

I.C. 6995

The width of the placer channels varies from 800 feet at the lower end to 1,500 feet to the upper end. At the lower end of the property three shafts averaging 33 feet deep have been sunk to bedrock, and the material excavated in sinking these shafts averaged 29 1/2 cents per cubic yard. At least 10 other shafts have been sunk along the lower portion of the channel for a distance of 2 miles, and the values are reported to range from 15 cents to \$3.85 per cubic yard. The average depth of the gravel in the lower part of the property is about 18 feet.

The upper portion of the property consists of a large flat area. Two shafts 21 and 55 feet deep, respectively, gave an average value of 20 cents per cubic yard. These shafts were not sunk to bedrock, as operations were hampered by the flow of water encountered. The depth to bedrock in this area is probably about 100 feet, as indicated by a drill hole.

The alluvium is chiefly sand, gravel, and a little clay, with a few large boulders on the surface. The values are distributed through the gravel from surface to bedrock, which is a soft tufa. The gold is rough, sharp, and fairly coarse, occasional nuggets having values up to \$5 or \$6. The average fineness of the gold is 903.

Basin Placer

The Basin Placer comprises 40 acres near the upper end of Leonard Creek owned by Arthur Alley and Lee Curry. In 1937 this property was under lease to Paul A. Tarpay and associates, of Oakland, Calif. This ground has been worked on a small scale by sluicing and rocking when snow water was available. The placer has been sampled by 33 shafts, but the results of the sampling are not available. The depth of the gravel ranges from 2 to 24 feet and averages about 12 feet. Three wells have been sunk on the ground for water and the combined flow is said to be about 200 gallons per minute. A nugget valued at \$41.60 was found on this ground.

Montero Placer

Potential placer ground is included in the Montero ranch owned by Ramon Montero of Leonard Creek. The ranch comprises 5,500 acres. No placer gold has been produced from this property and very little prospecting has been done.

The water rights on the Leonard Creek watershed is owned by Ramon Montero, and during the dryest part of the year the surface flow is estimated to be 800 gallons per minute. During the spring run-off the flow may attain a maximum of 12,000 gallons per minute.

McDERMITT DISTRICT

The McDermitt district is in the vicinity of the town of McDermitt on the Oregon-Nevada boundary line, 77 miles north of Winnemucca, which is the nearest railroad point. Cinnabar was discovered in a range of low hills

13 miles, by road, southwest of McDermitt in 1931, by Gamos Alcorto and Euserbio Agnarez of McDermitt, Nev. Shortly after, the Cordero group of claims located by the discoverers was leased to the Bradley interests of San Francisco, but the lease was relinquished in 1933.

When the writer visited the area in June 1937 there was no activity.

Cordero Group

The Cordero group comprises five unpatented claims. Development consists of an inclined shaft 75 feet deep and lateral workings totaling about 1,000 feet. There is no mining equipment on the property. In 1933, after the Bradley interests had ceased operations, the owners produced about 68 tons of sorted ore, which was retorted at the Opalite quicksilver mine in Oregon, 23 miles west of McDermitt. According to Agnarez, 42 flasks of quicksilver were produced from this ore. This is the only production.

The cinnabar occurs disseminated in an opalite formation considerably broken by faulting.

NATIONAL DISTRICT

The National district is in northeastern Humboldt County on the west slope of the Santa Rosa Range, 18 miles by road southeast of McDermitt, Nev., and 77 miles a little east of north from Winnemucca, the nearest railroad point and supply center. The mines in the vicinity of Buckskin Peak, about 3 miles southeast of the camp of National, are usually considered part of the district. The district was discovered by J. L. Workman and Lew Davis in June 1907, who located virtually all the properties in the camp, comprising 34 claims. The following year Workman purchased Davis's interests in the ground and divided it into lease blocks several hundred feet square. Leases were granted for a one-year period, and the sliding-scale system of royalty payments adopted was as follows:

<u>Assay value per ton</u>	<u>Royalty, percent</u>
\$50 or less.	10
\$50 to \$150.	15
\$150 to \$250	20
\$250 to \$1,000	25
\$1,000 or more	40

Rich ore was found in 1909 in the Combination lease owned by the Stall brothers, Frank and George; the first ore shipped from this lease is reported to have averaged \$19.90 per pound. While this lease was active, an option on the property was obtained from Workman by Sam Gundaker and associates, who organized the National Mining Co. A one-year extension of the Stall lease contract had also been given by Workman to the Stall brothers,