

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

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*Irving  
Baker*

Report on diatomaceous earth samples submitted by Irving Hazeltine, Box 86,  
Canyon City, Oregon.

## Sample #1

"Diatomite sample from west of gravel pit, lower Powder valley, 3 miles about southwest Keating."

## Sample #2

"Diatomite sample from 80 acre tract 4 miles west of Keating, Baker County."

Note: From the above information it would appear that both samples came from the general vicinity of sec. 14, T. 8 S., R. 41 E., Baker County.

Sample #1 is composed mostly (70-80%) of fragments of Melosira granulata with lesser amounts of M. aff. disfans, M. aff. granulata var. curvata, Epithemia aff. turgida.

Sample #2 is composed mostly (70-80%) of fragments of Melosira granulata and M. aff. granulata var. curvata. The remainder of the plants appear to be M. aff. granulata var. spiralus, Diploneis aff. crabro, Rhabdonema aff. biquadratum, and Cybella aff. prostrata. Both samples contain a fair amount (10-20% of total sample) of ash and volcanic glass.

According to Ken Hamblen (personal communication) the most desirable type of diatoms for filtering are those of the large Stephanodiscoid and Coscinodiscoid type. The tiny fragmented Melosira, so common to the fresh water diatomaceous deposits of eastern Oregon, are on the other hand the least desirable for such uses. For this reason the diatomite samples submitted by Mr. Hazeltine, because of their dominant plant type and admixed volcanic ash, do not appear to have commercial possibilities as filter aids. Its use as an insulant or as an admixture for concrete would presumably depend on "market conditions". As you are well aware, there are so many known good deposits of diatomaceous earth in Oregon (e.g., Harper Basin) as well as elsewhere in the western United States that competition eliminates all but the very highest quality or those situated close to cheap transportation. Only by careful and selective mining to keep costs down and quality of product up can eastern Oregon deposits compete in the market with diatomite from other more accessible areas.

Report by: R.E.C.

Date: 7-21-53

## Miners Working Near Bridgeport

Bridgeport — (Special) — Mining interests are still a leading topic in this community bringing new people in every few days. The latest is Grace Lowe, a new arrival from Livengood, Alaska, who has taken a lease on the placer mine at the mouth of Pine creek and has brought in considerable machinery and expects to start operations as soon as the machinery is set up.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Wyant, farther up Pine creek in their operations, recently took out a \$40.00 nugget among a number of smaller ones.

Leslie Rogers and F. Calloway are busy at the Burnt River mining company's mine on Clark's creek. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Davidson, who recently moved here from the Pocahontas district, are doing some work on their claim on Clark's creek. The Oregon mining company is shut down for a few days for some repair work, while F. LaConta is on a business trip to Portland.

Another mining company has taken an option on the Givens Nichols property. A Mr. Barber is now working in another mine of Walter Givens. He expects to spend the winter there.

The Bridgeport section has been thoroughly located in the past ten months since new gold deposits were reported discovered last spring and since mercury has been reported on Clark's creek by recent prospectors this fall.

① X Center N $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 17, on top of ridge,  
J. J. Churchill Overhill  
Along top of ridge for 75' E-W.

② X North line of Sec. 7 Road to claim.  
Churchill Banded cherts, just W. of  
shyolite.

NE of NE of 13. UTAH.

③ ~~Center E $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 12~~ (said to be in 18) 2 shafts. S.S.  
Grey cherts, replaced in places. Stopped down 60'.  
Works down in gulch.  
to E.

To see Sec. 13 & 18,  
From Oxman: Secs. 36 & 25 -

W $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec 11 - T12 R43. Across River.

