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BEN SEITZ MERCURY PROSPECTLocation

Prospect is located up Dunlop Canyon--10 miles out of Mina, Nevada.

Extent Of Property

ITEM 41

The group consists of four claims; two laying parallel to each other, one adjoining the end lines of the parallel claims and at right angles to them, and the fourth adjoining one of the parallel claims, with a common end line. The latter claim covers an excellent camp-site and a spring.

Description

The prospect ^{lies} lay on the south side of a mountain and consists of a wide 'vein' with a strike of about N40°W. The hanging wall is a silicified limestone and has a dip of about 55° to the north. The footwall of the 'vein' is a conglomerate. The contact of the 'vein' with the conglomerate ^{dips} is about 70° to the south. ← Au?

Cinnabar may be found in place along both the hanging wall contact and the footwall contact. Since the whole area is covered with alluvium no chance was available to establish its presence between the two contacts. It is reported that cinnabar is visible in the country rock higher up on the mountain on the hanging wall side of the 'vein'.

The owner was seeking only rich cinnabar for retorting in a crude still so he left in place and on the dump all ore that was too low-grade for his purposes. One dump yields, by panning, a result of approximately 2.5% mercury, whereas another would run about 1% mercury.

Crossing the 'vein' at a strike of about north-south is a dike of dark, basic rock which may have some bearing on the mineralization, but in which no work has been done.

Development

A short adit was driven on the footwall contact on one side of the hill and on the opposite end of the property this contact was exposed for several hundred feet by surface diggings. It is reported that the cinnabar found along this contact is uniformly about one inch wide. It may be so seen in several places.

On the hangwall contact more work was done. At one end of the property a shaft was sunk on ore and it is reported that out of this shallow pit, sufficient cinnabar--ranging from a fraction of an inch to six inches in thickness--was taken to recover 600 pounds of mercury. The area of the footwall of this hole--on which the cinnabar lay--is approximately 150 square feet.

On the opposite end of the property over the hill two or three shafts and several pits were sunk on the hangwall contact. Several of these workings produced excellent 'kidneys' of cinnabar and all the dump rock pans well. The

Visited Sept. 18 by R. J. Zeebman &
to have an analysis

BEN SEITZ MERCURY PROSPECT, (Cont. P.2)

deepest of these shafts is about 30 feet and the work was ceased here due to the extreme hardness of the rock.

Prospects

Cinnabar is visible at all openings made in the contacts, either in place or on the dumps. At no place has any real depth been obtained. Neighboring properties with similar characteristics have reportedly followed ore shoots down-ward from 40 feet below the surface to 150 feet below the surface. The present few small workings have produced 14 flasks of quicksilver from distilling of pure cinnabar in a piece of 4-inch pipe heated in a wood fire.

Proposition

The owner wants \$5000 for his property but will make almost any sort of a deal in exchange for some legitimate operation of the property. He has offered to give all ore encountered in driving a 400 foot adit to the parties who drive the adit to help defray their expenses in the event that they do not find, by driving this adit, sufficient evidence of the property producing enough mercury to justify his price of \$5000. This adit seems a logical method of testing the property as it will come on the hanging wall contact (where the most promising lenses were found) under the present surface workings and will reach the dike crossing the 'vein'. From this adit crosscuts may be driven across the 'vein' to the footwall contact.

Recommendation

In view of the reasonable showing of the ore on the surface and the reasonable attitude of the owner regarding the financing of the property for development, I believe that the prospect is worthy of an inspection by someone more versed in these matters than I and that if his judgment indicates a fair expectancy of ore, that at least development by an adit and perhaps a winze or two would be in order, any rich ore being retorted, all other ore being stock-piled against the erection of a furnace should development show the presence of enough ore to justify such an installation.


C. E. Tonry