-Mile House. On this property are exposed basic volcanic flow-rocks, striking about N. 45° W. (mag.), with steep northerly dip. The presence of free gold and platinum in these rocks was reported by the owners as being disclosed by panning tests.

Pieces were chipped from a large number of places and combined to form one sample. Upon assay this showed negative results in gold and platinum values. This rock is not a typical ultrabasic rock which might be expected to contain platinum in minute quantities, but even were this the case assay of one sample would not signify that the rock-mass was devoid of minute quantities of precious metals. It is also well to bear in mind that expert panning will readily disclose minute quantities of precious metals, which are devoid of commercial significance so far as lode-mining operations are concerned.

**B.C. Refractories, Ltd.** This company reports steady progress in its efforts to expand the consumption of diatomite in the Province. With aid from the Department of Mines, a branch road has now been constructed from the Bouchie Lake road to the diatomite-deposits in the vicinity of the Big Bend of the Fraser river.

In the last-mentioned area, adjoining the property of B.C. Refractories, Limited, on the south, G. H. Turner has staked some mineral claims, with a view, it is understood, to commence the manufacture of mineral pigment. A small force was engaged in building a branch road to a camp-site on this property during the year.

**Cariboo Coal and Clay Co.** This company was incorporated during the year with an authorized capital of \$1,000,000, divided into 1,000,000 shares of \$1 each. The office is at 781 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, B.C. The manager and secretary-treasurer is P. S. Ryan. The company owns the coal, petroleum, and natural-gas rights



CARIBOO COAL AND CLAY CO., LTD.

COAL LEASES near AUSTRALIAN.

With Report by D. Lay  
Resident Mining Engineer  
Hazelton, B.C. 1930.

B.C. Bureau of Mines