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Item 135

Tonopah Western Consolidated Mining Company

This company, which was incorporated in 1916, is sponsored by the East Butte Copper Mining Company. At the time of incorporation the company acquired the properties of the Tonopah Golden Gate Consolidated Mining Company and the Tonopah Comstock Mining Company together with some adjoining claims, which probably were the Table Mountain and Silver Queen groups. In 1924 or 1925 the property was enlarged by the purchase of the Great Western Consolidated Mining Company, which was in turn a reorganization of the Tonopah Ruby Mining Company; and the Tonopah Bonanza Mining Company, which was the successor of the Desert King Mining Company. The Greenwater Copper Mines and Smelter Company, whose chief owners included a number of men active in other Tonopah companies, had large stock interests in the Great Western and Bonanza companies, and these were exchanged for stock in the Tonopah Western Consolidated Mining Company.

The area now controlled by the company includes 69 patented claims with an area of about 1,000 acres. There are two shafts upon the property, the Great Western shaft, with a depth of 1133 feet, and the Bonanza shaft, 1680 feet deep. These are 3600 feet apart, the Bonanza shaft being to the

north. Some lateral work has been done from the bottom of the Great Western shaft but the amount is not known. Neither shaft was in operation at the time of the present survey and since they are not connected with any of the other Tonopah mines, the workings could not be examined.

The property has been worked at intervals since 1906 when the Great Western shaft was started. The last work on the Bonanza shaft appears to have been done in 1916 but the Great Western was in use as late as 1925 or 1926. Water was hit in both shafts and it is reported that work was suspended in 1925 or 1926 in the hope that the pumping in the Tonopah Extension mine would eventually drain the Great Western workings and eliminate the necessity of pumping.

According to a report by Arthur Lowry to the Keystone Mining Company, which was kindly made accessible by Mr. J. Grant Crumley, the 1133-foot level of the Great Western shaft exposed some ore in stringers that cut a rock similar to the Mizpah trachyte. The stringers had an east-west strike and dipped to the north. ~~Farther that~~ drifting to the eastward on this level exposed a contact between the Mizpah trachyte and a rock similar to the West End rhyolite. The occurrence of the contact here seems to indicate that there

are no faults of large throw between these workings and those from the West Tonopah shaft of the Tonopah Extension mine for the same contact was found at a higher elevation in that mine and dipping<sup>ed</sup> to the west towards the Great Western workings.