Baker Democrat Herald June 28 1939

Cornucopia Area
Throbs With New Mining Activity

Mining Company Improves Property in
and in Camp

Many Buildings
Are Constructed

Compressor Room Construction Feature of Improvements

By KLASS V. POWELL

Extensive developments in the underground workings of the Cornucopia Gold Mines and construction of additional camp buildings have converted the old town of Cornucopia, located high in the Cornucopia mountains into a veritable bee-hive.

The successful operation of the extensive property by the company has expedited increased activity in the mining camp. The buildings in the camp, the company has been so successful during the last few years that it has been able to meet the strict requirements for entrance of extensive property by the company has been so successful during the last few years that it has been able to meet the strict requirements for entrance of

The company is operating the mill with two crushing and three operating shifts. The mill is operated on the basis of two shifts.

At the ore is taken from the mine, it drops over a conveyor, which has an automatic weighing device. This is then put into a jaw crushe and vibrating screen. The undersize of the screen goes into fine ore bins and is sampled at this point by an automatic sampler. The oversize goes back through a set of rolls and proceeds back through the screen. The crushed ore is fed by automatic feeders into a ball mill, from whence it passes over jigs and through a unit flotation cell to a classifier, which is in closed circuit with two ball mills.

The overflow of the classifier passes into a series of six flotation cells, from whence the concentrates are taken to the tailing ponds and the concentrates go to a thickeners, from whence they are pumped to a drum vacuum filter, which extracts the larger percentage of the moisture. The concentrates are then shoveled and the concentrates are then shoveled into trucks and taken to Robinson.

In the winter time the ore from the Last Chance workings in the winter by means of a 100 horsepower tendertrailer with a single horse, mounted on pneumatic tires. The tender holds 20 tons of ore, each, holds from 15 to 20 tons of ore.

Officers of the company are as follows: General Manager, Ferrell Davis; purser, E. Fuller of Seattle; secretary-treasurer, A. Scott Hill of Seattle; general superintendent, A. V. Quine; mill superintendent, L. J. Donley; construction foreman, J. H. Donley; master mechanic, A. Gintner; chief electrician, 1. A. Posterling; mine accountant, E. McFarland, and engineers, J. E. Dunn and C. C. March.

The company is milling steadily between 165 and 175 tons of ore a day. A good share of the production at the present time is credited to the individual lessees, supplemented by the ore secured mainly from the company's development faces.

The monthly "take" is about the same as last year, approximately 1200 tons. The May production was 2500 tons of gold, 624,448 pounds of silver, 839 cubic feet of ore, and 770 tons of concentrates. The ore is shipped in special cars from Cornucopia to the mill at Robinette and is placed in a specially constructed, steel, 86-foot cars. The ore is shipped in special cars from Cornucopia to the mill at Robinette and is placed in a specially constructed, steel, 86-foot cars. The ore is shipped in special cars from Cornucopia to the mill at Robinette and is placed in a specially constructed, steel, 86-foot cars. The ore is shipped in special cars from Cornucopia to the mill at Robinette and is placed in a specially constructed, steel, 86-foot cars.
Chief Otto Karg.

Many cash prizes will be offered to the youngest competitors and even the men will have a chance for glory in a special 100-yard event.

Foot races will be held as well as sack races, an egg race, a potato race and a three-legged race.

Following is the list of events and prizes:

Girls under eight, 40-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c boys; under eight, 40-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; girls under 10, 40-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 10, 40-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; girls under 15, 40-yard yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, 60-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, 60-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; girls under 15, 40-yard sack race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, 40-yard sack race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; girls under 15, 60-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, 60-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; girls under 15, 40-yard sack race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, 60-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, 60-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; girls under 15, three-legged race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, three-legged race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, 60-yard race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, potato race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; girls under 15, potato race, $1.50, $1 and 75c; boys under 15, potato race, $1.50, $1 and 75c.

Baker Firemen

To Demonstrate

State Hose-Coupling

Champions to Give Exhibition

The Baker fire department, the
till team of which is the state
champion in hose-coupling contests,
will perform for local residents at
3:30 p.m. Tuesday morning at
again street.

Members of the team, Dr. W. F.
-oot, Pleas Brown and Chester
rown, will demonstrate the skill
they displayed at the recent fire-
men's convention in Portland and
which won them the state meet.

They will also perform several drills
in addition to the hose-coupling.

Fire Chief Otto Karg stated that
he men have been keeping in prac-
tice since their return from Portland
and are in fine shape to give the
best possible exhibition. The intri-
cacies of laying a line and making
all of the couplings in a minute
so will undoubtedly prove inter-
esting to visitors who have never
seen a contest team in action, Mr.
Karg said.

