4390 0009

101
item 14

TO THE DIRECTORS,
ALTO DEVELOPMENT COMPANY,
TONOPAH, NEVADA

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your request I have made a preliminary examination of your Gold Ledge group of claims, located on the south-east end of Mineral Ridge, which is the mountain where the Mary Mine was found. It is in the Silver Peak Mining District, Silver Peak, Esmeralda County, Nevada. In an air line the distance between the Mary Mine and the Gold Ledge is about three miles. The Gold Ledge is on the southeast limb of the anticline formed by the intrusion of the alaskite into the sedimentary rocks; and the strike of the beds at this end of the mountain is southeast instead of northwest.

The Gold Ledge group is a continuation northwest of the Vanderbilt-Pocatello ore zone; and joins the Pocatello on its northwest end. The Vanderbilt and Pocatello were two of the early producers of the camp, and have a reported production of about $4,000,000. They were considered silver mines in the early days; but with metal prices as they are today the major value in dollars is in gold.

At the Gold Ledge the ore follows a zone of quartz which is similar in every way in appearance, age, association, and origin to the quartz bodies which form the ore in the typical gold mines of the camp. The quartz lies in a blue schist which

probably represents an altered shaly limestone. The ore zone is somewhat flat, lying with the formation, but is wrinkled and faulted, which makes very irregular outcrops. These facts were no doubt what made the old timers think of the quartz bodies as being a series of lenses. The alaskite is associated with the quartz bodies in the same way that it is in the Mary and other mines in the district.

The ore zone is frequently cut by greenstone (diorite) dikes, which are generally parallel with the zone, but are occassionally transverse. Thus the greenstone divides, underlies, or overlies, as the case might be, the quartz which constitutes the ore. Often the quartz near the dikes is shattered and mineralized, which would indicate that there has been two stages of mineralization, one older and one younger than the dikes; and that the later stage was the one which brought in the values, which were deposited where the first stage of quartz had been fractured by the intrusion of the dikes. The visible mineralization is black, which is probably some silver mineral.

On my first visit to the ground three samples were taken at scattered outcrops on the surface. The first of these was a showing of quartz about three feet wide in an open cut near the Pocatello. The quartz here has a strike of N 30 E , dips about 70 degrees to the south, and is somewhat milky in color. It is in the greenstone, and has spots of hematite throughout

it. The sample assayed .28 ounces in gold and 10.1 ounces silver, which is $16.40 per ton, with gold at $35.00 per ounce and silver at 66¢.

The second sample was cut several hundred feet northerly from the first at a flat-lying outcrop of quartz where some attempt to mine had been made at an earlier date. The quartz here carries considerable galena, or "blue metal", and some hematite. This sample assayed .51 ounces gold and 3.5 ounces silver; or $19.81 per ton. There is a very high-grade stringer at this place; but the sample cut represents an average of the whole quartz cropping.

The third sample was taken from the same outcrop as #2, at a point about 100 feet northerly from it. The quartz and conditions are the same as that for #2. This third sample assayed .36 ounces gold and 7.4 ounces silver; or $17.48 per ton.

Considering the record of production from the Vanderbilt and Pocatello properties and the proximity of the Gold Ledge to them, together with the fact that the Gold Ledge has had practically no work done on it, I would say that there is every chance of developing it into a producer of commercial ore.

Yours very truly,

H. H. Hughes, Jr.

Silver Peak, Nevada
15 October, 1938.