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Austin Mining & Milling Company (money comes from Tulsa, Oklahoma)

Now building metallurgical plant at Austin, Nevada. The mill they are building is planned to operate at 300 tons per day. They have about 250,000 tied up in the mill.

They have 400,000 tons of silver tailings at \$20. per ton; that is, 8 ounces of silver per ton plus mercury. These tailings are from the old silver days at Austin around 1870. The tailings are on top of the dirt in a narrow valley and are from 8 inches to 20 inches thick for about 2 miles long.

The original ore was argentite, treated with mercury to make an amalgam. The tailings they will work have amalgam silver in them, plus mercury, and some oxidized silver. They plan to put the tails through a 20 mesh screen, then add chlorine (gas) and, I think, lime to the slurry, and to take off silver chloride and mercury chloride.

The mill is being built by Mr. Conrad Stuart. The flow sheet has been prepared by Prof. Duane Brown, Arizona State College, Mr. Stuart claims that the process".

I could not find out if Prof. Brown was a metallurgist (or chemist) or a geologist.

It was reported that Prof. Brown was, also, building a flotation plant for mercury at Winnemucca and at Lida. They will then haul the mercury concentrates to Flagstaff for treatment. There they are making a mercury mill in an old dairy building.

Notes by: V. E. Scheid, June 10, 1969

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