

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES
COLLEGE, ALASKA

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C.S. *Opinion 64*
11/11/50 73
W.L. Smith 74

5 December 1950

MEMORANDUM REPORT

TO: Leo H. Saarela, Commissioner of Mines, Juneau, Alaska
FROM: James A. Williams, Associate Mining Engineer, College, Alaska
SUBJECT: Mining Operations in the Innoko Recording Precinct, Fourth Division.

On the 7th, 8th, and 9th of September 1950, the writer was in the Innoko Precinct visiting mining operations and making inquiries as to those not visited. The purpose of this activity was to gather information and data on the mining industry in that part of the Territory.

There were found to be twelve active operations in the Innoko Precinct, and the writer visited seven of them. The total number of men employed in mining in the precinct was seventy-seven. It is interesting to compare these figures with those of the Koyukuk which had nineteen operations, but only thirty-seven miners, and the Fortymile with thirteen operations and twenty-eight men employed. The reason for the difference is that in the Innoko Precinct the operations are all mechanical and two dredges are included, while there are no dredges active in the Koyukuk and the Fortymile, few draglines, and several groundsluice operations, which the Innoko lacks entirely. A detailed list of Innoko Precinct operations is on a separate sheet included with this report. A tabulation of the operations by type follows:

<u>Operations</u>	<u>No. of Oons.</u>	<u>No. of Men</u>
Gold Dredge	2	19
Dragline-Bulldozer- Hydraulic	7	46
Bulldozer-Hydraulic	<u>3</u>	<u>12</u>
TOTALS	12	77

It can be seen that this district runs heavily to dragline operations. Most of the Innoko miners reason that it is much more economical to

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stack tailings with a dragline than with a bulldozer, if one can meet the initial capital outlay for the dragline. A D-8 bulldozer will require up to \$5,000.00 per season in parts, (the wear and tear on tracks and rollers is terrific when working in water containing sand and silt) while a dragline will not require more than a few hundred dollars' worth. The bulldozer burns more fuel, because everytime it takes a load of tailings up on the pile, it is lifting its own weight (up to twenty tons) as well as that of the tailings. The dragline only lifts the bucket and the tailings, and therefore requires less power. A dragline costs up to \$60,000.00 new, although good bargains have been gotten in surplus deals. The present price of a new D-8 is a little over \$20,000.00.

The Innoko was a prosperous-appearing mining district, and appeared to have a pretty fair future ahead of it except for labor difficulties. Most of the miners in this area were moderately well satisfied with their production and were planning on continuing mining there as long as possible. There appears to be a favorable amount of ground yet remaining on most of the creeks, and the valley bottom of the Innoko River has very good possibilities of being a large area of dredging ground.

It was noticed that the Innoko mining operators pay higher wages than are paid in the other mining districts visited in the past season. A base labor rate of \$1.25 to \$1.35 an hour is paid here as against \$1.00 to \$1.21 in the other localities.

The labor shortage will be more difficult for the Innoko operators than for operators in most other outlying districts. In addition to the men that will not come back next season because of the increase of employment in defense work, the government construction project at Takotna will be enticing men away from the mining camps that do come back for the season. The construction work pays over twice as much as the operators can, and the men can hardly be blamed for going after the money. They hear of the job opportunities over the radio, and in at least one case so far, the contractors have come right into the camps in an endeavor to hire the men for the construction work.

The Innoko Precinct was not affected to any great extent by the water shortage of the past season. Most of the operators, some with the aid of pumps, were able to sluice as steadily as they desired. The creeks in the area held up quite well.

There is a road net in this district that links Ophir, Takotna, and the Candle Landing on the Kuskokwim. All of the mining operations but two can be reached by car or truck from these points,

At the Uotila and Hard operation on Ophir Creek, Gus Uotila was found on the upper part of the creek starting on his second cut since building a road to get there. The pay was running out on the lower part of the creek earlier in the season, so he took time out from mining to build a road to better ground about four miles up the creek. The expense involved was about \$10,000.00. The upper ground is fairly rich, and Uotila will mine there as long as he can get the labor. They were working a twelve-hour shift. Gus is a very progressive miner, constantly devising more efficient ways of handling the boxes, wings, cleanups, etc. The bedrock there is quite uneven, but splinters easily into very small needle-like fragments, making it easy to mine. A pump was returning water from a downstream sump, and nozzle men were stripping at other points in preparation for future mining. The crew totaled ten men.

