

Hills of Silver: The Yukon's Mighty Keno Hill Mine



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HILLS OF SILVER: THE YUKON'S MIGHTY KENO HILL MINE

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Harbour Publishing. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Hills of Silver: The Yukon's Mighty Keno Hill Mine, Aaro E. Aho, The Yukon is famous for its Klondike gold rush, but it was the site of another major mineral discovery in 1918 that touched off its own stampede of sourdoughs and eventually produced more paydirt than the Klondike. This was the fabulously rich Keno Hill silver deposit, which made the Yukon one of the world's leading silver producers and backstopped the territorial economy for decades. And as the Klondike strike gave rise to the boom town of Dawson, the Keno strike fostered feisty Keno City, the last of the wild west mining towns: "Down in shacks by Lightning Creek, vintners and vendors of moonshine and the sporting girls catered to the miners on weekends amid scratching gramophone melodies. At that time Keno was a really lively town of 800 men, very few women and much hard drinking. Some of the boys had an old car called the Rum Runner that took cases of booze up to the camps every evening. At first both camps had the same second Sunday off but with two crews in, there was not enough of everything desirable to go around and a running donnybrook would break out. After a few wholesale brawls, which inevitably led to more drinking and absenteeism on Mondays, the companies alternated their Sundays off." At the top of the social order was the puritanical mine boss, Livingstone Wernecke, who never stopped inveighing against vice, "but Wernecke found that he did not run Keno; it ran itself." The story of Keno's discovery, development and decline is one of the great adventures of the north, and it is told here by one of the Yukon's legendary mining personalities, Dr Aaro Aho. Dr Aho's authoritative...

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