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LONG-RANGE MINERAL POLICY ANNOUNCED

For almost two years the domestic mineral producer has been anxiously awaiting announcement of a national long-range mineral policy by the United States Department of Interior. On June 4, 1957, Secretary Fred A. Seaton appeared before the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to present and discuss with members of the committee this long-promised program. Given below are direct quotations from Secretary Seaton's prepared statement before the committee and extracts from the description of the Interior Department's "Long-Range Program for Development of Domestic Mineral Resources" filed at the time of the statement. It should be noted that the quoted material is from two prepared articles and represents only a small part of the complete texts and that the quotations are mainly out of context. Following the quoted material are comments by the Director of the State of Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries on the proposed policy as it concerns mineral commodities found in Oregon.

Ed.

A Long-Range Program for Development
of Domestic Mineral Resources

In the development of a long-range mineral program, the Department of the Interior first examined the security status of the Nation as to mineral raw materials. In cooperation with the Office of Defense Mobilization a systematic and critical review has been made, mineral by mineral, of the position of the Nation from a security viewpoint. Programs have been developed and are being implemented to assure an adequate mobilization base. The Nation's ready store of essential minerals and metals has been increased and the mobilization base for minerals substantially strengthened. Generally speaking, mobilization programs are now adequate to meet the immediate requirements of an emergency. Longer-range considerations, with respect to the security of the Nation as well as its economic well-being, make it prudent that we look beyond the more immediate mobilization requirements to the long-term health and vigor of our mineral industries.

The major emphasis of the program outlined herein is upon those activities of the Government which are long-range in nature and designed to provide the kind of assistance which will promote and sustain the health and vigor of the domestic mineral industries. The program also provides assistance to the lead and zinc industries to minimize injury as a result of imports; and special encouragement to producers of beryl, columbium-tantalum, chromite, and asbestos. It is believed that technical advances will eventually make these latter four industries competitive.

Research and development

The Department will recommend that work in these fields of activity (research and development) be expanded during the fiscal year 1959 to a level approximately 20 percent above that anticipated for fiscal year 1958. Increased appropriations for the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines in an amount of five-million dollars will be needed for this purpose during fiscal year 1959.

The development of the mineral resources of the public domain

The Department, through the Bureau of Land Management, maintains the official records of all transactions pertaining to the leasing, sale, or disposal of public domain lands, both mineral and nonmineral. This record system is now being modernized and upon completion will provide quick status information on all public lands.

The Department has now under further study the problem of revising the mining laws to facilitate the use of newer geophysical exploration techniques. There are conflicts to be resolved with existing laws such as the Homestead and Public Sale Laws. It is hoped that these may be worked out in the near future and an acceptable draft of legislation submitted.

Fiscal measures

The Department of the Interior, in cooperation with the Treasury Department, has reviewed carefully the income tax laws to determine whether or not changes should be recommended. Existing provisions for percentage depletion and deduction for exploration and development costs recognize the high risks in the extractive industries and the fact that their incomes are derived from wasting assets. No recommendations are made at this time except that a continuous review of the tax law as it affects mining should be maintained.

Financial assistance to private industry for exploration

Exploration should be a long-range activity and not subject to current variations in market prices and supply and demand. Exploration could be greatly strengthened if an agency were established to provide financial assistance for exploration and related development projects, but oriented to the long-term needs of the economy as well as to the longer term defense needs. Accordingly this Department recommends that a program of financial assistance to private industry for exploration assistance be authorized and made a responsibility of the Department of the Interior under new legislative authority.

Programs of special assistance

Public Law 733 (84th Congress) provides programs of interim assistance to tungsten, acid-grade fluorspar, columbium-tantalum, and asbestos. The Department will continue to support its request for appropriations for this purpose. These programs should be carried on to completion.

Elimination of tariffs and imposition of excise taxes

In order to provide more adequate protection to the domestic producers of lead and zinc without at the same time materially restricting needed imports of these commodities, the Department of the Interior recommends the imposition of excise taxes in lieu of the existing tariffs (on lead and zinc).