The Hard and Uotila operation at Bear Creek, managed by Eric Hard, was not visited, but Mr. Hard was interviewed. They were working a crew of eight, had two bulldozers, a dragline, and a hydraulic setup. The chief complaint here was inefficient labor.

Neal Beaton was operating a small flume dredge on lower Ganes Creek with a crew of five. The dredge is a crude wooden affair with a single spud. The buckets empty directly into the sluice boxes without a screen or any other method for breaking or washing the material first. The hull, superstructure, and equipment were all in a very rundown and worn-out state. Beaton reported that in all probability, he would not operate the dredge again after the close of the season. His ground was apparently nearly dredged out.

Beaton also had an easy mining proposition on a bench just above his camp. He pumped the water up from Ganes Creek, and pushed in with a small bulldozer. The boxes were set up on a row of barrels, and the tailings went down the hillside. It was a very simple operation. He had no idea where the limits of this deposit were, so he did not know how long he would be mining there. It had the appearances of a residual deposit.

On upper Ganes Creek is the Innoko Dredging Company with their dredge and the largest crew in the Innoko Precinct. It is a $3\frac{1}{2}$ -foot, stacker dredge. The operation appears to be producing quite well.

There were three operations on Little Creek, the lowest of which was Joe Degnan's. He was having trouble with many large boulders and the pay appeared to be diminishing, but the creek has been a rich one, and he was hopeful of an improvement. If not, he was planning to move to the Tolstoi area. His ground had been drifted and dredged before he acquired it, but fair pay still remained.

KT 64-24
Above Degnan's is the partnership of Grover Girtler and John Myklebust. They were using an elevated sluice with a giant mounted on top of it for washing. They used a dragline for lifting the gravel to it, and a bulldozer for pushing the tailings away. Some difficulty was experienced in mining the blocky bedrock with the dragline. The pay streak here is quite narrow with about five or six feet of angular gravel that is mostly slide. The gold is mostly in bedrock. The concentrate contains much pyrite in cubes and also scheelite. They have ground for two or three years.

The McFarland and Hubbard operation on upper Little Creek was closed at the time of the visit because of an auto accident in which McFarland was seriously injured.

KT 13-36
Rosander and Reed operated on Yankee Creek with a crew of eight, and apparently had a good season.

KT 74-1
The Strandberg and Sons dredging operation on Candle Creek is often mistakenly listed as being in the Innoko Precinct since it is in the same district as the other operations covered in this report. Actually, it is in the Mt. McKinley Recording Precinct because it is on the east side of the water shed and is in the Kuskokwim drainage rather than that of the Yukon.

KT 64-26
The Matheson and Savage operation on Spruce Creek closed just prior to the time of the visit to the Innoko Precinct. The operation was run mostly by H. Matheson and his son Hugh. Hugh was inducted into the Army, so they could not do much but shut down.

KT 64-19
Lindquist and Carlson had a simple bulldozer and hydraulic operation in Victor Gulch. The ground is marginal, but they had hopes of better pay higher up on the bench above, and intended to do some prospect drilling this winter. The muck is about forty feet deep, but contains much ice and is stripped easily with water.

One cannot help noticing on the map how the many gold-bearing streams of the Ophir area enter the Innoko River from the same direction. The valley of the Innoko is rather wide, and with the above fact in mind, it seems very likely that the Innoko valley will some time be good dredging ground, if economic conditions become more favorable for gold mining. The ground has been drilled from time to time in various places, but the results of the drilling are unknown to the writer.

