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TROJAN MINING COMPANY

PAPERS, 1900-1920
(bulk dates, 1911-1920)
Quantity 1.5 linear ft.

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History

The Trojan Mining Company operated in Deadwood, South Dakota from 1911 to 1922. H.S. Vincent served as the on site manager. H.W. Seaman, president of the company, maintained residence in Chicago, Illinois. He originally came from Clinton Iowa and had interests in the Clinton Mining Company.

The pre-existing Portland Mining Company, Clinton Mining Company, and American Eagle Mining Company incorporated under the Trojan Mining Company in 1911. The company purchased the Two Johns Mine and also leased the Republican Mine. After the company purchased the Ofer Mining Company, it gained control of the majority of gold mining operations in the Bald Mountain mining district.

The Trojan Mining Company processed over 180 tons of ore per day by 1912. It suspended operations during WWI, but daily production increased to 500 tons a day in 1917. The Company became the second largest producer between 1918 and 1922. This same period marked increasing labor shortages that affected the production capacity of the mines. In addition, the company struggled to match the wages offered at the Homestake Mine in Lead, South Dakota. Labor and wage problems combined with high production costs diminished the production capacity of the mines. On 10 February 1923, the Trojan Mining Company decided to suspend operations rather than be limited to producing only high grades of ore, which decreased tonnage and did not affect the high costs associated with production. The Trojan Mines reopened under the Bald Mountain Mining Company in 1928 and continued operations until 1959.

Scope and Content Note

The Trojan Mining Company materials consist largely of correspondence between Trojan Mining Company president, H.W. Seaman and manager, H.S. Vincent, The two men wrote on an almost daily basis between the years 1911 and 1920. The majority of letters prior to 1911 are addressed to N.W. Chapman, superintendent of the Portland Mining Company. Additional materials include newspaper clippings and various receipts from the Portland Mining Company and the Bald Mountain Mining Company Assay Office.

The correspondence consists of letters received by H.S. Vincent and letters he sent to H. W. Seaman. The letters provide information and commentary on the condition of the mines purchased by the Trojan Mining Company. The correspondence reflects the increasing labor shortages after WWI and dealing with competitive wages in relation to other mines in the area. There are several letters relating to a fire that broke out on 25 September 1919 in the Homestake Mine in Lead, South Dakota. Additional topics discussed within the letters include buying tools, land surveys, building and development plans, mining contacts, mill and mine reports, financial statements, profit estimates, and monthly reports.

Subjects

Trojan Mining Company
 Bald Mountain Mining Company-History
 Gold mines and mining--Black Hills (S.D. and Wyo.)
 Mines and mineral resources--Black Hills (S.D. and Wyo.)
 Mines and Mining
 Mining corporations--Black Hills (S.D. and Wyo.)--History

Additional Resources

Enderby, Marvin

Report on the Recovery of Gold from the Brown Ore of the Trojan Mining Company with a Redesign of the Existing Mill. Thesis(B.S.)--South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Rapid City, 1933.

Miller, David B.

A History of Bald Mountain Mining Company and Its Predecessors, 1877-1959.
[1990?]

Waterland, Joel

Gold & Silver or Sweat & Tears, Rapid City, S.D.: Grellind PhotoGraphics & Typesetters, c1988.

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
Box 1	CORRESPONDENCE 1900-1916
Box 2	CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence, 1917-1920 Receipts News Clippings