Proposals for payment of production bonuses

For some minerals, the costs of developing and mining known deposits are so high that no reasonable expenditure of public funds is likely to result in the development of a competitive industry within the foreseeable future. For some others, there is a possibility that competitive domestic industries may eventually be developed. Known reserves of certain minerals in this latter category are substantial, but the grade of ore is so low that production at this time is not

profitable at world prices. With respect to these, research to improve mining, milling, and smelting, coupled with the depletion of high-grade foreign ores, may in time make domestic ores competitive.

The basically short world supply coupled with the strategic nature of three of these minerals, namely, beryl, columbium-tantalum, and chromite, as well as the heavy dependence of the United States on distant overseas sources of supply, underscore the desirability of making every effort to develop and maintain some production of these commodities from domestic sources. Furthermore, the maintenance of some production will stimulate and give purpose to the research program.

In view of longer term security considerations the Department proposes that a continuing program be established to pay bonuses for a limited production of these commodities as research continues to seek ways of making these industries competitive. These programs are set out below, commodity by commodity. They should be reviewed at intervals of no longer than two years.

Beryl - A production bonus of \$70.00 per short ton (10% BeO) for not to exceed 750 short tons annually of domestically produced beryl concentrates, with a 100 short ton limitation upon the quantities to be supplied by any one producer from any one mining district.

Chromite - A production bonus of \$21.00 per long dry ton (46% basis) for not to exceed 50,000 long dry tons annually of domestically produced commercial grade, metallurgical chromite; 10,000 long dry tons annual limitation upon the quantity supplied by any one producer from any one mining district. It is contemplated that this production bonus will stabilize production at the present level of 37,000 long dry tons per year and permit a modest increase. The program should go into effect at the termination of the existing Defense Production Act Program. (On or about July 1, 1959)

Columbium-tantalum - A production bonus of \$2.35 per lb. (combined contained pentoxides) for not to exceed 25,000 lbs. annually of domestically produced columbium-tantalum concentrates; 5,000 lbs. annual limitation upon the quantity supplied by any one producer from any one mining district.

Special asbestos program

The production of low-iron, long-fiber, chrysotile asbestos from the San Carlos and Fort Apache Indian Reservations, Arizona, has been supported by Government purchase programs since 1952. The commercial possibilities of this unique resource can best be realized by establishment of a mill to produce asbestos for the West Coast market. The Department of the Interior, as a part of its Indian Industrialization program, is exploring the possibilities of providing a loan to the Indians to assist in establishing a mill. It is contemplated that markets for the product would be developed through private enterprise and that the loan would be repaid out of operations.

Statement on Long-Range Mineral Policy

This listing of minerals which now need long-range assistance is neither final nor exhaustive. We recognize that other mineral commodities may need similar assistance in the future when defense or interim purchase programs near completion. On the basis of the current position of such minerals, we believe that long-range plans should be formulated after these commodities have had an opportunity to adjust to non-defense markets.

Many minerals of economic and defense importance are covered by this program only through the general provisions for research and development and financial assistance for exploration. There are a variety of reasons for not including some of the more important minerals in the program for direct Government assistance at the present time. For example:

Antimony - (1) requirements for primary antimony are decreasing; (2) The Nation's resource

base in antimony, on the basis of the best available information, is insufficient to support a sustained high level of output of this commodity.

Barite - No special program beyond that of the Bureau of Mines, which is directed toward the development of improved methods of separation of barite from complex ores is necessary at this time.

Bauxite - There is no present necessity for any special assistance for this commodity.

Boron - No special Government action is indicated beyond present limited research programs.

Cobalt - Cobalt does not meet the criteria for commodities requiring special programs.

Copper - Copper has not been included in view of the continuing good price and the fact that a 2-cent excise tax comes into effect when the price falls below 24 cents. Current rate of domestic production is expanding, and market situation is stable at current conditions.

Fluorspar (acid-grade) - At the conclusion of the Public Law 733 program we shall review the situation with respect to this commodity.

Fluorspar (metallurgical-grade) - Government buying for the defense stockpile is providing a floor under the domestic price. It is expected that with the continuance of the stockpile purchase program for a while longer, the industry will be reoriented at reasonable price and production levels.

Gypsum - The present health and vigor of this industry make unnecessary the provision of any special governmental program beyond research conducted by the Bureau of Mines on the problem of hydration of gypsum plaster.