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A separate trip was made to the operation of the Colorado Creek Mining Company on Colorado Creek, thirty or forty miles north of Ophir. The Fullerton brothers, Richard and John, own this operation, and run it in a very efficient manner. The Goodnews Bay Mining Company formerly had this ground and left much of it already stripped, so that the Fullertons could start mining immediately. They have good equipment and mine large cuts, using two D-8 bulldozers and a two-yard dragline. Their biggest operational problem appears to be the frozen bedrock which slows them up while they wait for it to thaw. Sometimes they go ahead with the next cut, leaving a frost hump behind, and come back to pick it up later. They are stripping ahead with water. This is a profitable operation and they have ground ahead for several years. The Fullertons operated only one shift, stating that the returns definitely decrease in proportion to the expense when a night shift is employed.

Travel from one district to another was made with Alaska Airlines and Northern Consolidated Airlines. Within the Ophir district it was performed on foot and by rides given by courtesy of Kenneth Chatwood, manager of the Northern Commercial Company store at Ophir.

James A. Williams
JAMES A. WILLIAMS
Associate Mining Engineer

MINING OPERATIONS FOURTH DIVISION

INNOKO PRECINCT

1950

<u>Name and Address of Operator</u>	<u>Name and Location of Mine</u>	<u>Type of Operation</u>	<u>Crew</u>
Beaton, Neal, Ophir <i>12-14-50</i>	Lower Ganes Creek	Gold Dredge	5
Beaton, Neal, Ophir	Ganes Creek bench	Bulldozer-Hydraulic	2
Colorado Creek Mining Co. <i>12-14-50</i>	Colorado Creek, Cripple District	Dragline-Bulldozer-Hydraulic	6
Degnan, Joe, Ophir <i>12-14-50</i>	Little Creek	Dragline-Bulldozer-Hydraulic	6
Girtler, Grover and Myklebust, John, Ophir <i>12-14-50</i>	Little Creek	Dragline-Bulldozer-Hydraulic	4
Hard, Eric and Uotila, Gus, Folger <i>12-14-50</i>	Bear Creek, Cripple District	Dragline-Bulldozer-Hydraulic	9
Lindquist, Hjalmer and Carlson, Ivar, Ophir <i>12-14-50</i>	Victor Gulch	Bulldozer-Hydraulic	2
Innoko Dredging Co. <i>Repos & Malifer</i>	Upper Ganes Creek	Gold Dredge	14
McFarland, G. and Hubbard, W., Ophir	Upper Little Creek	Bulldozer-Hydraulic	8
Matheson, H. and Savage, P., Ophir <i>12-14-50</i>	Spruce Creek	Dragline-Bulldozer-Hydraulic	3
Rosander, T. and Reed, L., Ophir <i>12-13-50</i>	Yankee Creek	Dragline-Bulldozer-Hydraulic	8
Uotila, Gus and Hard, Eric, Ophir <i>12-14-50</i>	Ophir Creek	Dragline-Bulldozer-Hydraulic	10

All of the properties in the vicinity of Nolan Creek are within easy reach of Wiseman. It is a distance of approximately six miles by a graded dirt road.

12-4-32
The last property visited was that of Erling Nesland and Paul White on Vermont Creek, tributary to Hammond River. A pair of enterprising and industrious miners, Nesland and White have brought in 3300 feet of large-size hydraulic pipe and three nozzles, as well as a bulldozer, to their property. They were mining their property in an efficient manner, one man working days and one on night shifts.

The deposit is a narrow creek deposit, but the pay is good. Finding sufficient space for stacking tailings is a problem. This was nearly the only operation visited by the writer where block riffles were being used, and in this case at least, they seem to be very efficient gold savers. Much pyrite and magnetite and occasional copper nuggets appear in the concentrates.

The location of Vermont Creek is twelve miles northwest of Wiseman by road and foot trail. The last three miles (approximate) into Vermont Creek is by necessity along the bank of the Hammond River which is very steep and difficult, and where the road from Wiseman has not been finished. A Road Commission bulldozer has scooped out a trail in several of the more accessible places along this bank, leaving not more than two miles to be finished. The writer is of the opinion that aid should be given these two enterprising miners by finishing the road

to their property to allow them easier and more economical access with supplies, especially since so little work remains to be done. It might be pointed out that considerable transportation taxes have been paid by Nesland and White in the shipping in of their several large plane loads of equipment and supplies. It is upon men like these that the future development of the mining districts depends.

