

## GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

601 Booth Street,  
Ottawa, Ontario.  
January 31, 1963.

Mr. J.W. McCammon,  
Dept. of Mines and Petroleum Resources,  
Victoria, B.C.

Dear Mr. McCammon:

Dr. Rice has passed to me your query about magnesite localities because I have used his notebooks and visited some of the localities more recently than he has. The following notes are numbered as in your letter.

1. In the Cranbrook Ptn. two miles west of Richmond Lake, I suspect that C.G. claim lots 14284 - 14287 cover this ground.
2. This appears to be where the belt of Cranbrook that runs from Hellroaring Creek to Goat River crosses long. 116°15'. Dr. Rice's 1936 field notes indicate that he reached this place at the end of a long traverse in the rain. The sole reference is "a bed of magnesite ± 10' thick."
3. This is on the west side of the cirque that contains the old "Coronado" prospect and I judge the locality to be close to the L of L 3535 as shown on sheet 82 G/11 West, First Edition, i.e. 4,200 yds. south and 900 yds. east of 49°45' N, 115°30' W. Dr. Rice's 1935 field notes refer to "± 100' " of magnesite (no further description) bounded on the west by conglomerate. I crossed this slope in 1960.. An overturned Precambrian sequence is underlain structurally by Cambrian conglomerate and dolomite, probably at a fault. At the head of the cirque the dolomite is in direct fault contact with the Gateway. The dolomite is generally buff-weathering and finely crystalline and is a replacement of Middle (?) Cambrian limestone. I did not recognise magnesite in it but my inspection was cursory as it was made in the course of a long traverse that took me from Bull River drainage to Wallenger Creek drainage, then into the cirque in question and back to the Bull River slope during "4 mile" mapping. One of the Coronado workings I saw is probably the open cut which Rice described as occurring in magnesite (no further description of this rock), but which I called dolomite. If you find magnesite in this belt of crystalline carbonate rock I would appreciate hearing from you.
4. This is on the Wallenger - Boulder Creek divide about 750' west of 115°30'. Dr. Rice's notes mention "dolomite or magnesite" (no further description) bounded on the west by sandstone and pebble conglomerate and in fault contact on the east with shale and limestone. I visited the locality in 1957. Starting at the shale and going west the sequence is:

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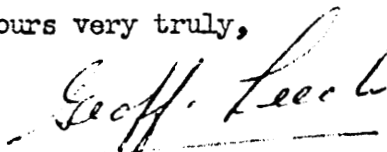
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- 25 - 30' of m.g. to cse. dolomite
- 50' of dolomitic sandstone and sandy dolomite
- ' of fg. to cse. dolomite - weathers buff-red
- ' conglomerate - in part dolomitic and where dolomitic it weathers buff-red. Farther south on trace the parts with dolomitic matrix and fragments give way to rock with lime matrix and limestone fragments.
- ' quartzite

I called the rock dolomite, rather than magnesite, because all specimens that I tried fizzed with cold HCl when scratched. Again, if you find magnesite here I would appreciate hearing about it.

5. The only Cranbrook outcrop marked on Dr. Rice's traverse map south of Boulder Creek is at the figure 9 that is 1,500' north of the Fisher prospect on Map 396A. I think I recognize this place in the notes but magnesite is not mentioned, and it is not near the creek anyway.

Yours very truly,



G.B. Leech.