

Form 4

NAME OLD NAMES PRINCIPAL ORE MINOR MINERALS

Donner & Co.

Al

95 35 + 35 1/2
T R S

PUBLISHED REFERENCES

Oregon Bull 143:59

Grant COUNTY

Grant AREA

ELEVATION

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

ROAD OR HIGHWAY

DISTANCE TO SHIPPING POINT

PRESENT LEGAL OWNER (S) Porter & Co.

Address

RE Murray, supt

Beaumont, Oregon

OPERATOR abn owner

Name of claims Area Pat. Unpat.

Name of claims Area Pat. Unpat.

EQUIPMENT ON PROPERTY

BLUE MOUNTAINS DREDGING

HIGH in the Blue Mountains of Oregon, the Porter Bros.' Blue Mountain Dredging Co. has a handy 5-cu. ft. Yuba electric dredge working on Bull Run Creek, which comes down from the summit of the range west of Sumpter to join Granite Creek at the town of Granite and flow west into the John Day River.

The dredging ground is narrow, not much over four cuts wide in most of the course, and narrowing to two cuts at one point.

R. P. Porter is head of the concern, Porter Bros. also having another dredge working just outside Helena, Mont. The Granite operation is in charge of Clyde Rude, dredgemaster.

The Blue Mountain boat started digging September 10, 1938, working up Bull Run as far as the ground goes, and this winter digging down-stream again to Granite. All told, there are about 2,700 acres in the present property. Due to the shallow ground, testing is done by shafts.

There are 61 Taylor-Wharton 5-ft. buckets on the line, 28 dumping per minute. The Bull Run gravel extends from 8 to 10 ft. below water level. Gold recovery is by conventional sluices. The boat is equipped throughout with General Electric controls and motors. Record of its operation is kept in the control room by a Bristol time recorder.

A big General Electric motor mounted overhead turns the upper tumbler through a V-belt drive. The main pump is a 10 by 12 by 19 Byron-Jackson, driven by a 40-hp. General Electric motor. There is a second Byron-Jackson pump, 8 by 10 by 18. A 20-hp. G. E. motor handles the swing winch. Shell Oil Co. lubricants are used.

The boat is heated by steam, furnished by a boiler made by the Seattle Boiler Works.

The gravels of Bull Run Creek, together with those of other streams in the Granite area, were extensively placer mined in the early days of the Blue Mountain camps. In the summer of 1914 a light-weight dipper dredge worked the upper reaches of the Bull Run, but proved too light for the work.

Porter Bros.' 5-ft. Yuba dredge digging on Bull Run Creek a short distance above Granite, Ore., near the summit of the Blue Mountains. The boat is now well into its second year of operation. Note that it is a double-spud type.

