PE-068-04

SLATE CA

HOBBS ENTERPRISES NOTES

AG 1956

SEATE CREEK - HOBB ENTERPRISES 15/54 PAXSONS, BOD BECK MARINE & HX EARLIER. 832A - BECK TO CAMP WITH MAS BARREZKINS.
912 A- 932A - TO SLATE CX, 200 TRIP 1114. TOOR OF YOB - Stripping 15 to Zo' To 12-15 pay area ( upper sond Collere Sundt's Grade hit BK & took out Badrock dren in 1950." Bock - stated told Rulds drilling - 14 holos in 800' Station anding in front of shop - shows 200' x 800' Section Velontion of 800,000. (100,000'=/100'section). Depth - lower and To Pay TO BR V - Upper end Bedrock Grade = 8% - soll 5% Top of Pay. v Yandage moved this season's stripping to date = 90,000 CY Hopes to take out 45,000 Cy of pay. Hereng8/1/0 g (Gross in that area estimoto Kell 100,000, is. Creek contined to extreme Hit limit about 15 to zo' above Top of pay. Plans to run 2-11/hr shifts.

Tour 3.56 inpt 166 / Clear Fish wheel - Klutime

1/24 room

Thou 3.56 inpt 166 / Clear Fish wheel - Klutime

1/25 Expt 264, dill Lea Clear purtly closely. From plane

laking do un on Juner State Cr operation.

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1/20 - Expt 5t 6. Looking down on State Cr project.

1/20 - Expt 5t 8. Looking down stream from upper

1/20 - Expt 7t 8. Looking down stream from upper

1/25 p. - Expt 7t 8. Looking down stream from upper

1/25 p. - Expt 7t 8. Looking down stream from upper

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1/25 p. t in rite foreground. Cats torry-oll

1/25 p. t 104 (Incl) Compared, Dramage dilch

t stripped area

1/26 - Expt 5to8 Incl. 925-433A

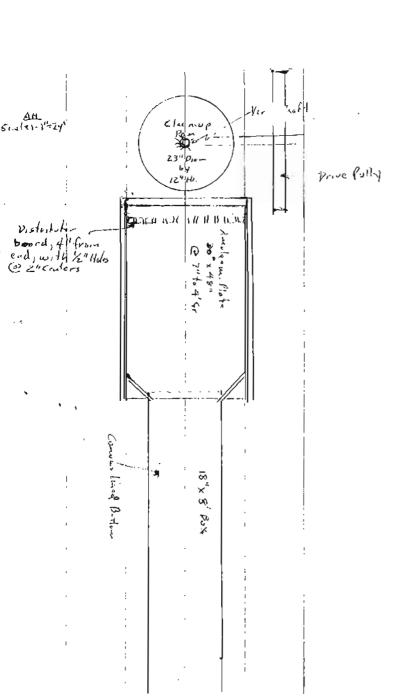
Compared State Cr from plane - up t

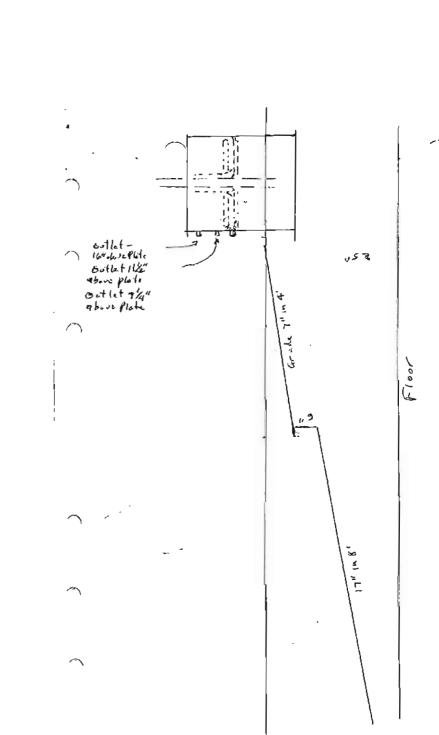
downstream All co

f 11, 1/200. Clear Prite

7/25/56 State Grack Clean up ropini-Afmalgamplate 48" X30"@ 7" grade/4'. Plate greasy - requires clooning & dressing. Ag plated (Cu plate (?) corporting res 2. January 11 , Driller 3 Mary Various Restation Change Mark Buch 24 Post workshiter Kingeria Hain Ph 30 341

7/25/56 Vertical Clean-up Pan 23" DIAM 12" Deep PMM





## Sepember 8, 1959

Mr. R. H. Seraphim, Geologist, Moneta Porcupine Mines, Ltd., Room 408 - 402 West Pender St., Vancouver 3, B. C.

