Drilling Locates New Ore Body At Bretz Quicksilver

Installation of a mercury recovery plant reportedly is under consideration for Bretz quicksilver mine located just over the Oregon line westerly from McDermitt, Nev., where an orebody of sensational values has been located by drilling conducted during the past few months by J. F. Hart.

The mine was taken over in May from the leasing company, United States Mercury Company, by Shawano Development Company of New York, Alexander L. Guterma, president. Application for DMEA loan for 4000 ft. of churn drilling, made last April by Jay A. Carpenter, now consulting engineer for Shawano and previously manager for United States Mercury, was signed and received recently, by coincidence when a total of 4,000 ft. of drilling had just been completed at the mine.

Mercury ore running from 11 lbs. of metal to 32 lbs. to the ton was cut by the drills over a wide area, with average depth of overburden said to be 30 ft. The area of good ore is farther to the northwest of any ore mined previously. Bretz mine, formerly operated under lease by the Bradley Mining Company, was discovered by William Bretz, who leased it to the Bradleys in 1931. Production is said to total over $2,250,000. The claims were relocated in recent years by John Ruiz of McDermitt, who gave a long-time lease to the United States Mercury Corp. in October, 1954. This firm traded all its assets of cash and mercury properties for stock in the rapidly expanding Shawano Development Corp.