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FRENCH LILY MINE

(Taken from U. S. Geological Survey Bulletin 782 - Ore Deposits of the Jerome and Bradshaw Mountains Quadrangles, Arizona)
Page 159.

February 2nd, 1938

The French Lily property, owned by Grove Brothers, of Mayer, is another of these peculiar flat veins. It was not visited but appears to be 2 miles southwest of Turkey Creek station, probably in granite. This vein, which is about 2 feet wide, dips 30° N. and is developed by an incline 190 feet long, with 250 feet of drifts on the second level. The best ore is said to contain 50 per cent of zinc and 1½ ounces of gold to the ton. One carload has been shipped, and it is claimed that 800 tons has been developed. The ore shows a filled quartz vein with comb structure. A considerable amount of ore was shipped from this property in 1923. In Mineral Resources for 1923 this ore is credited to the Turkey district.

(Note by G. M. Colvocoresses)

About 1933 this property was taken over by the Southwestern Metals Mines Company, - a Nevada Corporation with authorized capital of 4,000,000 shares of 25¢ par (\$1,000,000). The Promoter, President and Manager of this Company is "Pat" Moran who called at request of Gohring.

Moran says that he now owns 1,500,000 shares of the above stock which has cost him \$30,000 and that there are 1,500,000 shares still left in the Company Treasury and 1,000,000 shares issued to about 500 individual stockholders. The Company now owes the R.F.C. \$85,000 for loan and something extra for interest and expense, \$5,200 to the Allis Chalmers Co., \$1000 to the Arizona Power Company and some small accounts, altogether about \$102,000. (I imagine that taxes and other carrying charges would have to be added to this figure.)

The Company has several claims at the French Lily Mine and also 18 claims near Tucson known as the Old Saginaw and Palo Verde and Moran thinks these have some value.

The Government cannot foreclose their mortgage (according to Moran) until March of 1939 after which there would be a six months period of redemption. Meantime, Moran hopes to settle with the R.F.C.

with a substantial discount, and after paying them off to raise about \$25,000 which he thinks sufficient to complete the necessary underground work, including principally a connection between the old shaft and the new hoisting shaft on the 300' level (involving 200' of drifting and 90' of raise to new shaft) and to put the mine in shape for steady output of 50 tons per day. He would carry on additional development work in conjunction with the production.

Moran has a complete report by Gohring who thoroughly sampled and measured the ore before the loan was granted. He says that his vein varies in width from 4" to 4' but that Gohring computed all his samples for an average width of 30" and that on the basis of his estimate there remain blocked out 13,000 tons of ore which would average \$10.19 in gold @ 35.00 per oz. and silver @ 77.5 per oz.

He has an excellent mill which has put through as much as 60 tons per day but actually ran for only a little over two months and probably treated less than 3000 tons altogether.

The average profit in the ore may be roughly figured at \$3.00 per ton, total say \$40,000, so it seems to me that the R. F. C. took a very long chance in making the loan and that no outside party would be interested in the property unless they could make a remarkably favorable deal with the Government and Company.

Moran says that his failure was due to the fact that the R.F.C. would not permit him to use the loan to complete the essential underground work and he could secure no other funds for this purpose, so had to rehandle his ore up the old shaft 100' and then tram thru to the new shaft (over 1000') on the 200' level before hoisting to the mill.

In my opinion this property would only be attractive if all of the debts could be funded in such a way that they would only be repaid from a percentage of the profits and that \$50,000 of new money should be provided to put the mine in proper shape for hoisting and to try to develop at least 20,000 tons of new ore.

Moran says that values and width of vein were increasing on the 300' level and that the shaft sump, - 20 feet below, - shows an even

better grade and width, so that he feel confident that a much larger tonnage can be proved by additional work and if this opinion should be confirmed the mine might seem attractive under proper terms and conditions.

F. G. Struckmeyer of Phoenix is trying to work out a reorganization or something of that nature.

*French Lily
Add file*

French Lily file + Kinnon letter

March 17th, 1937

Mr. William C. Kinnon
White House Hotel
Mayer, Arizona

Dear Kinnon:

Many thanks for your letter of March 13th which I am answering promptly as I expect to be leaving town tomorrow.