Virtue District

Quote Handbook page 259

Kates (Edward) Claims

Virtue Dist

Owner: Alena Williams Baker Oregon

Quote Prescott Cond

Bengal and Proceeds Claims

Virtue Dist

Quote Prescott Cond

Owners: Milo Weston and Alena Williams Baker Oregon

Quote Prescott Cond

Brazos Mine

Virtue Dist

Quote USGS Bull. 879 page 100

Press reports of Aug 15, 1938, state the the mine had been leased by Albert Green and WC Fudge, the owners to Roy Johnson of Baker Oregon and the workings had been reworked and that sampling was in progress by Nevada interests

Corroll B, Mine

Virtue Dist

Quote 879 page 100

Chicago-Virtue

Virtue Dist

Quote 879 page 99

Cliff Mine

Virtue Dist

Quote Quip report



2/ Virtue Dist (cont)

Cyclone Group Virtue Dist  
Owner: Molly R. Harpham Baker Oregon

Quote Prescott card

1/ Sandy Jim Extension Virtue Dist  
Owner: Dr. A. Kohler

Emma Mine Virtue Dist  
Owner: Carl W. Hapke and Walter G. Brown Baker Oregon

Quote Prescott Card

Evening Star Claims Virtue Dist  
Owner: E. C. Pea, Baker, Oregon

Quote Prescott

Flagstaff Mine Virtue Dist  
Quote 879 - page 96

Foster (R.S.)

Black Side Claim Virtue Dist

Quote Allen Report

Foster (R.S.) Black Bird Placer Claim Virtue Dist

Quote Allen report

Friday Mine, Inc Virtue Dist

Walter Fellows, Sam Anderson and Kenneth

E Grabner of Baker Oregon incorporators,

capitalization \$25,000. The incorporators purchased

the Friday mine, a patented mining claim 10 miles

east of Baker, near the Baker - Conmucopia highway

The property to 200 ft depth 30 years ago but has

3/ Virtue Best (cont)

been idle since until recently opened by the  
incorporation. a 50 ton con was shipped  
to the smelter and it is anticipated that frequent  
shipments will be made (Press reports Aug-Sept, 1938)

Hidden Treasure Mine Virtue Best

Quote Quinn report  
" Mining Journal Sept 10-38

Independent Number 1 Virtue Best

Owner: Mabel A Griffith Baker Oregon

Quote Prescott and

Independent Number 2 Virtue Best

Owner: Mrs Sadie Cullen, Baker, Oregon

Koehler Mine (Antimony-gold) Virtue Best

Owner: Dr A Koehler Baker Oregon

According to Prescott consists of 6 claims  
including the Sandy Jim group of two claims

Quote 879 page 97

Last Chance claim Virtue Best

Quote Allen report

4 / Virtue Silt (Cont)

Nitzlander Ranch Virtue Silt  
Owner: Rudolph Nitzlander, Pleasant Valley, Oregon  
Quote Present and

Norwood Mine Virtue Silt  
Quote 879 page 98

Oregon Trail Mine Virtue Silt  
Owner: J. E. Caldwell, Baker, Oregon  
Quote Present and

Pat Mine Virtue Silt  
Owner: J. E. Caldwell Baker Oregon  
Lessor: E. H. Hanson Spokane Wash.

Early 1938 reports that this group of several unpatented claims adjoining the Virtue Mine was being sampled and equipment was being assembled. Vein strikes NW-SE, width 3 ft, greenstone walls

Rachel Consolidated Quartz Claims Virtue Silt  
Owner: Harry H Waggoner Baker Oregon  
Located in Sec 7 and 8 T9 S, R41 E, 93 acres patented lands, width of vein 1 to 3 ft. Production claimed \$150,000, developed 800 ft on incline <sup>with 3000 ft of development</sup> at 200 ft intervals. All building and equipment gone, Geology to other properties in the district.



5  
Virtue Best (cont)

Virtue Mine

Virtue Best

Owner: Virtue Mines Development Co. Oregon  
corporation; Wm Wendt Pres, M Beswell Secy  
Baker Oregon; Capitalization \$1,250,000 Common  
\$250,000, preferred

In 1938 a corporate group secured the property  
under terms and made plans for the development  
and operation of the property but the present  
status of this arrangement are not known  
There has been no important change in the  
conditions since the following report was  
written in 1930

Quote 879 - page 94

White Swan Mine

Virtue Best

Quote 879 page 98

In Sept 1935 White Swan Gold, Inc and spent  
\$175,000 in development, rehabilitation, in mine  
and mill equipment and in operation with a  
production of 30,000. The mine was shut down in  
Sept 1937 with the intention of starting in 1938 under  
plans to be furnished by engineers and geologists  
but no report of this years activity has been  
received