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PROPERTY FILE

TROUT LAKE

82KNV 004, 087

The successful exploration at Trout Lake by Newmont Exploration and Esso Minerals, starting in 1977, directed attention to the molybdenum potential of southeastern British Columbia, including regions outside of the Intermontane Belt. Some prospects were mapped and prepared for further exploration in 1980; three deposits, including Trout Lake were extensively drilled in 1979. *Western Miner Feb 1980*

The Trout Lake deposit occurs in the region of Palaeozoic sedimentary strata and is associated with stock dated at 76 my. At the surface, tungsten mineralization occurs within skarn alteration of a Cambrian limestone bed. Apparently, the underlying stock has a number of finder-like projections, one of which is exposed at the surface over an area 270 metres by 130 metres.

Results of a very encouraging hole drilled in 1979 have been reported. This hole intersected 265 metres averaging 0.409% MoS₂, the intersection being about 550 metres below the surface. Drilling in 1978 encountered similar grades and, in late 1979, an adit designed for exploration and for production was collared.

Several aspects of this deposit are very informative. The discovery prospect consists of a small exposure of unaltered granodiorite which is cut by a quartz vein and which has some biotite-rich inclusion or schlieren containing flakes of molybdenite. This is not the type of prospect that a geologist, handicapped by the biases of the experts, would wish to explore. However, there was apparently abundant float of molybdenite-bearing quartz along an access road. The prospect was acquired by Scurry-Rainbow Oil Ltd, and this company did bulldozer stripping which exposed abundant quartz veins. These are not the veinlets that form typical stockworks. They are thick (in the order of six inches) veins of white bull quartz, which, in places, contain molybdenite. Stripping was followed by some diamond drilling which encountered very interesting grades over considerable lengths. However, because

of changes in company policies and personnel, the property was dropped. Subsequently, it was acquired by Newmont and this company was joined by Esso Minerals, influenced by the geologist, who did the original work for Scurry Rainbow.

The phyllitic strata has been changed to biotite hornfels in the vicinity of the intrusion. However, within the mineralized zone, there is an increase in grain size of the biotite adjacent to some of the quartz veins thus indicating an additional hydro-thermal affect.