

J. N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

May 23, 1960

Hollis Dole, Director  
Department Geology and Mineral Industries  
1069 State Office Building  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Hollis:

I am enclosing herewith your report on the Mother Lode Mine, Crook County. You are fortunate to get this back, I have already lost it once on my "well organized" desk.

Thanks very much for the information. I had heard it was in southern Oregon and really thought it might be around Sutherland.

Very truly yours,

J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L  
Enc.

J. N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

April 8, 1959

The ORE.-BIN  
State of Oregon  
Department of Geology & Mineral Industries  
1069 State Office Bldg.  
Portland 1, Oregon

Dear Sirs:

It will be very much appreciated if you will please  
send copies of The ORE.-BIN, beginning with Vol. 21,  
No. 3, March 1959, to:

Mr. Edward H. Hager  
760 Yori Street  
Reno, Nevada

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

*J. Eldon Gilbert*  
J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L

*Memo to Hager  
0 sent  
copy to Gilbert  
JEG  
4/10/59*

**RECEIVED**  
APR 9 1959  
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

November 17, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Gil:

This is in regard to your letter of November 10 and the sample which you wanted checked for glaucinum.

I had Tom run this on the spec and no beryl was found. That was the only element I had checked for so if you want other information on it let me know and I will have Tom reread his plate.

Haven't much else to say except that we are trying to get ready for this next session of Congress. How is Sam doing? Has he given up hope yet?

Regards to all.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD:jr

N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

November 10, 1958

Hollis Dole, Director  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
1069 State Office Building  
Portland, Oregon

P- 23686

Dear Hollis:

Enclosed herewith is a small sample of material reported to contain beryl. Our local experts, Abbot A. Hanks and Company, are unable to find any. Perhaps you could run it through your procedure and see what you can come up with.

Incidentally, this property is in southeast Oregon.

Very truly yours,




J. Eldon Gilbert

Dept Sample  
For H Dole

JEG:L

Enc.

NOV 12 1958   
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

June 4, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Gil:

This is in reply to your letter of May 22. I am sorry I didn't get to it sooner but you know how things go.

I have called Marshall Huntting and Bert Avery in regard to the property near Emmelaw. Both Marshall and Bert report that there is a new prospect 6 miles from Emmelaw and that it is only in the prospect stage. However indications are that it could develop into something big. Location of the property is in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of sec. 9, T. 21 N., R. 7 E. in the canyon of the Green River about 6 miles from Emmelaw. The principal claim is known as the Royal Reward. The holdings are incorporated in the Washington Mining Corporation, Box 66, Palmer, Washington. The Royal Reward was discovered by Larry Berkshire and Ronald Ljundahl of Emmelaw approximately two years ago.

The mercury is associated with andesite intrusives in sediments of the Puget series. Marshall tells me that the mineralization occurs in a fault or shear zone and on the west limb of an anticline. Coaly material is common and, as a matter of fact, a small coal mine is located approximately a mile from the Royal Reward property. Approximately 1 mile downriver from the Royal Reward there is a shear zone which runs around 50 feet wide and within which several good assays have been obtained in the drilling. The mineralization is associated with very high arsenic. Although there are some zones that are free of arsenic, there is a quantity of the material at Albany on which experimentation is to be done to see about freeing it from the arsenic. The mineralization at the Royal Reward is around 5-6 feet wide. Boulders and small lenses and pods of very high grade cinnabar are found within the shear zone. There is very little disseminated material.

The original work consisted of a 150-foot tunnel. Recent work has consisted of a crosscut 50 feet wide and a raise for 60 feet. At the present time they are sinking and expect to continue this work until a depth of 100 feet has been reached. There are approximately 6 people employed.

I am informed that within two months they should have a pretty good idea of what they do have. As you know, there is a D retort on the property and they have obtained about 15-20 flasks from the drift work. Also you probably know that they have a DMEA loan on the property. I think it is around \$10,000 but that could be completely haywire.

Have you had any more success with the University of Oregon people on the Horse Heaven property? If not, be sure and let me know as the State of Oregon very definitely is interested in the area.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD:jf

J. N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

May 22, 1958

Hollis Dole, Director  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
1069 State Office Building  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Hollis:

For some time we have heard of a new mercury production in Washington 6 miles from Enumclaw.

At first I put this down as propagandism but if Burton Avery of Bonanza has gone to work there they may have something. Can you give me any dope on our new competitor?

Very truly yours,

J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L

RECEIVED  
MAY 23 1958  
DEPT. OF GEOLOGY

*Handwritten notes on the left margin:*  
3 miles a 50' stream  
Prospect H. (20%)  
1 mile down river  
Prospect H. (20%)  
2 mos  
what  
1 yr ago  
Royal Berkshire  
Jumbah  
Wash  
150 st  
12 flasks  
1 in Forest  
H2-9446  
A... party

*Handwritten notes at the top:*  
West limb of anticline  
In order, S, S, S, S

*Handwritten notes on the right margin:*  
"Good prospect"  
"prospect only"  
hi arsenic  
exp. at Albany  
some zone - free  
of arsenic  
prod = 15-20 clack  
from pipe related

May 23, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Mr. Gilbert:

Your letter dated May 22 addressed to Mr. Dole has been received.

