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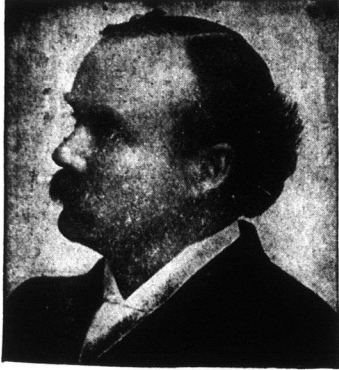
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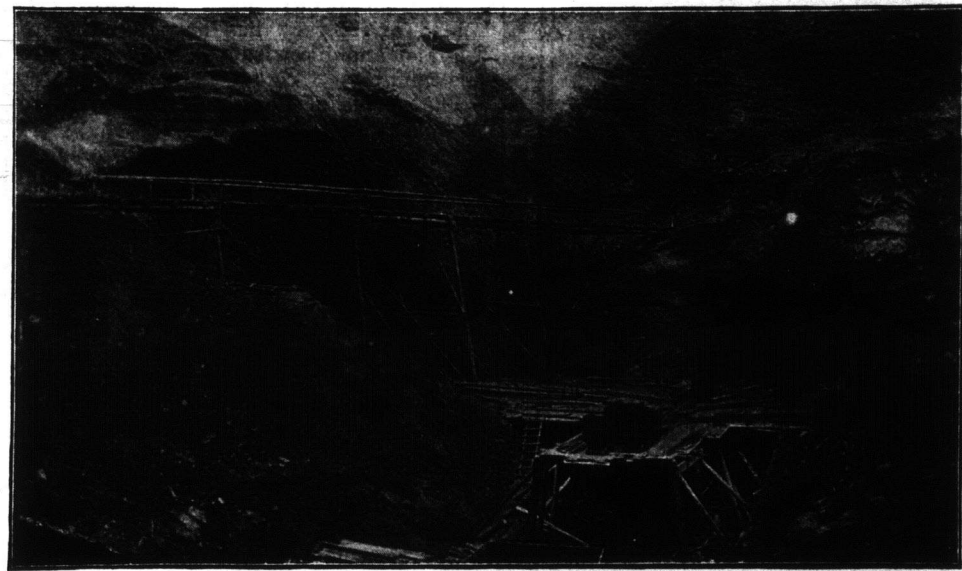


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The average hotel kitchen does not surpass the "grill-room" of the miners' home in any one of its appointments. To begin, the cook must have the very best of appliances and all appointments convenient for his use, if he is to have a well-cooked meal for one hundred men, all eating at the same time. The cook will inform you that his position differs from that of an hotel cook. His meal is served in the space of a half hour, while at the hotel it occupies two hours or more. The large range used is constructed so that steaks and other meats are all cooked on top of the stove. As many as twenty-five one pound steaks can be cooked at one time.

One half of the men work at night, and consequently a meal is served at midnight, which necessitates a night chef. The occupant of this position is called the "pastry cook," and during the silent hours of the night he bakes bread, pies and cakes.

Besides the pack-train, already described, there are three other ways in vogue in British Columbia for the transportation of ore from the mines. Some mines can be reached by wagon load; and when thus favored the ore is freighted in heavy ore-wagons, drawn by four or six powerful horses. Those mines which have a concentrator are also supplied with tramways connected with the mine. But the last and most novel is that of "raw-hiding," and in this particular method the mines of British



Theslope of the mountain—a mass of black shining coal

Columbia lead the world. This crude way of transportation is universally used throughout British Columbia, and is particularly adapted to the geographical conditions which have to be contended with in that country. When the winter season—which lasts from October to April—is on, the snow covers the mountain for a depth of from five to ten feet on the level, and mules or pack-trains become useless. They do not seem to be able to do the work of a powerful horse during the cold weather; hence heavy horses are then substituted for mules.

The fresh, untanned, raw hide of a beef is laid upon the snow, and anywhere from one to two tons of ore, in 100-pound sacks, are placed upon it, the raw side of the skin being uppermost. The ends of the hide are then laced firmly together, so that the whole is a compact bundle. A horse drags this heavy load with ease down the hard-packed trail, which, after a few days of raw-hiding, becomes a veritable toboggan-slide. High banks of snow on either side prevent the load from sliding off the trail. When raw-hiding one horse will drag upon a hide five times as much ore as a mule can carry upon its back; hence this method is a great saving over the pack-train, and consequently a large amount of the precious metal is shipped during the rawhiding season.

Most of the mining companies insist upon their employees contributing \$1.00 each month to a hospital fund. This amount is deducted from their wages, and insures them hospital fees and the attendance of the company's physician in case of accident or sickness. A pathetic scene witnessed in a mining country is that of a number of hardy miners carrying a mutilated comrade on a stretcher down the trail to the min-

ing camp. The biggest part of these rough men is their sympathy, and on such occasions it manifests itself in their sorrowful countenances and silent demeanor.

Space will not permit a full description of a concentrator. Suffice to say of this important institution that its name expresses its use. The ore is carried from the mine to the concentrator, which is located at the base of the mountain near a shipping point, sometimes in ore-cars operated upon a miniature narrow-gauge line propelled by wire cable, or in iron buckets above the head by an aerial system. The work of a concentrator is to separate the ore from the rock and dirt with which it is mixed. The whole process results in thoroughly pulverizing and washing the ore from the waste matter. When this is accomplished nothing but the pure ore is shipped, thereby permitting of a great saving of freight over the shipment of the ore in its natural state.

Wood and water are essential for conducting a mine. In some localities these are a costly part of the equipment. Frequently water is carried from a mountain stream in wooden flumes or pipes a distance of three miles or more, and stored in large tanks at the mine, so that the bunk-house may always have a supply at hand.

The problem of securing firewood and timber is often times difficult and costly

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