Dear Bob:

RE:- Monte Christo Mining Co. Placer Prop. Slate Cr. REF:-Your July 24th Inquiry

My apologies for the long delay in replying to your above inquiry, which was received on returning from field trip end of July. Since then I have been out of town most of time and have been way behind on office corresponde ence and other details too numerous to mention.

I am quite familiar with the Slate Creek operation of Bob Becks (Monte Christo Min. Co., Inc). There was a small block of ground left at lower end of Slate Creek gulch which thru the years defied the oldtimers efforts to work the deep ground - about 25-30 feet depth at upper end and 65 feet at lower end of that 800 foot section. He did recover around \$2.60/cy in 58 from top to bottom, which surprisingly checked an oldtimers drilling calculated values (surprising because the oldtimer was noted for his lack of veracity).

In '57 Beck recovered (produced) a shade less than \$100,000.00 with an average value approx the same/cy, stripping 20 to 30 feet of old tailing accummulated at lower end of gulch from 1905 to 1950 operations washed down by spring runoffs and heavy summer rains from the oldtimers work upstream. The1957 operation was conducted first by stripping with Gats and carry-alls and then shoving the pay gravels to central point in the cut where it was picked up by 2 cy bucket operated by slackline. The latter hauled it up the right limit slope 100 ft vertically where it was dumped in hopper and washed thru 32" steel sluice set on 10" grade, with tailing dumped in gulch at head of the cut. Available grade (10") was not sufficient to clear the heavy (coarse) concentrates efficiently, slowing up the rate of feed. This operation was obviously slow and inefficient, but was dictated by fact his equipment was what he had accumulated during a number of years sub-contracting on road and bridge approach jobs. It was obvious to him from the start that a 2 to 4 cy dragline was the most efficient for the job, but he was not in a position swing a deal for it.

Beck

Last year a local business man staked to a 4 yard dragline, with the string attached that the moneybag's man should be in charge of the gold-saving end. That condition resulted in the most frustrating mining operation I have ever seen as M'bags man would not permit mining only one shift, cleaned about every second shift (requirying 2 days) and was stymmeng the operation by his "fear" of not catching all the gold. Also, that character insisted on the most impractical possible setup which he would not move or change, which called for stacking tailings with 2 cats (D8s) up a 15 to 25-39% slope. All of which "bottled necked" the whole operation. The last of August Mr. M'bags visited the property, wanted to know why no yardage was being mined, was told to look around, did so and immediately sent his "man" to town. Most of the production was then made in the next 2 weeks.

R. H. Seraphin RE Slate Creek Placer

Needless to say there was no profit resulting from the '58 operation.

By last visit to the property was for few days in first week of July this year. At that time the New York owner of lower Slate Cr was causing uncertaining by wanting to change terms of Books lease. Until it was settled Book moved up stream from the deep ground and was reworking his '57 tailing. I have not been in communication with him since then to learn whether the lease was squared around to Backs liking or whether he told NY to "shoveit" and moved upstream to other vir in ground he has under lease from other owners.

rite limit It is my opinion that the area from mouth of Miller Gulch (a trib of Slate Creek whose short drainage was the heaviest producer of the district) upstream to Grouse Gulch (a short left limit trib of Slate) thence over a low divide to head of the Chisna River has a great deel of merit and promise, and a large yardage potential. Bulk sampling of approx 60 15,000 Ht mouth of gulch went 60¢ per oy in the '308s but lack of water prevented working. Here, that problem can be solved by re-circulating the water.from pond in upper Slate Creek. Beck has a lease on this ground on around 8% royalty (with, I believe, a reasonable cut-off price for the property, but am not sure of actual terms).

