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ITEM 21

According to the Nevada Bureau Mines
December 1944

WHITE PEAKS MINE
Humboldt County,
Nevada;

Also called SCOSSA MINE, BOTTLE CREEK MINE
Located in Sec. 7, T40N, R33E.
Owners: James and Arnold Scossa
Discovered: Sept. 1936 by Scossa brothers.
Production: 776 flasks to the end of 1943 from 6820 tons. @ 12.2 lbs. TOT
or 6820 " @ 7.2 " Recov.
w. 2590
O. Rock

The White Pines group consists of three claims in the central part of the district. In July 1937 the Fulton Quicksilver Mines Inc. leased these claims and many others in the district. They developed some ore by sinking a shaft to the 112 level and drifting on the 62 foot and 112 foot levels, but although they installed a 20 ton rotary furnace late in the year, apparently no ore was treated. In the following year, after a small production, the lease was dropped, and later in the year some ore was treated by the Scossa brothers. In 1940 Eugene ~~and~~ Franke and Anthony Lebechi leased the property, and operating the White Peaks Mining Company produced 263 flasks, without doing much development work. Early in 1942 J.O.Greenan optioned the property and, after striking rich ore on the previously little explored footwall side of a dike, recovered 343 flasks from ore treated in the 20 ton rotary furnace still on the property. Early in 1943 the White Peaks property was subleased but in Augut of that year the property was idle.

Mining has followed a nearly vertical dike of diabase. The workings consist of a 165 foot shaft, about 250 feet of drifts and crosscuts on the 62 foot level, and 300 feet of drifts and crosscuts on the 112 foot level, a short crosscut on the 165 foot level, and extensive stopes on each side of the dike above the 112 foot level.

The oldest rocks are argillized tuffs, sandstones and fine gravels of pre-Tertiary age. These rocks are cut by a northerly trending diabase dike which dips steeply to the east and either contains or borders all of the ore bodies. Unconformably overlying the sediments and the diabase dike are extensive flows of rhyolite.

Cinnabar fills fractures in the dike, is disseminated in the dike and adjacent wall rocks, and has completely replaced parts of the dike to form pods and lenses of very high grade ore. Small amounts of cinnabar occur as irregular veinlets in the overlying rhyolite. Pyrite, which is moderately abundant, appears to have been deposited at the same time as the cinnabar, and small amounts of chalcedony; calcite veinlets are both younger and older.

The ore bodies have been stoped from along both walls of the dike and terminate sharply against the northerly dipping contact with the overlying rhyolite. The ore on the hanging wall side was narrow, whereas the orebody mined from the footwall side, tapered from 15 feet in width near the rhyolite to about 5 feet where mined above the 112 foot level.. No ore hasbeen mined from below the 112foot level, although the dike contains some cinnabar at the base of the 165 foot shaft. The dike which averaged nearly 20 feet in width is reported to contain about pounds of quicksilver to the ton, and it might be mined in its entirety at a time when the price of quicksilver is exceptionally high.