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SCHHEELITE IN THE ARIZONA MINE
Pershing County, Nevada

by
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The Arizona mine is on the east side of the Humboldt Range in the Buena Vista mining district, Pershing County, Nevada. It is one mile south of the old mining camp of Unionville, in the S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 27, T. 30 N., R. 34 E., Mount Diablo Base and Meridian. The mine is one of the oldest and most extensive of the silver properties in Pershing County and has been worked since 1862. It was last operated for silver in 1929. The property is at present held by C. A. Ernst of Unionville, who located 6 patented claims over an area which covers the workings.

In 1940, C. A. Ernst and his sons mined and sorted from old stopes about $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons of scheelite ore that contained 30% WO_3 . The ore was sold in Los Angeles. Subsequently, Ernst began digging an 85-foot adit to reach the part of the mine in which scheelite occurs but stopped work in 1941 after it was about half completed. The old adit leading to the scheelite-bearing stopes is caved, and the stopes are accessible only from a higher level, by means of a winze. I examined the scheelite occurrences with Ernst June 19, 1944.

The silver minerals occur in quartz-calcite veins that dip gently, parallel to the bedding of enclosing black carbonaceous shales. In a small part of the mine these veins contain narrow high-grade streaks of scheelite. The scheelite mineralization is erratic and is not sufficiently continuous to support a full-scale mining operation. It is probably, however, that small

lots of high-grade ore can be profitably mined and sorted from the walls of the old stopes if the price of tungsten does not fall below \$20.00 per unit of WO_3 . Mr. Ernst does not plan any immediate work on the property.