

# OPEN FILE <sup>208</sup>

REPORT OF PHILIP BONE, RSC.  
ON THE PROPERTY OF THE WEST VANCOUVER COMMERCIAL CO.  
DATED JANUARY 5, 1901.

00208

A. B. Forbes, Esq., President,  
West Vancouver Commercial Co.,  
San Francisco, Cal.

My Dear Sir:-

As requested, I beg herewith to hand you a short report on the work accomplished by me on the Company's property at Quatsino Sound since Mr. Hallidie's report of 1898 to the Stockholders of the Company.

It is unnecessary for me to give you a description of the location of the property, its nearness to San Francisco, how located, and it is also unnecessary to refer to the title of same, as this matter has been fully gone into by my predecessors, and is fully referred to in preceding reports. It is sufficient for me to state that the property when I left was free from debt more than enough funds being placed by me in Bank at Victoria to pay outstanding accounts. I will therefore confide myself exclusively to giving a short description of the work accomplished by me and the improvements put by me upon the property.

#### IMPROVEMENTS.

We have a Bunk house, Superintendent's dwelling, Office, Stables, Shaft House, Store rooms and the necessary other out-houses sufficient for our requirements, all in good condition. We also own a small steam launch, 50 horse power boiler and a hoist capable of lifting 100 tons per day.

On Hatchenuckum Creek, now known as Wogsta, we started operations, our object being to sink a shaft and prove the existence of coal referred to by Moore in his report, and in which he stated he had found a 5 ft. seam of good coal at this point. We sunk a shaft and drove a drift south at this point in the 5 ft. seam referred to by Mr. Moore until we had 2 1/2 feet of good coal. We opened this seam as we felt justified in doing, proved to our satisfaction that coal could be had here in paying quantities. Some of the coal taken out from this seam was tested in one of the boats of the C.F.N. Company and we received very flattering reports from this Company regarding its value and quality.

Our next work was to investigate the records of boring B, where we found coal of excellent quality, but did not open up any great quantity, as we were satisfied to prove the above records.

After doing this work we decided to test the coal measures at West Arm. Our first attempts proved unsuccessful, owing to our being drowned out by high tides, but by protecting ourselves with a cement wall around the mouth of the slope we were enabled to guard against the highest of tides from flooding us, or doing any damage whatsoever. We followed the coal on the slope for a distance of over 100 ft. when we started the drift Eastward from the bottom of this slope and drove 145 feet. This drift was started when Fairbanks was on the property. After driving it 145 feet we were unable to continue the same in an Eastwardly direction on account of the coal measures dipping with the direction of the drift, which if followed would have caused us to sink a slope within a slope. We have, however, proved the value and quality of the coal at this point, which should be quite satisfactory.

Our next effort was to find this seam going East and by means of the chopping bit and drill. Owing to the hardness of the measures at this end of the property, this proved an unsatisfactory method, and we then purchased a diamond drill, and after some little preliminary work moved the drill to a point one mile East of the West Arm outcrop and starting at first drilling hole 300 ft. This proved highly satisfactory and proved to us the coal area. Other holes were also drilled with the diamond drills in order to thoroughly demonstrate and prove the West Arm Seam, which has been done in a very satisfactory manner and the developments warrant parties who intend purchasing the property to further prospect this field and mine this coal. The quality is good and enough work has been done to justify me in saying that this seam extends over the entire 5,000 acres. Heretofore it has been the general impression that the coal measures on this property had no continued area. The late work done by the diamond drill proves the contrary to be the case.

You have demonstrated all you have set out to do, and except you intend to actively engage in the mining of coal, I would suggest

that work now be discontinued and the property placed upon the market, for you have all reasonable assurances that you have a virgin area of coal lands, which by development will possibly equal any on the Island.

Respectfully submitted,

Phillip Rowe.