

## Le Roi Mine

"In the vicinity of Traill Creek near the international boundary some of the richest claims of British Columbia were discovered... The first claim in this region was located in 1889 by Joseph Bourgeois and recorded in 1890..."

"Bourgeois and Morris discovered the Le Roi, the most famous of these Red Mountain Mines, but they could not file on any more than one claim on the same vein. E.S. Topping by paying the expenses of recording became the owner of the Le Roi.

In November 1890 Topping met two Spokane attorneys, George Fost and Colonel

William Redpath, at Cr...ille, and offered to sell them one-half interest in the claim for \$30,000. They became interested and associated with them a leading mining authority, Oliver Durant. Durant came to Red Mountain, examined the claim, sampled the ore which assayed as high as \$60 a ton in gold, and visited the other claims in the vicinity. He was satisfied that here was a great mining camp... Topping's terms were accepted in a modified form and a controlling interest purchased for \$30,000. Later the partners [Redpath, Foster & Durant] bought out Topping's remaining interest for \$11,000 and the Le Roi Gold Mining Company was formed.

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Durant remained in charge of the work for about a year and then sold out to his colleagues..."

"Up to Feb. 1, 1898, the Le Roi, which produced gold and copper, had paid \$725,000 in dividends. In that year it was sold for \$4,000,000 to a British syndicate in which Lord Dufferin, a former Governor General of Canada, was interested."

See book entitled, "British Columbia and the United States," by Howay, Sage and Angus in the series, "Relations of Canada and the United States." Pages 272-275