

Mining

Mining was the foundation of the Inland Empire's prosperity and with all the anti-social features of its beginnings it nevertheless brought the institutions of civilization into a region which had previously known only Indians, missionaries and troops, explorers, trappers and traders. With each new mining development of importance the young cities took a fresh start.

It has been estimated that two thirds of the downtown business blocks in Spokane were built with the proceeds of mining sales and dividends. Most of the branch railway lines which radiate from Spokane were constructed to serve mines and natural wealth of the hills has been converted into many philanthropic and educational enterprises such as the Hutton Settlement, Eastern Washington State Historical Society and the Spokane Public library.

Early mining history may be grouped by fields or movements, one of which was in California, another in the Pike's Peak region, the third in Nevada and the fourth in the Pacific Northwest, largely in the Inland Empire.

Father De Smet was convinced that gold would be found in this region and there had been rumors of its presence in the thirties. Angus MacDonald, Chief Trader at Fort Solville says:

"I took charge of Solville in 1853 and hinted at the golden geology of that country to our men. I had a little sack of dark sand given to me by a friend in California which I showed to our men. Morel (Joseph Morel, his teamster) had been out cutting a large tree for firewood and felt dry. He went and drank freely with his mouth deep into the Columbia. He saw some black sand of the kind I showed him in my little sack. Pulling off his old hat he put some gravel of the beach & water into it and managed to shake it enough to see several scales of gold, bigger and smaller than a pin-head, that remained in the hat after he poured the water out of it. Private information

was sent to a few friends in Oregon about it. A few French Canadians and half-breeds arrived early in the spring and fixed their rocker machines where Morel washed before. They washed about three dollars a day per man. (MacDonald a few items of the "West. Washington Historical Quarterly, Vol VIII P 201.)

MacDonald sent his men up the river to prospect and in a few days they returned with several ounces of fine gold scales from the mouth of the Pend Oreille river. To celebrate the discovery a small field piece said to have been taken at the Heights of Abraham was lashed to a boulder with buffalo cord and fired and lacking a flag, a buffalo and bear skin was hauled up on the flag staff. It was in the later summer and fall of 1855 that the first real rush to the Colville country took place. Business was poor on the coast at that time and consequently a considerable number of people took part in this movement.

When the news of the Yakima outbreak brought Governor Stevens back from Fort Benton in a hurry he enrolled eighteen of the Colville miners in the volunteer force which took the name of the Spokane Invincibles.

The prospectors found gold in many places but in no remarkable quantities though many men were paid from three to six dollars a day and a few reached \$12. As many as twenty men were sometimes at work on one bar. The difficulties which attended mining in the Colville country at the time included lack of transportation of supplies and constant uneasiness regarding the Indians. Moreover the gold was light "float" gold for the economical separation of which quicksilver and the sluice system were needed. Angus MacDonald proved a true prophet once more when he told the miners that the best prospects would probably be found further north.

During the summer and fall of 1857 gold was found in the upper Fraser river by miners who came mostly from Washington and Oregon.

They ran out of provisions and had to return to Washington or go to Victoria and they brought the new of their rich fields. The Fraser river discoveries well might depopulated some of the coast towns, while others experienced a temporary growth as shiploads of miners from California arrived. Some of the mining counties in California lost a third of their population. The number of miners who went from California to British Columbia in the summer of 1858 is estimated at 23,000 by sea and 8,000 by land. The rush receded in the summer of 1859 when the strangers were confronted with the great rise of the Fraser in the warm months and learned of the long interruption in mining activities which this condition compelled.

In 1858 to 1860 there was a revival of interest in the Colville mines and considerable excitement over the prospects on the Wenatchee which did not amount to much. In 1859 the British Boundary Commission camped on the Similkameen river near the international line. A member of the party found gold in the stream, the news spread and hundreds of miners were soon in the region. In the first month of its existence Okanogan City became a flourishing camp with a population of nearly 3,000. Rumors came of new discoveries on the Fraser,

nearly all the miners on the Similkameen rushed north and Okanogan City, after three months of boom was practically deserted.

