

Geologist Notes Mines Development

The new ore mill just completed at the Cougar-Independence property north of Granite is of 75 tons capacity, according to John Eliot Allen, field geologist for the state department of geology and mineral industries, who returned from the Granite, Sumpter and Greenhorn sections last weekend.

The operators of the property, for which Pete Rockne is superintendent, have installed full, modern equipment including crusher, 12 by 18 Denver mineral jig, a six-cell flotation machine, two No. 6 Wifley tables and other units in the circuit. Bill Miller is the mill superintendent.

Mr. Allen reports continued activity in the Granite, Sumpter and Greenhorn sections.

The Consuelo-Oregon dredge, which has been working this summer since April 16th, is now two miles north of Sumpter, just below Pole Creek.

The crew at the Argonaut mine is completing the new road to the property, and the 600 foot crosscut to the vein has reached the halfway point. The new buildings are practically finished.

John Arthur has a crew working at Bourne which started September 20. According to reports, he will work five or six men this winter.

Ed Forshear has driven the new crosscut on the Central Mine (old Shipman claims 4 mile north of Granite) a distance of 85 feet, and plans to continue.

John Leuck has been developing the old Standard Mine east of Crane Flats, and has exposed a wide vein in a 25-foot shaft. He will work at La Belleview this winter. R. B. McGinnis plans to reopen the Belleview this winter and ship ore next spring. Harry Sassidy, John Leuck and Mr. Cree are on the property.

Byron Brown and associates are working the Tillicum mine four miles north of Granite, and also plan to develop ore at the Cap Martin property to the north.

Ore shipments from the Buffalo are continuing, and the development of ore from the Constitution vein is progressing.

*Cougar-Independence
Consuelo-Oregon Dredge
Argonaut Mine
Central Mine
Old Standard Mine
Tillicum Mine
Buffalo
Blue Bird
Manning Ground
Harrison Group
Manning Mine*

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Oregon

The Cougar-Independence Mining Company has closed down operations at its

property in Grant County four miles north of Granite, Oregon. The company has been shipping ore from Sumpter since the first of the year while the 100-ton mill was being repaired, but the shutdown was necessary when the lessees could not get the needed repairs. The company was formed in September of 1941 by Latham Flanagan and H. S. and L. S. Van Kirk, all of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Gallen T. Vandell was general superintendent at the mine. About 60 men have been employed in mine and mill operations.

Granite Dist
Grant Co.

B. T. ISGRIG OF GRANITE DIES

Well-Known Mining Man Succumbs In La Grande Today

B. T. Isgrig, manager of the Cougar-Independence mine near Granite, died this morning in La Grande after a short illness.

Born in Marshall, Missouri in 1881, Mr. Isgrig had been associated with mining ventures in Baker county for the last four years. He had formerly engaged in mining in South America, Mexico and Australia. He was well-known in county, state and national mining circles.

Mr. Isgrig is survived by his widow of Los Angeles, and two sons, Jack, who lives at the mine, and another son, whose name is unknown, who lives in Los Angeles.

Funeral arrangements, which will be in charge of West and company, will be announced later. The body will arrive here tonight.

MINE COMPANY SHIPPING ORE

100 Cars Shipped from Cougar-Independence

More than 100 cars of ore were shipped during 1939 from the Cougar-Independence mine near Granite, it was learned here today. P. A. Rockne is in charge of operations.

Milling operations started at the Cougar mine in October with an 80-ton per day capacity plant in operation. Four cars of concentrates have been shipped this year so far with a possibility of at least two more being shipped this month, it was reported.

During 1940 the milling plant will continue to operate at capacity, it was stated, while ore to the extent of 125 cars may be shipped. At least 100 cars will be shipped.

Sixty men are employed in the operations of the mine. Twenty-five new homes for the men were constructed at the mine and other improvements made in 1939. A school house was also built so that children of the workers would be able to further their education.

The mine will be in operation during the entire winter. About six cars of concentrates will be shipped each month.

GRANITE MINE SHIPPING ORE

Independence Mill Be- ing Remodeled; 40 Men Employed

One thousand tons of \$30 ore was shipped to the smelter in Tacoma during July by the operators of the Cougar-Independence mine in the Granite section, it was learned here today.

The ore is being shipped by truck to Sumpter, shipped from there to Baker via the Sumpter Valley railroad and from Baker to Tacoma by way of the Union Pacific system.

The old Independence mill is being remodeled into a modern flotation plant, which will treat 75 tons of ore per day. The plant is expected to be in operation in six weeks.

Twenty men are working underground in the mine and 20 more are working on the outside. A building program for the employes has been started also.

The work is under the management of P. A. Rockne of Granite, formerly of Cornucopia.

