Yesterday: The Soudan Mine, on the Vermilion Range, is the oldest and deepest underground iron mine in Minnesota. Operated from 1892 to 1962, the mine reached a depth of 2,341 feet and drifted almost a mile east and west. Much of the surface plant of the early twentieth century remains as a museum.

Today: An electric shovel dumps 35 cubic yards of magnetite ore into a 240-ton-capacity truck at the Hull Rust Mahoning Mine on the Mesabi Range at Hibbing, Minnesota. This largest open-pit iron mine in the world can produce eight million tons of ore annually. (Editor's photos).
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