Adjoining this block of ground, Beck made a deal for some patented ground on the Chiena side of the low divide. There are 4 or 5 claims in this group which owner set a price of \$35,000.00 to be paid at end of 3 years. The owner is widow of man who held the claims for many years, and put down 10 or 12 drill holes in the late '20s (prior to my arrivel in district in '32). Logs of the holes show their depth to range 55 to 90 ft with values around 85 to 90 The drilling certainly does not appear to be complete - that is, it was confined to a strip near foot of mountain slope on neath side of the widening The yardage patential in this area appears to be large also. valley.

Brok also has lease on 22 claims 4 miles to east of the Chevna ground on the right limits of Middle Fork of the Chestochina River valley. This is bench ground upon which I spent a number of years in developing (drilling, etc) for several associates. Always short of funds we never were able to complete our drilling program and get unix into production before suspension of gold mining was forced in 1942. My work showed over 600,000 cy in small block of ground with an calculated value of 57¢ to 60¢. Novever, my drilling pattern as submitted to RFC for a Loan of \$20,000.00, was not permitted to be changed when it was found the gold run was more or less at right angles to our original believe (based on surface topog and indications in a 12,000 to 15,000 cy low head hydraulic cut, from which \$12,000 was produced). This dictates some additional drilling between the original drill lines. For many years we held a block of 72 claims - which was reduced to 22 "key ones a year or so ago. The lease on this ground calls for nothing except assessment work for 5 years, and production on or before 10 years, with a continuing 75 royalty from reduction.

If you are seriously interested in placer these above areas are worth investigation and study, and will require considerable drilling to prove up the required large yardages for a profitable oppration.

10 day trip to Kuskokwim region in the morning - or Thursday et latest.
Clga joins in conding Bost Wishes. Sincerely yours, Martin J Going to stop here as it is gotting late and plan leaving on week or

Rocky Glan IPLEWILD, CALIF. GM. FINLEY ZOS EAST 78TH New York ZI, NY

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Anchoruga

Mil R. holasworth

taurila Jases

Nov. 13, 1997

HOUR ENTERNACES, SERIE OR. PLOCER OPERATION. MT. HAYES QUAD

Enclosing copy of brief summary of above 1957 operation which was requested by Mrs. Butcher (Owen Butchers widow). Mrs. 3 has been doing the bookwork for that venture.

Turpose of request was for brief trial report to forward to the Slate Creek wining Co. office in New York.

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## Movember 8, 1957

HOBB ABTERSRISES, Spenard, Alsaka. Ceberal Delivery.

Desr Sire:

## RE: 1957 Slate Creek Placer Operation

At your request a brief summary of the past seasons operations is submitted. This is based upon personal observations made during mid-June and again in mid-September at termination of the seasons operations at request of Robert &. Back.

- 1. Mining operations began May 30th and terminated September 10th, 1957, covering a 102 day period.
- 2. Actual days mining is estimated at 55 to 70 per cent of that time from records kept by Mr. Bock, which is 56 to 71 days on a two 11 hour shifts per day basis.
- 3. Yardage mined and fed to the sluice boxes with dozer and elackline equipment is estimated at 30-to 32,000 cubic yards, which gives and everage of 425 to 485 cubic yards per day of actual mining operations.
- 4. Substitution of a combined sectional steel Rungerian-longitudinal riffle (made on the job) for the longitudinal riffle, installed from the head box down two thirds of the sluideline, reduced the heavy concentrate volume retained in the riffles about one third. The new riffles also proved to be more efficient gold savers.
- 5. Cleanup of lower half of sluiceline at seasons end resulted in recovery of only a minor amount of gold. This indicates that loses in the tailings were reduced to a minimum and are considered to be negligible.
- 5. Final mint returns for the last three retart sponges shipped had not been received on last contact with Mr. Book about October 28th, 1957.

However, gold recovery for the senson - based upon weighing the "sponge" on spring scales at the mine, and on gold scales upon delivery to the Northern Commercial Company, Fairbanks, for their shipment to the Mint - is calculated at 3800 cunces (before "melt").

Fith an estimated everage Wint return of \$31.00 per ounce this years production would be \$99,200.00. On that busis the everage value of the 30.000 to \$8.000 yards would be \$3.10 to \$3.30 per cubic yard.

