

RICH ANTIMONY DEPOSIT FOUND

Emmons Reports Discovery
in Remote Area

Metal is in Demand

What may prove to be the most important mineral discovery in Curry county was made this week by a party of prospectors under the direction of Harry Emmons of Gold Beach. Emmons reported that a very large deposit of antimony was located and claims were staked in the rough area between the Big Craggies mountain and Collier creek.

The discovery was made in one of the most inaccessible parts of Curry county at a spot where it is believed no man has been in the past 50 years and where perhaps no white man has ever been before. It was necessary to swim through a pool of water in a narrow, deep box canyon to reach the antimony deposit, Emmons said. The deposit could not be reached without extensive equipment except in the low water stages of the creeks.

The discovery was made as the result of a tip given some time ago by George Meservey, Emmons said. Meservey told him of going down into the canyons below Big Craggies about 50 years ago with Bill Rumley of the Agness-Illahe district and another Indian companion. The going got very difficult and the Indians climbed out of the canyon while Rumley went on down through, swimming pools wherever necessary. Rumley, according to the story, found the deposit and brought out samples which were sent out to an assay office where it was reported they gave a high yield of antimony.

The canyon was very inaccessible and the find was never reported as the demand for the metal then did not justify the cost of getting it out.

When Meservey learned of the present demand for antimony he told Emmons of the early discovery, and after several trips into the area were made the deposit was finally located.

Antimony is a metal somewhat similar to lead in its refined condition. The principal sources have been in foreign countries, particularly China. It is in great demand now as a war material and the federal government is reported to be very anxious to develop any deposits that may be found in the United States as a preparedness measure. Antimony has one characteristic peculiar to only two other substances in that it expands at the moment of changing from the liquid to the solid state while all other substances except bismuth and water continue to contract all the way through the cooling and solidifying process. This characteristic puts antimony in great demand as one ingredient of all type metal mixtures and it is used in type metal in every printing shop in the country.

There have been small samples of antimony found before in the county but not in commercial quality or quantity. The discovery reported by Emmons is of a very high grade and apparently contains many thousands of tons, he stated. If this section of the state should develop one of the world's large sources of antimony it is predicted Curry and Josephine counties will see greater activity than ever before.

Rich Antimony Deposit Claimed

GOLD BEACH, Aug. 17.— (AP) — Discovery of a rich deposit of antimony in a deep canon of the Big Crags mountains in southeastern Curry county was claimed today by Harry Emmons, prospector.

Emmons said southwestern Oregon might become one of the world's large antimony producing centers as a result. There have been previous discoveries of small deposits in Curry county.

The Emmons party said it was necessary to swim to reach the deposit, which lies in a deep, narrow canyon, believed never to have been explored by white men before.

An old Indian tipped Emmons off.

Two Indians and a Negro are believed to have discovered the deposit nearly 50 years ago but didn't realize its value.

Emmons said it would be impossible to reach the deposit without elaborate equipment except at a very low water stage.

An insider's guide
to family vacation adventures
from the Rocky Mountain territory
to the Pacific coastland

Photograph: Tony Swan



Oregon's Curry County Coast

The usually reliable word "coastline" fails utterly when called upon to describe the confrontation between the 4,000-mile sweep of the Pacific Ocean and the fierce, tattered edge of Oregon. By winter the waters gather themselves up for assault after assault against the stubborn granite redoubts of the shore, creating a gloomy gray battleground fit for the heroes of Valhalla. But by summer the sun shines, the Pacific gives the coastal defenses a breather, and the land relaxes its dour aspect enough to smile.

US-101 will take you through

this park-dotted panorama of cliffs, rockbound beaches, and blue-green Pacific. The road rarely ventures far inland, frequently threading its way along the mossy rock battlements that mark the fringe of the continent. The waterside portions of the highway make for the best sight-seeing, and one of the finest stretches of this belongs to Curry County in the southwest corner of the state. From the California-Oregon border to the little town of Port Orford, about 63 miles, US-101 sticks to the ocean, making a fine central avenue for vacation explorations

that may last only a few days but can easily be stretched into several happy weeks.

