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Rawhide, Nevada

By Algernon Del Mar*

The financial depression which caused the suspension of some mines, the strike at Goldfield and other causes have resulted in an unusual amount of prospecting in Nevada during the past winter. The consequence has been discoveries of gold along a belt extending from Lincoln to Humboldt county and such places as Gold Circle, Oro City, Jessup, Rawhide, Banyard and Seven Troughs will quickly become familiar.

The district near Hart, although in San Bernardino county, California, may be considered as part of this belt. The

stained with red and yellow oxides of iron and the contacts are very noticeable.

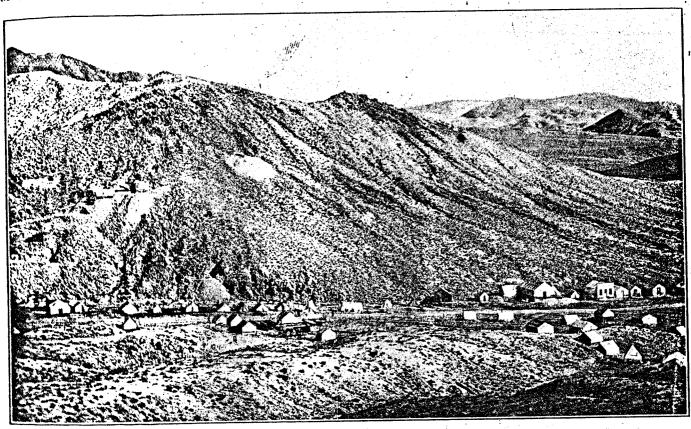
GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS

Generally speaking, the formation at Rawhide is a brecciated quartz porphyry, originally, possibly, an andesite breccia, but so altered as to have lost its identity. The ore is sometimes quartz, quartz porphyry, silicified rhyolite, or kaolinized porphyry. The deposits at Rawhide show little or no copper stain, although three miles east, on a contact with a lime belt, both copper and lead show in quantities; copper is found also, six miles southwest. Silver will probably average one-fourth as much as the gold contents. The ore from appearances is

way to answer this is to divide the district into five belts, and as the main belt is along Balloon, Murray and Grutt hills, this will be the starting point.

THE FIRST BELT

From the I. X. L. on the north, to the Big Four lease on the south, is a distance of perhaps a mile and a half. This belt includes the Poor Boys, Grutt hill, Kearn's No. 2 and No. 1 leases. St. Ives lease, Olgivie-Reynolds lease, Murray lease, and the two above-mentioned, as on the ends. On all these claims bodies of good milling ore from 4 to 30 ft. wide have been developed with streaks of high-grade that will run into the thousands, but these occur in such a manner



RAWHIDE IN JANUARY, 1908

more promising deposits of gold-bearing ground lately discovered are those at Hart, Gold Circle and Rawhide, the last named leading.

DISCOVERY OF RAWHIDE

Rawhide, like many others, was a chance discovery by men whose business was farming and not mining. It is near a trace road that had been used by prostors and freighters for the last 40 trace. Looking at these deposits with trace of experience, one wonders why stound should have been so persistence of experience. A very little prospectated have found visible gold in many to on Balloon hill, the porphyry is

free milling, but owing to the fact that some of the gold is very fine and light, the cyanide process will have to be used for treatment of the tailings.

VALUE OF THE CAMP

From the exaggerated and flamboyant advertising of the district by interested parties, many people look upon Rawhide as entirely a paper boom. In this they are mistaken, because the surface extent and value of the discoveries show the district to be well worth development. The reports of large bodies of high-grade ore are misleading; the assays are no doubt correct but the sampling is open to doubt.

