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TOGIAC BAY MOST PROMISING DISTRICT IN THE KUSKOKWIM BUT TRANSPORTATION IS BAD

Dave Strandberg, Pioneer Mining Man, Brings Encouraging Report From Lower Kuskokwim; Lack of Roads Big Problem; Three Thousand Claims Staked at Togiak; Many Miners Employed

"Placer prospectors who stampered into Goodnews Bay and were disappointed in their findings on the beach, are moving on to Togiak Bay where they are taking out better values, was the word brought out by Dave Strandberg, pioneer mining man of the North, as stated in an interview with the Anchorage Times.

Strandberg said mining throughout the Interior is going ahead at top speed with troubles apparently over for the summer. He predicted most of the operators would make a fine showing by the time the season closes in another month or so.

Three thousand claims have been staked in the Goodnews and Togiak sections. Some men are sluicing on the beach of Togiak Bay and are reported to be enjoying fair success.

First Cleanup

Sam Cotton and his associates are sending a drill into that area at present with plans for extensive work this season.

Strandberg said his new property at Candle Creek started operating August 28 and the first cleanup is expected soon. Strandberg & Sons, Inc., developed the property this summer and have a 43-head dragline, diesel powered, with two tractors equipped with bulldozers. There is also a pumping unit in use there.

The Strandbergs also have two drills at work on Candle Creek. Thirty-two men are employed in the enterprise.

Freighting Difficult

"Freighting is our greatest difficulty there," Strandberg said. "There is no road to the property. We have to drag all our freight seven miles from the landing field near McGrath. It is a sea of mud and very expensive procedure to go through it with freight."

In the Goodnews Bay country the Clara Creek Mining Company, headed by Strandberg, is enjoying a successful season. They are operating a yard and one-quarter dragline and have 22 men at work.

The work of assembling the mammoth dredge of the Goodnews Mining Company, for which F. C. loaned \$550,000, is pro-

gressing and it is expected to start operations by November 1.

"Freighting is the biggest obstacle there, too," Strandberg said. "The freight was lightered ashore from the Latouche and then it has to be trucked 16 miles. They are using three tractors and it takes 16 hours to make a round trip."

The route of freighting extends along the shoreline around a bluff. Several times the outfits have been flooded when they became stuck on the shore and the tide covered them. Tractor operators have been compelled to abandon their loads and drive the machines to safety when the tide came in.

In the Aerolic section Strandberg is carrying forward a drilling program. Values are yet to be determined.

Dredge for Johnson-Gale

Bradford and Clebbon & Company are also drilling in the section. There are two or three small operations on Butte Creek and Kowkow Creek.

Walter Johnson and Feldon Gale are planning to install a dredge next year on Wattamus Creek, a tributary to the Goodnews River. It will be a four-foot dredge and is expected to take out good values of platinum and gold in that section.

The Cripple Creek Mining Company, another project operated by Strandberg, has 24 men at work operating a yard and one-half dragline, and two bulldozers. Harold Strandberg is in charge of the mine and it is enjoying another good season.

Bear Creek Looks Good

In the Cripple Creek section Sid Paulson is having a good season with his hydraulic outfit on Colorado Creek. He has 11 men employed. Water troubles, which impeded operations earlier in the season, have apparently disappeared for the rest of the season.

One of the noteworthy development projects in that section is that of Bob Arnold, Wilson and Hard, and Herbert Anderson. They are working on Bear Creek, a tributary to Graham Creek. While their work is prospecting this summer the results are reported to be good.

TOGIAC BAY CAPE PIERCE LOOKS GOOD

Well-Known Drilling Expert Says New Found Areas in Goodnews Bay Section May Prove to Be Best Ground in New Camp

FAIRBANKS.—Harry Owen, veteran prospector and placer drill expert, arrived back in Fairbanks by plane after a summer in the Togiak and Cape Pierce country, of the Goodnews Bay district. He reports great activity in placer prospecting and operations throughout the entire area, famed as a new platinum and gold belt.

Harry located several promising tracts on different creeks, and plans to return some time later to give the ground a thorough testing.

"Very encouraging surface prospects were obtained," says Harry, "on many of the streams of the Togiak and Cape Pierce area.

"New operations in the Goodnews district include the building of the fine dredge by Olson & Company on Salmon River, now nearing completion; drilling on Wattamus Creek, where Walter Johnson & Company may place a dredge next year; drilling by what are known as representatives of the McRae interests on Shaw Creek, and drilling on Shaw Creek by a crew understood to represent Gustafson & Crosson. With the last named outfit are Jack McGinn, Howard Case, Lou Brown and Tommy Groves, all from Fairbanks."

PLATINUM MINE IN ALASKA IS MAKING GOOD PRODUCTION

Juneau, Alaska.—From a cleanup after 18 days digging, platinum worth \$24,500 was realized by Olson Bros. on their property in the Goodnews Bay district.

This information is contained in a letter received here from J. C. Robehm, associate mining engineer writing from Platinum in the Goodnews Bay district. He declared the cleanup totaled 500 ounces of Platinum, which is now quoted on the market at \$49 an ounce.

Rasmuson Says Platinum Is On The Increase

ANCHORAGE, July 26.—Rasmuson, president of the Bank of Alaska, predicted today that platinum production in Alaska is making good production.

Goodnews Miners Go To Southeast Prospectors Move To Togiak Bay Area

ANCHORAGE, Sept. 2.—Prospectors are moving from Goodnews Bay to Togiak Bay, Alaska, for the summer season. The user assumes full responsibility for this information.

