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Churchill Co. General *
Item # 14 (A)

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REPORT ON

BELL FLAT TUNGSTEN PROPERTY

The Bell Flat Tungsten property is located in Churchill County, Nevada, 16 miles south of Westgate, on Highway 50. From the Highway the property is reached over a good desert road which can be kept open for year around travel. The road runs directly to the property and needs very little work to put in good condition for heavy hauling.

The property comprises a group of 13 claims laid out to cover the ore showings in the form of a large Y, as shown on the attached map. The property was discovered in the spring of 1941 by Mark Harris, now of 1417 Summit Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, Fred T. Pine of 507 North Seventh Street, Las Vegas, Nevada and William W. Brown, also of Las Vegas, Nevada. Ore showings occur on twelve of the group of claims and one claim covers the best site for milling operations and a source of water supply for camp and mine purposes.

Geology

A series of schist and limestone beds have been changed by contact metamorphism and uplifted by a large granite batholith to form a roof pendant in the shape of a large anticline, with the top eroded off. The granite is exposed on the east side of the range, in the N.E. corner of the property, by a granite hill approximately one-fourth mile in diameter. From this granite exposure the beds striking N.W. and S.E. dip upward at an angle of about 35 degrees to one of the ridges leading down from the summit of the range. Here the dip changes to about 40 degrees downward and the beds strike S.W. and N.E. thus forming two sides of the above mentioned anticline. The faulted segements of a cross section of these beds form the high ridge of the main mountain range. On the western slope and about a mile distant from the granite hill on the property, the granite is again exposed by a prominent peak and forms the whole base of the range on the west side, extending across the floor of the valley to again form the crest of the Sand Springs Mountain Range. Limestone beds that have been altered to marble by the metamorphic action are the mineralized zones and contain large quantities of the associated minerals, garnet, epidote, and quartz. The ore bearing zones have been subjected to considerable silicification. Cutting across the beds of shist and limestone and evidently of later origin, are a series of Rhyolite Dikes and a few Apilite Dikes also cut the formation as a leter phase of the Granite intrusive. Just what bearing these dikes may have on the ore bodies has not been determined. Ore bearing formations extend right to the dikes on both sides and the Rhyolite is probably of post-mineral origin while the Aplite may be pre-mineral. The structure and general geology is very favorable to ore deposition and within the radius of a few miles this Granite intrusive has already been proved, by producing mines, to have formed large and substantial bodies of ore. The Nevada Scheelite is about six miles distant and located on the south margin of this same batholith. It is now one of the most substantial producers in the State.

Ore Bodies

The ore occures in the metamorphosed limestone beds, which vary in widiths from two feet to fourteen feet. On the surface the ore can be traced in one place for 600 feet and many other places it is exposed from a few feet to 100 feet in length, indicating that development could open up substantial bodies of commercial ore. The only work done to date is the initial location work and from one place ore of very high grade was found and crystals up to 3 inches in diameter were taken out. The scheelite is found coarsely crystaline and also finely disseminated in the matrix of garnet, epidote and quartz. On one claim, the Midnight, a six foot open cut showed ore the full width of the beds evenly disseminated throughout, and a 25 pound sample gave returns of .4 percent tungsten. One the She-Lite where the ore is exposed and tracable for 600 feet, a sample cut across the with of two feet assayed .8 percent. Numberous grab samples gave returns up to 4 percent. However there is not sufficient work done to do a thorough job of sampling. And extensive program of exploration is needed to prove the extend and value of the ore bodies. This property shows a remarkable resemblance to the structure at the Nevada-Mass. Tungsten Mine at Mill City, Nevada. Shists take the place of the Hornfels but the main ore bodies are found in the limestone beds which are mineralized more than 2,000 feet away from the granite contact. There is some faulting in evidence but it is not complex and the ore may be easily followed in mining operations.

Mining Conditions

From an elevation of 5,600 feet on the floor of the valley up to 7,600 on the summit of the range, the ore zones lie within a pear-shaped basin, with drainage all leading to one main canyon. The general strike of the ore beds along the dip has exposed them so that tunnel operations started on the ore will gain considerable depth and tonnage before shaft mining has to be resorted to. The surface areas may be easily trenched to expose and sample the surface croppings. Very little dead work must be done for preliminary work and all surface indications indicate that a well planned operation may develope substantial bodies of ore. Water is available on the property from several springs in sufficient quantities for preliminary operations and by development should yield enough for operation of a large plant.

Conclusion

The general geology of the area and the extent of the surface showing of good ore, should make this property attractive for capital interested in developing mines from prospects. The spending of several thousand dollars in a well organized prospecting program is justified on the basis that the owners agree to such expenditures with no down payment. Payments to be made as agreed upon over a period of years on the grosslproduction from the mine. A time limit may be set for the payment of the purchase price and a certain amount of work required to be done annually but this part can all be easily arranged with the owners of the property.

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Signed: MARK HARRIS? E.M.
Mark Harris, E.M.

Item 14(B)

500 North Seventh St.,
Las Vegas, Nevada
June 28, 1945

Mr. Jay A. Carpenter, Director
Nevada State Bureau of Mines
Box C, University Station
Reno, Nevada

Dear Sir:-

As requested in your letter of June 22nd, herewith is descriptive matter pertaining to the Shelite-Midnight property in Churchill County, about 16 miles south of Westgate. This report was prepared by Mr. Mark Harris, E.M., who is part owner of the property. Mr. Harris prepared this report sometime ago however it still represents the general condition of the property as no development has been accomplished during the Emergency.

To date I have not acquired a copy of the report from the Bureau of Mines therefore when this report is furnished you I will appreciate a copy of it for the information of my partners as well as myself.

Very truly yours,

Fred T. Pine.
FRED T. PINE

Incl
1-Report by Mark Harris
2-Map of property