The team won the acclaim of
visiting firemen at Portland and
received high praise from various
roll captains and fire chiefs in the
northwest. Chief Karg also distin-

ished himself by placing second
among chiefs in the state in a writ-
ten examination. Cash and a silver
medal were brought back to Baker by
the team.

Ring Battles

Will Be Good

Golden Glove Champs

and N. J. Titlist Will Annear

Charles Smith Will
Pull 25,000 Pound
Weight With Teeth

I. E. U. Official

Portland Talks At

Pondosa Gathering

PONDOSA, June 28—(Special)—

An important I. E. U. meeting was
carried here Wednesday. A D.
Childs of the Portland head-
quartars and D. F. Williams of
Emmett were guest speakers, Dick
Crozier, local chairman, opened
the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Daves
were week-end visitors in Camp-
bell.

Clifford Perkins, who has been
attending Northwestern university
in Chicago the past year, is visiting
his brother, J. W. Perkins, here.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Norwood
and Larry and Woody Norwood drove to
Emmett over the week-end. Carol-
lynn returned with them.

The Pondosa Women's club will
have a cooked food sale at the store
June 30.

Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Hansen spent
the week-end in La Grande with
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Baum.

Dorothy Sager is quite ill of
influenza in St. Elizabeth's hospital.
Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E.
Sager visited her there Monday
evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Mets Lerrill and
Mrs. Ed Lark spent the week-end in
Emmett.

Mrs. M. F. Raymond has gone
to Baker to be with her friend, Mrs.
Littig, for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. David Meldrum
and Atholl and Eunice Meldrum, Mar-
jorie Jackson and Viola Driver
drove to Wallowa Lake Sunday. Eu-
nice and Viola will stay this week
at the Girl Scout camp.

Mr. and Mrs. L. F. McClure and
sons, Luther and Chuck, Louis
Dunning, Mr. and Mrs. Duward
Moore, Elgin Childers, Betty Stein,
Harold Lewis, Bob Childers, Donna
Claire Gale, Mrs. V. V. Lindquist,
Frank Nelder and Mrs. Burnette
spent the week-end at Anthony
Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Foote, Mrs.
Becky, Mrs. Jenkins, Pauleen Foote
and Jacqueline Smith spent the
week-end at Wallowa Lake. Jackie
will stay this week at Girl Scout
camp.

Water Carnival

Is Big Feature

Grace Mineff, Archie
Murray Arranging
Program

The water carnival at the natato-
rium, which will be presented Sun-
day afternoon at 2 p.m., will feature
the best swimmers of Baker perform-
ing in a free exhibition for visitors
at the Baker Mining Jubilee and
Rodeo, according to George Balch,
in charge of the affair.

Miss Grace Mineff and Archie
Murray, manager of the natatorium,
are arranging a complete program
for the public, which they promise
will be one of the finest ever present-
red here. A loudspeaking system has
been placed in the natatorium and
all events will be clearly announc-
ed.

Last year more than 600 persons
were packed into the seating space to
view the carnival. This year there
will be room for at least that many.
Cornucopia ends lease talks

TORONTO—Valley View Gold Mines Ltd. has announced that its wholly owned subsidiary, Cornucopia Gold Mines Inc., had terminated further negotiations with UNC Cornucopia Gold Mines Inc. to extend a mining lease on the Cornucopia mining properties located in eastern Oregon.

While the mining lease expired at the end of last year, Cornucopia had previously been in negotiation with UNC to extend the lease under a revised 1988 exploration program and expenditure commitment.

Valley View said that its expenditures of about $600,000 incurred in 1987 in exploration on the Oregon properties would be written off. Based on the report of the independent mining consultants employed by Valley View to supervise the 1987 exploration, Valley View decided not to commit to further expenditures on the Cornucopia properties under the terms insisted upon by UNC.

Irwin Singer, Valley View's president, said, "The results obtained from the 1987 exploration program were not as favorable as had been expected. Based upon historical records and given the commitment that UNC was demanding of Valley View, the shareholders of Valley View will be better served by allocating its resources in a joint venture with Jefferson State Exploration & Development Co. to develop and place into production commencing in 1988. Jefferson's gold mine properties located in Siskiyou County, Calif., rather than in further exploration of the UNC Cornucopia properties."

Valley View had previously announced the details of its joint venture with Jefferson on the northern California gold mining properties.