In the fall of 1860 the Cariboo district, one of the most famous gold fields was discovered. In 1861 about 10,000 1,500 men went to this region and are said to have taken out \$2,000,000 "Cariboo" Cameron, a tenderfoot from Ontario, went to the mines in 1862 and left the country within a year with \$150,000.

The Kootenay diggings were discovered in 1864 by a prospector from Colville, James W. Manning who had seen some fine gold brought from the region by a half-breed. By the fall of the same year fifty sluice companies, some of them employing 25 men, were taking

out from \$300 to \$1,000 each per day. The principal diggings were on Wildhorse creek, about fifty miles north of the boundary. In 1865 upwards of 2,000 men were in the district. The town of Fisherville, containing 120 houses proved to be located on ground rich in gold and two thirds of the town-site was washed away by the miners that summer. The operations naturally attended by numerous controversies between mine owners and home holders.

Attention was first directed to quartz mining in the Kootenay district in 1888 when 102 claims were located. No important discoveries were made until Joseph Bourgeois located the North Star mine in 1892. This man also located the famous Le Roi mine and discovered the principal Rossland copper mines. Operations commenced on the Sullivan and St Eugene mines in 1895.

Victoria ditch, three miles long and costing \$125 000 was built to bring water for 100 claims. It is estimated that \$1,000,000 in gold was taken out of this district. The Kootenay mines suffered a sudden decline, partly because of the attractions of other districts and partly because of the high tariff. In 1866 only 700 men, half of these being Chinese, were at work on Wildhorse creek. The Kootenay district was naturally tributary to the states and practically all its trading was done with Lewiston and Walla Walla, in spite of the high tariff.

Gold was discovered in the Shwauk district of the Okanogan country in 1874. Ben Goodwin, an old California miner had prospected over a large part of Oregon and Idaho and was trying his luck in Washington. Reaching the Shwauk he lost his bearings and while looking about came upon the richest placer mines in the territory. Nuggets worth as high as \$400 have been taken from these diggings.

The Idaho placer mines were discovered in 1860 the year of the Cariboo discovery. The section which was first occupied opened was then a part of Washington territory. The most important placer

were located following the discoveries in the Nez Perce and Salmon River districts were the John Day and the Powder river districts in Eastern Oregon, the Boise basin and Owhyhee in southern Idaho and the Deer Lodge, Bannack, Alder gulch and Last Chance gulch in Montana. From Indian sources captain E.D. Pierce derived information which led him to suspect the existence of rich deposits of gold on the tributaries of the Clearwater. He went into the region in the summer of 1860 with five other men. The Indians objected to his presence on the reservation and warned them to leave. Each time this happened the prospectors turned back but they changed their course as soon as the Indians were out of sight. They were able to elude the natives with the assistance of a Nez Perce girl named Jane whose services had been secured as a guide. After a few days of wandering the prospectors camped in a mountain basin which was afterwards named Canal gulch. After supper a member of the party, W.F. Bassette, in a casual investigation of the stream made the discovery which ushered in a new era of placer mining.

Pierce returned to Walla Walla. Miners hesitated to go into the Nez Perce region on account of the attitude of the Indians but in the fall Sergeant I.C. Smith took in a party of about sixty men and in March 1861 Smith came out on snowshoes with \$800 in gold dust. The gold was shipped to Portland and the excitement commenced. By June thousands of miners were camped on Orofino creek and the tributary streams. Two mining towns, Orofino and Pierce City were built. It was felt that the placer deposits would prove to be very extensive and this brought constantly increasing numbers of miners. As usual small rushes took place whenever a new diggings was opened and prospects were abandoned which were as good as could reasonably be looked for anywhere else.

Traffic became heavy on the Columbia, and two new steamers were built at once in addition to the Colonel Wright which was then running on the river. Lewiston came into existence located by miners and thenavigation company as the most convenient river port and point of departure for the daily pack trains.

