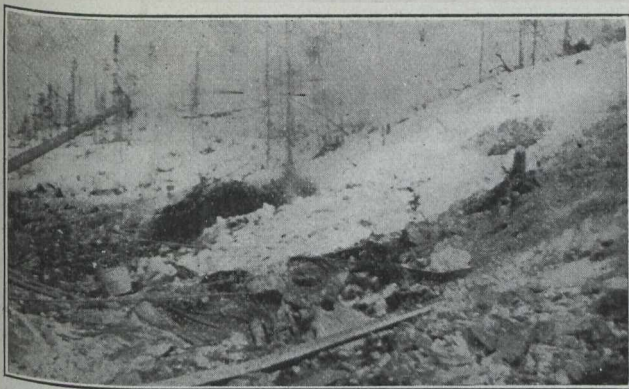




No. 4 Shaft Cobalt Lake, Beginning Sinking.

was placed in charge of the mining operations. Under his direction a force of 60 men continued trenching the frozen ground during the remainder of the month. Two veins were disclosed. North of the central part of the lake shore a smaltite vein two and one-half inches wide was discovered, and a very high grade silver vein, about the centre of the shore line. The severity of the weather made continuous work impossible, but the results obtained by intermittent efforts were, at least, encouraging.

At present the entire shore line of the company's property has been partially stripped. On No. 1 vein a shaft has been sunk to a depth of 20 feet. On No. 2 vein, which consists of solid smaltite, varying from 2 to 6 inches in width, a prospect shaft has been sunk 40 feet. About 100 feet to the south of No. 2 an 18 foot shaft has been sunk of a 2 1-2 inch vein of niccolite, smaltite and calcite; and on No. 3 vein an 18 foot shaft has been put down. This vein is composed of solid niccolite and attains a maximum width of 18 inches. On No. 4 vein a shaft has been sunk to the depth of 80 feet. No. 4 carries good silver values and is composed principally of smaltite, niccolite and calcite, though considerable argente, wire silver and occasional specimens of ruby silver have been encountered. On No. 5 vein a shaft has been sunk 80 feet. The vein varies from three to five inches and is composed of smaltite and native silver. No. 6, which is on the McKinley Darragh line, has been sunk to a depth of 35 feet. It will thus be seen that a total of 291 feet of sinking has been performed, mostly by hand.

The shafts have a cross section of seven feet by ten in the clear, and are collared with a block skin to skin crib of hewn timber, affording a hoisting compartment five feet by five and a pipe and ladderway three feet by five. Below the collar the shafts are timbered with square setts in the usual way.



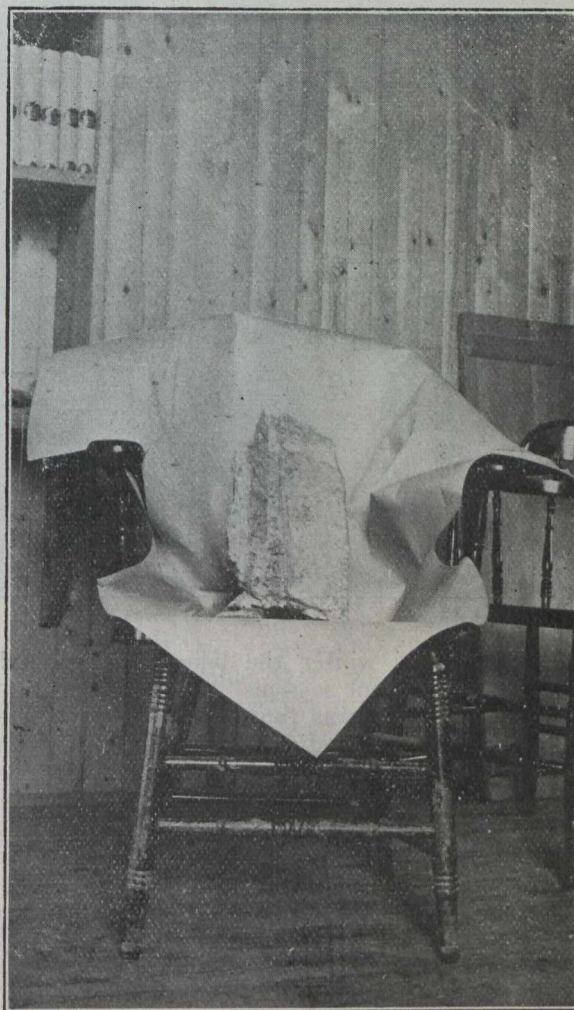
No. 4 Shaft Cobalt Lake, last week of February, 1897—Beginning Sinking.

In addition to these mining operations, the company has put up the following buildings:—

- One cobbing house.
- Two blacksmith shops.
- One machine shop.
- One oil house.
- Compressor and boiler building.
- Office building.
- Eating and cook house.
- Bunk house and stables.

All of these buildings are on the east shore of Cobalt Lake.

Two tubular boilers of one hundred horse-power each have been installed, and a fifteen drill cross compound air compressor will be in operation early in July.



Specimen of Niccolite Ore, Cobalt Lake, Showing Width of Vein.

Notwithstanding the depths attained in No. 4 and No. 5 shafts and their nearness to the lake shore, 23 feet in one instance and 15 feet in the other, it has not yet been found necessary to make any installation for pumping. No. 4 shaft, although it is over 70 feet below the water level of the lake, only makes about two barrels of water in a half-shift, and No. 5 about three barrels in the same period. These facts satisfactorily dispose of the apprehensions that water from the lake might be encountered in the early workings.

It is now the intention of the management to sink three main working shafts, one in the centre of the shore line, and one at each end. From these, when a suitable depth has been attained, the ground underneath the lake will be thoroughly prospected by means of drifts and cross-