

SUMMARY REPORT OF MINING INVESTIGATIONS AND ITINERARY
IN THE KETCHIKAN DISTRICT,
September 10 - October 9, 1941

By
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NOTE

2031 141

B. D. STEWART
Commissioner of Mines

September 10-11. En route to Ketchikan.

September 13-15. Ketchikan to Vixen Inlet and return.

Dr. W. Peterson of Ketchikan reported the discovery of two outcrops of chromite ore on the northeast slope of Mt. Burnett on Cleveland Peninsula. These were reported to be veins nearly two feet in width and of unknown length. Upon receiving this information and a request to investigate their potential value, the writer made a trip to this locality accompanied by Dr. Peterson.

The No. 1 or lower showing was encountered at an elevation of 2150 feet on the barren northeast slope of Mt. Burnett. Here a curved lens of ilmenite-chromite ore was found contained in the apex of a nearly closed fold. The strike of the longest limb of the fold containing the ore was N. 53° W. This limb has a dip to the northeast. The plunge of the fold was southeast at a steep angle. Solid ore was exposed on the northwest limb for 30 feet and this ranged from one inch on the northwest side to 18 inches in width at the apex of the fold. Small bunches and seams containing disseminated chromite were found extending over a distance of 200 feet. The ore appears to follow the apex of the fold in its steep dip to the southeast.

Serial-K-5366

Sample 848 was taken across the lens at its widest portion of 18 inches. This gave results of 71.7% Cr₂O₃ and 22.7% Fe.

Showing No. 2 was located 300 feet southwest of No. 1 at an elevation of 2250 feet. It consists of a flat-lying lens of ilmenite-chromite ore 12 feet in length and averaging 20 inches in width. Alongside were several small seams up to one inch in width that persisted for several hundred feet in length with a strike of N. 45° W. and dipping 42° SW. The flat lens had a low dip to the southwest, but appears to be related to no definite structure and its depth is very indefinite. The persistent seams and a few irregular bunches were traced over a distance of 300 feet.

Serial-K-5367

Sample 849 was taken across the flat lens over 20 inches. This gave results of 21.8% Cr₂O₃ and 24.1% Fe.

Craig 119

A persistent search was made in this locality for further and possibly larger lenses of this ore. These were not revealed. The total tonnage in the two showings is not sufficient to be considered.

Slide No. shows this latter flat-lying lens of chromite.

September 15. Mining activities in the Helm Bay area were reported inactive. As a result the area was not visited.

Bert Libe reported some development last spring at the Blue Jay Mine. This consisted of a short winze in the north end of his drift off the crosscut. The ore was followed down a few feet. Lack of pumping facilities terminated this development. No milling or production was reported or expected for the balance of this year.

Craig 119
Mining and milling at the Gold Standard mine has been inactive during the summer season due to a shortage of water for operating both mill and compressor. A small production was reported during the winter and spring with three men employed. Operations are to be resumed this fall, providing water is available.

Dutton and Roessel were inactive during the summer months in their operation at the Valparaiso property at Dolomi. Shortage of water for power was the contributing cause. This spring a total of 100 tons was milled and a total of \$700 in gold was recovered. Further milling has continued and final clean-up will be during late fall. Four men have been employed during the season.

The Nelson and Tift property at McLean Arm on Prince of Wales Island was reported as inactive during the entire season.

The Alaska Gold and Metals Company, under the management of Lee Howard, was reported as operating during the season with a total of four men. Mr. Howard was reported to have obtained an option on the Cracker Jack gold property at Hollis. The reported terms were \$100,000 purchase price on an option with no payment for seven years, provided 200 feet of underground development was done per year. Other terms were a lease on the property giving a 12 per cent royalty on total production. This option and lease has apparently been dropped, since there was no development on the property this season.

September 16-28. Hyder district. (Contained in report on the Hyder district).

September 29 - October 1. Visit iron deposits on Kasaan Peninsula. (Special report on iron deposits).