There are several other properties along the right limit of the Hammond River upon which annual assessment work is being done. These properties may come into production in the future and would also be benefited by improvements on the above mentioned road.

Travel on this trip was by plane from Fairbanks to Bettles River Field, on foot to Big Lake, by plane to Twin Lakes, on foot to Denny's Gulch, Big Lake, and to Wiseman, and by rented truck and foot to operations near Wiseman.

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MINING OPERATIONS IN THE KOYUKUK PRECINCT

1950

MEMORANDUM REPORT

A field trip was made into the Koyukuk Recording Precinct by James A. Williams, Associate Mining Engineer, from September 15 to 25. The purpose of the trip was to visit as many operations as possible and gather information and data on the mining industry in that area.

A total of nineteen mining operations were found to be active, eight of which were visited. The men actually engaged in these operations totalled thirty-seven. The numbers of the various types of operations and the men employed in each are as follows:

<u>Operation</u>	<u>No. of Opns.</u>	<u>No. of Men</u>
Prospecting	3	3
Groundsluice	2	3
Shovel-in	3	3
Hydraulic	3	4
Bulldozer	2	5
Bulldozer-Hydraulic	4	8
Dragline-Bulldozer	1	10
Drift	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTALS	19	37

There was no lode activity in the Koyukuk Precinct this season. A detailed list of the operations are on separate sheets included with this report.

The Mining industry in this precinct is on the downgrade, as it is in most of the districts in the Fourth Division. Ever-increasing prices and transportation difficulties are discouraging the miners considerably. The only product is gold and the possibility of an increase in price appears very remote. Since the operations in the Koyukuk are mostly small, the approaching steel and labor shortages will probably not affect

the overall mining picture to any great extent.

The operational difficulty shared by nearly all the miners in this district this season was inadequate water for sluicing. It was an abnormally dry summer in the Koyukuk as well as throughout the Interior.

K-51-1
The Bott brothers, Dale and Lyle, were groundsluicing on Eight Mile Creek, tributary to Bettles River, for the second year. The creek is steep, narrow, and full of large boulders which pose a serious mining problem. At present, they have a small hand hoist for moving boulders, but are considering the installation of a small high-line setup to do the work more efficiently. The gravel here is not rich, but they are making expenses and plan to remain for at least a few more seasons.

The Bettles River Landing Field is near their property, which makes air transportation handy, though expensive. The rate is twelve cents per pound from Fairbanks. They are thirty miles from Wiseman by trail and "cat" trail.

The country to the northwest of Bettles River is composed of rugged mountains of limestone and granite intrusives. This should be a favorable area for base metal lode prospecting. The Bott brothers continually find nuggets of magnetite, silver, copper, and lead in their placer concentrates. The factor against the development of this country is, of course, the difficulty of travel and high price of transportation. The stage of erosion in this vicinity is not late enough for good placer country. There simply has not been sufficient

erosion for good concentrations of gold.

KX 3/34
Fred Terrel was found to be groundsluicing on Garnet Creek, about one and a half miles down the left limit of Bettles River from Eight Mile Creek. The returns here are quite poor also, but Terrel seems moderately satisfied. He uses an automatic splash dam, and shovels in what he cannot get by groundsluicing. The bedrock on Garnet Creek varies from soft to hard and the gold gathers on and in the soft bedrock,

KX 3/11
Dennis O'Keefe was found prospecting for placer in the vicinity of Twin Lakes, which are near the head of the South Fork of the Koyukuk River. The stream on which he is located has been given the name of Denny's Gulch, there being no other name on record. He was in the process of sinking a line of prospect shafts across the lower part of the creek, but had not hit a paystreak at the time of the writer's visit. The holes were from twenty to thirty-five feet deep as they progressed to the center of the valley.

