

diture of capital in exploration and in the fullness of time the Silver City, perched in an angle of the Eternal Hills, was born, heir to the vicissitudes and circumstances that has been the inalienable lot of every mining camp the West has known. With the advent of a more conventional form of civilization and the consequent increase in population, the need for an organized effort to alleviate physical suffering and a means of controlling in so far as it was possible, the ills that human flesh is heir to, became daily more imperative.

At this time, early in the year of 1899, the sick and injured of Sandon were being treated at two Institutions, one at New Denver and the other at Kaslo. The former was distant ten miles and the latter thirty from Sandon, and at certain seasons of the year it was by no means a light task for even a healthy man to undertake the journey.

The City of Sandon then, as now, the centre of the mining industry in the Slocan District, began to feel keenly the need of a local hospital and after much discussion the project was actively taken up by the membership of the Sandon Miners' Union, No. 81, of the Western Federation of Miners, with what success a lengthy dissertation is not necessary to establish.

The Hospitals in the neighboring towns of New Denver and Kaslo, being privately owned concerns, it is not unreasonable to presume that they were operated primarily in the interests of their owners, nor was it to be expected that, should the camp fail to realize expectations, a continuance of their service would be maintained.

The doctrine of Co-operative Ownership has been expounded by so many eminent thinkers, that an endeavor on our part to say anything new on the subject would be presumptuous, to say nothing of its being an impossibility.