SOURCE: AMERICAN METAL MARKET

DATE: MARCH 24, 1988

COMMODITY SECTION: NONFERROUS

STATE ARTICLE CONCERNS: OREGON, ET AL.
Lien Foreclosure Action Filed On Cornucopia Mines

Schneider Initiates Case Against Big Bankrupt Gold Mine

Foreclosure of the huge Cornucopia mining company properties in this county is sought in a suit filed by Chris Schneider, long-time employee, in circuit court here March 25.

Included in the property listed in the complaint are 86 patented mining claims including the big Union-Companion property, one of the largest gold mines in the West, 20 unpatented lode claims, besides a number of patented and unpatented placer mining claims, as well as the property.

Mr. Schneider alleges he worked for the mine as caretaker from 1958 through Sept. 1959 and has owing him $4487 for which he has previously filed a miner's lien.

He cites that the property is in process of bankruptcy, asks the lien be declared, the property foreclosed and a deficiency judgment if any be issued. Grant, Fuchs, Rose and Daron are his attorneys.

The 'Copia mines closed down under the gold order of 1941, during the early phases of War II. Much of the real property improvements of the former mining camp have been sold and removed.

The property itself includes miles of underground workings both at the Union and the Coulter levels and at other points of the innumerable claims. The Coulter tunnel itself from which the final operation was conducted is a mile into the mountain, in addition to drifts and raises. A big dining hall, dry room, power room and other quarters are fashioned in solid granite a mile under the mountain at the terminus of the tunnel, driven about 1936.

Jackson and Johnson of Baker are representatives of the trustees of the 'Copia bankruptcy action.

The case is filed in state court and will involve the lien rights of the action in respect to the federal bankruptcy proceedings.

Cornucopia Mine Future Uncertain

Future of Cornucopia Gold Mines Inc., a one-time rich gold producer located in the Panhandle country of Baker County, is uncertain after the disclosure this week that Earl Belle of Pittsburg, Pa., who had assembled 11 companies under the name of Cornucopia Gold Mines Inc., had left the country.

According to an article in the July 21 issue of Newsweek Magazine, Belle left the U.S. for Rio de Janeiro just before a Cornucopia stockholder complained to a Massachusetts court that there was a $400,000 discrepancy in Belle's accounting for assets.

Cornucopia itself apparently is an innocent participant in the financial empire built and toppled by Belle. The Newsweek article suggests that the entire enterprises were given Cornucopia's name since the firm had a listing on the American Stock Exchange. The story adds that no charges have been filed against Belle, who can't be brought back because the U.S. has no treaty of extradition with Brazil.

COPIA MINES HEARING BANKRUPTCY SET

A hearing is being held October 1 on the petition of involuntary bankruptcy filed against Cornucopia Gold Mines Inc. filed received by the county this week indicates.

The county would list in full as due to taxes from the mine, is one of three local creditors, two small accounts being owed at Halfway. Most of the creditors are Eastern firms and individuals in the financial end of the corporate operation.

The notice indicated it was hoped a merger would be effected to permit settlement of the debts according to a plan proposed in the petition.
History and Present Production of Mines at Cornucopia Shown

Article Appears In Jan. Issue of Mining World

FOUR MILLION TAKEN IN GOLD

Extensive Operation Is Now Underway

ONE of the outstanding articles written about the Cornucopia Gold Mines, along with a splendid layout of pictures, appears in the January issue of the Mining World, a mining magazine published in Seattle.

The article and pictures cover four pages of the magazine. The front cover is also given over to a picture taken inside the mine.

The inside pictures include those of the caterpillar tractor used in hauling ore, the underground compressor room, Leverett Davis, vice president and general manager, and A. V. Quine, general superintendent, in one of the mine offices, machine shops and other scenes.

The Mining World story reads as follows:

Cornucopia is an old camp in the Wallowa mountains of northeastern Oregon. First worked in 1878, it produced almost continuously until 1927, when it shut down.

Canadian interests sent engineers and geologists to the property for a thorough examination. The report, made in 1930, was that the mines were worked out.

Since that time Cornucopia—"the horn of plenty"—has produced nearly $4,000,000 in gold.

It has risen to the sixth position among American gold mines.

How can you account for this?

Leverett Davis, vice president and general manager of Cornucopia Gold Mines, credits two factors:

1. The detailed determination of the late A. D. Coulier of Seattle, who refused to believe the mine was worked out and who organized the project which drove a new low-level tunnel 6000 feet to the ore 1200 feet below any previous workings.

2. The theory evolved by G. E. Goodspeck, professor of geology at the University of Washington, which contends that mineralizing solutions at Cornucopia rose through zones of ore shoots through the tangled veins and dikes of Cornucopia mountain, permitting development to keep on the vein of values by staying with the microbrecciation even where sampling may fail to disclose commercial ore.