Upstream, the valley narrows and becomes precipitous. It is a region of intense metamorphism, there being gneisses, injection gneisses, and schists folded and twisted into all shapes. Small, twisted, inconsistent quartz stringers run everywhere. No assay values of economic interest have been obtained from the quartz, but colors may be panned at will from almost any point in the formation and from the slide rock. A few large gold nuggets have been picked up from the creek bed in the upper part where the grade is steep and the gravel large and shallow. Native iron appears nearly everywhere in small bright pieces. Associated also are sphalerite and rutile. Green copper stains are common, and

the creek water has a very bitter taste which is attributed to arsenic (typical of a number of creeks in that region). The majority of the igneous rocks are granitic with a few basic rocks in evidence. Some of these weather into fine flakes.

The possibilities of a moderately rich placer deposit in the lower part of Denny's Gulch are good, and further prospecting in this area should be definitely worth-while. One difficulty is the scarcity of timber. At present, there is just enough wood within a reasonable hauling distance for one more season.

Denny's Gulch is approximately fifty miles northeast of Wiseman by trail, much of it very poor. A good landing field could be constructed on a glacial outwash plain that exists in the valley of the South Fork. The lakes in the area provide landings for float planes.

Fred Pitts was mining with a hydraulic outfit on Lake Creek, tributary to Big Lake. The placer geology of this creek is quite confused, appearing to be partly water-laid from different directions, partly disturbed by glacial activity, and possibly partly residual. From the exposures available, it is very difficult to determine the direction from which the gold was transported. At present, Pitts is following a paystreak away from the creek on the left limit about one and a half miles up from the lake. Former miners on this creek have sunk numerous shafts and prospect holes, all of which have been reported to have revealed good pay. The degree of reliability of these reports is unknown.

Pitts intends to purchase a small bulldozer before next season and start mining larger cuts than at present. The boulder problem there is bad, and he has only a hand hoist for moving the large ones. He is also interested in attempting to mine the delta of the creek near the lake's edge. Prospect drilling was strongly advised, for the delta is almost certain to be quite deep and much gravel would have to be excavated before the nature of the pay would become known.

The Big Lake area was recently granted a postoffice and Pitts was appointed postmaster. The address is Big Lake. The location is approximately twenty-eight miles northeast of Wiseman by trail and "cat" trail. Float planes can land in the lake, but wheel planes must land on Bettles River Field, eight miles from the far side of the lake.

21 30-68
The next property visited was that of Joe Ulen and Sammy Pingalo on a bench on the left limit of Nolan Creek. The claim is Mary's Bench. They attempted all summer to mine one cut, but were prevented from sluicing by a high rim of bedrock on the lower side of the bench through which they failed to excavate a sufficiently deep drain. Their chief difficulty is an old bulldozer which is continually breaking down.

From reports of mining on neighboring benches, and the general geological situation, it appears that the above bench will pay well if an efficient mining program can be laid out and followed.

14-30-31
Oliver L. Chappell was found mining in Thompson Gulch which enters Faye Creek, tributary to Nolan Creek. He has a hydraulic setup and does some groundsluicing also. Bedrock here is quite steep and has several channels. The ground washes easily and the pay is moderately good. This operation will probably last for many years, as Chappell is not trying to push the project very strenuously. An interesting feature of this deposit is the high fineness of the gold. It averages around 940, with the nuggets about 960, and one nugget having a reported fineness of 982. Some of the gold in this deposit has been found on top of muck at an elevation of ten feet above bedrock.

14-30-31
R. H. Jones and C. K. Harvey were in the process of constructing a new ditch in preparation for their next year's mining on Smith Creek Bench. Smith Creek is also a tributary to Nolan Creek. They mined one cut on the bench this year with a hydraulic outfit, but need more pressure for an efficient operation. The bench ground on their property is very shallow and easily washed. The pay appears to be good. They have considerable bench ground remaining.

14-30-33
H. S. Wanamaker and Bill Ott have been separately prospecting bench ground around Smith Creek by groundsluicing in various locations. The benches have been mined in this area for many years, but it appears that a favorable amount of bench ground still remains. The creek deposits in Nolan and Smith Creeks, which were very rich, have been mined out since long ago.