Mr. Dole is in Washington, D.C. and is not expected to return to Portland until May 28th or 29th. You will hear from him shortly upon his return to the office.

Sincerely yours,

jr



Dear Sir:

On April 15 1958 we are suspending all mining and milling operations at our Horse Heaven Mine near Ashwood, Oregon and will appreciate having all invoices and statements in not later than 30 days thereafter. The D.Tube will be operated a few days to clean up.

Also please remove this operation from your mailing lists.

I thank you for the extra copies of ORE.-BIN.

CORDERO MINING COMPANY  
ASHWOOD, OREGON  
F.E.Lewis

*F.E. Lewis*

Have advised Howard Brooks  
to come soon.

C.J. McClain will remain  
for some time.

April 29, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Gil:

I have just talked to Lloyd Staples again regarding the Horse Heaven mine and he is, of course, very interested.

In his last approach to the University business manager it was called to our attention that in your letter of April 22 all references to the property were for some type of a sale. This was not my original understanding but it could be I was wrong. I had originally understood that Cordero would give the Horse Heaven camp site to a State institution. Could you give me a short note of clarification?

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD:jr

April 25, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Gil:

Thanks so much for your letter of April 22.

We will continue our negotiations here and I hope that you will be receiving a firm offer from the University of Oregon in the very near future so that they can take advantage of Cordero's proposal. I want you to know that we are most interested in this and hope to bring it to some kind of a conclusion as soon as possible.

My very best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dale  
Director

HMD:jr

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

April 22, 1958

Hollis M. Dole, Director  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
State of Oregon  
1069 State Office Building  
Portland 1, Oregon

Dear Hollis:

In connection with our disposal of Horse Heaven Mine, I will answer your last letter.

We would turn the property over to any purchaser with only a minimum of qualifications. We would let the mineral rights go with the property but reserve the right of first refusal in case the State or any other purchaser should want to dispose of the mineral rights. If this is not agreeable we would retain the mineral rights.

We would like a caretaker to be on the property as long as we have equipment there.

The area involved would be about 80 acres. However, this could be subject to negotiations at the time of the sale.

The property has been taxed in the past on the basis of its activity as a mine so these taxes would have no bearing on future taxes. If the State were to acquire the property there would be no taxes to pay.

Very truly yours,

J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L

*sent copy to  
Stacy  
4-25-58*

RECEIVED  
APR 23 1958

STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDUSTRIES

April 16, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Eldon:

This is in reply to your letter of April 14 notifying us of the closure of Horse Heaven mine and of the very kind offer by Cordero Mining Company to turn over the camp site to some State organization.

I have contacted Lloyd Staples on this and he is very interested. He is making preliminary inquiries at the University and will notify me if they are in a position to do any serious thinking on it. If they are not interested, I expect to contact Portland State College and then the Oregon Museum of Science & Industry.

Lloyd raised one question. It is: Will the mineral rights go with the property if it is turned over to the State of Oregon? Not that Lloyd or any of his boys plan on doing any prospecting but he is concerned about any encumbrances that might be placed on the title. Also would you require that a caretaker be on the ground as long as you keep your equipment there? Chances are the University would like to have a caretaker anyway and it is the pay for this man that Lloyd is most concerned with at present. I should be hearing from him any day now and as soon as I do I will call you.

Thanks so very much to you for this offer. I am sure that someone within the State will want it.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

HMD:jr  
cc Lloyd W. Staples

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

P.S. Right after dictating this letter I received a phone call from Lloyd on this matter. He has made preliminary contact with the Business Office and there are a couple of other points that he has brought up: (1) what are the taxes, approximately, on the mining camp; (2) how large of an area is involved in the camp; and (3) would there be any stipulations whatsoever that you might impose?

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

April 14, 1958

Hollis Dole, Director  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
1069 State Office Building  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Hollis:

The mill at Horse Heaven has been shut down and the mine is closed. We are removing some of the equipment and will continue to remove supplies and machinery for the next couple of months. In the meantime we are looking for a market for the mine.

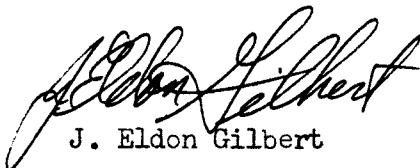
Essentially we own something over 2000 acres which can be used for grazing purposes. We also own the camp site of Horse Heaven which we do not believe it would pay to move. This camp site is ideal for a summer camp for geologic students, or other people interested in examining the outdoors. As you probably know, the University of Oregon used to have their geological summer camp there.

The camp consists of fourteen houses with an aggregate of twenty-seven rooms. Four of the houses are completely modern with bath, and several others are equipped with running water and sewers.

Horse Heaven is located about 45 miles by road from Madras on a good summer highway. It is at an elevation of 3300 feet so would not get too hot in the summer. The countryside is very picturesque and is fairly well covered with small junipers, characteristic of Central Oregon. It is quite centrally located to several well known fossil beds and it in itself contains a good problem of igneous and economic geology.