The question now is: what has actually been uncovered at Rawhide? And the best

as not to be easily separated from the ore of lower value, so that shipments from these high-grade streaks are likely to be very much below what is currently anticipated. Kearn's No. 2, considered the best lease in the camp, in a 65-ft. shaft and crosscut shows 30 ft. of ore that, when sorted a little, might run \$30 a ton, with a streak of high-grade, perhaps 6 ft. wide that may average much higher. While the whole dike at this particular point is good milling ore, it has not yet been proved whether the shaft is on a pipe of ore, or a shoot of ore, nor has the probable extent of the shoot been shown. I mention this, not to disparage the property, but only to put the facts in a clear light. Deposits in this character of ground often run in pipes

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or lenses and until it is proved otherwise, there is a basis for at least a reasonable doubt whether these values will hold over any extent of ground. This condition applies to many of the deposits at Rawhide, but at the same time it is only fair to consider that there has not been sufficient work done to prove or disprove any theory positively.

To the east of Balloon hill, little work has been done except immediately on its east side, but nothing of any consequence had been developed up to a recent date. the district. The main vein extends for quite a distance showing remarkable persistence.

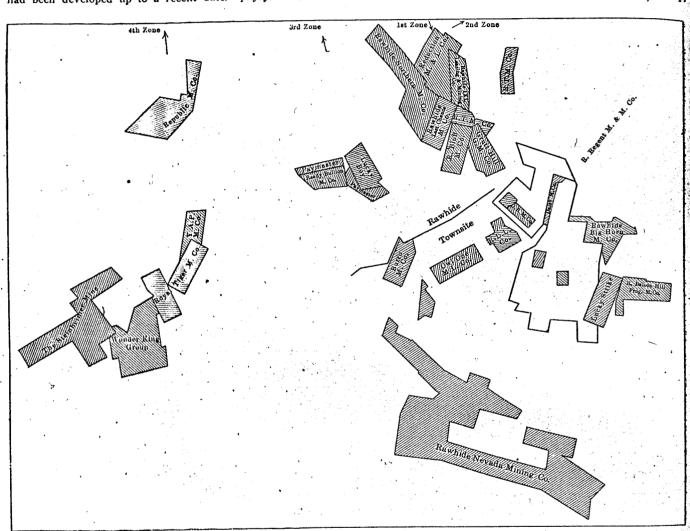
THE THIRD BELT

To the west of this zone, about a mile, is another zone that looks promising for large bodies of milling ore. The best known properties in this vicinity are the Royal, Tiger, Wonder Kings and the original Regent claims. Here we see wide porphyry dikes altered to quartz porphyry. There are some rich streaks re-

\$3 to \$5 a ton, which under present conditions are unavailable.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

The points made are these: Firstly, that Nevada is to be the center of attraction of the mining world this year, on account of the many recent discoveries of gold-bearing ores; secondly, that Rawhide is among the richer of its new camps; and thirdly, that it will prove to be a good milling and not a shipping camp.



LOCATIONS ON THE PROVED ORE ZONES, RAWHIDE, NEVADA

McCLOUD HILL

To the west of Balloon hill about half a mile is McCloud or Ilappy Hooligan hill. The formation in this zone is different from that of Balloon hill, being dacite instead of porphyry. So far as developed, the veins are very small and rich. I do not think the ore taken out has paid for the work done. There are exceptions to this, particularly on the Owl leases, where the veins are wider than on the hill. It is possible that with depth these stringers may extend into the formation sufficiently to produce bodies of good milling ore. The walls of these stringers are the best defined in

ported, but the main bodies are of milling grade. Leasers have been so anxious to be near town that the possibilities of this portion of the district have been somewhat overlooked.

THE WESTERN BELT

The last belt to be considered is that on which the Reward and McMann groups are situated, about a mile further west. Here we have a replacement vein of quartz in a porphyry dike, which will produce a good grade of milling ore with perhaps but little high-grade.

To the south and west of this last zone, are dikes of low-grade milling ore, as one might be led to believe from newspaper reports.

The accompanying map gives the principal locations in the district, including those mentioned above. The photographs show Rawhide as it appeared about an I and again about March I; a view of Grutt and Balloon hills, illustrating the general topography; and the Murray lease, a typical working of the camp.

In deep hoisting, the following types of drums are used: the Koepe system, its modification, the Whiting system, the conical drum and the reel or flat-rope drum.