

Cornucopia
Baku

Simmons Mine May Produce Soon

Cable Tram Expected Soon; Road Improved

Baker Record Courier July 25 1940

Preparations for mining operations at the Simmons mine—on a mountain so precipitous that it has defied practical work of moving ore to mill or transportation for years—has now reached a stage that promises actual production for probably six weeks late this fall.

The Simmons, on a high mountain by that name about four miles up Pine creek from Cornucopia, was earlier this year taken over by Leverett Davis, former manager of the Cornucopia mines, as reported by the Record-Courier at the time. Since then Mr. Davis has been joined in the undertaking by practical miners, W. Honrath and J. E. Bunker, and W. M. Myers, who have recently rebuilt the road from the Copia camp to a joint below the Simmons on which will rest the lower end of a 3007.41 foot tram, material for which is expected to be at the site within a short time.

The tram consists of a main $\frac{3}{4}$ inch preformed steel cable and a control cable of $\frac{5}{8}$ inch steel. It is known as a single span, jig-back type, on which are hung two ore buckets, the loaded one going down of its own weight at a rate of 1000 feet a minute, under control of two drums at terminals, and carrying the empty bucket up to the mine's portal. This terminal is 7000 feet above sea level, and 1300 feet higher than the lower terminal of the tram, according to the men in charge.

It is proposed to truck the ore under contract from the ore bins, located near the site of the old Queen of the West's mill on the west side of Pine creek to the mill at Cornucopia.

In addition to the tram and other equipment, the Simmons operators will shortly receive a 270-foot Gardner-Denver compressor. The tram will be erected by its manufacturer, Robt. N. Riblet, of Spokane.

Due to the very deep snow in this district and the tremendous snowslides that occur on Simmons mountain, operations at the mine is expected to be reasonable.

Development work on the Simmons, which includes 12 claims, consists of drifts, raises, three winzes on the surface and 900 to 1000 feet of tunnel. Ore is similar to the oxidized ore of the Cornucopia region, with small pockets of sulfide ore, it is said. The Simmons property is being leased from Mrs. Mary Myers, who spends her summers at Cornucopia.

Cornucopia Dist
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Simmons Mine Breaks In New Tram

Production Trial Made Last Week at Copia

Production from a new mining property in the Cornucopia mountains got under way late last week, stated a report from Cornucopia Tuesday. The Simmons property, although developed many years ago, has not until the past month been connected to Pine creek transportation and milling facilities, but now takes its place among the producing mines of the county.

First 150 tons of ore from the mountain-top Simmons mine were milled at the plant of Cornucopia Gold Mines company late in the week and another run is expected this week. This is a prelude to steady production but it is possible that approaching winter may delay the work as operators state that it will be a seasonal operation due to heavy snows.

Ore is milled on the custom basis, the facilities prepared to handle about 150 tons per week. This is equivalent to adding about one additional day's production to the Cornucopia area as the Copia Mines company mill has been running from 150 to 190 tons of ore per day from its own operation.

Leverett Davis is in charge of the Simmons property, on lease from Mrs. Mary Myers, and others are associated with him at the mine. Ore is brought down the 3007-foot aerial tramway which has just been completed and is hauled from the old Queen of the West mill at the head of Pine creek, down the canyon to Cornucopia town.

The property would employ many men if its schedule calls for 150 tons per week, according to mining men.

MINE FIRE LOSS SET AT \$20,000

Simmons Operations Heavily Damaged Wednesday

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the compressor room and upper terminal of the new tramway at the Simmons mine above the Cornucopia mine Wednesday afternoon. Leverett Davis, who is operating the Simmons mine, estimates the damage at \$20,000, with no insurance.

The fire occurred a little after 3 p. m. and spread so rapidly that no headway could be made in fighting the blaze. Men working in the mine after coming off shift, were being lowered on the tram, which drops down the mountain 3000 feet. About half the crew had been lowered, and while lowering men the man in control of the breaks first noticed smoke coming from the compressor room.

With a man swinging from the tram cable 500 feet in the air he stood at his station until his "passenger" reached the lower terminal safely. By that time the fire gained such headway that it was beyond control. The control man might have been able to put out the fire if he had set the brakes and left his post at the first sign of smoke. Instead, he stuck to his job until the man on the tram was safely landed.

Mr. Davis' operations at the Simmons mine are in charge of Harry Purdy. The tramway was built during the summer and fall from the portal of the Simmons workings to a terminal on Pine creek about three miles upstream from the Cornucopia mill, where the ore is to be treated. The tramway had a span of about 3500 feet, and was carefully located to avoid the danger of snowslides.

It had been in operation but one day when the fire started and in that time about 100 tons of ore were lowered over the cable.

Mr. Davis stated in Baker today that owing to the lateness of the season he will be unable to repair the damage until spring. Aside from the loss of the buildings and compressor work must be done on the tramway. Weather conditions at the elevation of the Simmons mine with deep snows coming are too much of a handicap, he said. In the meantime the men are salvaging what they can from the fire and putting things in shape for the winter. When weather permits in the spring the plant will be rebuilt.