Iron ore - At the present time there is no requirement for special Government program.

Magnesium - There are no particular problems with respect to this commodity which are amenable to treatment through special governmental programs in peacetime.

Manganese - The Nation's resources of manganese are for the most part low grade and complex. The basic solution to the domestic manganese problem lies in research to advance the technology of this commodity. The existence of a special Defense Production Act purchase program which will continue into 1960 makes unnecessary the provision for any further programs of special assistance at this time. Approximately one million dollars a year is being spent by the Bureau of Mines on research directed toward improved beneficiation methods.

Mercury - Since 1952 the market price for this commodity has been sufficiently high to cause domestic production to more than double in volume. At the present time, and through 1958, a Defense Production Act purchase will provide a floor of \$225 per flask. At this time there is no requirement for an additional Government program. With the duty paid, the current price in New York is approximately \$257 per flask.

Mica (strategic) - The long-range problem in strategic grades of mica can best be solved by emphasis upon research leading to synthesis of mica, and development of mica substitutes.

Mica (nonstrategic) - There is at the present time no requirement for a special program.

Molybdenum - The increased level of production of this commodity, together with the health and vigor of its industry, indicates that there is no requirement for any special Government program beyond a modest program of research conducted by the Bureau of Mines and directed toward the production of massive, ductile molybdenum.

Nickel - Prior to 1953 domestic mine production of nickel was negligible. Currently the United States is producing about 4,500 short tons of this commodity, some three percent of our requirements. This production is under Government contracts. The long-term outlook for nickel is for continued dependence upon Canadian and Cuban sources of production. In all probability there will eventually be established on a sound commercial footing a small production in the United States, probably not greatly in excess of that currently prevailing. There is no requirement for any special Government program for this commodity beyond those now being conducted under Defense Production Act authority and by the Bureau of Mines. The Bureau is spending approximately \$150,000 per year to develop an efficient economic method

of separating cobalt and nickel and a process for extracting nickel, cobalt, iron, and chromium from nickeliferous laterite deposits of low metal content.

Phosphate rock - The growth and high level of activity in this industry make unnecessary the provision of any special Government program beyond that of the Bureau of Mines, which is designed to conduct mining and processing investigations.

Potash - There is no requirement for any special Government program beyond that now conducted by the Geological Survey directed toward expanding knowledge of United States reserves of this commodity.

Sulphur - Steadily expanding domestic and export markets for this commodity, in conjunction with the health and vigor of the producing industry, make unnecessary the provision of any special Government assistance beyond the Bureau of Mines research on processes for the development of economical supplies of sulphur from presently marginal or submarginal sources.

Tin - There is no requirement for a special program of assistance in this country, because we have no known commercial deposits and have never developed a producing industry.

Tungsten - The Department of the Interior has supported and will continue to support the tungsten purchase provisions of P. L. 733. We feel that it is right and proper that the domestic industry be enabled to amortize investments made at the urgent request of the Government during the Korean conflict, and be given an opportunity to reorient their operations to the market. Continuation of P. L. 733 is the best method of assuring these objectives. We believe that if the industry operates under this program until December 1958, the production then existing, coupled with new and reasonably anticipated demands from industry, will provide a more realistic basis from which to evaluate the position of the industry in our over-all economy.

Other minerals were included in the administration's review, but they are not mentioned in the above list because the reasons for their exclusion from the direct assistance program require no detailed explanation. In one category are minerals of national significance - such as sand and gravel or clay - which have problems largely local in character. In another category - gold or uranium, for example - are minerals of which the production or price is regulated by the Federal Government. In the case of a third group, which includes germanium and cadmium, production is primarily a by-product of the mining of other minerals, which have been discussed. A final category includes minerals like titanium, and the rare earths, which have only lately entered into commercial use.

Comments

The proposed Long-Range Mineral Policy of the Interior Department (see above) offers no encouragement to Oregon's strategic-mineral miners. The mercury miners are told that their status is to revert to pre-war standing. The chrome miners are offered a bonus far below their mining costs. Nickel mining will still depend on special government contract. Possible antimony miners are told that need for the metal is decreasing and if subsidized they would soon exhaust known reserves, and possible manganese and tungsten producers are informed the present program (for which there is no money) makes it unnecessary for further programs of special assistance at this time. As usual, gold mining is ignored.

