

Barite, Maggie Creek, Eureka Co., continued.

although the vein is much shattered and leached, and is a watercourse for downward descending surface waters. Probably at water level other more valuable minerals exist. Such a long, wide vein will justify exploration at depth, which may be best done by means of a tunnel from the bottom of the deep canyon.

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Charleston, Elko County

We went from Elko to Charleston on June 4, 1932. Charleston is 52 miles north of Deeth and the S. P. railroad, by easily travelled dirt roads.

The principal mine is the Black Warrior, located on the west side of "76" Creek Canyon, 2.6 miles northeast of Charleston, where the most important operation in the district is in progress.

The mine is controlled by George L. McCracken and Dan Zuccone, who have a lease and option to buy from P. R. Prunty of Charleston, the owner. It is covered by 9 lode claim locations in one contiguous group, containing about 180 acres. The average elevation is 6000 feet.

The general surface exposure in this portion of the district is that of tilted Paleozoic sedimentary rocks cut by intrusives of granodiorite and rhyolite. The sedimentary rocks dip 70° to 80° North and consist mainly of limestone and shale. The intruded dikes cut the sedimentaries at almost right angles and stand nearly vertical. There is considerable metamorphism and fracturing at these intrusions.

Over 1400 feet of underground work has been done, much of it said to be without system and therefore useless. In an upper tunnel 900 feet of drifting has uncovered about 60 feet of vein 8 feet wide. From this exposure to the surface is about 60 feet.

A lower tunnel 300 feet below these workings is in 500 feet, but has not yet penetrated the vein.

During 1931, 192 tons of ore was removed and milled, according to McCracken,

Charleston, Elko County, continued

assaying \$8.11 in gold. This was milled in a small, imperfect and incomplete cyanide mill, and much of the value was lost, although the ore is well oxidized, and apparently should cyanide readily. This year (1932) a new mill is being built, to treat about 15 tons per day. Although in design it is apparently correct for a small modern all-cyanide mill, it contains much makeshift and "home-made" machinery which may prove to be unsatisfactory. About 800 tons of ore is now broken down in a stope which McCracken states will assay \$7.00 per ton. There is ample water in "76" Creek for all mining and milling needs.

In the vein are small caves leached out of the limestone, leaving behind much limonitic material. A little lead and antimony are present in this zone. It is interesting to speculate upon what might be found at water level, probably 600 feet deeper, at the level of "76" Creek.

Fig. 14. Looking down 2,000 feet into 76 Canyon, Charleston Dist., Elko Co.

"Vanity Fair" mine in middle distance - on left slope - Keystone mine on the right.

Vanity Fair Mine

A brief visit to the Vanity Fair mine of P. R. Prunty was made. It is located about half a mile south of the Black Warrior and also on the west side of 76 Creek Canyon. The vein is small, 6" to 10" wide, of hard ribbon quartz. Prunty and one other man were working there in June, 1932, and had taken out 3 tons of ore stated to contain about \$80. per ton in gold. The ore contains also 2 oz. per ton in silver, some pyrite and chalcopryrite. The adjacent country rock and both walls of the vein are a dark-colored fine-grained andesite or diorite porphyry. The vein strikes N 73° E, Dip 75° E. Development consists of a short tunnel and drift. No ore has been shipped.

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Keystone Mine

The Keystone is a few hundred feet southeast of the Vanity Fair, and has a larger vein, from 2' to 3' wide. It is owned by Jack Slattery of Jarbidge, Nevada. About the year 1915 a carload of ore was shipped said to have netted \$15.75 in gold. More recently Slattery is said to have shipped a carload that assayed \$60.00 per ton. Mining and development is proceeding with one or two men.

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Charleston Placers.

June 4, 1932, found us domiciled at the ranch of Earl Q. Prunty, in northern Elko County. The ranch consists of 1120 acres of patented land along Bruneau River and Badger Creek, a small tributary to the river. It is well watered, has an elevation of about 6,000 feet, and large areas of natural wild grass on it are farmed for hay.

Some time previously Prunty had bonded his ranch to L. V. Duncan and associates of Colorado, who state they will carry on placer mining. On June 7, 1932, Duncan arrived to begin prospecting, bringing a small truck load of household goods. The group does not seem to be financially strong and Prunty expressed the opinion that they were making efforts to raise money to put in a steam shovel and other equipment.

There is much placer gravel and gold on the ranch, especially along Badger Creek, where we spent one forenoon sampling and panning with Earl Prunty. Much of the gold is very finely divided. Prunty thinks it will all average 75¢ per yard, but this is surmise. Apparently it could be mined profitably by hydarulic

Charleston Placers, continued.

methods. Prunty stated water was available under 320 feet head for hydraulicing, presumably from 76 Creek several miles distant, via the old Charleston district, long abandoned.

Between Prunty's ranch and 76 Creek 3 miles east, there is an area of gravelly foothill land sloping south traversed by a number of shallow ravines. Five or six square miles of this area contains placer gold concentrated in the ravines, which course south into 76 Creek. Pennsylvania Gulch and Union Gulch were mined to some extent many years ago. The mining was not thorough nor widespread, for the area was not very rich, and the pioneers were looking for riches. However, the gold is widespread, found in all the gulches and depressions.

Fig. 15. Looking west over Prunty ranch and Bruneau River in the distance.

A grassy cove in the center of picture contains gold gravels.

Earl Q. Prunty Ranch, looking west. Bruneau River in background, Badger Creek in middle distance. Shallow ravines in foreground all prospect placer gold.

Fig. 16. Looking SW down Badger Creek toward Prunty Ranch, Old Charleston Ditch visible on hills to left.