By August it was estimated that 2,500 miners were at the diggings and that possibly 5,000 men were at the diggings and that possibly were in the district making a living in other ways. It was in the same summer that gold was discovered on the South fork of the Clearwater and Elk City was stated. In September, the Salmon river discoveries were made which became known as the Florence mines. The placer mines of Central Idaho produced between \$30,000,000 and \$60,000,000 in gold. They were exhausted soon after 1900. Quartz mining commenced about 1884. The transportation problem, due to the isolation of the mines, has made profitable working of the ores difficult.

The first prospecting for gold in the Coeur d'Alenes was probably done by Thomas Irwin who located a quartz claim near the Mullan road in 1878 in or near Gold Run gulch. Placer discoveries on Prichard creek led to a rush to the North fork country early in 1884. At first the center of operations was the town of Eagle, but Murray soon became the hub as it was found that the richest placers lay higher up Prichard creek. At this time Col. W.R. Wallace ran a store in a dense grove of cedars where the city of Wallace now stands. The locality was then known as Placer Center. Placer mining declined soon after the Bunker Hill and other silver-lead discoveries were made.

The great lode mining industry of the Inland Empire began with the discovery of the Old Dominion mine about seven miles from Colville April 12, 1885. Alenoist and Bill Kearney were staked by Patrick D. Kearney who ran a small dry-goods store in Spokane and E.E. Alexander who had been invited to accompany them, made the successful

search after they had noticed some promising ore samples in the hands of a half-breed. The samples showed crystalized lime matrix and this was the clew upon which they followed. Benoist first hit upon a piece of loose ore on the surface after the party had searched five days and Alexander discovered the outcrop near by Alexander, who resides in Spokane, is the only survivor of the original owners. The Old Dominion, followed a few months later by the Bunker Hill

discovery in the Coeur d Alenes did much to make Spokane a city and the Old Dominion established Colville where there had previously been little beside a brewery and two stores.

Benoist and Kearney went to Spokane with samples of the ore and one day Alexander, who was camping near the location, found that the claim had been jumped by five men who had erected breastworks

and were armed with rifles. They told him that his interest in the claim would be respected and that the evidently had the impression that his associates were not American citizens. They were many in the valley who declared their willingness to dislodge the claim-jumpers by force, but the latter departed of their own accord. In the meantime, the partners had secured the backing of the First National Bank in Spokane of which Frank R. Moore was president.

The ore had to be hauled to Spokane, a distance of over ninety miles and shipped by rail to Portland and by boat to San Francisco for smelting. Yet the first shipment of 31,996 pounds yielded a net return to the owners of \$3,569.

E.J. Brickle of Spokane, a capitalist, acquired a large interest in the mine after a few years and extensive improvements were made.

G.D. Dennis of Spokane purchased the property in 1891 for himself and three Chicago associates. Under his management

\$550,000 was expended on improvements. The work eventually reached a total of 17,000 feet. On the strength of one showing of ore which had been picked up, the company received an offer

\$1,000,000 for the mine. Dennis' motion to sell was voted down by his partners and the new showing played out after yielding a carload or two. In 1915 the property was acquired by the Dominion Silver Lead Mining Co., organized by W.H. Linney of Spokane.

The discovery of the Old Dominion mine stimulated prospecting in the vicinity. The Bonanza and Young America were located in 1885. The north part of the Colville reservation was not thrown open to mineral location until 1896 and the south part not until 1898.

In the north part many claims were located at the Eureka camp, the name of which was afterwards changed to Republic. The production was chiefly gold. The production on the south part of the reservation has been small.

The first smelter in the Colville region was built about 1896. It was located on a bench overlooking the town of Colville. This plant operated only a short time and was then abandoned. It has been said that ~~was~~ its slag contained more value than the ore that was fed to it. Another smelter, which never operated, was built about five miles down the river from the city of Spokane. Connection with the railway was to have been a branch line for which funds were contributed by citizens. The buildings were gradually dismantled and were finally destroyed. The stack stood until 1926 when it fell during a storm.

