

NITRATE GROUP

Jordan Valley
5/14/39



Looking downstream (north) showing west cliff and overlying basalt flow and tuffs



Cliff above cavern from south



Cliff and cavern from north. Note caves at head of talus.

Looking upstream from north to south.



*Fill with Nitrate report
Hex*

Malheur
Malheur

Oregon Journal April 21 1940

Huge Nitrate Deposit Open In Oregon

In Portland last week seeking a market for nitrates was Roy Johnson of Arock, small city in Malheur county, who has control, through mineral claim filings, of the banks of Owyhee river for a distance of one mile.

Claiming that the river canyon exposes large sections of nitrate deposits for a distance of 5000 feet along both sides, with cliffs rising more than 100 feet, composed entirely of nitrate and other accumulations of a grade of well-banded rhyolite with perlitic and lithophae structures, Johnson submitted a report from O. A. Davenport, chief chemist for the Industrial Chemical corporation, Portland.

These reports show that the mineral claims represented by Johnson would serve a modern commercial nitrate refining plant with 500,000 tons a year for more than 100 years. The deposits are capped lava, easily removed by powder blasting.

Virtually the same type of nitrates as those mined and shipped from Chile are available in the lava beds in the northeastern part of Malheur county, according to Johnson. The Owyhee river has bared a large deposit for commercial working.

Owners of the claims are C. C. Anderson and S. S. Scroggin, both of Jordan Valley. Production of the mineral is simple, transportation is easily accomplished but the marketing is the problem faced by Johnson.