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B. T. Isgrig of Baker, Oregon, is reported to be in charge of the Independent-Cougar group of mines in Grant County near Granite, Oregon. The ground was held until a year or two ago by the Mining and Development Company. If the road from the mine to Sumpter can be kept open, operations will be continued during the winter. It is a 20 mile haul.

Cougar Mine at Granite Shipping

Last week a 50-ton car of ore was shipped from the Cougar mine near Granite to the smelter at Tacoma. B. T. Isgrig and associates are working the mine under a lease.

Mr. Isgrig was a business visitor in Baker yesterday, and reported the carload from the mine will be ready to load in a few days. He expects to ship a car a week. The ore is trucked from the mine to Sumpter and loaded on Sumpter Valley railroad cars.

Isgrig Heads Crew At Cougar Mine

B. T. Isgrig of Baker last week began work with a small crew of men at the Cougar mine and the Independence mill three and one-half miles north of Granite. Preparatory to milling ore he expects to mine and haul a good quantity of Cougar ore to the old Independence mill which he expects to renovate sufficiently to handle a small tonnage. It is then planned to handle the hauling by caterpillar and sled. Concentrates from the mill will be shipped to the smelter.

With the crew taking over the cabins at the Independence, the miners of the nearby New York property are moving down to the New York mine where Frank Hancock is having two new cabins constructed. The New York is now running its doubled capacity mill.

Sumpter-Granite Road to Be Kept Open for Autos

Preparations are being made by the mine operators in the Granite district west of Baker to keep the road between Granite and Sumpter open for motor traffic during the winter.

It is 15 miles from Sumpter to Granite with the road going over a high divide and the snow gets several feet deep, usually being closed to automobiles several months during the winter.

Tex Skiles, who has the ore hauling contract from the Independence-Cougar mine, has taken a contract to plow the snow from the road. He has a snow plow on his truck and when the plow is unable to clear the roads a bulldozer will be put on the road.

The county courts of Baker and Grant counties have agreed to assist in keeping the road open.

Cougar-Independence Mill Operating

The new mill at the Cougar-Independence mine near Granite in Grant county, has been placed in operation the past few days. It is a modern flotation plant with a rated capacity of treating 75 tons of ore per day. Electric power is used through the plant, being hooked up with the Eastern Oregon Light and Power Company, on its line from the Fremont plant to Bourne. William Miller is in charge of the plant as mill superintendent.

The Cougar-Independence has made the remarkable record during the year of producing sufficient shipping ore to pay for the mill construction. During the spring and summer about 4000 tons of the ore were shipped to the smelter at Tacoma. With the mill in commission the quantity of ore shipped direct to the smelter will be greatly reduced.

Among the many improvements about the mine during the summer has been a number of homes built for employees of the company who live with their families at the mine. A suitable school building has also been built for the children living at the mine.

August Was Good Month for Cougar

August was a big month in the production of the Cougar-Independence mine in the Granite district. Twenty-two 50-ton cars were shipped from the property during the month, or approximately 1250 tons. The ore shipped averaged an ounce gold or more, making a gross production for the month of about \$35,000.

The entire production of the mine was in crude ore shipped direct to the smelter.

Good progress is being made in building the mill, which should be completed ready for operation in a month. With completion of the mill the product of the mine will be in concentrates which will be shipped to the smelter.

About 45 men are employed at the mine, however, the ore shipped was mined by 14 miners working with hand drills. Pete Rokne, is superintendent at the mine.

GRANITE MINE SHIPS 12 CARS OF ORE IN MAY

Twelve carloads of ore, or more than 600 tons, were shipped from the Cougar-Independence mine near Granite to the smelter at Tacoma during May. Sights have been set for shipping 20 cars during June. This makes the mine one of the heaviest shippers in eastern Oregon.

The ore is mined from a stope more than 300 feet long and is hauled by trucks to the Sumpter Valley railroad at Sumpter. From there it is brought to Baker over the narrow gauge road, for transfer to the Union Pacific. Two Sumpter valley cars are loaded in one car of the U. P.

Between 20 and 30 men are employed at the mine. P.A. Rokne, who for the past two years has been at the Cornucopia mine is in charge of the operation.

The Cougar-Independence mine has a mill which has been idle for many years, but it is the purpose of the company to revamp the plant and put it in operation during the summer. — Eastern Oregon (Baker) News.

Cougar Mine Is Making Shipping Record Production

With a record of five cars of ore or 250 tons, shipped to the smelter at Tacoma, and 10 cars to be shipped during the month, the Cougar-Independence mine in the Granite district has stepped into the producing ranks this month, after being closed during the winter months.

P. A. Rokne is in charge of the work and has between 20 and 25 men employed. The ore is trucked from the mine to Sumpter, a distance of about 20 miles, where it is loaded on Sumpter Valley railroad cars and transferred to the main line of the U. P. at Baker for shipping to Tacoma. Mr. Rokne has set his mark at 20 cars during June.