

BALD MT. -  
ELKHORN D.

CAMP CARSON DISTRICT\*

"The mountainous and heavily-timbered country north of Cable Cove does not contain extensive mineral deposits. Camp Carson, 20 miles in an air line north of Sumpter, is the principal mining district known in this region. Lying at the western foot of the high granite peaks of the Elkhorn range, near the head of the Grande Ronde river, it is accessible only by wagon road via Granite and Woodley, or by going up the Grande Ronde valley from the town of Hilgard. This district was not visited; the following notes were obtained from Mr. Imhaus, of Baker City:

Royal  
Pay Boy  
Muir

- ✓
- ✓
- ✓
- x

"The formation is reported as granite. Near Hunters, 3½ miles below Camp Carson, on the Grande Ronde, are prospects on gold quartz veins containing much sulphurets. Among them are mentioned the Royal, 6 miles south of Woodley. The vein is said to be 7 feet wide and to contain chalcopyrite and galena rich in gold. From the Pay Boy, 1½ miles southwest of Woodley, two carloads of ore are said to have been shipped. From the Muir, zinc blende and galena, with good silver value, are reported.

"Old placers have been worked in the Grande Ronde below Camp Carson, and also on Limber Jim creek, 6 miles northward. Camp Carson itself is located at the head of Tanner's gulch, 1,200 feet

\*Waldemar Lindgren. The Gold Belt of the Blue Mountains of Oregon. Twenty-second Annual Report U. S. G. S. Part II., pp. 676-677.

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above Grande Ronde river. These high placers contain a large body of well-washed, cemented, coarse gravels, presenting a bank 2,500 feet long and generally 15 to 20 feet high. This body of gravels is not exactly situated on the divide, as there are granite hills rising behind them; but it is apparent that they must have been deposited by a river system at a very different level from that of today, and it is probable that they should be placed in the same category as those of the Griffith claims below Bald mountain.

"While the gravels contain gold, their cemented nature interferes with the normal hydraulic process. (A French company bought the deposits some years ago and installed hydraulic works, but the enterprise did not succeed well and the property was recently sold at auction.)"

This district on the far northern slopes of the exposure of granodiorite was not visited and little additional development of interest is reported from it in quartz mining. This may be due largely to its isolation and the nature of the ore. Some work has been done upon the placer deposits since the above statement was made by Lindgren in 1900, although none of it has been done upon a sufficient scale to succeed. Reports upon placer conditions by disinterested parties indicate that there is probably a large yardage of gravel of fair to high grade.

The Camp Carson placer operations, located at the headwaters of the Grande Ronde river in Union county, through Anna Oliver of Baker, has applied for more water in order to increase operations. Harry Howell is in charge of operations.