A number of occurrences of scheelite in tactite have been reported from the Lava Beds Range in the western part of the Lovelock quadrangle. The range is composed largely of granite with a minor quantity of metamorphosed sedimentary rocks. Twenty tons of ore were shipped from the Hilltop claims in 1942 for treatment at the Toulou mill, and about 10 units of WO_3 were recovered.

Hess and Larsen[1] described 3 prospects visited in 1917 on the

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[1] Hess, F. N., and Larsen, E. S., Contact-metamorphic tungsten deposits of the United States: U. S. Geol. Survey Bull. 725-D, pp. 292-294, 1922.

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east side of the central valley that divides the range. These occurrences were scattered from the base to the top of the range, and for a distance of 2 miles along the range. The deposits appeared small, but they were so poorly exposed that no definite information could be obtained as to their size.

In 1943, Klepper and Chesterman of the Geological Survey examined the Hilltop group of 6 claims, owned by John Garrett and E. K. Corbet. The workings on this property are about 2 miles northeast of the northernmost prospect examined by Hess and Larsen, and are near the summit of a small hill on the crest of the range at an elevation of about 5,950 feet. A passable road connects the property with the Garrett ranch near Trego, a station on the Western Pacific Railroad 15 miles northeast of Gerlach.

The exposures at the Hilltop claims are poor, for the surface here and elsewhere in the range is mantled with rock debris. It is believed that granite underlies much of the area. Metamorphic rocks

are exposed in 3 small pendants (fig. 156). The northern pendant is

Fig. 156. Geologic map of the Hilltop tungsten prospect, Lava Beds Range, Pershing County, Nevada.

13 feet wide where exposed in a trench, and consists of biotite schist and a 4.5 foot bed of tactite with some scheelite. About 450 feet south is another pendant with a mineralized bed 18 feet wide, explored by an adit with 200 feet of drift and crosscuts. The mineralized bed consists of tactite interbedded with schist. In the adit, the bed is exposed for a strike length of only 50 feet, for it is cut by granite at 2 places. A third pendant is exposed in a shaft sunk to a depth of 35 feet at a point 200 feet northwest from the portal of the adit. The shaft is in a tactite bed 13 feet wide, approximately on strike with the bed worked in the adit, but the 2 occurrences are separated by granite. The ore exposed in these workings containdd 0.6 to 0.75 percent of WO_3.