The Metaline district which has recently received extraordinary publicity, is a segment three or four miles wide and about twenty miles long, extending north from Ione into ~~British~~ British Columbia where it is called the Pend Oreille district. The river of this name divides the district into east and west sections. The mineral deposits are too close to the river in the high bluffs on both sides. The development of this district, one of the richest in the country, with an immense quantity of silver-lead ore in sight, has been delayed by difficulties of transportation.

At an early date Indians made a practice of melting down the rock of what became the Blue Bell mine, opposite Ainsworth on Kootenay lake, to make bullets. The discovery of the Silver-King mine on Road mountain above Nelson in 1886 marks the beginning of large lode mining in the Nelson district. The property was incorporated with three other claims and was sold in 1893 to the Hall Mines, Ltd. Limited, of London for over \$1,000,000. The company was afterward reconstructed as the Hall Smelting and Mining Company limited. A smelter, later abandoned, was built to treat the ores of this district. Ainsworth, originally known as Hot Springs camp, is one of the oldest mining locations in the region. The Pilot Bay smelter was once chiefly maintained by ore from this camp and from the Blue Bell mine on the opposite side of the lake. This smelter has been abandoned.

The Slocan district lies between the Kootenay and Arrow lakes. It is named for the lake about twenty miles long which lies at its center, surrounded by wonderful mountain scenery. Some of the richest silver-lead mines yielding the highest grade ore are in the Slocan country. Many of the mines are at high altitudes, frequently 5,000 to 6,000 feet above sea level where the veins of precious metal have been laid bare by erosion. The first discoveries in the Slocan were made in 1891--the Rayne mine and the Noble Five group.

There is a legend that the Junker Hill and Sullivan mine, the richest property in the Coeur d'Alenes was discovered by a burro, which uncovered the ore by pawing with its hoofs. The burro played an important part in the story but did not figure as the discoverer. In the summer of 1885 the Murray firm of John T. Cooper and Origen O. Peck grubstaked a prospector named Noah S. Kellogg with a burro and \$18.75 worth of provisions. Kellogg was to prospect for gold. He returned after exhausting his provisions

with only a few samples of what seemed to be iron. He was sent back again with similar results and then chose to consider that the grubstake was terminated. The explanation of his actions was later forthcoming. Philip O'Rourke, a miner with experience in the silver-lead district of Leadville, Colo. recognized the samples which Kellogg brought back to Murray as lead ore. O'Rourke accompanied Kellogg to the south fork and later claimed that on September 10 he discovered the Bunker Hill outcrop. He and Kellogg returned to Murray together and displayed specimens of the ore. Jacob Goetz and Con Sullivan soon afterward located the extension of the Bunker Hill and named it in honor of John L. Sullivan, the pugilist.

Cooper and Peek sued for an interest in the mine. The court found that on September 10 when it was claimed that the Bunker Hill was discovered Kellogg was still under contract with the plaintiffs. It appears that the grubstake did not expire until September 13, as on that date Kellogg returned the donkey. Other claims beside the original Bunker Hill location were involved. The plaintiffs alleged that Kellogg really discovered Bunker Hill prior to August 29 and that he located four other claims at about the same time but took

down the original notices between September 15 and October 2, substituting notices bearing the names of O'Rourke, Goetz and Sullivan. The court decided that Kellogg knew of the existence of the Accident or Sullivan lode prior to September 13, and that he did practically what the plaintiffs alleged. It is thought possible that the fruitful discovery was made by Kellogg while searching the hills for his burro, which had a propensity for wandering away. However that may have been the famous burro was rewarded with a life of ease on a farm at Cottage Grove, Ore., the case against the locators was appealed, but there was no delay in developing the mine. It was at this point that Jim Wardner joined the group and took the lead in organizing the development. While the appeal was still

still pending the chance came to sell the mine for \$1,500,000 and the suit was settled with Cooper and Peck for \$75,000. The total production of the Bunker Hill and Sullivan to January 1, 1927 was \$135,826,307. The annual report of the company for 1927 shows a balance of \$10,826,001 after the payment of \$2,993,628 in dividends. The mine's production in 1927 was the greatest in history.