TERRITORY OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF MINES
COLLEGE, ALASKA

RECEIVED
DEC 4 - 1950
JUNEAU, ALASKA

22 November 1950

MEMORANDUM REPORT

TO: Leo H. Saarela, Commissioner of Mines, Juneau, Alaska
FROM: James A. Williams, Associate Mining Engineer, College, Alaska
SUBJECT: Mining Operations in the Fairbanks District, Fairbanks
Recording Precinct, Fourth Division.

Several trips were made by the writer from Fairbanks to visit mining operations in the Fairbanks Mining District during the months of August and September, 1950. These trips were made in the Department of Mines pickup truck, returning to Fairbanks each evening. The purpose of the visits to the operations was to gather information and data on the mining industry in this district.

A total of twenty-one operations were found to be active, (counting the U.S.S.R.&M. Co. operations as one) fourteen of which were visited. The number of men employed in these operations totaled approximately six hundred at the peak of the mining season. A tabulation of the operations by type is as follows:

<u>Operation</u>	<u>No. of Opns.</u>	<u>No. of Men</u>
Dredges	1	550 (approx.)
Dragline-Bulldozer- Hydraulic	2	18
Bulldozer-Hydraulic	5	11
Hydraulic	1	1
Hydraulic Stripping	2	4
Sniping	1	1
Gold Lode	3	5
Gold Lode Prospecting	3	5
Gold Lode Maintenance	2	3
Silver-Lead Prospecting	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTALS	21	599 (approx.)

A detailed list of the above operations is on separate sheets included with this report.

There were fewer active operations in this district in 1950 than in 1941. The only mineral mined is gold, and as prices keep increasing, more and more miners are discouraged from further operation by decreasing profits.

The labor supply was excellent this year until mid-season, when it dropped off sharply because of the opening of government contract work. The contractors pay much higher wages than the mining industry can afford. Since mid-season, the miners have had an increasingly difficult time in securing labor sufficient for normal operation. As the war production work increases in the States, the labor problem will become more serious for the miners. Further the approaching steel shortage will probably affect gold mining more than any other industry.

The Fairbanks District was extremely short of water this season, it being a record-breaking year for very little precipitation. The only operators who could sluice or hydraulic steadily were those who returned their water by means of a pump from a sump downstream. The U.S.S.R.&M. Co. with their Davidson Ditch was excepted in this matter, of course, but even the "Big Ditch" carried only water enough for one or two nozzles at times.

The U.S.S.R.&M. Co. operated dredges on Cripple, Ester, Little Eldorado, Engineer, and Fairbanks Creeks. Their three other dredges at Chatanika, Fish Creek, and Pedro Creek were inactive. The dredge at Fairbanks Creek was moved from Goldstream last winter. The Company also had stripping operations at Cripple, Gold Hill, Sheep Creek, Engineer Creek, Dome Creek, and Fairbanks Creek; and thaving operations at Cripple Creek, Engineer Creek, Fairbanks Creek, and Chatanika. They maintained a ditch camp at Long Creek and kept a prospect-drill crew busy in several localities. Prospecting with a bulldozer was done at their McCarthy lode property at the Fairbanks Creek. The Company was closed down for three weeks in May by a strike of the local miners' union, affiliated with the I.B.E.W.

Harold Hassel operated a dragline outfit on Ready Bullion Creek with only moderate success. He was unable to mine bedrock properly because of insufficient drainage.

"Moose John" Vuyovich milled about thirty tons of ore from his lode mine on Ester Dome in the St. Paul Hill at the head of Eva Creek. This ore was an accumulation of several years' work. Mr. Vuyovich has since died, and his mine has been left to two brothers in Europe.

The Bartholomae Oil Corp. is keeping a watchman on its holdings on Ester Dome and is apparently waiting for better mining conditions, although it has been rumored that they intend to sell, if possible.

Four partners recently staked the Adler property on Ester Dome and intend to start sinking a shaft next spring. The partners are Quinto and Mary Paolini, Ed Ashby, and Eric Branholm. The nearby Sanford property is for sale.