The history and problems of mercury mining in Oregon were given in the March issue of The Ore.-Bin. This article brought out that domestic production is very erratic due to international conditions and manipulations of the market by foreign producers. It also stated that the present "floor plan," which so far has operated at no cost to the government, has deterred price manipulations. From the long-range standpoint, the end (December 1958) of the "floor plan" places the mercury miner in his pre-war position - at the mercy of the foreign controlled market.

It is not clear just what the chrome miner is to receive as no mention is made of chrome-iron ratio, penalties or bonuses or cutoff point on grade of ore, or whether the proposed bonus refers to lump, fines, or both equally. It would appear, however, that the chrome miner is offered nothing. Assuming (a dangerous thing to do) that the \$21 bonus is for 46 percent Cr_2O_3 lump ore having a 3:1 chrome-iron ratio, a price of \$78 a ton would be received by the domestic miner for this grade ore. (This is based on the June 13, 1957, E&MJ Metal & Mineral Markets quotation of \$55 to \$57 for Turkish ore.) A \$78 a ton price is a far cry from the \$109 that would be paid under the present purchase plan if this grade ore could be produced. It is important to note that the average grade of ore submitted to the stockpile has been much less than this. Since the present purchase program was established in 1953, mining costs have risen approximately 40 percent. It is unlikely the domestic miner could exist with a 1 percent reduction in price. A 30 percent reduction, as proposed, would not be a long-term program nor would it be a short-term program. It would be quick and instant death to domestic chrome production.

The failure of the Government program to include a recommendation on income tax relief is a disappointment. It is certain that if the tax climate of mining projects could be made more attractive, perhaps along the lines of Canadian revenue laws, incentive for private enterprise to undertake mining exploration would be increased greatly. In this way, the mining industry would get Government bureaucratic control off their necks and private enterprise would accomplish much more and at much less cost than Government bureaus along the lines as recommended in the report.

H.M.D.

GOVERNOR MAKES NEW APPOINTMENT

Clint P. Haight, Jr., eastern Oregon motel operator with a long-standing interest in the mineral development of the State, has been appointed by Governor Robert D. Holmes to the Governing Board of the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

Haight, a native of Oregon and a resident of Baker for the past 17 years, succeeds Austin Dunn, also of Baker, on the three-man board. Dunn, whose term expires March 16, 1959, resigned due to the press of other activities. The new board member, an active prospector who has mineral holdings in eastern Oregon, attended the University of Oregon where he studied journalism and geology. After publishing the Joseph newspaper for a time he entered the motel business in Baker.

DRILLING PERMITS ISSUED IN 1957

Permit No. 27 - Issued May 31 to General Petroleum Corporation, operator. Lease: Long Bell No. 1. Location: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 27, T. 20 S., R. 10 W., Douglas County. Elevation, 100' ground. Location to be surveyed. Lessee: Sinclair Oil and Gas Company. Lessor: International Paper Company, Kansas City, Missouri.

Permit No. 26 - Issued May 27 to Miriam Oil Company. Lease: Bliven No. 2. Location: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 10, T. 8 S., R. 5 W., Polk County. Elevation, 282' ground. Location to be surveyed. Lessor: Walter and Arthur Bliven, Dallas, Oregon. Officially suspended.

Permit No. 25 - Issued May 10 to Sunray Mid-Continent Oil Company - Lloyd Corporation. Lease: Kappler No. 1. Location: 1901.21' south and 431.10' east from the NW corner of sec. 12, T. 2 N., R. 2 W., Multnomah County. Elevation: 288.88' ground. Lessor: Ralph and Helen Kappler, Mulino, Oregon.

Permit No. 24 - Issued February 4 to Miriam Oil Company. Lease: Bliven No. 1. Location: 1300' south and 937' east of the quarter corner between sections 10 and 11, T. 8 S., R. 5 W., Polk County. Elevation: 290' ground. Lessor: W. and A. Bliven, Dallas, Oregon. Officially abandoned.

