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Book by Butte woman to be published by University of Montana Press

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MISSOULA--

An historical account of the Butte mining battles, "Copper King at War," will be the first book published by the newly revived University of Montana Press.

Author of the book, a story of copper baron F. Augustus Heinze, is Sarah McNelis, a Butte native and schoolteacher who received her master's degree in history at UM in Missoula in 1947.

The book will be on the market Nov. 15, and will be limited to 1,000 copies, according to Jack Ryan, UM alumni editor, who is publication manager.

Ryan said the revival of the press and publication of the book came as the result of an effort by UM Hammond history professor Dr. K. Ross Roole, who obtained a $20,000 loan from the UM Foundation to publish works dealing with western Americana.

"Copper King at War" is the story of Heinze, a stalwart mining engineer who fought copper interests to a standstill for possession of "The Richest Hill on Earth." It details the plots and battles of opposing teams of miners who made the Copper Wars an exciting saga in Western history.

Exclusive distributor of the new book is the Montana Historical Society, with headquarters in Helena. Dr. Toole is a former director of the society.

Ryan said plans are being made to publish a second book in the spring. Author of this work, "The Frightful Punishment," is Dr. Warren J. Brier, dean of the UM School of Journalism. The book will deal with Con Orem, famous boxer who fought in Virginia City and Helena in the 1860's.

At least two more books are being planned in the series, Ryan said. If the publication venture is successful it will be continued, he said.

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