One way of sampling Curry County's sights is to divide your vacation between the area's three major towns—Brookings, Gold Beach, and Port Orford. These three communities have a number of things in common: each dates its history more or less to the 19th-century lumber and gold boom; each has a small commercial and sport fishing flotilla that doubles in size during the summer months; each is an up-and-coming tourist center. But after you've visited these

three places, you're not likely to confuse them, because each has something all its own.

Brookings is the first Oregon population center northbound visitors encounter on US-101. About 2,900 people inhabit Brookings proper, with another 2,600 in the town of Harbor on the south bank of the Chetco River, the two residential areas sitting atop low bluffs that overlook a small, snug harbor.

If you've never seen a lily ranch, Brookings—and nearby Smith River, California—are the



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places to go. Approximately 80 percent of all lily bulbs sold in the U.S. are grown here.

There is a touching story connected with the Brookings festival. On September 9, 1942, Lieutenant Nobuo Fujita piloted a submarine-launched airplane over Brookings and dropped an incendiary bomb in the forests of Mount Emily, about 24 miles east of town. The raid was supposed to be the first of many on the West Coast aimed at diverting American manpower. Instead, it turned out that Lieutenant Fujita was the only Japanese aviator to bomb the American mainland.

Twenty years later, Brookings Junior Chamber of Commerce members decided to bring the Japanese pilot to the Azalea Festival, and managed to locate Mr. Fujita, who agreed to come. When he arrived, he had with him his most precious possession, the 400-year-old Fujita family Samurai sword, which he presented to the people of Brookings to symbolize the healing of the breach between the two nations. The handsome sword is on display in the Brookings city hall.

Brookings got its start as a company town for the California and Oregon Lumber Company. It is one of the newer settlements on Oregon's south coast and the C and O Central Building, constructed in 1912, is now one of the principal features of Brookings' main thoroughfare.

Just south of Harbor, the Brookings-based Chetco Valley Historical Society has acquired the first house built in the area—a pre-1865 way station and trading post—for a little museum housing an interesting collection of local memorabilia (open 12-6 Wednesday through Sunday from May through September, 12-5 Friday through Sunday the rest of the year; no admission fee charged).

There is camping available at Harris Beach State Park on the north side of town, and Brookings' azaleas are on display in Azalea State Park. The road leading to Azalea Park also serves Loeb State Park, about eight miles up the Chetco, and ultimately leads to the deep forests of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness Area.

Some of the most interesting rock formations of Oregon's south coast are located just north of Brookings in nine-

mile-long Boardman State Park, an area regarded as one of the finest on the entire coast. Natural Bridges Cove (pictured on the preceding page), about seven miles north of town, makes a great afternoon of adventuring for anyone in condition for a brisk climb. A steep trail winds down 300 feet to a cove fronted by three windows in the rock. During low tide conditions, the exposed tide pools here are especially interesting.

There are picnic grounds located on nearby Arch Rock Point, and you'll find a turnout for views and pictures of Mack Arch, another mile up the coast.

When you've finished with the various arches, you might find a little refreshment in order. A good place to get it is at Pistol River Store, a short way north of Mack Arch. The faded and quiet little store and community haven't changed significantly in the past 50 years.

Be sure to pause at Cape Sebastian State Park after leaving Pistol River. The view here will make you feel like king of the coast. There are also some lovely hiking trails.

Gold Beach, the Curry County seat, is 28 miles north of Brookings on the south bank of the famed Rogue River, with rival Wedderburn occupying the other bank. The graceful seven-arch span that links the two communities was Oregon's first river bridge, built in 1932.

Although every creek and river on the Oregon coast has its salmon and steelhead trout runs, the Rogue attracts anglers from all over the country, as well as thousands of upriver Jet Boat and Mail Boat sightseers. (The boats operate from May 30 to October 1; watch for signs in Gold Beach.) It's an exciting ride, but if the boat trip doesn't fit into your plans, you'll find the upriver drive to the tiny community of Agness worth your time.

Another way to see this labyrinthine section of the forest is the Forestry Tour, a self-guiding loop laid out and marked two years ago by the Society of American Foresters.

If you spend some time beachcombing, you'll quickly understand why it's called Gold Beach. Wherever a little stream or rivulet empties, the dark sands of the seashore are bright with gold—not enough to make

mining profitable, but enough to give you a sample of "color."