As the mined area was stripped to top of the "pay" gravel in 1956, and the thickness of those barran (recent) overlying gravels being 15 to 20 per cent greater than the pay gravels, the average value from originNOBE ENTERPRISES
1967 Slate Creek Operations

al surface to bedrock would be \$1.24 to \$1.32 per cubic yard. This average value is approximately one half of reputed calculated average value of Goldfields Consolidated drilling results. (The long promised drill logs of that company's work has not been made available for study by an individual claiming to have copy of them).

7. Approximately one third of the bedrock erea in the mined section was above the yonds water level. Balance of area - about 200 feet wide by 400 feet long - was covered with water, having a maximum depth of 20 feet at the lower end. Expense of dewatering the cut with large pump used to keep the water out of the pit while mining, to permit "penning" the entire erea, was not justified.

However, the dry bedrock area - an estimated 80 percent of which was a residually meathered siate, and the belance being granitic dikes or "tongues" intruded into the sediments - was checked by panning at 10 points on September the 18th. Of these 6 were taken in the slate and 4 in the granite, digging down 5 to 6 inches into bedrock at each point. The slate showsonly trace values, and the granite from trace to 4 cents per pap.

Results obtained upon checking bedrock for values show that the bedrock was well cleaned in the area tested as mining progressed downstream, and that no appreciable values remained. It also proved there was no original bedrock penetration of gold values.

8. This smell area of virgin ground at mouth of Slate Greek Gulch has been and is a difficult piece of ground to mine. Its depth, exposure to "flash" fleed and alide hezerds combine to make high mining costs, Gests could be materially reduced by use of dragline equipment, but it is a question whether sufficient ground is available in that immediate area to justify purchase of that type of equipment.

9. The operation is considered to have been conducted in a miner like manner, is a credit to the operators, and has resulted in the largest gold production on the creek in one season for 30 to 40 years.

Very truly yours,

Tuestin W gosps

Martin W. Jasper Mining Engineer

Territorial Department of Mines

: copy to Beb Back : copy to PRES Botcher

Mews 30000 C.Y. Yardoge Mound Acer Value 3200 02 - berform meit -1957 (Est@3100) Production Muning operations - start Way 50 th } 102 days
Surprised Stel. 10 th } 102 days
Days Ning - Ports de + 50% 2664 \$3118/

September 3, 1957

Mr. Robt. W. Beck, Hobb Enterprises, Slate Creek, via Gakona. Aleska

Dear Bob & Betty:

I have been going to drop you a line for some time past to send our sincers regrets for over the very sudden and unexpected loss of your partner, Owen. I did not get back from the two weeks in the Kuskokwim region until July 18th; Olga met me at the airport and her first remark was concerning Owen.

Mrs. Butcher phoned me last Thursday or Friday and relayed the mestage to effect that you wanted me up there the 10th of this month to give you an assist re laying out a testing program for balance of the season. I advised her would be glad to do so and believe that I can make that dute - or the 11th.

At present am in more or less position of "suspended animation" (or som-pen) or should we say a "stew"? Week or 10 days ago request was made to hold myself in readiness to show some New York field men for one of larger company's an erea that I have mapped, photographed, and reported upon which for some strang reason various "lookers" have not been able to spot. The personal tour is planned via 'copter at their expense. Neek ago one of interested party phoned advice the hot-shots should arrive by last week-end. I contacted the fellow Sat. and he reported it would still be about 10 days. Tomorrow I plan to contact the fellow and suggest that I show him the same on the heof" as I have a number of trips to make before the snow starts flying in the mountain areas. I have 2 or 3 other property owners to satisfy in the same general area, and I want to wrap that whole bundle of exams up between Thurs of this week & 9th or 10th of the month. I'll give odds that 'copter flying days will be hard to lay hands on and the other trips are as important to owners as that one.

I would suggest that you radio-phone me at home nite of Sept. 9th if Im not there give message to Olga as to whether or not you went me to bring transit along, and also advise her whether you still have the nitely(& vhr) radiophone schedule thru Fairbanks so that I can phone you before leaving here or from Glenallen, and whether to meet you at Paxson or Gokons. I should be able to make there by AM of 11th at latest. (My schedule has been screwed up all summer by various causes).