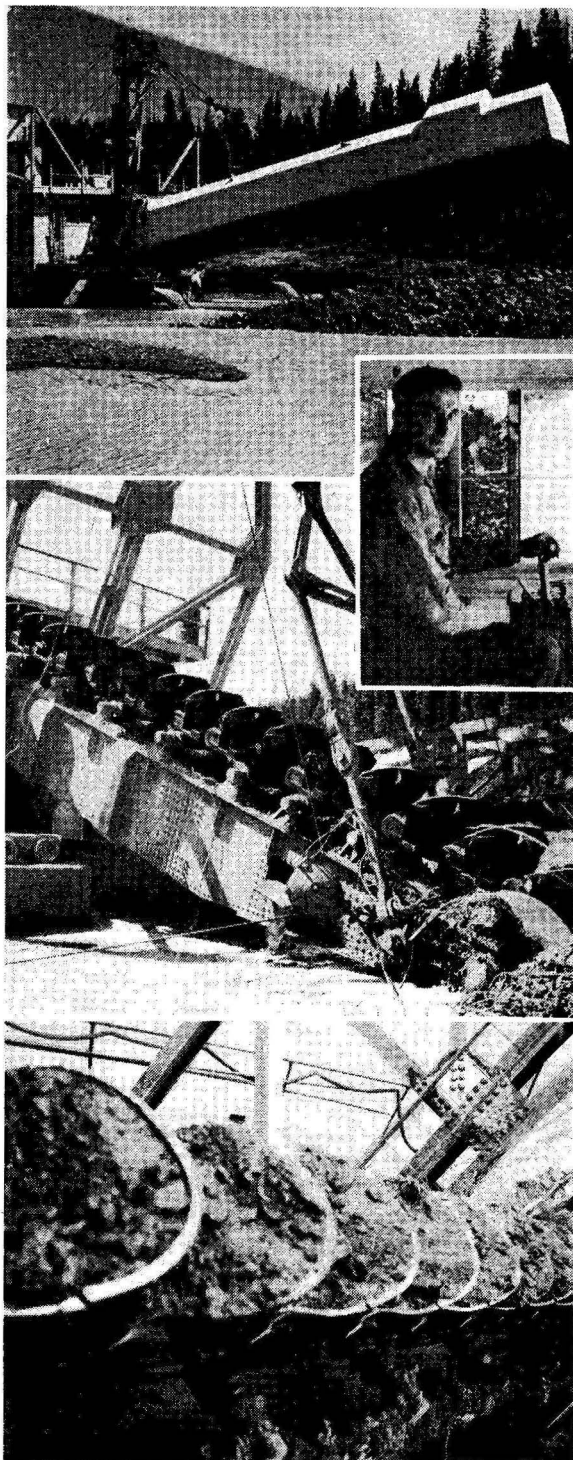
Insert—K. V. Adamson, winchman, at his controls.

Stripping in the comparatively shallow ground of the high mountain valley. Note that the dredge is modernly equipped with Taylor-Wharton detachable lip buckets.

Every bucket full to the brim, and not with overburden, either. No missed yardage when Winchman Adamson is bringing 'em up this way. Severe weather prevails during the winter at this elevation, but the dredge is usually able to dig through the cold season.

Porter Brothers have another, and larger, Yuba dredge operating on the big flat at the mouth of Last Chance Gulch immediately outside Helena, Mont., where it has been working for a number of years, largely handling ground worked over in the early days of the Helena rush.

The same interests recently took option on about four miles of creek, involving 2,800 acres, on Pritchard Creek in the Murray district of Idaho, not far north of Wallace. The property runs from the King Mine downstream to Pritchard. Testing is reported to be under way this spring on the ground.



PORTER DREDGE IN GRANT COUNTY DIGS MILLION YARDS IN YEAR

In a year's operation the Porter & Company gold dredge operating on Bull Run Creek near Granite, Grant County, has dug and washed through the boat more than 1,000,000 cubic yards of gravel, according to A. E. Murray, manager.

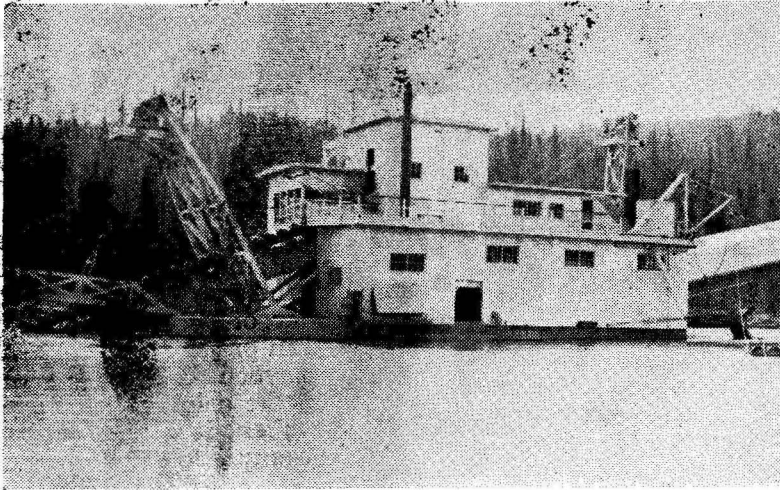
Construction of the boat, a Yuba dredge, was completed in September of last year, and it has been in continuous operation since. Buckets on the digging ladder have a capacity of 4 cubic feet each, and the boat digs approximately 100,000 cubic yards of gravel a month.