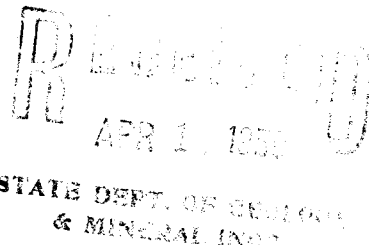
It seems to me that the State of Oregon would do well to enquire about the acquiring of this property for the use of its colleges and universities.

Very truly yours,

  
J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L

*Don't copy the  
Clayton [unclear]  
4-14-58*

  
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL IND.

## CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

April 14, 1958

Hollis Dole, Director  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
1069 State Office Building  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Hollis:

As you probably are aware, the area around McDermitt - this includes the southwest corner of Oregon and the north central part of Nevada - is without any type of hydro-electric power. We and other people in this area generate our own electricity. This is not only very expensive but the contingencies, such as breakdowns, bad roads hampering fuel deliveries, etc., are very annoying.

Several years ago Idaho Power examined this area to see if they could bring power in from the Boise Basin. They decided at that time there was not enough load to justify the expense. Since that time the load, especially farm power requirements, has increased considerably so that when a survey was made by Harney Electric Cooperative they were interested in bringing power from Bonneville.

I am enclosing a letter from our Assistant Manager, Verne Haas, which gives you the salient points of our discussions with Harney Electric Cooperative.

Power in this area would not only be of great benefit to us and to the Bretz operation but, in all probability, would encourage people to open up other mining properties. It is possible that your Senators from Oregon would be interested in seeing that this rather isolated corner of the State were blessed with the magic of public power.

I would appreciate it if you would see what you could do.

Very truly yours,



J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L  
Enc.

RECEIVED  
APR 16 1958

STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE SHEET  
**CORDERO MINING COMPANY**

**SUBJECT:** Power

**DATE:** April 8, 1958

**FROM:** Verne P. Haas

**OFFICE:** McDermitt, Nevada

**TO:** Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Palo Alto, Calif.

Dear Eldon:

The following is a resume of the course of events, as I understand them, regarding the supplying of power to our area by Harney Electric Cooperative of Burns, Oregon.

The Harney Electric Cooperative is a REA sponsored Coop set up to serve the area around Burns and as far south as feasible. They are now serving south of Crane and have proposed lines as far as Denio.

They are now buying their power from Idaho Power Co. somewhere north of Burns and are paying 9.6 mils. Because of this high cost power they are limited to the area they can serve. Long high voltage lines would increase the cost to a point where it would be too costly for heavy uses such as pumping. However if they could get power from Bonneville they would be able to buy it for about 3 mils which would allow them to be competitive for pumping and other heavy uses.

In December of last year Harney Electric met with Bonneville Power Administration officials in Portland and were told that a load of 10,000 KW would make a line from Redmond, BPA terminus, to Burns feasible.

Harney Electric now has a potential of 4000 kw and the area as far as Denio would produce about 3000 kw more. This being short of the 10,000 kw they looked into our area which according to last year survey shows a potential of about 8000 kw or more that enough to make the line into Burns feasible. At this point, however, they were met with Item #4 in the enclosed letters in which BPA say they are not able to furnish power for use outside their service area, which as I understand it, is the Columbia River drainage which boundaries on the Blue Mt. summit 20 miles north of McDermitt. It will be noted that Mr. Cole calls their attention to the fact that BPA would be delivering power to Harney Electric within their service area and it would be Harney Electric that would take it out. Also that at the present time they, BPA, are selling power to at least two other companies who are taking it outside the Columbia river drainage.



If it is as it appears then BPA is stalling to get out of having to build the line. However there may be more to this than we now know. Anyway this is one of the things that will have to be determined before much more can be done.

The REA have already made preliminary surveys of this area and say that there is almost twice the load potential that would be needed to make bringing a line into this area feasible and have included the amount of money needed for this project in this years budget application. The estimate on the entire project is \$3,500,000.00.

In order to get started on this project this year we will have to get BPA to agree on the line into Burns and to include in their budget at least enough money to start work on it. BPA is under the Department of Interior whose budget is now in committee. If this cannot be done before the budget is complete the whole project will have to wait another year. which to us, could be worth over \$25,000.00.

Last Saturday a group from this area including myself and Mr. Cole of Harney Electric met with Senator Bible in Winnemucca. and the Senator has agreed to look into the matter at once and determine if BPA power could be made available for us and if so to put pressure on them to get money for the project in the budget for this year. It is my thought that if it is found that BPA can be made to supply power for this project that Mr. Williston, thru his many connections, could apply even more pressure to BPA to get the project in this year.

The pumping load which would be the major load for this area comes at a time of the year when, as I understand it, BPA has a surplus of power which should help to balance the over-all load.

I will try to keep you posted on developments as soon as I know them.

Sincerely



April 16, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Eldon:

This is in reply to your second letter of April 14  
regarding getting power into southeastern Oregon.