October 2. Visit Flagstaff mine.

Craig 119 The Flagstaff Gold Mining Company was inactive up until August, when a crew of four men began assessment work and to comply with the terms of the purchase agreement. These men were engaged in cross-cutting into the hanging wall at a point 15 feet east of the winze in the lower tunnel. This point is 40 feet east of the north and south fault which cut off the ore on this level. The crosscut was being driven by hand mining, and it was in 15 feet. The diabase dike, which forms the hanging wall of the vein, was penetrated and the crosscut ended 5 feet into the diorite. On the hanging wall of the dike a few calcite seams containing minor amounts of manganese carbonate were cut. Since there was no further known objective in continuing this crosscut, the writer advised them to discontinue it. Instead, the writer recommended continuing the drift at a point 60 feet back from the face. Here the former drift left the footwall of the dike and followed a small barren quartz vein into the footwall. This new development would follow along the footwall of the dike where the ore shoots have formerly occurred and in which position they are known to exist on the surface above. *119-3*

Craig 119 Homer Bradford, who was formerly engaged at the Alaska Gold Mountain Mining Company at Smuggler Cove, was reported to have been recently put in full charge of this company's operations. He is expected to arrive within a few weeks to take over. Mr. Henry Mesta, an owner, is at present in charge of operations.

Mr. Rush, engineer from Seattle, who examined the property last year, recommended that the company go ahead with further development operations. He recommended starting a new tunnel 163 feet below and 300 feet slope distance away from the present lower working tunnel. The point selected for the portal was at the foot of a small bluff in the center of the tram right-of-way and 200 feet north of the vein. The steel sharpener and furnace have been moved and set up in a building near this site.

The mine and mill machinery has been subject to considerable damage. This damage was caused by neglect to drain the water from radiators, etc., and other damage caused by freezing. Considerable time, however, will be required before power operations can begin due to necessary replacements and repairs. The road from the beach to Salmon Lake, a distance of 1-3/4 miles, is in good condition. From Salmon Lake to camp, a distance of 2 miles, the road has been covered with a heavy coarse gravel and it is in excellent condition. At the present time the company lacks a means of conveyance.

October 5. Visit Kasaan Gold Mining Company property.

KX-119-8

Development operations on the Kasaan Gold property were resumed on February 1 of this year by Wendell Dawson. The mill resumed operations in June and to date a total of 400 tons has been milled. A recovery of \$15 per ton was made. Four men were employed as follows: One in the mill, one at camp, and two in the mine. To date a total of 200 feet of underground development has been accomplished this year.

Craig 119
A new vein was discovered in the early spring development and most of the development was confined to it. This new vein is a hanging wall vein, and measured at right angles to the dip, is 30 feet above the old Free Gold vein. This vein also occupies the crest of a fold which plunges 20-25° northwest or into the hill. The width averages 5 feet over its developed length of 120 feet. It is entirely inclosed in schisted black slates and follows the schistosity of the slates in dip and strike. The gold values in this vein were reported higher than in the Free Gold vein. It consists of a much harder quartz, is a smaller vein, and lacks the associated green dike.

Due to the harder nature of the ore in the new vein, the home-made ball mill has worn out, and has cut down the capacity of the mill.

Further development on this new vein is to be carried out this fall and winter.

Ben Leibrant at Hollis has been doing a little development and milling at the Hope mine. A larger amount of development and more milling was intended for this year, but lack of water for power prohibited.

KX-119-20

Lack of water also prohibited milling and development operations on the Cascade property.

KX-119-30

A shipment of 81,960 pounds of copper ore was made by Ben Leibrant and associates from Kasaan Bay. This ore was formerly mined from the It mine and loaded on a steamship which, due to a storm, sank in shallow water near the head of Kasaan Bay. This amount of ore was salvaged during low tides last spring. The ore contained 18 oz. Au., 87 oz. Ag., and averaged 7.99 per cent copper. A return of \$265.55 was received after freight and smelter charges were deducted.