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Item 45

Memorandum on

GOLDACRES MINES

Bullion Mining District, Lander County, Nevada

Abstract

The Goldacres Mines property is in the Bullion district, Lander County, Nevada, 21 miles southwest of Beowawe. Zones of scheelite ore occur in limestone that has been altered to tactite. Most of the ore is very low-grade. A few hundred tons of 0.5%-1.0% WO_3 ore can probably be sorted from two small lenses. Further exploration of another zone might develop a mineable tonnage of low-grade ore that could be profitably mined and concentrated in an idle mill near the property.

General

The Goldacres Mines property is situated near the south end of the Bullion mining district, eastern Lander County, Nevada, in the corner sections of Ts. 27 and 28 N., Rs. 46 and 47 E. The property consists of 14 claims, which lie at an altitude near 6000' on low hills along the east front of the Shoshone Range. Water for domestic and operational use is hauled from a well in Crescent Valley, three miles distant. The property is 29 miles southwest of Beowawe, a station on the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific Railroads, by graveled road.

The undeveloped property was purchased by Goldacres Mines from Lee Lakin in 1934. Between 1934 and 1941 the company developed the property and mined 50,000 tons of $10 gold ore. A few hundred thousand tons of $5 gold ore are

* Reverend J. J. Klett, Columbia College, Dubuque, Iowa, President; Harry W. Treweek, Beowawe, Nevada, Manager.

are said to be blocked out. Scheelite was first discovered here in March 1943 by Mr. Treweek. Three men are now employed at the property.

Improvements on the property include a camp that can house 15 men, a 50-ton leaching and cyanidation plant, a blacksmith shop, etc. Equipment includes two compressors, an engine, an air hoist, two trucks, mine cars, and assorted mining implements.

A small jaw crusher and table are being set up, and during the next few weeks sample lots of tungsten ore from the property will be milled.

Geology

The Goldacres property is underlain by a faulted sequence of partly contact metamorphosed limestone, quartzite, and shale. The beds strike northwest and dip between 20° and 60° southwest. No intrusive rock is exposed. The sedimentary rocks seem to cross the property without major displacement, but the mineralization in the northwest and southeast parts of the property is entirely different.

Gold Deposits

The main gold ore body occupies a prominent northwest-trending sheared contact between marbleized limestone and a chert-like metamorphic rock, locally called "porphyry". This chert-like rock grades into shale and fine-grained quartzite. Small lenses of gold ore also occupy northeast-trending cross breaks. The main gold ore body terminates abruptly at the southeast end, possibly against a fault. Quartz, scheelite, and minerals that contain other metals are not present in the gold ore.

Scheelite Deposits

The zone of scheelite mineralization lies southwest of the termination of the gold ore body, and probably in the same limestone that is the footwall of the gold ore body. The zone trends northwest, parallel to the bedding, and is about 1200' long and 350' wide. Within this zone the limestone has been ir-

regularly altered to tactite. The size and shape of these bodies cannot be determined from the few outcrops and artificial exposures. The tactite is a very fine-grained and crudely banded aggregate of brown garnet and an unidentified dark green silicate mineral; a little quartz occurs locally. Much of the tactite is barren or contains less than 0.1% of very small scheelite crystals.

The tactite area is cut by northeast-trending quartz-calcite veins that carry variable, but generally small amounts of scheelite, galena, and oxidized pyrite and chalcopyrite (?). Near these veins the tactite generally contains more scheelite. Parallel barren, milky quartz veins do not influence the scheelite content of the tactite.

Two possible commercial ore zones are partly exposed. One of these lies near the southeast end of the property. It has been leased by Goldacres to Mr. J. Dorsey, Beowawe, Nevada. A streak of ore 2' wide and estimated to contain 1% WO_3 has been exposed for a length of 15' on a shallow cut. Part of the scheelite is in a narrow quartz-calcite vein that parallels the cut; part is in the adjacent tactite. Nearby a 25' shaft has been sunk on another lens estimated to contain 0.4-0.5% WO_3. No veins are exposed by this work. It is probable that a few hundred tons of ore suitable for shipment could be sorted from shallow workings on this lease.

The other zone is near the northwest limit of the tactite area. Goldacres Mines plan to develop this zone. All outcrops in this vicinity are limestone, but a prospect shaft 100' deep penetrated tactite from 30' below the collar to the bottom. At a depth of 80' a 35' crosscut was driven to a 1' quartz-sulfide-scheelite vein, and at a depth of 100' a crosscut was driven 75' west. Most of the rock exposed in these workings is tactite. Neither footwall nor hanging wall of the altered zone is exposed. The grade of the tactite in the shaft and in the crosscut on the 80' level is estimated to average 0.1-0.2% WO_3. Samples cut by Mr. Treweek along the drift on the 80' level averaged 0.25% WO_3 for a length of 45' and a width of 2¼'. Rock of about the same grade is exposed in both faces of the drift. On the 100' level a zone 40' long and 4' wide is est-

imated to average 0.4-0.5% WO3. This zone is limited on the east by a quartz-sulfide stringer, and on the west by a 4"-18" quartz-calcite-sulfide vein that contains pockets rich in scheelite. This ore is not bounded by a definite foot-wall or hanging wall, and it may average more than 4' wide. Only a few hundred tons of ore of this grade are indicated.

Mr. Treweek plans to stope the best zone on the 100' level and to mill the ~~best~~ ore in the pilot plant. He will also extend the underground workings by following the mineralized northeast-trending veins. If the grade of ore is better than the few assays and visual estimates indicate, and if the proposed underground work exposes a larger volume of similar rock, an idle 75-ton flotation mill may be leased. This mill, the Little Gem (McCracken), is situated in Crescent Valley, 8 miles northeast of the mine by graveled road. It is said to be fully equipped. The Goldacres interests are negotiating with Western Explosives Co., Salt Lake City, Utah, receiver of Little Gem holdings.

My prediction is that the grade and tonnage of ore now exposed will not permit a profitable operation, even if a high recovery of scheelite can be made (and this will probably be possible only by flotation). It is possible, however, that a more substantial tonnage of better grade ore may be found by more thorough exploration of the mineralized zone exposed in the underground workings.

M. R. Klepper
Assistant Geologist
Winnemucca, Nevada
June 12, 1943
Examined June 11

T. B. Nolan 3
S. G. Lasky
D. M. Lemmon
G. L. Allen
File

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

506 Federal Building
Salt Lake City 1, Utah
August 5, 1943

Mr. T. B. Nolan
U.S. Geological Survey
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Tom:

You have copy of my letter of July 20 to Harry W. Treweek concerning Klepper's report on the Goldacres Mines, Nev.

Mr. W. P. Maloney, representing the company, called here today in response to my letter and was orally given the results of Klepper's work.

Sincerely,

S. G. Lasky,
Regional Geologist.

cc: M.R.Klepper
D.M.Lemmon