

MOUNT REUBEN MINE HELD RICH QUARTZ PROPERTY

The California Group is one of the larger of four adjoining quartz properties known as the Mt. Reuben mines. located on Reuben creek 33 miles north of Grants Pass.

The California Group and the Ajax were first located in 1890 and have been seasonally operated since that time by various owners. The Tamarack and Mars were discovered a little later and while the ore veins are considered as rich as in the better known properties, development on these claims has proceeded at a slower pace. Approximately 15,000 feet of underground workings now penetrate the ore bodies in the group of mines.

E. R. Wheeler of Tacoma now owns and operates the California Group. The Union Mining Company, a Delaware Corporation, operates the Ajax mine. The Mars and Tamarack which are adjacent to the larger properties, are owned and operated by A. Walker and associates.

Roe Williams located and carried on early development work on the Ajax property, setting up a two-stamp mill which was packed in by muleback before the road was extended to the mine. A private road was built by later owners at a cost of some \$20,000 which now leads directly to the camp.

Rube Jones located and did the early development work on the California Group. This mine now has 7828 feet of underground workings. Eleven ore cars are operated in the tunnels and drifts and it is planned to operate these by electric power as part of an extensive program which will be carried out with the next year or two. The mine now has its own water power and electric plant and the shafts and tunnels are all lighted by electricity.

Water has been taken out of Reuben creek to develop power at a cost of more than \$50,000. There are three miles of ditch and flume.

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Mt. Reuben Mine

Grants Pass Courier, January 27, 1937

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The power plant develops 300 horse power to operate the mill, compressor and lights. The power plant cost \$15,000 to install.

California interests are said to be contemplating taking over and carrying on extensive development work on the Ajax property under a bond and lease with option to purchase the mine at the end of an exploration period.

The total investment in the Mt. Reuben group of mines is estimated to be close to half a million dollars.