The Bunker Hill smelter at Kellogg is the largest and best equipped of its kind in the country and cost \$3,500,000. An electrolytic zinc plant to cost \$2,000,000 is in course of construction.

The original Helca Mining company was incorporated in 1891. It was operated intermittently until 1897, but since that time has been steadily worked and has shown a gradual increase in production. It has paid about \$17,000,000 in dividends which now run from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 a year with. In 1901 the rich Hercules mine was opened which produced \$2,000,000 within three years of its discovery and has paid over \$18,000,000 in dividends. Movements toward consolidation in the Idaho silver-lead district commenced in 1898 when the Empire State Mining and Development company was organized to control the Last Chance mine and other properties. In 1901 the Tiger-Poorman mine which had been acquired by the Buffalo Hump Mining company was joined to the holdings of the Empire State and in 1903 the latter together with the Standard and the Mammoth properties became the Federal Mining and Smelting company. The Federal Mining and Smelting purchased the Morning mine in 1905 at a reported price of \$3,000,000.

In this year the production of zinc commenced when the Success Mining Company built a mill.

The total net profits of the Coeur d'Alene mines in 1927 were \$7,057,489. The companies showing the largest earnings were the Bunker Hill and Sullivan, \$2,632,936; the Helca, \$2,028,600 and the Morning mine of the Federal company \$1,888,565.

The labor riots of the Coeur d'Alenes culminated in the blowing up of the mines, martial law and the famous Bull Pen with the assassination of Governor OOO Steunenberg and the disclosures of Harry Orchard as a sequel form a thrilling chapter in the history of the mining of the region. A Consolidated Miners' Union was organized in 1890 and a Mine Owners' Protective association was formed in 1891. A dispute over deductions from wages for medical care resulted in a strike. This, together with another dispute between the mine owners and the railway over freight rates led to the closing down of the principal mines by January 15, OOO 1892. The proposal of the owners to reopen in March, with some reductions in wages, was rejected by the union. The owners announced that they would open on June 1 and began to import miners from OOO outside under the guard of detectives.

Charles A. Siringo, a Pinkerton operator (Pinkerton's National Detective Agency) was sent to the town of Gem to perform intelligence service for the owners. He worked in the mines, joined the union of which George A. Pettibone was secretary and soon discovered that the policy of the labor organization was being shaped "by a number of dangerous anarchists." Several train-loads of armed miners were brought into the country by the owners and a battle took place between the union men and the strike breakers at the Frisco mine on July 11. The older building was blown up by turning off the water from the flume and sending giant powder down the penstock to the water wheel. The defenders had removed to a new building before the explosion, but they soon afterwards surrendered. At the Gem mine a large number of shots were exchanged after which a conference was held and the strike-breakers surrendered. The union men then went to Hardner, took possession of the Bunker Hill concentrator and placed a ton of powder under it. The manager of the mine saved it from destruction by agreeing to send away his non-union employees.

The casualties in the fighting were not heavy. Only five men were killed at the Gem mine but a great deal of hardship was visited upon residents of the region who refused to join the union. It was occasionally voted to run certain "scabs" out of the state, then these men were dragged from their homes, treated to numerous indignities on the street, marched up the canyon a few miles beyond Burke and given a good running start with a volley of shots fired over their heads.

The nearest point of refuge for them was 30 miles over the range through deep snow as these outrages were perpetuated during the winter. While many non-union men were waiting for the steamer at the Coeur d'Alene mission on their way out of the country, they were attacked by an armed party and were driven to the woods for the night. Robbery was undoubtedly the purpose of this and the fugitives lost everything they had with them. Some of them were never heard of again. One man was severely wounded. Siringo escaped the vengeance of the strikers when his identity was discovered by crawling through the town beneath a board sidewalk under the feet of the crowds who were searching for him.

