

PART II.

SALMON RIVER DISTRICT.

TOPOGRAPHY.

Salmon river parallels Bear river on the north and is separated from it by the long Bear River ridge. It is a short stream issuing from a large glacier, and after a course of 13 miles measured along the valley, empties into Portland canal near its head. The main stream is entirely in Alaskan territory, the International Boundary line crossing its valley near the lower end of the glacier.

South of the Salmon glacier, between it and Bear River ridge, is a broken ridgy tract of country, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide, drained by Cascade river, a tributary of the Salmon. Most of the mineral occurrences are situated along this belt.

Cascade river heads in Long lake, plunges down a series of cascades through a recent rockcut channel into Silver lake, then continuing southward, joins the Salmon after a course of about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles measured along its valley. Its grade is exceptionally steep, averaging over 500 feet to the mile. It has a width of from 20 to 50 feet, flows a large volume of water, and if the prospects now being investigated develop into mines, will doubtless be utilized at several points for power plants.

A branch to the northeast, separated from the main stream by Slate mountain, a long ridge rising to an elevation of 4,000 feet, skirts the base of Bear River ridge to a point close to Long lake and at about the same elevation. It is fed by streams descending from the snow and ice-covered slopes of Bear River ridge, and near its mouth is almost equal in size to the main stream.

Long lake, the source of Cascade river, is a narrow stretch of water about a mile and a half in length, occupying a depression in a north and south trending valley separating Mt. Dillsworth¹ from Bear River ridge. Its elevation is approximately 3,250 feet. The valley beyond it rises slowly northward to a flat summit, then descends towards the Nass slope.

The principal elevations of the district include: the long Bear River ridge, bounding it on the east; Slate mountain,

¹Named after one of the pioneer prospectors of the district.