Mr. Davis states he has 30,000 tons of ore in the Simmons mine with a gross value of approximately \$600,000. Further development will open up additional ore bodies.

Under an agreement with the Cornucopia Mines Mr. Davis delivers ore from the Simmons mine to the Cornucopia mill for treating.

Arizona Mining Journal

June 23, 1941.

Regular production of 50 tons of gold-silver ore is expected to be reached soon at the Simmons mine near Cornucopia, Oregon. The 4,000-foot tramway is being repaired, after which ore will be trammed to a point 1,250 feet below the mine workings from where it will be trucked 2½ miles to the Cornucopia mill. Held by Leverett Davis, 727 McIntyre Building Salt Lake City, Utah, the mine is being operated by the Callahan Zinc-Lead Company of Idaho. Donald Henderson of Halfway is superintendent. Eight men are employed at present, but about 10 more will be employed when the mine is in full production.

Cornucopia Area
Baker Co

Arizona Mining Journal
- June 28, 1941

The 4,000-foot tramway at the Simmons mine at Cornucopia, Oregon, is being repaired, fire having done considerable damage to it late last fall. H. C. Purdy, 2145 Place Street, Baker, is in charge of the property which is owned by Leverett Davis, 727 McIntyre Building, Salt Lake City, Utah. It is understood that Davis, field engineer for the Callahan Zinc-Lead Company, turned over this mine to the company for operation.

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WALLOWA
RANGE
CORNUCOPIA
DISTRICT

SIMMONS PROSPECT

Simmons mountain, the eastern end of which is seen in the distance, is a long ridge between the east and west forks of Pine creek. It is on the northern or right hand side of the West fork, while "Granite" or "Cornucopia" mountain as it is locally known, is on the south or left hand side. This mountain, although of lesser elevation than the "granites" to the south, has extremely precipitous slopes, particularly the southwest portion of which lies to the left and just out of the picture. Readings taken with a clinometer near the principal outcrop of the Simmons' vein to the stream 2,000 feet below gave a slope in excess of 40°.

This mountain is made up chiefly of a series of flows in which dense volcanics are interbedded with amygdaloids. Because of their alteration and their present color these rocks can well be called greenstones, although meta-basalt might be considered a more scientific name. The apparent strike of this series of flows is north and south and the dip is 40° to the east, judging by the parallel elongation of the amygdules or calcite-filled cavities seen in the lower tunnel.

The principal vein of the Simmons group has a strike 25° to 30° northwest. It has a flat dip to the east rarely exceeding 30° and more often much less. The principal vein has been traced on the west and

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north sides of the mountain for more than 2,000 feet. It is, however, where exposed, for the most part too small to make ore unless of high grade. A great deal of work has been done on the croppings so that its width at almost all points can be easily seen and measured. The exposed part of the vein of workable size, unless some of the narrow portions should have very rich ore of which we have no information, is about 350 feet long, the maximum width a little more than four feet, the minimum eighteen inches; the average width would not exceed three feet for this distance, perhaps a little less. The vein consists chiefly of quartz with small amounts of feldspar. Probably less than one per cent of the sulphide minerals, chalcopyrite and galena, are present in thin streaks near the center of the vein.

The development consists of the surface work before mentioned, short inclines sunk on the vein and two short crosscuts to the vein, besides the principal crosscut. Outside of the principal crosscut and the surface work, the development gives little information as to the nature of the main shoot below the surface. The inclines for some strange reason were sunk at the ends of shoots rather than in them where the best of the lens was exposed. The main crosscut also started towards and did cut the vein at a point outside of the principal shoot. In drifting to reach the shoot, although evidently mistaking a branch shattering of the foot wall for the vein, it was luckily encountered near the edge of the shoot. Drifting, at the time the property was visited in July, had progressed less than 100 feet upon the quartz lens. This development is nearly all the underground development of value. The width of the lens over this distance underground seems to be about the same

Simmons

as that directly above it on the surface.

This group is one of the oldest in the district and has been examined by several engineers with a view to purchase. Although not in possession of any of their reports or assay results, I am confident that the principal shoot contains considerable ore of milling grade.

Both high price and large initial payments are practically impossible to secure when selling well-developed properties. In selling prospects it is much harder to secure a high price, a large initial cash payment and heavy additional payments following so rapidly that little additional ore can be proven before further payments must be made.

There are several other quartz lenses both on the 'Simmons' property and on the southern end of the hill.

*Mrs Meyers in Cornucopia
1 assay 11/1934 Tr.*

Arizona Mining Journal
November 29, 1941

The Simmons mine near Cornucopia, Oregon, which is operated by the Callahan Zinc-Lead Company of Idaho, is reported to have been closed down recently. The action followed the shutdown of the Cornucopia mine at Cornucopia November 1. The Simmons property depended on the Cornucopia mill for treatment of its ores. Donald Henderson was superintendent of operations at the Simmons mine.

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