OREGON MINING NEWS

Eastern Oregon

Construction is well advanced on the lime-burning plant being erected at Wingville, Baker County, by the Chemical Lime Company of Baker. Primary crusher installations have been completed at the quarry in Marble Mountain and stockpiling of rock at the plant is scheduled to start soon. Burning facilities now being installed are expected to turn out about 200 tons of burned lime products a day.

The Bretz mercury mine near McDermitt, Malheur County, reopened in December 1956 by Arentz-Comstock Mining Venture, recently installed a 10-ton Herreschoff furnace. The furnace will replace the previously used D-retorts which proved inadequate to handle concentrates from the 150-ton flotation plant. Open-pit mining of the new ore body was begun early in May after some 25,000 tons of unexpected ore recovered during stripping operations was depleted. The management has planned a rather extensive exploration program for this summer.

Messrs. John Allen and Ernie Craig of Richland, Oregon, have acquired the old Miller and Lane property on Gold King Creek in the Eagle Creek district of Baker County. On the basis of findings disclosed by rehabilitation of some of the old workings last year, they are now engaged in driving an exploratory tunnel on what is known as the old arrasta level. The ore minerals consist chiefly of gold and copper sulphides in a quartz vein matrix. This property was operated with an arrasta in the 1870's or 1880's and again with a 5-stamp mill in 1912, but has been inactive since the mill burned in 1912 after only 6 months of operation.

William Gardner and Sons of Canyon City have taken over operation of the Haggard and New chromite mine on Dog Creek, Grant County, and have stripped the overburden from the surface from around the old glory-hole workings in preparation for the mining of a lens of milling-grade ore situated underneath. This property has been a consistent producer since December 1953, at which time it was operated by Burt Hayes of John Day. Throughout 1956 the property was operated by the Comstock Uranium-Tungsten Company, Inc. Total value of shipments by all lessees from 1953 to January 1, 1957, is in excess of \$250,000.

Mr. J. E. Fitzpatrick is engaged in making pilot sampling tests of ore's from a tungsten prospect situated near the head of Chicken Creek in the lower Burnt River district of Baker County. The ore is scheelite which occurs in narrow seams in a decomposed quartz diorite. Several showings have been exposed by work begun last year. According to Fitzpatrick, a 5-ton test run yielded 350 pounds of 68.4 percent WO_3 concentrates. Heads reportedly assayed 2.7 percent WO_3 .

The Molybdenum Corporation of America has just completed exploration of a tungsten prospect on Pedro Mountain in the Mormon Basin district of Baker County. The prospect, which consists of scheelite in a pyritic-limonite matrix in a decomposed granite, has been known for many years but little work was done until 1956 when the owners, Joe Frisco and Jim Coleman, ran a 50-foot exploration tunnel into the hill and intersected the surface showing some 20 feet below its outcrop.

Prospect exploration work is being continued by the Frank Phillips interests on a group of copper prospects in the Lower Powder area of Baker County. Mr. Glen Engle, Baker, is in charge.

Southwestern Oregon

Carl Stevens leased the Four Point Chrome claim in April from L. H. Wiese, Glendale. A road was recently built to the deposit which is located at the head of Quines Creek in sec. 1, T. 33 S., R. 5 W., Douglas County. The ore is of marginal grade and some has been hauled to the Shippen and Meyers mill at Canyonville for up-grading.

The Queen of Bronze mine located near Takilma has been reactivated for a short time and the tunnels opened up. A carload of copper ore containing about 70 tons was shipped to the Tacoma smelter during May. Max Pokorney is the operator.

A 20-ton shipment of low-grade copper ore was shipped to the Tacoma smelter from the Copper Bell mine by Kindell B. Weir. The mine owned by Fred A. Vargas and Tom Moloney, both of Grants Pass, is located in sec. 28, T. 35 S., R. 7 W., on Panther Gulch, a tributary to Pickett Creek, in Josephine County. The shipment was reportedly made during the first week in May.

The Fort Knox copper mine located in sec. 28, T. 33 S., R. 4 W., Jackson County, also reported a small truck shipment of copper ore in January 1957. The mine is owned by the Minerals and Metals Development Company of Grants Pass.

