

0730 0007

(192)
Item 6

I. C. 6941

Formation is andesite. The vein has a width of 2 feet on the surface and 4 to 6 feet at the tunnel levels. Vein is said to be exposed for a length of 650 feet, and the dip averages 50°.

Values are in gold and silver. The gold is largely free-milling. According to Ashby, property has been sampled by several engineers and approximately 30,000 tons of ore averaging \$5 per ton, at current metal prices, are reasonably assured.

Finger Rock Quicksilver Mining Company, Inc.

The Finger Rock Quicksilver Mining Co., Inc., Kenneth D. Holland, president, is a small stock company recently formed by Los Angeles people. The company owns a group of three unpatented claims several miles northerly from Omco. The property is 26 miles northeast of Luning, Nev., by way of Santa Fe Pass.

This property has produced 5 flasks of quicksilver. In 1936, four men were employed in driving a tunnel to explore the deposit at depth.

Development work consists of a tunnel 250 feet long and a shaft 50 feet deep. Equipment includes one-drill compressor and a 25-ton capacity Cottrell furnace recently installed.

A shear zone contains cinnabar in rhyolite.

Diatomaceous Earth

About 4 miles easterly from Copper Contact, near the Mineral-Nye County boundary line, diatomaceous earth is to be found. The nearest shipping point is Mina, about 25 miles from the deposit.

About 1925, a company, called The Nature Products Co., held over 200 acres of diatomaceous-earth lands in this area and is reported to have shipped 3 carloads to Reno for the production of tooth powder and dental cream.

The deposit is exposed on the surface over a considerable area and the material is said to be of good quality.

Although this deposit could supply large quantities of diatomaceous earth for the building trades, the low price paid for such material and distant markets makes it difficult to compete with other sources of supply.

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BROKEN HILLS DISTRICT

The Broken Hills district is in the northeastern corner of Mineral County in a group of low hills between the Fairview and Ellsworth Ranges. It is accessible from Fallon which is on the main line of the Southern Pacific R. R. and 70 miles to the northwest.

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W.O. VANDERBURG

1937

Silver-lead ore was discovered here in 1913 by James Stratford and Joseph Arthur. Stratford and Arthur worked the property until 1920, when it was sold for \$75,000 to a company called the Broken Hills Silver Corporation, financed by George Graham Rice's Fidelity Finance and Funding Co. This company ran into difficulties and a reorganization was effected in 1921. After the reorganization, some ore from the Broken Hills mine was treated in a 50-ton cyanide mill at Bruner 12 miles distant. Several other small companies were organized in the twenties to work properties in this district, but all these companies have passed out of existence.

The original owners are reported to have shipped ore to the value of \$75,000. Lessees have made intermittent shipments of ore totaling about \$15,000. Total production of ore probably exceeds \$100,000.

The ore occurs in narrow, steeply dipping veins in andesite. Two veins have been found on the property, formerly owned by the Broken Hills Silver Corporation. The vein filling consists of crushed and altered andesite with minor amounts of quartz. The ore contains lead, silver, some zinc, and a little gold. Virtually all the ore mined has been taken from the oxidized zone, which extends to a depth of 150 feet from the surface.

Broken Hills Mine

Ground formerly owned by the Broken Hills and Belmont companies was relocated in 1936 by George M. Lerchen, of Broken Hills, and associates. The previous owners neither filed claim for exemption of assessment work nor did any assessment work, so the ground was relocated by Lerchen and associates. The surface equipment was bought in at a tax sale. The Lerchen property comprises four unpatented claims.

Development work consists of Broken Hills shaft, 600 feet deep; Belmont shaft, several hundred feet deep; and approximately 6,000 feet of underground workings. All mining equipment except a 15-horsepower Fairbanks Morse hoist at the Broken Hills shaft has been removed.

In October 1936, Lerchen and partner were working on a vein on the 150-foot level from the Broken Hills shaft. The width of the vein ranged from 18 inches to 2 feet, and the owners had mined 15 tons of ore reported to average 100 ounces of silver. Mining was done by hand. According to Lerchen's sampling, the Broken Hills ore dump, which contained an estimated 10,000 tons, will average 15 ounces of silver. In addition, approximately 10,000 tons of the same grade of ore are said to be available in the Broken Hills workings.

The nearest water supply is at Halley's well in Lodi Valley, 10 miles distant. The well is reported to be 140 feet deep.

The cost of trucking ore to Fallon for shipment is \$4 per ton on contract; 25 miles of this haul is over desert road and 45 miles over the Lincoln Highway.

Silver Trailer Group

The Silver Trailer group of five unpatented claims owned by V. S. Baxter of Fallon adjoins the Broken Hills Mine. This property is developed by a 100-foot shaft and about 1,000 feet of lateral workings.

According to Baxter, the only production from this property is 1 car-load of ore shipped several years ago. This ore averaged 80 ounces of silver and 22 percent lead per ton. Property has been idle for several years,

Baxter Mine

The Fluorspar group of eight unpatented claims owned by Vet. S. Baxter, of Fallon, is 6 miles west of Broken Hills. The nearest shipping point is Fallon, on the main line of the Southern Pacific R. R., 70 miles northwest. This fluorspar deposit was discovered and located by Baxter in 1922; since its discovery, intermittent shipments totaling approximately 3,500 tons have been made. Fluorspar is used for fluxing in the steel industry on the Pacific coast.

No attempt has been made to concentrate the fluorspar other than by selective mining and hand sorting. No water is available in the immediate vicinity of the mine, but probably water could be developed within a radius of 10 miles.

Development work comprises three shafts (the deepest of which is 110 feet) and underground workings totaling about 1,000 feet.

The fluorspar is in veins in a formation said to be andesite. The main vein is traceable on the surface for a distance of at least 3,000 feet. The strike of the vein system is about east and west, and the dip is 55° to the north. The width ranges from a few inches to a maximum of 10 feet. The footwall of the deposit is a well-defined fault, but in the hanging wall a number of stringers of fluorspar, ranging from a few inches to 1 foot in width, branch off from the main vein. The chances for finding additional parallel veins either in the footwall or hanging wall of the deposit are favorable.

Mining has been confined to the production of shipping ore whenever there has been a market for the product. At the time of the writer's visit in October 1936, two men were employed in working the deposit on contract. Drilling is done by hand and the open-stope method of mining is employed. A 12-horsepower Fairbanks-Morse gasoline engine and 800-pound bucket are used for hoisting.

A high-grade product is produced by selective mining and hand sorting. Pieces of waste shot down with the ore are sorted by hand. The minimum width mined averages about 18 inches. The shipping product contains an average of about 95 percent fluorspar, 1 percent silica, and smaller amounts of iron, manganese, and aluminum.