Troops were sent to the mines under the command of General Carlin and martial law was declared. Most of the authors of the outbreak were rounded up by the military and identified by Siringo. The prisoners were at first held in stockades at Wallace and Kellogg where the military courts sat. The majority were released on parole and only a few convictions were secured in the regular courts. Pettibone and several others were sent to the House of Correction in Detroit. Though the excitement in the mining towns quickly subsided, there were occasional individual acts of violence directed against residents who were particularly unpopular with the miners. Work at the mines was resumed but in April, 1899

another rupture occurred over a demand for official recognition of the union which was refused by Frederick Burbidge, assistant manager of the Bunker Hill mine. On April 29, a party of masked men took possession of the Northern Pacific train at Burke and compelled the engineer to follow their instructions. The train was moved down the canyon and ^{about} 100 men got aboard. At the Frisco mine about 80 boxes of giant powder were loaded into a box car. After taking on 200 more men at the town of Frisco and proceeding to Gem the leader of the expedition had the train backed to the Frisco powder magazine again where an additional load of explosives was picked up. On the return to Gem a large part of the male population was added to the party and ~~a~~ a Mullan delegation was taken on near Wallace. Ammunition and guns were purchased at Wallace and the train proceeded to Wardner. At the end of the journey there were about 1,000 men in the party of whom 200 or more were masked and armed. The boxes of powder were carried to the Bunker Hill mine and the buildings were completely destroyed. No one was killed at the mill, but in the indiscriminate shooting which occurred ^a at Frisco a miner was killed. It is said that he was shot by the strikers on suspicion of being a traitor. An employe of the mine was fatally wounded. For the killing, Paul Corcoran, Secretary of the Burke union, was sentenced to seventeen years imprisonment.

Martial law was again declared, and federal troops occupied the mining region, under the command of General H.C. Merriam. A large number of arrests were made and the prisoners were at first kept in an old stable. The conditions under the circumstances were none too good, and the fact that the guards at first were negro troops did not help matters any. After twenty days in the stable and in box cars the prisoners were transferred to the structure which has generally been known as the Bull Pen. This was built at Wardner and consisted of four sheds, enclosing a yard. Three of the

sheds were bunk-houses with a window at each end as the sole means of ventilation. These sheds opened into the yard and entrance to the buildings was by a single door in the fourth shed which was used as a kitchen and guard room for the soldiers. The entire group was enclosed by a bared wire fence and the military camp adjoined the prison. Several hundred men were confined in the Bull Pen and it is said that at one time the number reached 800. Those who were charged with minor offenses were released after a while, as the county decided that it could not afford to try so many persons. Eight men who were under indictment either contrived to escape from the Bull Pen or were permitted to do so before their cases came to trial. It is significant that only these eight men escaped when there were about 150 prisoners still in the Bull Pen. Their escape was arranged with the connivance of a First Sergeant who was in charge of the guard and deserted at the same time.

The State district court impeached and removed the Sheriff and County Commissioners of Shoshone county soon after the riot. The coroner's jury which dealt with the cases of the two men killed at Wardner charged the county officials with complicity in the crimes and the Sheriff with being with the mob at Wardner and \$10,000 in collusion with its leaders. Many of the miners testified that they were not parties to any plot to blow up the Dunker Hill mine that they went to Wardner solely to make a demonstration and that only the masked and armed contingent had definite plans.

Owing to the numerous and bitter complaints regarding harsh treatment of the inmates of the Bull Pen by the troops, congress ordered an investigation by the Committee on Military Affairs. The inquiry lasted from February 20 to May 8, 1900 and the committee was not satisfied that the charges were sustained by the evidence but seven members of the committee presented a minority report condemning the actions of the authorities and complaining that many persons had

been imprisoned without being charged with the crime. The sub-commission on Mining of the Industrial Commission visited the Coeur d'Alenes in July, 1899, and took the testimony of numerous witnesses, but its report was not published until 1901.

(Coeur d'Alene Labor troubles 56th Cong. 1st session House report No. 1999, 1900.