I think that our boys back in Washington might be  
interested in this and I will call it to their  
attention.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD:jr

April 7, 1958

Mr. Frank E. Lewis  
Horse Heaven Mine  
Ashwood, Oregon

Dear Frank:

We are sending you, under separate cover, a half dozen copies of the March issue of THE ORE.-BIN. We thought the article was very good also and are most appreciative to Cordero Mining Company for furnishing it.

We are following the operation at Horse Heaven with great interest. If and when you close it down, it would be appreciated if you would notify us.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD:jr

11-16  
11-2-58

N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

## CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Horse Heaven Mine  
Ashwood Oregon  
4-5-'58

Oregon Dept Geology & Mineral Inds.  
Portland Oregon

Hollis Dole, Director

Dear Hollis:

Would like to have a second copy of the March issue of  
THE ORE.-BIN.

We enjoyed Eldon's article about Horse Heaven, especially the kind  
words about Clarence McClain, me, and the crew.

Don't know that Eldon cared to be specific about the total production.  
However (this is unofficial) it was 17002 at the end of January.

We have upped it a little in the succeeding two months, and first few  
days this month. The furnace was stopped about the third inst.  
We are now cleaning up. Expect to finish by using the retort a  
few days.

*NOTED - BSA*

Very truly yours



Frank E. Lewis

**RL**  
APR 7 1958  
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDUSTRY

J. N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

February 11, 1958

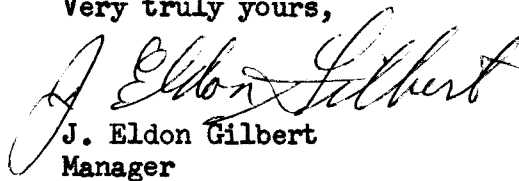
Hollis Dole, Director  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
1059 State Office Building  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Hollis:

Enclosed is a brief history of the Horse  
Heaven operation.

I am not at all certain what you want for  
the ORE.-BIN. If you feel this should be trimmed  
down, please feel free to edit it. If you want it  
enlarged I will be glad to do so if you will tell  
me what you want.

Very truly yours,

  
J. Eldon Gilbert  
Manager

JEG:L  
Enc.

RECEIVED  
FEB 13 1958  
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL IND.

J. N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

## CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

March 18, 1958

Hollis M. Dole, Director  
Department of Geology & Mineral Industries  
State of Oregon  
1069 State Office Building  
Portland 1, Oregon.

Dear Hollis:

A few days before you asked for a report on Horse Heaven, George Argall of the MINING WORLD asked for somewhat the same thing. I had a telephone discussion with George and he gave me a rather complete outline of what his paper would like to have. You, however, left the contents of my report for the Ore.-Bin up to me and I am afraid I may not have anticipated the type of article or the length too well.

I am returning the edited paper without corrections. This pretty well covers the operation and may be used as is. However, if you find it's too short you may add the enclosed at the end of the report.

Very truly yours,



J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L  
Enc.

RECEIVED  
MAR 20 1958  
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

March 10, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert, Manager  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Gil:

I am enclosing a copy of your edited manuscript on the Horse Heaven mine. This is being sent to you at this time in order that you can make any corrections, suggestions, additions, etc. that you might care to make, or if you find it acceptable, drop us a note saying it is O.K.

I plan on using this as the lead article in the ORE.-BIN for March. The first page will have, besides text, a small index map showing location of the Horse Heaven mine area. The second page will be the central part of the geologic map of the Horse Heaven mining district. This will be extracted from U.S.G.S. Bulletin 969-E, with due credit. On the facing page (page 3) will be more text with the legend for the geologic map cut into the left margin of the page. Page 4 (on the reverse of page 3) will be the remainder of the text with the flow sheet that you submitted cut in. I have asked Margaret Steere to prepare a selected bibliography which will be added to your text.

How does this sound? If anything, your text was too short and we are therefore taking this other material to stretch it out. Even so, if you would care to add a couple of more typewritten pages, it would be welcome.

Thanks so much for submitting the manuscript and we will be looking forward to hearing from you on this.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD:jr  
Encl.

January 20, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Gil:

I am very glad to learn that you will write the story on Horse Heaven.

Far be it from me to offer you suggestions on how it should go. I am sure there are any one of a half dozen different angles that could be used, all of which would be appropriate. I know that the manner in which you present it will be of interest to our readers.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD:jr  
cc F.E. Lewis  
cc Howard Brooks



# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

January 16, 1958

Hollis Dole, Director  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
1069 State Office Building  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Hollis:

Yesterday I returned from a trip through Nevada and Idaho so just read your letter of January 2nd when I returned.

I think I can find time to write the story on Horse Heaven and will be glad to do it. If you have any suggestions as to how it should go you might send me an outline.

Horse Heaven is still running, still struggling each month to make production fit the costs. I do not see how it can last much longer - we are mining sage brush roots now.

Very truly yours,



J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L

RECEIVED  
JAN 20 1957

STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

January 2, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordere Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Eldon:

I have been thinking that a story on the Horse Heaven mine would be very appropriate for an article in our ORE.-BIN.