Accommodations in Gold Beach, as in Brookings, are generally pleasant and handy, but one place—Tu Tu Tun Lodge, a two-year-old fishing and vacation resort about seven miles up the north bank of the Rogue—stands out. An American Plan lodge, Tu Tu Tun is tastefully elegant and comfortably homey with its emphasis on home cooking and a casual, friendly atmosphere. The lodge operates from April 1 to November 30. Write Route 1, Box 365, Gold Beach 97444 for reservations—you'll need them well in advance—and information.

About ten miles north of Wedderburn, you'll encounter one of the few man-made attractions along this section of the coast, the Prehistoric Gardens, where a lovingly assembled collection of ferro-concrete dinosaurs lurks in a moss-festooned glen of singular beauty. A pair of tiny brooks run through the Gardens, as well as a section of the old coastal stage road. Sitka spruce, Douglas fir, myrtlewood, and big leaf maple break the late afternoon sunlight into broad golden streamers that turn the whole place into a fairyland.

Mr. E. V. Nelson, a self-styled "amateur paleontologist," has researched and fabricated all the Gardens' 16 life-size displays, working continuously since 1953. It is a remarkable piece of work, certain to provide an enjoyable and educational stop for all. The Prehistoric Gardens operate seven days a week year-round, dawn to dusk in June, July, and August, 8:30 to dark the rest of the year. Admission is \$1.25 for adults, 75 cents for students 12-18, and 50 cents for children 5-11.

Continuing north, the next picture stop is Humbug Mountain, a steep-sided 1,748-foot headland, and then you reach Port Orford.

Established in 1851, Port Orford is the oldest settlement on the Curry coast. It dates its history to one of the first armed confrontations between local Indians and white men. The first party of settlers, nine armed men, was landed on a large rock June 9, 1851, along with a cannon from the steamer *Sea Gull*. However, Indian attacks dislodged the men, who escaped to the north, returning a month later with a heavily armed party of 67 men to establish a blockhouse and permanent settlement. The incident was one of the first of the five-year Rogue River Indian Wars, but Port Orford, a gold and timber center, boomed—until an 1868 fire destroyed most of the community.

Today Port Orford is a com-

fortably quiet and eye-catching town of 980. The rock where the nine men were besieged is today a wayside park—Battle Rock—with a few graves of early settlers. Port Orford's new breakwater, completed in 1968, has stimulated fishing activity, and the town is becoming a favorite with vacationers.

About four miles north of town, watch for the Cape Blanco road. The cape is the westernmost point on the U.S. mainland. Its lighthouse, established in 1870, throws a beam that can be seen 250 miles at sea in good weather. There are free guided tours of the lighthouse. Visiting hours are 1-3 weekdays, 1-4 weekends and holidays, although when winds hit 25 knots or better, the lighthouse is closed to the public.

A little north of the Cape Blanco road, watch for the Sixes River, and the road that parallels its north bank for 12 miles, leading to a forest campground. Turn east when you reach the Sixes Store.

Eight miles farther north is Langlois, Curry County's northernmost town. Once a small but busy cheese-making center, Langlois is now largely abandoned, and there is an air of dreamy disuse about it. Saggy old wooden buildings bear faded messages proclaiming forgotten products, and there is such a quality of gentle, wistful decay all round that you'll find yourself waiting for the town suddenly to go out of focus.

Almost anytime is a good time to visit this section of Oregon's coast, depending on what mood you'd like to see on the land. In the winter the humbling drama of the storms lends an air of insignificance to human events. In the spring the excitement of the salmon and steelhead runs takes over—along with better weather for beachcombing, tide-pooling, agate-hunting, crabbing, clamming, and sunning. In summer there are community festivals, and pleasant hiking in the Siskiyou National Forest, whose western borders are just inland from most of this stretch of coast. And in the fall the salmon run again, the deciduous trees light up the forests, and it's berry-picking season—strawberries, raspberries, crowberries, Himalaya berries, salmonberries, thimbleberries, huckleberries, blackberries, all growing wild.

For a copy of the state's thorough Oregon Parks map, write the Oregon State Highway Division, Travel Information Section, Salem, Oregon 97310. For additional information on the Curry County Coast, write the Brookings, Gold Beach, and Port Orford Chambers of Com-