I have heard thru several sources you are having a very good season & sincerely trust that is correct.

with kind personal regards to you, the young people, and the crew members I know, Sincerely yours,

Unclosed -. July 3,1957

Mr. Koll Beck Slowle Cacak - win yokowa, Clarka Rear Soft Early

Towally received the Kodocalor King of the "spinge" and the Cil"

don't washend - andorwal private footh.

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for land Q, Jan 28 and I State to to mand and good for for the service of "Sufferent" wo Thing attention at a graph of a figure to wood of the off to use the "combo" you preferred for Thomas

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Bull & I among interested to have the recovery eyadoge handled and standing up.

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Musika ( EKE P.) Ungling new on the Small Wellow or Claims of praticing

68 Mix Hays

Phil R. Holdsworth

Anchorage

Martin Jasper

June 18, 1957

SIATE CREEK TRIP. MT. HAYES QUAD. HOBB ENTERPRISES.

Returned from the Slate Creek placer operation about 2 AM June 16th.

Solved the amalgamation problem very satisfactorily. Bill
Powell is the one to be credited with the job.
The old Joshua Hendy clean-up barrel was discarded, and a
small concrete batch machine substituted. Using 2 to 3 inch
pebbles, concentrates were ground for 4 hours, and then added
rotated
quicksilver and resed for half an hour.

Grinding time for the concentrates was gradually reduced to the 2hours, with shorter interval being equally satisfactory in recovery - and preferable from time consideration.

Beck was very pleased with results. He should do well this season - if he can average 60 to 70% operating time.

Phil R. Holdsworth

Anchorage

Martin Jasper

April 12, 1957

REPORT ON HOBB ENTERPRISES 1956 BLATE CREEK OPERATION

Mt. Hayes Quadrangle

Enclosed you will find original and one copy of report on the property and operation noted above.

Also enclosed you will find negatives of pictures during the two trips to the property in July and August last year.

Underseparate cover the following supporting maps are also being forwarded:-

3 Prints of Mep No. 1

# " Map No. 2

3 " " Map No. 2A

3 Prints " Map No. 3

Prints of Maps 1-2-3 are from original tracings of the Slate Creek Mining Co., dating way back when.

Prints from Map 2A show the drilled area, drain, etc. For this purpose a tracing was tracing off of a section of Map No. 2, and my tracing is also enclosed with above listed prints.

Mend 1/16/37

3 Capies of Slate Co Report

given to Bob Rech doto.

1 Copy bad complete set of fix.

1 - lacked 4 or 5 on on local

2 sheets.

1 Copy without Prize

2 Leads.

1/1/17 Negatives moiled & Smalle for 4 Represents each totay for For 12 by 4 reprints.

68

Jas. A. Williams

April 28, 1956

Martin Jasper

Anchorage

HOBS ENTERPRISES, INC. - MT. HAYES (UAD.

Regarding above: - you are right, as usual, as to location.

Bob Beek and Owen Butcher, of Spenard, have gotten a lease on Slate Creek, a xight timit left limit tributery of end the head of Chestochina River. They have or are still taking in dragline, three D-8 and various other equipment to the property. They were a bit late in getting started on the freighting deal - late March and first week of April started hauling the equipment to Chestochina, and hope they made it before break-up started.

Know them both fairly well and they are good men. Have been sub-contracting on dirt moving for number of years. Bob Back had a lease from J. M. Elmer the last year J. M. was up there, and he reported taking out \$30,000 at lower end, when J. M. wanted to pull "a fast" so Bob pulled out. He has spent 2 years getting the lease from the old Slate Creek Mining Company, New York.

There is about 2 seasons work at lower end of Slate creek Gulch where there is supposed to be about the only ground with good pay left, but it is tuff section with lots of big boulders and 25 foot depth.

They bought some surplus D-8s, the dragline, carry-alls, etc for a song, and being first class mechanics overhauled all it the past winter. Fed up with sub-contracting, and fighting with M-K and the other construction tycoons to get their pay (waited and fought some of them for couple years to collect, and never have been agle to shake loose some of pay) they figured they would be better off moving a lot of gravel for a little gold.

