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Ragged Top ⁴DIST.(290)
Item 24

The Ragged Top tungsten mine is in sec. 11, T. 25 N., R. 28 E.,

Lovelock quadrangle, on the west side of the Trinity Range, about 8 miles west from Toulon. Scheelite was discovered in 1916 in a number of small tactite masses. H. M. Eylesby & Co. shipped 3,600 tons of ore averaging 1.25 percent of WO_3 to Eureka, Utah for milling, and later treated a larger tonnage in a mill built near the railroad at Toulon. Operations ceased in April 1917 when they proved unprofitable

/ Hess, F. L., and Larsen, E. S., Jr., Contact-metamorphic tungsten deposits of the United States: U. S. Geol. Survey Bull. 725-D, pp. 289-291, 1922.

because of the smallness of the ore bodies. Total output is unknown, but is estimated from the size of the workings at about 12,000 tons of ore averaging 1 percent of WO_3 . Later, Rare Metals Corporation, affiliate of the Nevada-Massachusetts Co., obtained possession of the Ragged Top property along with the Toulon mill, but had not produced any ore from the claims up to 1948, although the mill was remodeled in 1936 and used to concentrate ore from other localities.

In the vicinity of the Ragged Top mine (fig. 186-A), several masses

✓ Fig. 186-A. Geologic map of the vicinity of the Ragged Top mine, Pershing County, Nevada.

~~of limestone~~ of limestone, probably of Mesozoic age, are surrounded by ^{granodiorite} ~~granite~~.

Southeast of the mine, latite flows which make up the higher part of the range are downthrown against the granodiorite and limestone along a steeply-dipping fault that strikes northeast. West of the mine, the older rocks are unconformably overlain by volcanic rocks, by consolidated bench gravels, and by recent alluvium.

The Ragged Top mine consists of an open cut about 40 feet deep dug in a tactite pendant roughly 60 by 90 feet in maximum dimensions, and an adit, 65-foot shaft, and 2 levels dug to explore an adjoining pendant (fig. 166-B). The principal production came from the open cut, although

Fig. 166-B. Geologic maps and section of the Ragged Top mine, Pershing County, Nevada.

some ore was taken from the adjoining underground workings and from other workings within three-quarters of a mile of the main mine.

Layers of tactite, in places 50 feet wide and hundreds of feet long, occur in the area at the contact of granodiorite with larger masses of limestone, but much of the tactite contains no scheelite. A deposit about 3,600 feet westerly from the Ragged Top mine was opened by 2

shallow shafts and several cuts from which some ore was taken, but no large amount was found.

Although the rocks in the district are not well-exposed, and other small masses of schmelite ore might be found by intensive prospecting, the outlook is not encouraging for finding bodies of ore that could be exploited at a profit except with very high prices.