The Horse Heaven mine has had a definite effect on Oregon's mineral economy over the past years and because it will be closing soon, never to be reopened, I think that it would be of interest to the people of the State. Also I think that it would be of propaganda value to again re-emphasize the hazards of mining and the difficulties of government control of price.

If you agree with me on this, I would like to see the report come from someone within your organization as, of course, the statistics, history, price effects, etc. would be readily available. If, however, you feel that someone within your company does not have the time to prepare such a report, I would like Howard Brooks to work up something.

I would be glad to hear your comments on this.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD:jr  
cc F.E. Lewis  
cc Howard Brooks

January 7, 1958

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Gil:

In response to my letter to Senator Neuberger regarding change of the flask requirements for mercury, GSA has responded to the Senator with the usual note, plus the following:

"The GSA regional office in San Francisco has been advised that two of the six samples submitted to that office by the Cordero Mining Company are acceptable and meet the specification requirements. The Cordero Mining Company will be advised by the San Francisco office of the acceptability of the two types of flasks submitted."

I thought you might be interested.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD:jr

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

December 4, 1957

Hollis Dole, Director  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
1059 State Office Building  
Portland, Oregon

*Mr. Dole*  
Dear Hollis:

The latest in the battle of the quicksilver flasks is about as follows:

"We producers are stymied. The GSA has issued some minor amendments to their regulations but they do not relieve the specifications on the flasks. They still insist that they must be seamless and almost in detail describe a flask which is only produced by Saracco Tank & Welding Co. of San Francisco. Apparently Saracco tells GSA that they are able to produce a large number of these flasks and GSA is passing its information on to Washington. The truth is that we have had an order in for over two weeks and have received no deliveries on it. When I called Saracco yesterday they had no flasks for us and no material with which to make flasks. They expected some material in yesterday but it had not arrived by 2 o'clock. This leaves us with the stocks we have at ~~Cordero and Horse Heaven~~, which are continuously getting larger, with no market for them.  
*(The Horse Heaven mine, Ashwood, Jefferson Co.)*

In addition to the cost of the flasks from Saracco, if they could deliver them, which is about \$4.50 compared to 75¢ for a normal flask, we have the costs of storage, rebottling, interest on the money tied up, and general confusion.

We purchased some flasks in the East which we thought would meet the GSA specs. I delivered six samples to the GSA office and they will not tell me if any of them are acceptable or not. One of these flasks is a forged flask made years ago in Almaden, Spain and, as near as I can see, fits the requirements very well. However, I cannot get an acceptance nor even a rejection on it."

I hope the political pressure which is on them now will at least get them off dead center and I hope it will make them more reasonable in the regulations.

Very truly yours,

J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L

*sent copy to  
Mason &  
Thompson  
12-9-57*

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 6 1957

DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
MINERAL INDS.

October 29, 1957

AIRMAIL

Mr. J. Eldon Gilbert  
Cordero Mining Company  
131 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

Dear Eldon:

Thanks so very much for your letter of October 25.

I am very unhappy that Cordero is calling her "deep enough" at Horse Heaven but I guess every mine except those in Spain and Italy must close some day.

We would like very much to take advantage of your kind offer to furnish us with the information on Horse Heaven. I will write Howard Brooks at Baker asking him to make a final inspection of all open workings at the Horse Heaven mine before you close it down.

If possible we would like to have copies of every record you have on the mine including maps, production records, geology, etc. If you feel that any or all of this material should be confidential, we would take it on that basis. The purpose in doing this, of course, would be that eventually - say, 20-30 years - the confidential requirement would be lost but the State of Oregon would have the information. We think it very important to obtain as much data on properties as possible and are most appreciative of your attitude regarding your property. We could meet with you any place in the State of Oregon or at Cordero, Nevada, to obtain this information. If there is material you do not have copies of that you can furnish us, we would like to obtain the originals so that photostatic copies can be made, keeping in mind at all times that we will keep confidential whatever you desire.

We thank you for your cooperation and assure you we would like to have every bit of detail that we can possibly obtain. Let us know your pleasure on meeting with you.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

HMD:jr  
cc Howard Brooks

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

October 25, 1957

Hollis Dole, Director  
Department of Geology and Mineral Industries  
1059 State Office Building  
Portland, Oregon

Dear Hollis:

Within the next few weeks we will probably light the lifters at Horse Heaven. It will then become another abandoned mine as we expect to dismantle the furnace and other equipment, and dispose of the property.

We are quite certain there is no ore left there except, perhaps, in a most unique situation where the price for mercury would rise astronomically. However, I am certain that sometime in the future some enthusiastic promoter will condemn us as either wasteful or incompetent, and will insist that a great bonanza was left behind. Actually, the work we have done during the past few years has revealed very little new geology and at that time the geology was covered very well by the USGS Bulletin 969.

We have records of our mining activity since then and production, all of which might be interesting to posterity and perhaps the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries would be the proper custodian of this information.

If you have someone available to inspect the mine he would be welcome at any time but will find it difficult to enter much of the workings if we pull out. We will probably prepare records for our own files and can supply you a copy of part of them if you desire.

