

# State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

702 Woodlark Building  
Portland, Oregon

C AND D MINING COMPANY (GOLD PLACER) GOLD HILL AREA JACKSON COUNTY

## Operators and lessees:

F. W. Christean and W. C. Dobbyn, P.O. Box 548, Jacksonville, Ore.

## Owner:

George E. Murpny, Portland, Oregon

## Location:

On the Left Fork of Fooths Creek in sections 12 and 13, T37S, R4W, and sec. 18, T37S, R3W.

The property is reached by turning south off the Pacific Hiway (99)  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of the town of Rogue River and driving up the Middle Fork of Fooths Creek county road  $3\frac{3}{4}$  miles.

## Area:

The area to be worked is estimated as  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile long by 150 feet wide. All on patented land.

## History:

Dredging by the C & D Mining Co. started near the spot the Murphy-Murray dredge (1940-'41) was set up and it is to work up the Left Fork of Fooths Creek. Other operations which have worked in this vicinity are the C.R.C. Company, Inc. (1939) (Bull. #14-C, Vol. II, Sec. 2, pg. 63) and the Black Gold Channel Mine (Diller and Kay, 09:65).

## Development:

The ground was tested by 10 test pits.

Geology:

This is a gulch type placer.

Wells (DOGAMI map series #5) maps the bulk of the area on either side of Foots Creek as metavolcanics with lenses of metasediments.

Alluvium, ranging from "old channel" to recent, covers the area in which the dredging is to take place.

Testing has shown the gravels to be from 10 to 20 feet thick with an average of around 16 feet. Overburden varies from 0 to 8 feet, averaging around 4 feet.

The gravels contain an estimated 5 to 10% boulders. Maximum size boulders are up to 4' in diameter; average size is around 18 to 24 inches. All gravel shows rounding varying from fair to well rounded, Clay occurs as small lenses but it usually breaks up readily.

Bedrock which is difficult to dig does occur but so far has not been too bothersome.

The purity of the gold has not been determined as yet but gold recovered by the C. R. C. Company was reported to run over 900 fine. The latter company also reported that the values were in coarse gold. (Bull.#14-C, Vol. II, Sec. 2, pg. 63.)

Mining:

Mining is done by dragline and processed by conventional floating washing plant. Fifty to sixty cubic yards an hour is the reported operating rate.

The bulk of the stripping is done by bulldozer.

The gold is recovered by six 2 foot riffles plus 4' x 20' tail sluices on each side of the boat.

Personnell consists of a bucket operator, boatman, and a groundsman.

Equipment:

The boat is 28' x 25' and is constructed of 4 steel Navy pontoons 7' x 25'. The trommel is 4' by 20' and consists of 8' of blank and 4' of 3/8", 4' of 1/2", 2' of 5/8", and 2' of 3/4" stamped holes. The stacker is 25' x 45'. Water is furnished by a 6" Fairbanks-Morse water pump. Power is supplied from 2 air-cooled Wisconsin motors of 25 and 30 hp.

The dragline is a P & H, Model 700 and uses an Esco bucket of 1 cu. yd. capacity.

Accessory equipment consists of a 200 amp. Lincoln welding rig.

General Information:

Water supply--The water supply should be sufficient for all year operation.

Dredging date-- The "doodle bug" started operation in March of 1947.

Informant:

W. C. Dobbyn

Report by:

H.M. Dole, March 13, 1947.

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## Economics and General Information:

Christean and Dobbyn constructed their boat themselves this past winter. The idea was to make a small boat that could be set up and torn down easily so that they might work small patches of ground that could not be reached or that was left by larger dredges. That the outfit is mobile was demonstrated by this set up-- it took 3 days and 3 hours to move the dredge and set it up, ready to work, from Jacksonville to Footh Creek. It is a compact, neat, and efficient appearing piece of apparatus.

The company consists of Christean and Dobbyn and the father and uncle of Dobbyn. The father and uncle each have a 1/3 interest in the Company and Christean and Dobbyn the other 1/3. George Murphy is leasing the ground for 10% of the gross. When \$10,000 has been paid in Murphy will have been paid off.

C & D estimate they have enough ground in this project to run 1 1/2 years.

Dobbyn reports that "the ground the Murray-Murphy dredge worked was supposed to have run 60¢/yd. but we'll be satisfied if it runs 35¢/yd."

C & D are two hard working, close mouthed young fellows who appear to know what they are doing. They are experienced operators (in the town of Jacksonville in '45 and '46, and on Forest Creek in '38 see Bull. #14-C, Vol. II, Sec. 2 pg. 157) and before entering business for themselves worked on other dredges.

I predict a good future for these two and their mobile dredge.

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