

I.C. 6995

The cinnabar occurs in a rhyolite that has been altered extensively by hot-spring action. The croppings are very rugged and prominent, covering an area roughly 1,000 feet long and 500 feet wide. Most of the work has been done on the northeast end of the deposit. In general the rhyolite has been altered to a gray chalcedony, vesicular in character, in which the cinnabar occurs as disseminations and seams. The distribution of cinnabar over a large area is promising, and the future of the deposit depends to a great extent on whether the average grade of the ore is high enough to work on a large scale. According to Don C. McCormick, preliminary sampling indicates that the average grade of the ore is better than 5 pounds of quicksilver per ton.

#### PARADISE VALLEY DISTRICT

The Paradise Valley, also known as the Mount Rose, district is on the east slope of the Santa Rosa Range, about 11 miles northwest of the town of Paradise Valley. The nearest shipping point is Winnemucca, 60 miles a little west of south from the old camp of Spring City in the central part of the district. The first locations in this area were made in 1868; it was organized as the Mount Rose district in 1873. The mines were worked actively from 1879 to 1891. Subsequently, a revival of interest took place from 1907 to 1915 and again from 1931 to 1935, when small amounts of silver ore were mined.

The total production from the district is probably in the neighborhood of \$1,500,000, although some estimates are as high as \$3,000,000. Nearly all the production was made prior to 1900, when complete statistics on mineral production were not compiled. According to Burchard,<sup>16/</sup> from January 1879 to December 1883 the Paradise Valley mine produced \$366,735.

According to Gus Rogers, of Winnemucca, the records of the old Silver Butte Mining Co. show a production of \$706,405 from March 1883 to April 1887, out of which \$150,000 was paid in dividends. In the early days the ores were crushed in stamps and treated by pan amalgamation. The tailings from these early-day mills were reworked twice, the last time in 1913 and 1914. The principal property in the district was the Silver Butte Mining Co.

#### Silver Butte Claims

Fourteen unpatented claims formerly included in the property of the Silver Butte Mining Co. were relocated by Gus Rogers and associates, of Winnemucca, in 1931. Subsequently, the claims were taken over by a group from Astoria, Oreg., and a small mill was erected, which treated several thousand tons of low-grade ore obtained by screening the dumps. It closed down in 1935. When the writer visited this area in June 1937 there was no activity.

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<sup>16/</sup> Burchard, H. C., Report, Director of the Mint, on the production of precious metals in 1883, pp. 515-529.