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NEVADA BUREAU OF MINES

NOTTI'S REPORT
ON THE
LIDA AND PALMETTO
MINING * DISTRICT
ESMERALDA COUNTY
NEVADA

This report which has been compiled by Tony T. Netti of Goldfield, Nevada and deals with the Columbia Mountain Fault from Goldfield to the Lida and Palmetto District. The author of this report has been in the mining game for over 38 years and has had a good deal of study in Geology and Mineralogy. This mineralized zone lying between Goldfield and the Palmetto District has been studied by the author of this report for a period of 25 years.

"To the Reader"

This report deals with North Lida, but does not deal with South Lida. The reason for this is that the Columbia Mountain Fault goes through North Lida and continues Northwesterly to the Palmetto District. It is on this Fault that I am writing this report, including such mines as the Blue Dick, the Lida Bell, The Old Spanish Mine and the Buster Mine, also the mines in the Palmetto camp. A large mineralized area follows this fault line. The first mine you come to after leaving Goldfield along this fault area is the Blue Dick Mine in North Lida. This mine has been a good producer in that area and has been shut down over a period of years, due to the burning down of the Mill which was located at the camp. This mine is now going into operation again. A small mill is now being constructed on the property. On my first trip to the mine several years ago I noticed a long tramline going up the mountain side from the Blue Dick camp. Most of the mining was done high up on the mountain between the granite and the lime, through a tunnel driven along the vein. Large stopes in the mine workings show that a good deal of ore was taken from this property, but I also noticed that no work has been done at depth. The ore seems to continue on downward and is not explored to any depth. It is my belief that a tunnel driven from the campsite to the old workings on the hill would develop

a considerable ore body. I also noticed before coming to the Blue Dick Mine that the fault line shows up about 1½ miles North of the camp of Lida, and is very noticeable in that immediate area. The next mine beyond the Blue Dick is the Lida Bell. This mining area around the Lida Bell was very active years ago. Some ore taken from the Lida Bell area was rumored to carry values as high as a thousand dollars per ton in silver and gold. I also noticed that in the Lida Bell area the ore seemed to leave the granite contact and emerge more into the lime. The next property is the old Spanish Mine over the hill from the Lida Bell. Now between the Lida Bell and the old Spanish Mine I found that there was either a split in the fault or vein system. There is a junction in the fault or vein system almost on top of the mountain. Yet on the side of the mountain facing Silver Peak the vein or fault system continues on to the Spanish Mine and Buster and Palmetto. Yet the granite contact makes an abrupt turn and heads North toward Silver Peak area. Being late in the afternoon and at such a high altitude of somewhere around 9,500 feet I did not have the time to check the granite contact going toward Silver Peak area. I noticed a good deal of action had taken place along this contact and also noticed a good deal of mineralization along this contact. It is possible that there could be a split either in the fault or vein system at this junction. If so, then there could be some new light thrown on the Silver Peak area. It is possible that if there is a different break either in the fault or vein system in this area it could mean that the ore in the mine at the Nivlce and the Mohawk could have a tie in with the Columbia Mountain fault at this junction. I am not making any commitments on this break at the junction. I am merely showing the possibility of what could be possible. I will say this, that I think this is a very important junction on the fault and vein system.

and should be studied further. Now, going back to the old Spanish Mine I found an incline shaft on the property, but the shaft was caved in and I was unable to get in the shaft. This mine produced some high grade ore years ago. How much ore was produced here, I do not know.

An interesting thing to know about this property is that the vein system on this property, especially around the old camp, is a mixture of lime and granite porphyry. This area consists of of four claims and a very small amount of work has been done on any of the other claims. I encourage drilling on these claims. The next mine bordering on these claims is the well known Buster Mine. This mine I am well familiar with. For years the main shaft was caved in to the extent that sampling the lower levels was impossible. During the summer of '64 this shaft was retimbered from the surface to the bottom which is 242 ft. The first level is known as the 90 ft. level. A good deal of stoping has been done on this level. The next level is known as the 135 ft. level. Some large stopes of ore have been taken from this level. A drift was driven Northwesterly for a distance of about 300 ft. The drift cut through a bedding plane of a good grade of mill ore. Very little work has been done on this bedding plane. A wing was put down about 8 feet in depth on the plane, but did not go through the ore body. I encourage more developing in this area. The next level is known as the 200 ft. level. A good deal of drifting and stoping was done on this level. The shaft continues on down another 42 ft, but goes through the ore body at the 200 foot level. The bottom of the shaft now sets between two ore bodies cross-cutting would have to be done at the bottom of the shaft in order to intersect both veins. The main Buster vein and the north parallel vein. I certainly encourage cross-cutting in this area. The Buster vein system has a width of around 300 ft. with a slight pitch to the South, yet the ore bodies in the vein system seem to have a slight

pitch to the North. About a quarter of a mile East of the old shaft another shaft had been put down to a depth of 200 or 250 ft. This shaft is now caved in. Some very rich ore was out in this shaft and also a short distance from the shaft. The Buster camp lies between the two shafts. Two hundred feet East of the camp some dozer work was done and a vein of about 15 feet in width was uncovered on surface carrying a good grade of mill ore. I encourage either drilling or sinking in this area which in my opinion is virgin ground. In this same area a third vein system seems to come in which runs Easterly and intersects the new shaft and then continues onward to the East for about 200 feet and intersects the North parallel vein. Very little work of any depth has been done on this lower end of the Buster property. Yet some prospect holes on that end have showed high grade samples. Drilling should be done on this end of the property. The Buster vein lies in the lime and continues to the lime on to the old town of Palmetto. There in the Palmetto District, especially in the old camp of Palmetto, several mines have been worked in that area years ago. One of the famous mines in that area was known as the Kentucky the other mine as the Champion. These two seemed to be the leading mines the that area. At these mines there are fair sized dumps left carrying mill ore. These two mines went fairly deep, but had gotten into a complex ore at depth. The area around the old camp of Palmetto still has good possibilities of producing a large tonnage of ore. One thing of interest in the camp of Palmetto is the old flag pole that still stands there today. The first flag flown in the state of Nevada was flown in the Palmetto camp. The area Northwest of Palmetto I did not try to trace the fault any further. I don't know if the fault continues on into Fish Lake Valley or whether it splits or disapates.

itself beyond the camp of Palmetto.

"To The Reader"

This report was written for the purpose of encouraging more development along this fault and vein system. Good mines could be developed between these known mines and the old mines could be developed further and could still produce a lot of good ore. This same Columbia Mountain fault which runs through North Lida and into Palmetto, is the same fault that is responsible for all of the rich mines produced in Goldfield. This report was shortened and kept simple for the benefit of the ordinary prospector, yet a prospector of today should have more knowledge of mineralogy and geology. I have noticed in my travels that a good deal of effort was spent by prospectors because they had no knowledge of mineralogy or geology. I saw holes as deep as 30 feet put down in solid granite with no mineralization or vein system within a radius of 3 miles or more. Just think of all of this hard work that was done because the Prospector had no knowledge of either mineralogy or geology. Today the modern prospector has to prospect a good deal closer and for his benefit should have a little more knowledge in mineralogy or geology. A good many books are printed today that are available to the prospector. I encourage prospectors today to try and study more, for it might mean the difference of finding a mine and not finding one. Outfitting right is very important for the modern day prospector. The days of the old burro's are gone. We are now living in the day of Jeep burro's, which enables the prospector to travel further into the back country in a shorter time than it took the old time prospector of yesterday.

By

Tony T. Notti

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