Perhaps we could get together and, from our crude mine maps, you would be able to make copies for future reference. I would appreciate any suggestions you have.

Very truly yours,

J. Eldon Gilbert

JEG:L

*What copy to  
Annual Report  
10-25-57*

**RECEIVED**  
OCT 29 1957

STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDUSTRIES

October 16, 1957

Mr. F. E. Lewis  
Ashwood  
Oregon

Dear Frank:

Sorry to hear that you are preparing for eventual shut down of Horse Heaven. I suppose it is inevitable that mines do become exhausted, but it always leaves me a little sad to see another one of them drop from the list.

Our library files are quite complete with the standard trade journals and AIME publications, and I have also checked with the geology department at Portland State College. They are apparently well supplied and are somewhat limited in shelf space. I would like to suggest that you might be able to dispose of some of your publications through one or more of the following booksellers here in Portland:

Cameron's Books & Magazines  
825 S.W. Third Avenue  
Portland, Oregon

Old Oregon Book Store  
630 S.W. 12th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon

Hyland's Book Store  
913 S.W. Fourth Avenue  
Portland, Oregon

Portland Book Store  
412 S.W. Third Avenue  
Portland, Oregon

I hope that you can find a buyer without having to go to too much trouble.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ralph S. Mason  
Mining Engineer

RSM:lk

N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

## CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Ashwood Oregon  
October 10, 1957

Mr. Ralph Mason  
Oregon Dept. Geology & Mineral Industries  
Portland Oregon

Dear Ralph:

We are gradually preparing the way here for the permanent shut down.

I have much to get rid of personally including E.&M.Js., Mining Worlds, the Institute magazines and some trade journals, such as Compressed Air, Explosives, etc. Have some of the A.I.M.E. Transactions in addition to the monthly magazine.

Do you know of some library, school, or bookseller that may need such publications?  
Probably should have destroyed them about once a year and may find that the best way out.

Corresponded with a concern in New York City-Ashley-Ratcliff Corp. Booksellers. It is interested only in A.I.M.E. Transactions.

With regards

Very truly yours



F.E. Lewis



J. N. Pew, Jr.  
President

C O P Y  
S. H. Williston, Vice-President  
CORDELO MINING COMPANY  
31 University Avenue  
Palo Alto, California

John C. Agnew  
Secretary-Treasurer

Ashwood, Oregon  
January 9, 1957

State of Oregon  
Dept. Geology and Mineral Industries  
Portland, Oregon

Attention Ralph S. Mason

Dear Ralph:

Herewith is a summary of our operation here at Horse Heaven in 1956.

I asked our manager, Eldon Gilbert, today about publishing our statistics. He asked if they would be lumped with the other producers in Oregon. However, didn't see much objection to publishing them.

We operated about 10½ months - that is operated the furnace - during the year. In January and February we were catching up with development of haulage drift and draw holes for handling pillar ore bodies. Also relined a part of the furnace. From March 1st on the rest of '56 the mining operation consisted principally of drilling, blasting, and haulage of pillar ores from the mine to the furnace and stock piles.

We operated one surface pit for the first 9 months of the year. Low-grade rhyolite ore and clay ore was produced and trucked to Furnace Bin and to Stock piles. Stopped as it became doubtful that further work was justified.

The 20-25 ton rotary will run about an average of 30 tons daily.

Furnaced a total of approximately	9,355 tons
Produced	744 flasks
" per ton	6.0 pounds

Formerly we treated mercury clean-up table residues and lower grade condenser trough muds in the D Tube Retort, heated with Diesel Oil. In August we finally ceased retorting. Now these residues are fed to the furnace after mixing with a liberal amount of fresh pulverized lime. The writer feels that some of the fines travel through the Sirocco dust collector back into the condenser system. This is probably the reason that some of the first condenser pipes become clogged -- or plugged. That in turn stops or reduces the suction which in turn allows the discharge of fumes at the feeder, until the plug is eliminated.

C O P Y

CORDERO MINING COMPANY

A cable Drag Conveyor, which automatically reverses direction, handles the calcines from the Calcine Pit. This eliminates tramming in Ore cars. The Cyclone or Sirocco Dust Collector extracted fines drop into a tub equipped with an agitator and are piped down the hill. This eliminated<sup>s</sup> tramming to a dump.

In this small operation marginal ore bodies, caved areas around old stopes and old drifts with caving hanging walls cannot be mined generally. Much dead work is involved in cleaning out, retimbering, and general preparation. Then square sets are needed in many such locations. They are prohibitive under present labor and timber costs.

A 30-ton per day operation, such as Horse Heaven is now, requires accessible, fair size ore bodies averaging from 8 lbs. up to yield a reasonable profit and at the same time allow an average amount of exploration and development.

All costs are gradually increasing.

A larger furnace will permit handling lower grade than the 8 lbs. if the tonnage is available.

Since resuming furnace operation in the spring of 1955 our production has been about 1100 flasks. Approximate grand total for the Horse Heaven Mine is 16,215 flasks.

