

Britannia, with the Jane being the first commercial mining operation, entered the rank of producing mines in 1905, when the first shipment of ore was barged to the Crofton Smelter, on Vancouver Island, which had been purchased by the Britannia Smelting Co. Ltd. In the next 69 years, the Britannia Mines were to become the largest producing copper mine in the British Commonwealth, producing for the world marketplace more than 1 billion lbs. of copper and almost:

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- ② 5 hundred thousand ounces of gold,
- ③ 6 million ounces of silver,
- ④ 35 million pounds of lead,
- ⑤ 300 million pounds of zinc and,
- ⑥ 1 million pounds of cadmium.

Britannia's first years of operation were beset with difficulties. Robinson had hired R.H. Leach as mill superintendent and he was having difficulties adapting the oil flotation process to the Britannia sulphide ores. Then Robinson died suddenly on July 6th, 1906. World demand for copper dropped off- The Britannia Copper Syndicate Limited and the Britannia Smelting Co. Ltd., which was the operating company for the Howe