CARDEN PROSPECT (Tin ?)

Owners: U. S. Ballantine, Malhase Building, Klamath Falls, Oregon; W. L. Carden; Fred L. Miller.

Location: SW 1/4 sec. 1, T. 31 S., R. 5 W., 3½ miles south of Canyonville and east of Highway No. 99.

Area: Five claims; Carden Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, located in 1941.

History: First discovered in 1925 by Mr. Carden who was panning for gold and discovered pellets which later were identified as tin. U. S. Land Office engineers are reported to have sampled this property and proven the presence of tin. Work has continued, mainly along the lines of recovering the tin. The rock is reported to assay 4 percent tin.

Development: At the S.W. corner of claim No. 1 is a cut 15 ft. long and 10 ft. high. Other cuts are reported but the owners were unable to find them on the day of the visit.

Geology: Country rock is an altered greenstone. The fresh greenstone has 1/8-½ inch plagioclase (?) crystals in a matrix of very fine grained greenstone. Occasional quartz stringers cut the rock. At No. 1 cut the greenstone is altered and softened to a clay-like material.

Ray C. Treasher
Field Geologist
August 8, 1942.
Mr. Ballantine and Mr. Carden are supporting Mr. Miller who can get tin out of these greenstone rocks. Miller does not believe in white metal but he is an expert on beryllium as he went to Germany to learn all about beryllium. He admits that he can get beryllium out of most any rock. He uses a very convincing line of language; he knows a lot of technical terms, but close observation may show that he misuses some of them. I am more or less convinced that he is pulling the leg of his backers for what he can get out of it. Ballantine and Carden are convinced that Miller is honest so that is that!

According to Carden, he first discovered pellets about 1/2" long, having a hole in one end, which were assayed by E. Derwent of Gold Hill as tin. The U. S. Land office entered the picture and their engineer, Forrest A. Burrett (now in a sanatorium) carefully sampled the area, and gave a tin return. The owners were permitted to file 5 claims. Carden "furnaced" some of the ore in a fir bark stove and recovered tin. Montana Assay Office assayed the metal as tin, as did Burrett. Ex-Governor Spry of Nevada was mixed in the deal somehow.

The foregoing is a very typical white metal story, similar to what I have heard, with varying details, any number of times. Miller claims that most anything on the property will assay 4 percent tin.

One cut is just above Highway No. 99, 3 1/2 miles south of Canyonville. Another cut is on top of the mountain. We started to it, up a heavily brush covered stream bed, and the three men were constantly arguing as where we were to go. There was no trail, no line brushed out, and after climbing through the brush for about a mile, I called a halt. Distance to the pit still varied from a couple of hundred feet to over 1/2 mile, and its location was indefinite. I suggested that when they located the pit and brushed a line to it, I would be glad to sample further. But under the conditions I saw no point in uselessly thrashing through the brush.

They agreed that the sample I had should show tin, and that was what they wanted to prove, anyway. So it's your baby now. The whole thing sounds very, very screwy, and I fear that we are in for another Juniper Ridge mess. The ore is reported to contain cassiterite and stannite and assay 2-4% tin.

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