The Old Dry Diggings Mine in sec. 14, T. 36 S., R. 5 W., Josephine County, about 3 miles east of Grants Pass, has been reactivated recently by Mr. Walter J. Cannon, Grants Pass. Cannon has uncovered gold-bearing ore in place in the decomposed diorite country rock. Values reportedly run from \$16 a ton and up. A small mill (Little Giant Straub) is being installed on the property and exploration work is being done. The deposit, originally worked as a hillside placer, reportedly produced \$200,000 in gold.

Two nickeliferous laterite areas are being explored in southwestern Oregon, one in Josephine County and the other in Curry County. In Josephine County the Nickel Corporation of America is drilling on Woodcock and Eight Dollar mountains near Kerby. Alex Skrecky is in charge of the work. Field office and laboratory are located at Cave Junction. The Department of Geology and Mineral Industries investigated the nickel occurrence on Woodcock Mountain in 1947 at which time several shallow hand-auger holes were put down and samples were analyzed in the Department laboratories (see Ore.-Bin, May 1948 and March 1949). Pacific Nickel Corporation has leased 12,000 acres at Red Flat in Curry County and has announced plans to start drilling in the near future. Red Flat is located about 10 miles south-east of Gold Beach. The laterite has been investigated numerous times in the past, and in 1946 and 1947 the Department drilled some shallow holes and determined the nickel content in the cuttings. (See Ore.-Bin, March 1947 and May 1948; and U.S. Bureau of Mines Report of Investigations 5072.)

CHROME ORE RECEIPTS TOLD

Despite the fact the bad weather has somewhat hampered deliveries of chrome ore and concentrate to the Grants Pass chrome depot, receipts in the first quarter of 1957, according to the Federal Register, amounted to 6,040 tons, bringing to 143,740 tons the amount purchased under the government support agreement which is scheduled to expire, when 200,000 tons have been delivered or by June 30, 1959.

The local depot, of which Dan Beyer is manager, received ore and concentrates not only from Josephine County mines but from all northwest states and Alaska as well as from Northern California. Beyer said that at the present rate of purchase the quota would be reached only slightly before the termination date. (From the Grants Pass Courier, May 27, 1957.)

NEW GEOLOGIST AT GRANTS PASS

Norman V. Peterson has been hired to aid Len Ramp in operating the Department's field office at Grants Pass. Peterson is a native of Minnesota. He served with the armed forces for 7 years, after which he entered the University of Oregon where he majored in geology. He graduated in 1956 and obtained his master's degree this spring. Field work for his thesis covered the geology of the southeast third of the Camas Valley quadrangle, Douglas County, Oregon. Peterson replaces Max Schafer who left the Department March 1, 1957, and will continue the research project begun by Schafer on uranium occurrences in Oregon.

MINING CLAIMS EXAMINED

Federal bureaus have written the Department as follows concerning examination of Public Lands under the Multiple-Use Mining Law:

We are pleased to inform you that this Region of the Forest Service, which includes the States of Washington and Oregon, plans to examine in Oregon this year, for the determination of surface rights, the areas outlined below. As examinations are completed the areas will be advertised and hearings will be scheduled as provided under Public Law 167. Areas to be examined in Fiscal Year 1958 are:

Forest	Name of Area	Acres N.F. Land
Deschutes	Bend	29,760
	Ground	1,120
	Tolo	970
	Total	31,850
Fremont	Gold Creek	3,200
Malheur	Dixie	36,070
Ochoco	Round "B"	16,320
	Sulphur	3,180
	Total	19,500
Rogue River	Union "A"	100,400
Siskiyou	Elk "B"	123,650
	Illinois	45,350
	Total	169,000
Umatilla	John Day "B"	9,985
Umpqua	Bohemia "A"	33,000
	Bohemia "B"	22,000
	Total	55,000
Wallowa-	Baker "A-1"	59,920
Whitman	Bull Run	21,520
	Eagle	60,560
	Total	142,000
	Grand Total	567,005

In addition, areas for which the preliminary examination has been completed, the 150-day advertising period will be completed as shown:

Forest	Name of Area	End 150-day Period
Deschutes	Chemult	7-29-57
Fremont	"	7-29-57
Siskiyou	Wildhorse	7-22-57
"	Fuller	7-22-57
Whitman	Dooley Mtn.-Buffalo	7-22-57
"	Pine	7-22-57
"	Woodley	7-29-57
"	Unity	7-22-57
Willamette	Little N. Fork Santiam	7-29-57
"	Quartzville	4- 1-57