After the restoration of order, threats were made against Governor Frank Steunenberg of Idaho and six years later, December 30, 1905, he was blown to pieces when he opened his gate by a bomb placed by Albert E. Horsley, alias Harry Orchard, professional dynamiter. Orchard confessed to this and many similar crimes and implicated Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners. William D. Haywood, its secretary and treasurer and George A. Pettibone, a member of its executive committee under whose ~~direction~~ direction he claimed to have acted. These men were captured by operatives in Denver and were spirited away on a special train to Boise--an act which only helped to swell their defense fund. Siringo served as body guard to Orchard during the trials and also to James McParland, head of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency in the West, who had secured Orchard's confession. After the eloquence of Clarence Darrow, or intimidation of the jury had acquired Haywood and Pettibone, the charges against Moyer were dropped. Siringo tells of a conspiracy to take the three men from jail, to kidnap Darrow and to hang all four. A lynching party was on its way by train from Nampa. Siringo informed McParland, who notified Governor Frank R. Gooding in the middle of the night. The governor dressed hurriedly, went to meet the would-be vigilantes and evidently dissuaded them from carrying out their intentions. Orchard was tried and sentenced to be hanged, but this sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. "Horsley, Albert E. Confessions and ~~Autobiography~~ Autobiography of Harry Orchard, New York, 1907)

The production of copper in the Inland Empire is almost exclusively confined to the northern region, across the international line and to two districts known as Trail Creek and Boundary. Trail creek, on the headwaters of which the mineral belt is found, got its name from the fact that the trail used by the Hudson's Bay company men in passing crossing British Columbia passed through its valley. The mines which are also known as the Rossland mines, are only six miles north of the boundary. The first claims were staked in 1890. The ore is chiefly pyritic iron bearing gold and copper. In 1894 the main paystreak of the War Eagle was discovered. The Le Roi mine was located in 1890 and was developed by a group of Spokane attorneys, who built their own smelter. After \$975,000 in dividends had been paid the mine was sold in 1911 to the Consolidated Mining and Smelting company of Canada for \$4,250,000. The same syndicate with a paid up capital of \$12,721,575 in 1927 has acquired a large number of Rossland properties including other early mines, the most important being the War Eagle which was sold for \$2,000,000 in 1906; and the Centre Star, capitalized at \$3,500,000 which was sold in the same year.

The first discoveries in the Boundary district were made in 1891 but the ore was low-grade and the region was inaccessible. Production in any quantity had to await the coming of a railway in 1900. The best known group of mines in the Boundary district is the Granby Consolidated Mining, Smelting and Power Company, limited with authorized capital of \$50,000,000 of which about \$35,000,000 has been issued. The Granby was organized in 1901 and took over the properties of the original Granby, Old Ironsides, Knob Hill, Grey Eagle and other companies. It afterwards acquired mines in Alaska and in 1932 it absorbed the Allenby Copper company. The Allenby property is about nine miles south of Princeton, B.C. and was brought into production in August, 1925. In the Hidden Creek (Anyox) property, the Granby has what is probably the largest copper mine in

British Columbia and the Anox smelter is the largest pyritic smelting plant in the world. Anox is located on Obse vatory inlet, south of Portland canal.

There is a limited copper belt in the southea corner of the Coeur d'Alene district. The Snowstorm mine was first worked in 1903. It is three and one half miles from Mullan at an elevation of 5,100 feet.

The United States consumes more magnesite than any other country in the world and at the opening of the World War over ninety six per cent of the magnesite in America was imported from Europe, chiefly from Austria-Hungary. In 1916 deposits of magnesite were discovered in Stevens county, Washington and these deposits are now the largest supply on the continent. The present known deposits are sixty miles north of Spokane and between five and fifteen miles from Chewelah and Valley. The deposits are apparently confined to a narrow belt of dolomite along the eastern flank of the Huckleberry mountains near the crest of the Sno range. The deposit was known previous to 1916 but was mistaken for limestone and its owner of the claim which is now credited with the largest production in America, who located it is limestone, once unsuccessfully offered it to a neighbor for a second hand Ford...

(Whiwell, G.E. and Fatty E.N: The Magnesite Deposits of Washington, Geological survey Bul No. 25, Olympia 1925..
Fuller, George W: The Inland Empire of the Pacific Northwest, a History; Vol 2, Spokane, Denver H.G. Linderman, 1928.