I realize that much of this letter is not needed for your coming resumé and that some of the figures may be useful only in your files. Perhaps should not be published.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ F. E. Lewis

F. E. Lewis for Cordero Mining Co.

April 30, 1957

Mr. F. E. Lewis  
Cordero Mining Company  
Ashwood, Oregon

Dear Frank:

The January issue of THE ONE.-BIN is being sent to the people you requested in your letter dated April 28.

I think you are doing a very fine service in answering the letters received by you. It is with pleasure that we cooperate with you in fulfilling your request. As you can imagine, we too receive a great many requests from people throughout the United States. We fill the requests as we consider it our duty. However your answering of requests such as these is indeed a public service. Thanks so very much.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD: jr

J. N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

## CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Ashwood Oregon  
4-28-'57

Mr. Hollis M. Dole, Director  
Oregon Dept Geology & Mineral Inds.  
Portland Oregon

Dear Hollis:

Two Eugene youngsters, about the 7 th grade, have written to me asking for printed material and samples in connection with their course in mining and minerals. I generally do write and sometimes send samples as the requests come in each spring. Had one request from Colorado, and a recent one from Florida. The last was addressed however to the Horse Heaven Chamber of Commerce. Pictures of Oregon were or are desired.

Would like to have your department send to the two students in Eugene a copy of the January number of The Ore.-Bin. A copy to each. (I can't tell whether they are in the same school) I refer to the number with Ralph Mason's article on Oregon's Mineral Industry in 1956. If copies are available. Kindly have a postcard sent to me , a bill. I will pay for them.

Thanking you and with regards

Very truly yours



F.E. Lewis

The applicants are: Jean Houser  
746 20th Ave., East  
Eugene Oregon and

*print*  
Roy W. Niederhisen  
Route 4, Box 289  
Eugene Oregon

RECEIVED  
APR 29 1957

STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

July 18, 1956

Mr. Frank E. Lewis  
Ashwood  
Oregon

Dear Frank:

I have examined the two specimens which you sent to us and find that the small "pudding stone" piece is composed of spherulitic concretionary masses which have formed in place. This differs from the ordinary conglomerate in that the normal conglomerate is composed of rounded pebbles which have been washed into the deposit and then solidified there later. The spherulites are composed almost entirely of silica, and aside from a possibility that they might be attractive to rock hounds for cutting material I can think of no other value.

The second specimen is a complex mass composed essentially of quartz, calcite, olivine, and quite a bit of pyrite. There is a possibility that this material might be gold bearing but the specimen was much too small for a fire assay. If Mr. Giovannini could obtain a larger and perhaps more representative sample we would be happy to analyze it for him. Two sample information request blanks are enclosed should he wish to submit a sample.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ralph S. Mason  
Mining Engineer

RSM:lk  
Encl.

N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

## CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Ashwood Oregon  
July 14, 1956

Oregon Department of Geology  
and Mineral Industries  
Portland Oregon

Attention Mr. Ralph Mason

Dear Ralph:

I am mailing two rock specimens to the department.  
I would like information about each.

One of the specimens is composed of rounded nodules.  
It came from about 19 miles south of Lakeview on the California  
side of the line. Was dug up by one of the miners here.  
I haven't bumped into a description of the nodules. Nearest I find  
to it is a description of a conglomerate called "Pudding Stone".

The other is a complex assortment of minerals-complex to me-  
with some rather heavy mineral amongst them.  
It came from somewhere near John Day. Was picked up by  
Angelo Giovannini, a grocery store merchant in Prineville.  
Sorry I can't give a more accurate location in each instance.

Will very much appreciate a diagnosis from you.

With regards

Very truly yours



Frank E. Lewis

OTZ  
CALCITE

OLIVINE

DIKITE

RECEIVED  
JUL 17 1956  
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

May 25, 1956

Mr. Frank E. Lewis  
Ashwood  
Oregon

Dear Frank:

About the only hope I can offer you in the way of obtaining another copy of Schuette would be to place your name with the book dealers listed below, who sometimes get in copies of our out-of-print publications from old collections. We have only a library copy in our files and hang onto that for dear life.

William Trussell  
Box 13 Cathedral Station  
New York 25, N. Y.

Old Oregon Book Store  
630 S.W. 12th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon

Hyland's Book Store  
913 S.W. 4th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon

Portland Book Store  
412 S.W. 3rd Avenue  
Portland, Oregon

Would suggest in the future that if you do succeed in obtaining a copy that you require a hundred dollar deposit before loaning it out.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Ralph S. Mason  
Mining Engineer

RSM:lk

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Ashwood Oregon  
May 22, 1956

State of Oregon  
Dept Geology and Mineral Inds.,  
Portland Oregon

Dear Sirs:

Can you get me a copy of Schuette's Quicksilver Deposits of Oregon? Or advise where one may be obtained.

Our copy was borrowed. Think that makes two copies lost through the ~~tea~~ years.

I will appreciate some help in this matter.

Very truly yours



F.E. Lewis

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MAY 24 1956  
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.