Ed Verdin was found working to the best of his ability on his layout on Fox Creek. He is an old man and badly crippled up with arthritis or rheumatism. He manages to take out a small cut in about two years. Eddie is one of the old timers who will never give up, no matter what the hardships may be.

Bigelow Bench was not mined this year. The partners there, Calvin Anderson and Dennis Braid, are in disagreement.

On First Chance Creek, tributary to Goldstream, Ernest Maurer was operating a bulldozer-hydraulic outfit by himself, while a mile above him, F. C. Bleecker was only stripping while waiting for more profitable mining conditions. These two men were formerly partners, but have split up and are having a water dispute at present.

The Four-A Mining Company operated part of the season at the mouth of Flume Creek on Pedro Creek, then moved over to Louise Pup, tributary to Little Eldorado Creek. They also did some prospecting on a silver-lead vein on the ridge west of Pedro Dome near the head of Flume Creek. Tury Anderson reports lately that he will have to move to other ground next season, as Louise Pup is mined out.

William Englebritzen had his one-man dredge in the Goldstream area about where Gold Run enters, but did very little work. His machine is constantly breaking down.

David Dittman started mining near the mouth of Skoogy Creek late in the season. It is very doubtful if he accomplished much.

Nick Kupoff and Alec Tavitoff were mining the right limit side pay on Discovery Claim, Pedro Creek. Kupoff owns the ground. G. B. Martin mined there last year, but moved to the Tenderfoot area this year.

Charles Lazeration did nearly all of the mining on the Pedro Dome Hardrock property that he and Vern Jokela are leasing from Duane Franklin. Jokela was hurt in a fall down the shaft last spring and is still recovering. They mill their ore at the Cleary Hill Mines, Inc. mill on a custom milling arrangement with the management.

At the Hi Yu Mine, above the left limit of Fairbanke Creek, two men are employed as caretakers. They have also been doing some prospecting. Unofficial reports indicate that the Hi Yu Mining Co. is planning to lease the mine to a group of five miners from Butte.

The Alder Creek Mining Company on Fairbanks Creek mined about the same yardage as the year before, but their gold is diminishing as they progress upstream. They have two draglines and two or more bulldozers. They once used an elevated sluicebox, but have abandoned it in favor of bedrock boxes, saying that it is too expensive to hoist the material to the elevated box.

On Coffee Dome, above the left limit of Fairbanks Creek, Malter Lindgren and associates have been prospecting a gold quartz vein with a bulldozer. They have trenched across it at intervals of fifty or seventy-five feet for a distance of about seven hundred feet. A few grab samples have assayed rather high, but channel samples have thus far revealed no great values. Reports on this vein that were circulating last summer were generally exaggerated. Lindgren is planning to sink a shaft on the vein this winter.

12x44-51
Helmer Johnson was mining as usual on Cleary Creek on Eleven Above Claim. He has been there for a number of years, but reports that he is finally running out of pay at the upper end of the claim. From there the ground climbs steeply.

At the Cleary Hill Mine, Douglas Jackson and Earl Beistline were mining on a lease with Cleary Hill Mines, Inc. They were working on the surface, and at a shallow depth underground, at a point high above the left limit of Chatham Creek not connected with the main mine workings.

Albert Littlewood attempted for a short period of time to open a shaft to his prospect on Chatham Creek by the use of water. He was unsuccessful.

Kx44-82
The Tolovanna property was tied up in litigation this year between Howard Sparks and Duane Franklin.

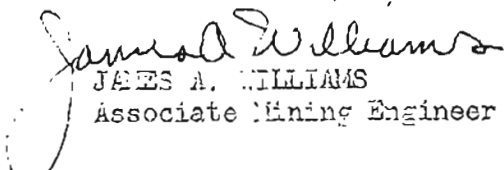
Kx44-87c
The Wackowitz brothers, Charles and Fred, continued prospecting their gold quartz vein on Bedrock Creek. It appears to be fairly rich, but very narrow.