The bed of 76 Creek was more thoroughly mined, and is said to have yielded fairly well.

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Pennsylvania and Union Gulches.

Chris Brown is the owner of a group of claims on the head of Pennsylvania Gulch, and has a sluice box line there. A little fine gold was being recovered.

Brown also has claims and a cabin in Union Gulch, where he has miners leasing on one of his claims.

Fig. 17. Claims of Chris Brown at head of Pennsylvania Gulch.

Fig. 18. Mrs. Chris Brown panning gold on Union Gulch.

Fig. 19 and 20. Edward Graham mine at the foot of Union Gulch.

Fig. 21. McKnight, Morgan and Comstock claim on Pennsylvania Gulch.

Jos. McKnight, Willard Morgan and E. Comstock, a partnership, have 2 claims on Pennsylvania Gulch. They are using a 64-foot sluice box, 12" x 12" boxes, while the seasonal water lasts. McKnight doubted if they were recovering the equivalent of wages, but all were earning more than a living and expressed themselves as being satisfied with results so far.

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Old Charleston Ditch

A ditch several miles long leading from 76 Creek to near the head of Badger Creek was built about 25 years ago at a cost of about \$25,000, by Moss and Holden, of Utah. The ditch tapped only one tributary of 76 Creek and according to report did not have enough water to be of value, and was abandoned after one year. Some years afterward men from Jarbidge cleaned it out, but could not obtain water enough for successful placer mining.

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Bruneau Canyon Placer

A placer prospect owned by Louis Burner is located about 2 miles north of the Prunty ranch, and on the Bruneau River, at the junction of the Bruneau and Copper Creek. Burner has 5 claims located. He stated that coarse gold had been panned. The bedrock is lava, and the best showing is on an old rim or terrace. Visited by Carl Stoddard, 6/7/32.

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Jarbidge, Elko County, June 9, 1932.

Jarbidge, located on the Jarbidge River near the Idaho boundary, is on the northern slope of the Jarbidge Mountains, a great mass of minor peaks and high ridges radiating from Jarbidge Peak, which rises to a height of over 10,000 feet.

The camp has been a gold producer since 1909, and the Elgoro Company, owned by the Guggenheim Corporation, has been milling for 14 years, for many years at the rate of from 100 to 150 tons per day.

The country rock is composed of at least 3 separate rhyolite flows, divided for convenience into upper, middle and lower. In the Elgoro

In the Elgoro mine the ore is said to occur in the lower part of the upper and the upper part of the middle flows. Recently O. H. Hershey, geologist for the Elgoro Company, decided that the fault in which the ore occurs has a horizontal



Fig. 14. Looking down 2,000 feet into 76 Canyon, Charleston Dist., Elko Co.

"Vanity Fair" mine in middle distance - on left slope - Keystone mine
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Fig. 16. Looking SW down Badger Creek toward Prunty Ranch, Old Charleston Ditch visible on hills to left.



Fig. 17.

Claims of Chris Brown at head of Pennsylvania Gulch

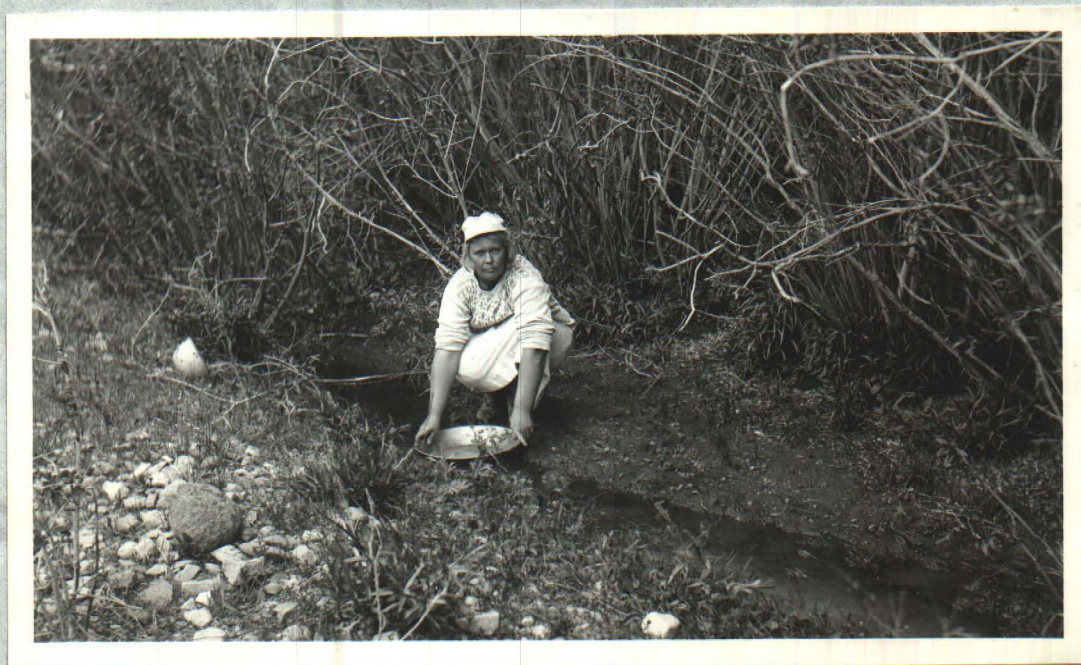


Fig. 18.

Mrs. Chris Brown panning gold on Union Gulch.



Fig. 19.
Edward Graham mine
at the foot of
Union Gulch.



Fig. 20.
Edward Graham mine
at the foot of
Union Gulch.



Fig. 21.
McKnight, Morgan
and Comstock claim
on Pennsylvania
Gulch.