

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

July 23, 1959

Pumping has begun in an effort to de-water the Kimball Mine located at the Kimball Location. A group of local area investors, Raymond Burge, Helmer Dahlgren, Ed Forsman, Herbert Larson Jr. and Michael Fornetti of Iron Mountain, have formed a development corporation to convert the mine into a tourist attraction. The new corporation purchased the mine and 40 acres of surface property from the Keweenaw Land Company after almost a year of negotiations. The mine, originally called the Junietta, was first explored by Crystal Falls founders George Runkel and Dr. H.C. Kimball in 1882 and renamed the Kimball in 1887. It produced 35,000 tons of ore from 1907 – 1915. Efforts made to reopen the mine in the 1920's faltered and the property has been dormant since then except for the occasional hauling of waste rock from the site for use on Crystal Falls' streets. The corporation has been fortunate in obtaining the headframe and other valuable mining equipment from the recently closed Warner Mine owned by the North Range Mining Company located near Amasa.