Kx44-91
On Wolf Creek, another tributary to Cleary Creek, the Wolf Creek Mining Company was only stripping with the hydraulics this year. Their dragline and bulldozers were rented out to government construction projects, and their elevated sluice was idle. Only the three partners, Anderson, Olsen, and Gustafson, worked on the property.

Kx44-116
Murdo McRae and a partner, employees of the U.S.S.R.&M. Co., did some drifting on Dan Gillis's property on Dome Creek during the Company strike. They planned to continue the drifting this winter.

John Frasca was sinking prospect shafts on Fox Creek last spring and this fall, before and after his mining season on Eagle Creek in the Circle Precinct.

A man by the name of Westenvik has been doing some lode prospecting at odd times for two or three years on the right limit of Skoogy Gulch.


JAMES A. WILLIAMS
Associate Mining Engineer

MINING OPERATIONS FOURTH DIVISION

FAIRBANKS PRECINCT

Fairbanks District

1950

<u>Name and Address of Operator</u>	<u>Name and Location of Mine</u>	<u>Type of Operation</u>	<u>Crew</u>
Alder Creek Mining Company, Meehan R 209-11	Fairbanks Creek	Dragline-Bulldozer- Hydraulic	15
Bartholomae Oil Corp., Los Angeles, Calif. R 118-1	Ryan Lode, Ester Dome	Gold (Maintenance)	1
Bleecker, F. C., Fairbanks R 258-11	First Chance Creek, trib. of Goldstream Creek	Hydraulic Stripping	1
Dittman, David, Fairbanks	Skoogy Creek	Bulldozer-Hydraulic	1
Englebritzen, William, Fairbanks	Goldstream Creek	Sniping	1
Four-A Mining Company, Fairbanks	Flume Creek, trib. to Pedro Creek, and Louise Pup, trib. to Little Eldorado	Bulldozer-Hydraulic	3
Four-A Mining Company, Fairbanks	Head of Flume Creek	Silver-Lead Prospect	1
Grant, O. M., Fairbanks	Happy Creek, Ester Dome	Gold Lode Prospect	1
Hassel, Harold, Fairbanks R 258-39	Ready Bullion Creek, Ester Dome	Dragline-Bulldozer- Hydraulic	3
Hi Yu Mining Company, Fairbanks R 209-96	Hi Yu Mine, Fairbanks Creek	Gold Lode (Maintenance and Prospecting)	2
Jackson, Douglas and Beistline, Earl, College R 158-2	Cleary Hill Mine, Cleary Creek	Gold Lode	2
Johnson, Helmer, Fairbanks R 209-51	Cleary Creek	Bulldozer-Hydraulic	4

<u>Name and Address of Operator</u>	<u>Name and Location of Mine</u>	<u>Type of Operation</u>	<u>Crew</u>
Kupoff, Nick and ^{Kt 44-57} Tavitoff, Alec, Fairbanks	Pedro Creek	Bulldozer-Hydraulic	2
Lazeration, Charles and Jokela, Vern, Fairbanks ^{Kt 44-45}	Pedro Dome	Gold Lode	2
Lindgren, M., and Assoc's., Fairbanks ^{Kt 44-237}	Coffee Dome	Gold Lode Prospect	2
Haurer, Ernest, Fairbanks ^{Kt 50-207}	First Chance Creek, trib. to Goldstream Creek	Bulldozer-Hydraulic	1
U.S.S.R.&M. Company 75 Federal Street Boston, Mass.	Cripple, Ester, Eldorado, Engineer and Fairbanks Creeks	Five Gold Dredges	550
Verdin, Ed, Fox ^{Kt 58-222}	Fox Creek	Hydraulic	1
Vuyovich, John, Ester ^{Kt 56-197}	Ester Dome	Gold Lode	1
Wackowitz, Charles and Fred ^{Kt 49-270}	Bedrock Creek, trib. to Cleary Creek	Gold Lode Prospect	2
Wolf Creek Mining Company, Fairbanks ^{Kt 49-91}	Wolf Creek, trib. to Cleary Creek	Hydraulic Stripping	3