In the year's operation, the dredge worked about three miles up the stream from the place it was built, and has turned back down stream. It will work down Bull Run to the junction with Granite creek and down Granite creek to the mouth of Clear Creek and up Clear Creek for several miles.

Mr. Murray estimates that the company has about 10 years operation ahead of it in the district.

The company spent two seasons testing the ground purchased for its operation in the Granite district before making the decision to install a dredge. Mr. Murray had charge of the testing, and is a strong advocate of the practice of thoroughly prospecting land it is proposed to dredge. "Money spent in prospecting," Mr. Murray says, "is one of the best investments in a dredging project. With the ground prospected and proven, to carry sufficient gold value, it then becomes merely a problem of operation."

Porter and Company has its office in the Rand Building, Baker, Oregon. R. P. Porter, of Spokane, Washington, is the principal owner of the company.



Porter & Company Dredge Operating in Granite District

time placer mining operations high on the hills on the left side of the highway. These cuts in the side of the mountain look as if there had sometime been large mining operations on these high bars.

It has been many years since there has been any mining on these high bars. But during the present season a group comprising

Maurice Wein, Edward Butler, Dr. Dugald Clark, and George Ferraro, all of Rhode Island, have been in Baker and at the property they have secured on the mountain side below Weatherby.

The prospecting has been going on since June. Tests made to date disclose gold values in the gravel and that the black sand also carries gold sufficient to make it worth while to recover as a concentrate. Estimates have been made that about one percent of the volume can be recovered in black sand.

Don Lloyd of Baker, is in charge of the work and W. C. Fellows has been assisting in the test work. A shipment of about a ton of the gravel has been sent to a Denver, Colorado, company to make tests of the best method of recovering the sand.

As it now looks, should the experiments prove satisfactory, it is expected an operating plant will be installed. This will probably consist of a trommel at the pit which will screen the gravel to about ¼-inch size and the fines, about 30 percent of the volume, will be passed through a rubber lined pipe down the mountain side to the recovery plant. This will probably consist of amalgamating plates and jigs and possibly a Wilfley table for final separation of the sand.

Those familiar with the testing work feel that there is a chance that a profitable operation can be worked out for the project.

W. O. M. R. Oct 1931

Operators: Partnership composed of Robert P. Porter, Mrs. R.P. Porter, A. T. Hibbard, and Mrs. A. T. Hibbard. Robert P. Porter, Baker, Oregon, is general manager. A. E. Murray, Baker, Oregon, is manager.

Location: At the present time the dredge is about one mile west of Granite. Ground lies in T.6 S., R.35 E., T.9 S., R.35 E., and T.9 S., R.35 $\frac{1}{2}$ E.W.M. in Grant County, and also on Crane Flat.

Area: Original dredgeable area was 1600 acres. Approximately 1200 acres of dredgeable ground remain on Granite Creek, Clear Creek, Olive Creek, and Crane Creek. Bull Run Creek has been dredged.

History: Dredge was set up during the summer of 1939 and started operation on September 10.

Equipment: 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -cu.yd. bucket dredge with a normal capacity of 3800 yards a day. All electrically equipped; motors totaling 250 h.p., consisting of 1 digging motor, 1 winch motor, screen motor, stack motor, 2 small walk and rock line motors. The stacker is 75 feet long, and the main trommel 7 feet in diameter and 40 feet long. Power from Eastern Oregon Light and Power Company. Caterpillar tractor and drill rig.

Geology: The gravel averaged 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet in depth over the whole property. Size of gravel is usually less than 1 foot in diameter, being classified as fine and medium. Bedrock is decomposed granite. The gold is fine, lying mostly on the bedrock or within 1 or 2 feet of it. There is some clay bedrock in a few places which has caused some difficulty. The fineness of the gold averages about 830.

Informant: A. E. Murray; J.E.A. 11/1/38; H.K.L. 12/12/40.