ANCHORAGE, July 26.—Rasmuson, president of the Bank of Alaska, predicted today that platinum production in Alaska is making good production.

Money Maker for the convention... This is a copy of a document in the Ak. E. Polar Regions Dept. Univ. of Ak., Anchorage, Sept. 2. The user assumes full responsibility for this information.

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Busy Season Looms For Goodnews Bay and Kuskokwim Mine Areas

Dredge and Dragline Crews En Route—Several New Plants

Preparatory to an unprecedented season in large-scale mining operations in the Goodnews Bay and adjacent areas, owners of large tracts of placer properties are now moving northward and preparing several installations of large equipment.

The advance guard of heads of operating concerns and their crews is now enroute to the area. Ed Olsen and party, who arrived here on the last Electra from Juneau were ready to get away this morning en route to Goodnews Bay via Flat, but were delayed awaiting better weather. Mr. Olson spent the winter in the coast states, and came North accompanied by Mrs. Olson and others, including J. J. Clausen, drill operator.

Mr. Olson will be accompanied to Goodnews by Winston Spencer, engineer for the company. Mrs. Spencer will remain here about a month before proceeding to Goodnews to join her husband.

Dredge Plans

Olson & Company, according to Mr. Olson, hope to start digging with their dredge on their Salmon River property, near Platinum, the latter part of April. The dredge was erected by the Yuba Construction Company last season, and worked for a short period during the late portion of the season with marked success. The dredge has eight-cubic-foot buckets.

Andrew Olson, president of Olson & Company, is expected to start North in about two weeks, and probably will come by way of Fairbanks. Tony Lindstrom, member of the firm and manager of the operations of their allied organization, operating in Deadwood under the name of the Deadwood Mining Company, is expected here soon, from Seattle, where he spent the winter.

Dragline for Marshall

Joe Ramstad, who formerly had charge of the offices of Olson &

Bay and the... direct from the diggings to purchase equipment for the coming season's prospecting.

Culver is an oldtime in that section, and says that, in his opinion, the Lower Kuskokwim will develop into one of the greatest mining sections in all of Alaska. A number of years ago he secured by location, option and lease much of the ground now being operated in that section by Olson Brothers and associates under the name of the Goodnews Mining Company.

This company is having a big dredge built to be put in operation in that section as soon as completed, which will probably be late this coming season. In order to carry on their extensive program of prospecting, development and operation in the Goodnews Bay section, they have secured a loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation of \$550,000.00.

This ground was taken over from Culver by the Goodnews Mining Company in 1933, and while they have been mining it successfully since then, they will really get into operation properly and on a suitable scale with the arrival of their big dredge. Culver has since staked some more ground there he plans on turning over to the same company to be worked along with their present holdings.

The dredge equipment will be taken to Goodnews Bay by steamer as soon as it has been completed and taken by tractor to the scene of operation a distance of about 18 miles. The company is planning on doing considerable prospecting this summer by dredge.

The object of Mr. Culver's second trip to the Outside this winter is to purchase a prospecting outfit for his own use. It will be quite unique, and may make prospecting history in that new camp. First and foremost he will have a drill mounted on a go-devil. This go-devil will be hitched to a small "cat", which "cat" will furnish the motive power for shifting the drill from hole to hole, or for taking cross-country.

Out astern, and mounted on a sled, or possibly a second go-devil will be the camp equipment, complete with stove, dishes, supplies, sleeping accommodations and spare parts casing for the drill.

The Culver prospecting outfit will be a complete unit in itself, capable of moving any place, drilling any place and wherever the "cat" stops, the hole is pitched for the night, or until the hole is bedrocked.

"A man going into that country attempting to prospect with the pick and shovel methods is just—CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT—"

Creases... bench ground on Fox Creek with a hydraulic plant.

The Goodnews Bay area has gone four stampedes, and the last one for a first gold strike was early in the century, the second was a third about 1918 and a fourth platinum, last fall and this.

"The Goodnews section is out to be the largest and richest num deposit in the world," he said.

"It's a very fine section but it's machint ground use to prospect with ground is thawed, values are deep and done from 15 to 70 feet hole is cased, the water..."

Canada has been developing the high grade nickel ores Sudbury, Ontario, which, besides their nickel, copper and chromite, also contain a good percentage of the rare

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Dragline for Marshall

Joe Ramstad, who formerly had charge of the offices of Olson & Company at Fairbanks, will devote his time this season, said Mr. Olson, to his new mining enterprises in the Marshall camp, on the lower Yukon, where he will operate a dragline. He also is interested in the Holky Dredging Company, on Ganes Creek. Charles Holky left here several days ago to prepare for dredging, drilling and thawing operations on the property.

New Dredge Coming

A new dredge with two-and-a-half-foot buckets is to be installed this season on Watermuse Creek, in the Goodnews Bay area by Walter W. Johnson and associates. It is reported the dredge will be taken up the Goodnews River 25 to 30 miles on barges after being transferred from the ocean ships.

New Dragline

Joe Nescenius, who drilled a placer area on Kow Kow Creek, in the Arolic district, near Goodnews Bay, last year, according to recent arrivals, will install a dragline on the property this season.

The Strandberg company will operate with a dragline again in the Goodnews camp this season, and is understood to be busy with its preparations.

Steamers Coming

Steamers for Bethel and Goodnews area are expected to sail from Seattle between the tenth and fifteenth of May, and will include the Tupper and the Latouche. Freight for Olson & Company will be carried by the Latouche. The Tupper