Very truly yours,
/s/ Frank B. Folsom
Assistant Regional Forester

We are pleased to report for your monthly publication that preliminary examinations under Public Law 167 of lands under the administration of the Bureau of Land Management have just been completed in the following townships:

T. 41 S., Rs. 8 and 9 W., W.M.
39 S., Rs. 7 and 8 W.
38 S., Rs. 7 and 8 W.
37 S., Rs. 6, 7, and 8 W.
36 S., Rs. 5, 6, and 7 W.
31 S., R. 14 W.
19 S., R. 9 W.
14 S., R. 30 E.
13 S., Rs. 30, 31, and 34 E.
12 S., Rs. 32 and 33 E.
12 S., Rs. 40 and 41 E.
11 S., Rs. 40 and 41 E.
9 S., R. 41 E.

Additional townships were advertised March 20, 1957, as follows:

T. 39 S., Rs. 5 and 6 W.
38 S., R. 6 W.
30 S., R. 2 W.

Preliminary examinations will start in Jackson and Josephine counties and will include:

T. 31 S., R. 4 W.
32 S., Rs. 3, 4, and 5 W.
33 S., Rs. 1 to 5 W., inclusive

We expect to complete examinations of Townships 12, 13, 14 S., Rs. 31 to 34 E., inclusive, in Grant County, by June 15.

We have under examination 15 townships in Baker County containing public land under Bureau of Land Management. We will probably complete the examinations within the next two months. Thereafter, within a short time, the lands will be advertised.

Sincerely yours,

For the State Supervisor
/s/ Elton M. Hattan
Lands and Minerals Officer

NORTHWEST LIMESTONE REPORT PUBLISHED

Limestone Resources of the Pacific Northwest, has just been published by the Raw Materials Survey, Inc. Author is F. W. Libbey, mining engineer and former Director of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. The report is an up-to-date appraisal of the limestone resources of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, British Columbia, and Alaska. It summarizes the pertinent information on the existing limestone quarries in each of these areas and describes the undeveloped deposits of potential value. Each of the five geographic areas is treated individually and is accompanied by an index map showing the principal limestone occurrences. An introductory chapter describes briefly the composition of limestone, its origin, distribution, uses, and production. An appendix presents an analysis of the current lime market in the Northwest.

Mr. Libbey has been successful in bringing together in a concise and well-organized way a great deal of information that was formerly either scattered through the literature or contained in the unpublished records of mining departments and limestone producers.

The 92-page report, designated as Resource Report No. 9, is available from the Raw Materials Survey, Inc., 824 S.W. Fifth Avenue, Portland 4, Oregon. Price is \$5.00.

BOOKLET ON OPERATING SMALL MINES AVAILABLE

The Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology has just published a very useful and informative booklet entitled Operating Ideas for Small Mines. It is designed primarily to help the prospector and small-mine operator who is not technically trained in the mining industry. Author is Koehler S. Stout, Chief of the Bureau's Mining Division. The booklet, designated as Miscellaneous Contribution No. 14, is a companion to the author's Practical Guide for Prospectors and Small-Mine Operators in Montana, published in 1955 as Miscellaneous Contribution No. 13.

The new booklet contains 81 pages and numerous illustrations in a convenient pocket-size format. Subjects covered include drilling, blasting, underground transport, loading, timbering, shafts, ventilation, equipment, and costs. The booklet may be obtained for \$1.00 from the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology, Room 203-B, Main Hall, Montana School of Mines, Butte, Montana.

F. E. WORMSER RESIGNS INTERIOR DEPARTMENT POST

Felix E. Wormser, assistant secretary of the interior for mineral resources, will resign his position at the end of the week, June 15, to return to St. Joseph Lead Company where he had been vice president before joining the Eisenhower executive team in Washington four years ago, it was reported.

His resignation, submitted early last week, was accepted by President Eisenhower "with regret."

The president praised Wormser's work as "a large contribution to the formulation of administration policies" with respect to conservation and development of mineral resources. The tangible evidence of this effective work, he said, will be available to the American people in the decades ahead as they "continue to benefit from these resources." (From The Wallace Miner, June 13, 1957.)