Being familiar with the area, they want me to come in and "case" their job, and show them various spots that should be avoided and forgotten. You will recall, that Slate creek is 8 miles (on the hoof) from the Middle Fork which you went in with me to check 2 years ago. Will plan to go in to Slate creek in early June.

Hope Back and Butcher make a good profit. Keeping their crew down to 5 or 6, including themselves.

They have asked us to refer owners of likely looking ground to them.

From all reports there will be quite a few new outfits trying their hand on placer ventures this year. Wrote your office that Joe Columbo (Airport Machinery) and Minor Rupp (stripping for Jonesville coal outfit) have leased Valdez creek from A. B. Smith and have or will be moving mechanical equipment in there.

To : Martin W. Jasper

Office: Juneau

From

James A. Williams

Date : April 26, 1956

Subject:

HOBB ENTERPRISES, INC., - MT. HAYES QUD.

We got a letter by mistake which was intended for the Tax Department from Hobb Enterprises, General Delivery, Spenard, Helen Butcher, Secretary. It stated they were going to mine on Slate Creek (I am assuming its the one in Mt. Hayes Quad) and were asking for a mining license. Are you acquainted with this outfit? Anyhow, thought you should know for the record.

JAW:ds

DEPARTMENT OF MINES RECEIVED

APR 28 1956

ASSAY OFFICE ANCHORAGE, ALASKA Grand proportion was refet into Ephron

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1 400 × 1 × 12. 0319 ×) 000181 5' × (50 × 120 Cr John 1500 above hower and of the forms 0 % 1 Drawage 11 Joyax 47 4 4 4 7200 996 (480027 1200 awar langth of Grand 9xx 110xx60 = 59,40 Measurement by Gerryall Takeled 110,000 cy The continue Leng the 9 ydx 120 x 60 = 350 5. C 4 800 12,000 Der Th

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SLATE GR - JULY 36 TRIP -

Pix (priors) (and Negs??)

of Roll #2-56 missing.

Check Negatives

## Mining Operations

The streetine set-up was is located on benton horth slope topospayorouels (downstream) or valley, loo vertically above, and about 150 # from upported of stripped area; The double-drum Hyster unit, mounted on D-8 Cut, The 1/2" "stockline" cable passes over a 30 A" frame, and is anchored to an old TD 14 located in creek bed and is an energy to an old in the located in creek be a south side of valley the bucker line of 3/4" cable attached to an automaticutrie block, from which the 1/2 Cypucket 12 suspended.

The sluicoline and its location - is some as that used in 1950-51.

The sluicoline and its location - is some as that used in 1950-51.

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The sluicoline and its location - is some as that used in 1950-51.

Ceast of some of 30" steel boxes & 5 wooden boxes @ lower conditions to be proceeded, grant to be the proceeding of the conditions of Set on bedrock (a weathered, crushed groundle rock type, which, a soid to be the bedrock in area starffed for williams) that was graded down to 10% grade to cost to discharge tailings to creek around head of cut until the Eustratis token out. This grade is not Selfrand The gradais of the sufficient. Sixty Found roils, seta 4" centers, are used as longiful in at riffles in 10 ft leng the. The roils are anchored in slotted steel plate "frog", which the latter restingon a 2"x6" tie. Every 30' there are 8 (or 10") ft of Mongreson type +, fflos. The riffles are hold down by steel (plate) sand board.

Pass Hoa

8559)5209.0 41354 73600 68472 8559 )279 100 25 627 17 18 17 17 18 17 18 + 30 52 05 + 155.30 8559) 155,00 115 90 2763 146 (2.59) 15: 30 30 10 2 - [n Musical Williams of the miles of the state o \$1.5597 \ 20.00367 \$1.5597 \ 20.00367 \$1.55 \ 400.005 \$1.55 \ 400.005 \$1.55 \ 400.005 \$1.55 \ 400.005 \$1.55 \ 50.005 \$1 25/19/1 N ... 6 N S 8155) 27465 224465 32662 0 32662 0 32662 0 37693 0 31690 31690 guborin 200 cy +10 125 Gr +20 2791 Gr +30 5209 Gr 155.00 81 55 73 450 73 450