I am greatly obliged for the information in respect to the French Lily Mine and it seems to have been the same old story of putting up a mill before the ore reserves were properly developed and the mine in a condition to permit economic operation. I am, however, somewhat surprised that this situation should not have been foreseen by the Government engineers and provided against before they loaned \$85,000.00 to the owner. Now it appears that he has incurred other obligations locally to the extent of some \$30,000 and the situation will be a hard one to straighten out with the Government's loan taking first preference. Perhaps the R. F. C. will operate the mine themselves and get a little practical experience and I suppose that they may also be called upon to do this with many other properties, including the Silver Cord.

I am glad to know that you are in Mayer and hope that I may have an opportunity to see you there before long. Knowing something of the mines which the Humboldt Co. are trying to operate I can appreciate that your job is not an easy one and you may rest assured that I shall bear you in mind if I hear of any opening that would be of interest to you.

In reference to the copper mine located three miles north of the Vulture. I would be glad to hear something further if you care to send me details, but if it is only a prospect I am afraid that I could not be of any help as I rarely contact people who are looking for anything less than a mine in which a considerable tonnage of ore is actually developed so that it can be measured and sampled. It is very unfortunate for the industry that so few of the larger investors seem to be willing to spend money in order to make mines, as was done in the old days, but such is the fact. With best personal regards and thanking you for your letter.

Sincerely,

Jm

GMC:DF

White House Hotel
Mayer, Arizona.
March 13, 1936.

Mr. G. M. Colvocoresses
1102 Luhrs Tower
Phoenix, Arizona.

A 3/17
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Dear Mr. Colvocoresses:

Your good letter of the 10th. inst. was received today and I was glad to hear from you.

The French Lily mine, in my opinion, has the "ear-marks" of a good little producer. The vein is developed on the 270' level, which is the lowest level, for a distance of about 500 feet. The average width over this distance is 11 inches but the ore shoots are from 18" to 3' in width. The vein has an average dip of 40 degrees. It is a filled fissure with some replacement of the wall rock, which is generally silicified, with a low grade pyrite. Vein filling averages about .30 oz. gold, .58 oz. silver to the ton and .38% copper. This ore is sulphide and contains pyrite, chalcopyrite, and sphalerite with some galena. The zinc is most auriferous, carrying about 7 oz. per ton, whereas the pyrite and chalcopyrite carries plus or minus 2.5 oz. gold per ton. Fracturing appears strong on this level and much of the mine water comes up from below, all of which seems favorable to me.

Croppings are not prominent but vein is traceable for several thousand feet. It transverses a northward trending belt of Yavapai Schist, which is marginal to intrusive granite west of the mine.

Lack of proper development underground prevented capacity operation of mill and increased mining cost approx. one third. Dilution of ore by wall rock gave us an average mill head of about \$5.00 and sorting was done in stopes and about 2% waste rock was removed at mill. Mine crew had to be pushed hard to deliver 50 tons per 24 hours and without any development about 26 men were used. Ground is heavy and many stulls are necessary.

I believe that with two more levels developed and connected with the mill shaft and with the 270 level connected also, the mill could be operated steadily at 60 tons per day on about an \$8.00 head. Recovery should average 92%. Cost of milling was about \$1.40 per ton; Marketing cons. \$15.00/ton
Avg. ratio of concentration about 17 to 1.

The above will be of some help to you, I hope. If you desire any further information I will help if I can do so.

At present I am supt. of the Humbolt Mines, Inc. mill. Am getting through a pretty tough job of working over a bad installation and situation. May take up other duties within the near future but in any event it will be a pleasure to keep in touch with you.

I would like to do something with the copper mine that my Mother and I own. It is located about 3 miles north of the Vulture and 12.4 miles

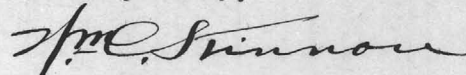
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from Wickenburg. The quartz veins are in monzonite, which is cut by porphyry (probably andesite) dikes. Ore occurs in lenses and is principally chalcocite carrying some gold and silver. There are three claims in a group. If you can contact a buyer we will be glad to consider a sale with reasonable terms. I have a report on the property, written by myself, which will send you soon as I can find it.

I am glad that some of your projects are shaping up satisfactorily and I have rather been hoping that you would start up a modern smelting plant up in this area.

With my very best regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,

The signature is written in a cursive, handwritten style. The first letters 'J', 'M', and 'S' are capitalized and prominent. The rest of the name is written in a flowing, connected script.