There is a third element Mr. Davis did not mention, but the person who spends some time studying the Cornucopia camp cannot escape the impression that a listing of the factors which have brought about the re-birth of Cornucopia should include:

1. The energy, ability and vision of Leverett Davis, vice president and general manager.

Cornucopia Gold Mines' head office is in Seattle, where Dr. Richard E. Fuller is president and A. Scott Hill is secretary-treasurer. Mr. Davis is at Cornucopia, where A. V. Quine is his general superintendent.

The property consists of well over 2000 acres, of which nearly half are patented. It lies to the west of Pine creek near its head on the south side of the Wallowa mountains. The mines are approximately 75 miles northeast of Baker, Ore. Elevation at the mill is 4000 feet, the property running up to 8400 feet at the outcrop of the Valley View vein.

There are 11 veins, of which only two have been worked to any considerable extent, with some development in three others. From east to west, the veins are: Whitman, Aja (which may be a faulted portion of the Whitman), Jonathan Bourne, Forest Queen, Union, Last Chance, Stella, Dawa, Wallingford, Black Eagle and Valley View.


The principal veins, Union-Companion, Last Chance, Wallingford and Valley View, strike about 30 degrees east of north and dip uniformly at about 45 degrees to the west.

There are nearly 35 miles of workings. Primary tunnels are: The Lawrence at 6800 feet elevation running 3700 feet 4-5 degrees south of west to the Valley View vein.

The Clark at 3600 feet elevation, running more than 5000 feet, part way about 18 degrees west of north, then swinging to 45 degrees west of south cutting the companion last chance vein and now being extended to the Wallingford and Valley View.

The Coulier at 4800 feet elevation, running 8400 feet at 87 degrees west of north and reaching the Union-Companion vein on the lowest level of the workings.
was a serious problem, particularly when the lines, if maintained in the tunnel, would virtually all of the time. In the mine electric cable used included products of General Electric, Kellite Insulated Wire and Cable company and standard Underground Cable company.

The roof of the compressor room was supported by heavy steel I-beams, which in turn carried a close mesh of 60-pound wire netting, the whole serving as reinforcing for the concrete of which the chamber is constructed, the concrete being run in to the rock walls.

Fourth of the major undertakings and the most extensive and important is extension of the Cornucopia tunnel. A distance of 4500 to 5000 feet was opened and a number of totally unworked mining levels to mining and gave extension of the Cornucopia tunnels from 14 to 18 tons. Snow at the 7th of January a rating of 6, as against red fir and tamarack were finding that it gave sharply less power and endurance of various other kinds.

Although the hot milling equipment was installed only a short time before the plant was visited, Mr. Davis was highly enthusiastic about it. He said early experience had shown that it doubled the number of miners a Clark tanner bit, as compared with grinding. Moreover, they were finding that it gave sharply increased footage per use. With the extension of the Cornucopia tunnels, he said, the change to bits from conventional steel had become imperative. Using steel, a train a day was required for transportation of ore from the mine, Ingersoll-Rand, Gardner-Denver and Sullivan makes being represented.

Drrits are usually carried forward in 45 foot lifts, with V cars normally employed. All powder is Atlantic VLF special gelatin being the usual type.

A Gardner-Denver mucking machine is employed at the face of the Cornucopia tunnels, particularly in working ore out of large lenses where it is possible to slope down substantial volume.

A winze has been sunk from the Coulter tunnel level 200 feet on the main level of the mine. Some bits being Koebellite ½ inch drills working in the face. 1200 feet of elevation in a distance of about five miles has been re-reduced, and the balance is divided into development, above ground as well as below. The new buildings which will contain a full size gymnasium.

Under construction is a recreation building of approximately 500 pieces. A Bingham pump dewaters the winze, and a second is being installed. A Sullivan hoist is used for the purpose. It is a single axle trailer with four wheels using Goodrich tires. A load or ore runs from 14 to 18 tons. Snow at the Cornucopia tunnel reaches a minimum of 9 feet in mid-winter.

The catalog is also provided with a LeTourneu bulldozer, which is used for clearing the road to the Cornucopia tunnel, and also for keeping the road open from Cornucopia to Carson. It finds numerous other duties about the property as well.
Cornucopia Tops Lode Producers of State in Year

Continuous Operation Maintained With 200 Men on Payroll and Many Improvements Made Underground, in Plant

Dredging District Active and Successful; Many Mining Properties Go Into Production; Outlook for 1940 Bright

By H. E. HENDRYX
Editor Oregon Mining Review

THE annual meeting of the Baker County chamber of commerce has become a time for taking stock of the industrial life of the community. Our county is fortunate in having diversified resources, and one of these basic industries comes from its minerals. It was the discovery of gold that brought the first settlers to the county, and the mining of gold and other wealth from that beginning.

