

1330 0003

Inspection Trip - May 1931
A. M. Smith (NBM)
with Jay Carpenter (NBM)(222)
item 3MAGNESITE DEPOSIT

While at Ely one trip was made to examine a very large magnesite deposit which is located in the White Pine Mountains 41 miles southwest of Ely. It may be reached by driving from Ely along the Tonopah Highway to the Curreant Creek Bridge, and thence, by Wood road N 30° E 2½ miles and by trail ½ mile.

F. L. Rigsby of Ely, and others, have mining locations upon a portion of the deposit. The magnesite occurs as a bedded deposit underlaid by slate, conglomerate and tufa, and overlaid by a basalt lava flow. The strike is north, and the out about 30° to the East. The magnesite stratum and the basalt capping extend over several mountain tops and show for miles. The bed is not all magnesite, but contains spots and areas of replacement silica such as chert and jasper. There is a very large proportion of magnesite, some of which is soft, but much is of the highly fine variety; hard, which breaks with a conchoidal fracture. Three graded samples brought in and analyzed by the State Mining Laboratory gave returns of:

1.	SiO ₂	24.86%	CaO	7.86%	MgO	29.0
2.	"	14.40	"	6.8	"	35.0
3.	"	1.5	"	trace	"	43.2

One outcrop was observed that is 150' wide, 20 feet thick and 500 feet long. The extensive magnesite formation passes through the mountain and outcrops similarly on the opposite side.

This may be another Nevada mineral resource of great potential value.