

CANYON GOLD-QUARTZ VEINS

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CANYON MT. REGION CANYON DIST

"Gold-Quartz Veins.—Canyon Peak, the bold salient from the main range which rises back of Canyon, consists of coarse gabbro or gabbro-diabase containing irregular masses of a dark-green, finer-grained diabase or diabase-porphry. This hill is celebrated for its rich pocket veins, and most of the placer gold in the vicinity is probably derived from its veinlets. The production from these veins is very difficult to estimate. At any rate it has not been very considerable, and few of the prospects rise to the rank of a mine. On the summit of Canyon peak, 1½ miles above the Great Northern, is the Idaho vein. There is said to be a strong vein of quartz, in the vicinity of which many small pockets have been found. Some distance below is the Mountain View. Here also is a well-defined strong vein, 3 feet wide, crossed by a network of stringers carrying products of coarse gold.

Boys -
Fudman / Patented
nothing doing.
Miss Mulder's -
Mrs. Emma Bartlett
Baker

"The Great Northern mine is located 2 miles southeast of Canyon, on a steep slope 1,540 feet above the town, at an elevation of 4,700 feet. A very fine view of John Day valley is obtained from this point. This deposit was discovered in 1898 by Ike Guker. Placers have been worked in the gulch a couple of hundred feet below it. In 1898, \$30,000 was extracted from one of the seams in a surface cut, and prospecting operations have since that time been carried on by a company having its headquarters in Salt Lake City. The developments aggregate 2,000 feet of drifts and crosscuts.

Pocket Hunt
Ike Guker

"The country rock consists of gabbro and irregular bodies of diabase porphyry. The latter, being often soft and traversed by calcite seams, is locally called lime, though it is without doubt an igneous rock.

"A surface pit, about 50 feet by 50 and perhaps 20 feet deep, shows decomposed rock cut by seams usually dipping 30° to 40° east or west. The bonanza mentioned above was extracted from one of these seams. From a tunnel level 50 feet below extensive drifting has been

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done in an attempt to follow these seams. A vein of quartz 1 to 2 feet thick has been uncovered, striking north to south, and dipping 25° W. This is practically barren and is accompanied by an impregnation of pyrite and seams of calcite. Some of the seams in the tunnel above the vein carried wire gold, with a tendency to crystallization, inclosed in calcite.

"About 300 feet east of this point another strong quartz vein, 2 feet thick, has been found. This strikes east-west, and dips 35° S. It carries massive white vein quartz, in places stained green by chromium.

"At Prairie Diggings, 3 miles east of Canyon, placers containing rough quartz gold have long been worked. In the same vicinity is reported a large vein of base character and, to judge from specimens, inclosed in slate. In Raymond's report for 1870 it is stated that the body of quartz mixed with country rock is 400 feet wide, strikes northeast to southwest, and dips 60° SE. In 1872 a mill had been erected and \$10,000 extracted, but soon after this the enterprise was abandoned, the quartz being, it is stated, of too low grade.

"Aside from the occurrences described, the Strawberry range apparently contains few mineral deposits. Near the head of Canyon creek, 7 or 8 miles southeast of Canyon, claims have been located. The Chambers group is said to show a strong quartz vein 5 to 30 feet wide, containing a little chalcopryite and limonite. The strike is said to be N. 60° E. In the Will Cleaver group, in the same vicinity, similar ore is found, claimed to average \$8 in gold and 4 per cent in copper.

"Almost due south of Prairie, high up on the side of Strawberry butte, a great number of claims have been located, the principal one known as the Oregon Wonder. A trail leads up to this place from Gillespie's sawmill (elevation 4,200 feet) near the mouth of Indian Creek canyon. The trail for the first few hundred feet leads over serpentine. Above this rock lie heavy flows of basalt, which at the

claims (elevation 6,300 feet) is cut by a big rhyolite dike at least 300 feet wide, the outcrops of which form a bold and precipitous cliff. This dike continues for a long distance eastward and a continuous chain of claims is located on it. The rock is a yellowish-gray to brownish lithoidal rhyolite, showing very pronounced flow structure. It consists of sanidine crystals embedded in a microfelsitic ground-mass. Little spots and seams of limonite abound in it, and it also carries traces of silver, and occasionally traces of gold.