

## **TUNNEL**

**Work started on the Poland end in 1897 and on the Walker end in 1900. It was completed in the year 1903 and is estimated to be 8,000 feet in length. The opening on the Lynx Creek side was at a point about 50 feet below the Mud Hole mill, about 500 feet up the creek from the Stukey Store and between the mill and the boarding house. A hoist was set up to pull the ore cars out of the tunnel due to the 3% downhill grade. The waste from the tunnel was used to fill in the uneven ground along the creek, thus leveling the ground where before there was brush and boulders. When the two sections met, after a hole large enough for a man to go through, a game started to see which crew would go through first. Seven men had been chosen from each side. A Poland representative finally won the contest and because Walker was closer, they all rushed to the Walker saloons to whoop it up. In about 1923, The Sheldon Company had the tunnel reconditioned. The company had a safety crew employed to keep check on the tunnel and re-timber when necessary.**