In recent years—from the start of prolonged depression in 1929—more and more attention has been turned toward mining with the result that Oregon is showing increased production of precious metals each year.

The year just closed, according to preliminary figures issued by the federal bureau of mines from San Francisco, gives the production of the state for 1939, gold, silver, copper and lead, $3,268,135, which is an increase of more than $300,000 over the preceding year, when the state’s metal output was valued at $2,935,058. The total for 1937 was $2,605,218.

It is too early to secure government estimates of the output by counties and any statement for the production of Baker county or the gold fields of the Blue mountains of eastern Oregon, could be only in the nature of a guess. However, the report of the bureau of mines says: "Gold mining in northeastern Oregon, Baker and Grant counties, was more productive in 1939 than in the previous year. In southwestern Oregon, where Josephine and Jackson counties are the leading contributors to the gold output, preliminary figures indicate no expansion."

This area, with Baker county leading Grant, has long accounted for more than half the metal production of Oregon, and for 1939 the preliminary figures from the government indicate this part of the state accounted for nearly, if not all, the increased production of the entire state.

Cornucopia Leads Lodes

The Cornucopia gold mine in the northern part of the county, was the largest lode producer of the state, being credited with two-thirds of the state’s lode output. This mine, under the able management of Leroy Davis and his able staff, is today recognized as one of the 10 leading gold producers of the United States—said to rank sixth. The mine was in continuous operation during 1939 and many improvements were made in plants, buildings erected and development carried on underground, all pointing years ahead for continued operation. A payroll of more than 200 men is maintained the year around. The expenditures of this mine in Baker county for labor and supplies are probably larger than any other enterprise in the county.

There are a number of placer mining projects that have worked during the summer season along Blue creek below the Cornucopia mine, and promising lode prospects in the mountains surrounding the town of Cornucopia.

In the Homestead district along Snake river 1939 passed with little mining activity. The Crown Copper company, H. H. Newell of Homestead, president and manager, made preparations for more active operation during the coming years.
MINERAL OUTPUT OF BAKER AND GRANT STEPS UP

Cornucopia Tops Lode Producers; Outlook Bright

Continued from First Page

is also prospect of other work in that locality and the district may take on new meaning.

Along Snake river between Robin-ette and Huntington, there was the usual number of small placer miners working, and while there were no large productive section there were no known large productive section with the value of gold from this source, though the amount of gold has been increased from the usual amount of gold. It is not probable that the amount of gold will be increased to any great extent from this source, though there has been some increase in the amount of gold produced from this section.

Rich Ore Discoveries

While there was little activity in the Mormon Basin district, part of which is in Malheur county, however, it is from this section that recent reports have come of a discovery of rich gold ore valued at several hundred dollars per ton. This was on the Buckhorn claim where the discovery was made by W. H. Whalley and J. C. Hice, working near Twin Falls, Idaho. There has been a view of bringing this discovery into production, and the mining will be carried on during 1940, according to announcement of the owners.

A little known district tributary to Burns town, the Mont d’Or Mining company, M. M. Wehn of Baker, manager, during the fall installed equipment for recovering gold and black sands from gravel bars on the South fork of the Little Cow Creek, several miles below the town of Sumpter. The mining will be continued during 1940, according to announcement of the owners.

Chicken Creek Active

A little known district tributary to Burns town, the Chicken Creek section. There are a number of small lode properties in that section, and some of the mining has been in operation. Among these is the Gleason mine, operated by A. V. Lovejoy, the Gold Cluter, M. P. Gifford and associates, and the Little Hill, operated by L. F., and Brothers, under lease from M. H. Frank, and R. F. Bowen of Baker. All these properties have small stamp mills while the owners are making improvements on the grade of the ore and the grade of the ore is such that they find they have satisfactory operations.

In the Sparta district the Ge- mina mine was active most of the year. S. A. Mathews of Sparta is in charge of the work for the Gem Gold company. The work to the present has consisted of locating the mine, making improvements in the property, and developing, with the result that very little work has been done in the manner of a trial with the hope that a market for the chrome could be developed.

With the mention of “war metals” there has been a marked increase in the manganese deposits of Baker county in the vicinity of Pleasant Valley and Durkee come to mind. In the closing months of the past year much interest was shown in this material and some 40 or 50 manganese claims were staked.

There has been considerable investigation of the territory, but as yet no concerted effort for production has been undertaken.

These are some of the highlights of mining activities in eastern Oregon during 1939 and the outlook for the coming year.

Mining has been fortunate in the