J. N. PEW, JR.  
PRESIDENT

S. H. WILLISTON  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JOHN C. AGNEW  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

*CAF*

Ashwood Oregon

11-7-'55

Mr. Hollis M. Dole, Director  
State Dept Geology and Mineral Inds.,  
Portland Oregon

Dear Hollis:

My belated sincere thanks to you and the Department men who wrote up the Uranium Analysis Scheme for me.

Had I realized the complexities involved probably wouldn't have asked you for it. On the other hand I had to be shown. I can see where the commercial chemist is justified ~~in~~ in his price for the analysis and why you or Albany (your department) can turn out a limited number of analyses per week or month.

We are rocking along here but not setting the world on fire. We find it difficult and costly to get under the ore remnants, shells, pillars, and ~~integrated~~ into caved, timbered areas. Costs are the big problem.

Thanking you and with regards

Sincerely

*F. E. Lewis*

Frank E. Lewis

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NOV 9 1955  
STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

October 20, 1955

Mr. Frank E. Lewis  
Cordero Mining Company  
Ashwood, Oregon

Dear Frank:

Enclosed are schemes for the quantitative determination of uranium and thorium.

As you will note, these determinations will take considerable laboratory equipment. However, as I mentioned in my earlier letter, there does not seem to be any easy way to accurately determine these elements. I hope you will find these satisfactory.

My very best regards.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD: jr

## CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Ashwood Oregon  
October 14, 1955

Mr. H. M. Dole, Director  
State Dept Geology and Mineral Industries  
Portland Oregon

Dear Hollis:

Thank you for the letter on Uranium determinations.

You referred me to a government publication:  
Manual of Analytical Methods for the Determination of Uranium  
and Thorium in their ores.

I wrote to the Supt of Documents for this but no copies are available  
at this time.

Could I prevail upon Mr. Hogeland to type out a scheme for quantitative  
analysis ?(for Uranium).

I Don't want to tackle Thorium except would like to know if there is a  
fairly simple qualitative method of determining whether the sample con-  
tains Thorium. Believe I have a good wet method for Uranium. (Qual)

Have written to Albany to see whether they will accept out of state  
samples for analysis.

Don't know whether one of the special book stores in Portland may  
stock such government publications as the above manual.

Yours very truly

F. E. Lewis

*Frank E. Lewis*

RECEIVED  
OCT 17 1955

STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.

September 12, 1955

Mr. Frank E. Lewis  
Cordero Mining Company  
Ashwood, Oregon

Dear Frank:

The experience of this Department in the determination of uranium has not been too extensive. However both the chemical and spectrographic laboratories agree that it is one of the most difficult and least reliable of the determinations made.

Qualitatively it appears that the bead test is still the best method for checking if uranium is present in small amounts. However there is some discussion whether or not this will distinguish between uranium and thorium. Hoagy tells me that the colorimetric method is probably the more reliable in percentages below 0.1 percent  $U_3O_8$ . However it would seem to me that you would not be interested in ores running below this amount. Therefore, as Hoagy has mentioned, the volumetric scheme is the simpler and the more easily done.

To the best of our knowledge there is no comparatively simple method for an accurate volumetric determination. Hoagy uses Method No. 2 that is found in the "Manual of Analytical Methods for the Determination of Uranium and Thorium in their Ores". This manual can be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington 25, D.C. for 20 cents. It was published in September 1950. Hoagy figures it takes about 25 to 30 hours to run four to six samples for uranium. Anything below this number takes essentially the same time. There is very little special equipment required in making the determination other than a Jones reductor, ice, and simple ordinary laboratory equipment. Probably an expense of \$30 to \$40 would take care of any additional material.

I hope this will be of help to you. If you have more questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Sincerely yours,

Hollis M. Dole  
Director

HMD: jr

# CORDERO MINING COMPANY

131 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

Ashwood Oregon  
September 10, 1955

Hollis M. Dole, Director  
Oregon Dept. Geology & Mineral Inds.  
Portland Oregon

Dear Hollis:

One of the men here is leaving for New Mexico to seek Uranium Deposits. In what may prove to have been a weak moment I agreed to test samples for him and his associates both qualitatively and quantitatively. I seek information. Has a comparatively simple method been developed for a volumetric analysis? Our foreman here saw a colorimetric scheme in use in southern New Mexico. If such a method has been developed it should be just what I crave. What is a good method for making a qualitative determination? I have a very old mineralogy which gives bead and test tube tests. Am hoping that there are newer and perhaps better methods. Also have ads for small testing kits for qualitative determinations by blow pipe and bead methods. Have some of the components of such kits here but much has been lost through the years. Will perhaps send for such a kit or buy the missing components separately after hearing from you.

Will appreciate word from you or some of the personnel. I do have some rather ancient schemes in my old Chemical Notes but I don't think there is enough information and they look complicated.

Sincerely yours

Frank E. Lewis

# 30-40 { Jones reductor  
1cc

4-6 samples - 25-30 hrs

Method 2

Manual of Analytical Methods  
for the Determination of U & Th  
in their ores.

Sof Dec - 20, Sept 1950

RECEIVED  
SEP 12 1955

STATE DEPT. OF GEOLOGY  
& MINERAL INDS.