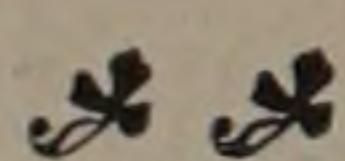


Anaconda Copper Mining Company

Water Works Department



ANACONDA, MONTANA, Feb. 1, 1898.

EDITORS '98 INTEGRAL:

I have been in Montana about three months and can say that I like the country very much. On my way out I stopped off at Jamestown, N. D., and visited with Mr. John A. Masters, whom you will remember as an ex-Armourite. He is now President of the Jamestown Electric Light and Power Co., and is doing very nicely.

My first work here was assisting in the engineering of the new Anaconda Water Works. At present I am engaged in draughting and arranging details of the long distance transmission between Anaconda and the mountains.

Anaconda is not such a small town, after all—about 15,000 inhabitants. It is named after the Anaconda Mine in Butte, which is owned by Hogan, Daily and the Rothchilds—the two former holding the controlling interest. The ore is mined in Butte and brought here on the Company's railroad, where it is smelted and partly refined, after which it is sent to Baltimore, where it is thoroughly refined. The cost of power here is so great that the ore cannot be thoroughly refined; this arrangement, however, will probably be changed when the Company has completed its present plans of developing the water power resources in the mountains.

I have taken quite a few trips up the mountains and will say that the scenery is grand.

A party of six started out one day on our ponies and rode about six miles to a ranch, where they are working a lime quarry. They treated us with true Western hospitality, and we saw everything, not excluding a good turkey dinner. We visited two extinct geysers where a large mound, about twenty-five feet high, almost conical in shape, has been built up from calcarious deposits of the spring. The well was full and the water luke warm.

One Sunday, a party of us went up to Lake Hearst, which is the supply for the reservoir. The ascent was a very novel and exciting experience, to me, at least. The mountains were covered with a dense forest of mountain pine, spruce and hemlock. The road wound its way through this wood, and often, as we came to a clearing, we saw, for miles down the valley, the snow-capped trees sparkling in the sun. We made the ascent, a distance of four miles to the lower camp on our pipe line from the lake to the reservoir, in about an hour. Here, we had a camp dinner, and perhaps it didn't taste good! After feeding the horses we started for the lake. The altitude there is about 8,500 feet above sea level and half a mile above Anaconda. We found some difficulty in breathing at such an altitude, and could hardly walk over the slightest hills. The following Sunday we took some girls out and they could hardly get over the novelty of the trip, for they had the honor of being the first ladies to enjoy festivities in the camp. All of the crowd were in fine spirits and the wit flew in seething torrents that kept us all in a constant state of hilarity.

In conclusion, I wish to say, that although this is the wildest part of the Wild West, yet, refined society is by no means lacking, and I find that the life of a young engineer, in the employ of the Anaconda Mining Co., is not half bad. Wishing you success, etc., I am

Yours very truly,

CHARLES T. MALCOLMSON.