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Re Picone Mine

listed in C

March 24, 1925.

Mr. Frank M. Leonard,
Lake Shore Mine,
Casa Grande, Arizona.

Dear Mr. Leonard:

I have your letter of March 16th and note the estimate which you give for the cost of further developing the Picone property. This works out at about \$750.00 per month, and to be on the safe side I think we should allow 10 or 15% additional, also we should figure on continuing for a definite period of time, say three or four months at least, before we undertake the work.

The samples which I took from Picone's property were a disappointment. The ore at the south end of the drift carried 2.84% copper, near the shaft and where it appeared to be particularly good, carried 6.25% copper, and the samples which I took from the sorted ore on the dump, which I suppose represented about the grade of material that he would have shipped carried trace of gold, trace of silver and 7.17% copper. As I figure costs of operating in that district, it would not pay to mine and ship ore that ran less than 10% copper, and so there is very little incentive to try developing any of the prospects in your section unless and until some concern has definitely committed themselves to erect a treatment plant at or near the Lake Shore and would be in a position to handle the ore from other properties.

Mr. Schmidt and I talked the matter over quite thoroughly with our associates and we all agree that the Lake Shore situation is very interesting, and that it seems a good opportunity to put in

Mr. Frank M. Leonard, - 2.

March 24, 1925.

one of our volatilization plants with the Lake Shore ore as a nucleus and with an opportunity of interesting ourselves in the development and operation of smaller properties such as the Picone and the mine near White Horse Pass, all of which might furnish additional tonnage and profit to the treatment plant.

As matters stand todate, we are very much interested but are not ready to commit ourselves to any definite investment until we see how our venture at the Signal Mine is going to turn out. We are arranging to lease the Signal Mine as well as the treatment plant at their property, and contracts are all drawn up and, as far as we are concerned, ready to be signed. This will involve us in a considerable expenditure and we cannot afford to tackle anything else just at present, but after we once get going on a profitable basis at Signal I can assure you that your situation at Lake Shore will be one of the very next proposals to which we will turn our attention, and I hope that we can arrange to take action some time this coming summer.

In further reference to the Picone situation, what would it cost to stake the six claims and to retain Picone on the most economical basis for the purpose of doing the assessment work and proving up on the locations. I think we might be willing to undertake this expenditure, which would not involve any heavy outlay on the part of the Syndicate, and would perhaps tide things over until we are in a position to decide definitely in regard to the policy of the Western Metallurgical at the Lake Shore.

I think you will see our position clearly, - unless we can go ahead at Lake Shore it would probably be wasting money to

COBA

Mr. Frank M. Leonard, - 3.

March 24, 1925.

develop the Picone or other claims in that section if we could not operate them at a profit unless we had a treatment plant in that vicinity or develop an exceptionally high grade of ore, which does not seem probable. On the other hand if we go ahead at Lake Shore we want to keep an interest in the Picone property and any others that look interesting which may be found in that section, and I believe there is good reason to believe that we can decide on a definite policy by July or August unless we are delayed in our operations at Signal.

I am going East this Thursday and will not be back until close to the middle of April, but your reply to this letter will be forwarded to me and I will try to write you further as soon as I receive the same, although it may be preferable, if nothing would be lost in the meantime, to wait until I return to the State, and soon after I do return, if it is at all possible, I will come down and go over the Picone property, and also some other properties in your district, much more fully than time has permitted in the past.

I enclose two copies of pictures taken on our first trip and one copy of two pictures of Indian village. I presume that Andreas would like copies of the former.

TO NEW YORK OFFICE
With best regards to your family and yourself,

Yours very truly,

FROM NEW YORK OFFICE
GMC-s

SUBJECT:

DATE:

CONSOLIDATED ARIZONA SMELTING COMPANY

COBA

February 12th, 1926.

NOTES REGARDING PROPERTIES OF
BLACK HILLS PROSPECTING SYNDICATE.

The Members of the Syndicate,

Gentlemen:

I went to the Lake Shore Mine, thirty miles south of Casa Grande, on the 6th, and spent the 7th and 8th in company with Frank Leonard, Sr., Frank Leonard, Jr and Andres Alvarez, an Indian hunter, going over the showings in the Black Hills, Pima County, which have been prospected on behalf of our syndicate.

Three principal locations were visited, as briefly described below:

1. The property from which the high-grade chalcocite ore was taken in 1919, and the staking of which was the principal object of our syndicate.

This showing is located near the south edge of the Black Hills at an elevation of 2500 feet, and reached by wagon road and burro trail. Two claims have been located on our behalf by Mr. Leonard, and called the Copper Bell. The chalcocite ore was taken from a vein about two feet wide, with a filling of quartz cutting through conglomerate rock. There is also some limestone along the hanging wall.

The vein length on the surface was slightly less than one hundred feet, and near the center where it was strongest, a shaft had been sunk about sixty feet, and some ore gouged out on either side. It appears now that nearly all of this work was

done subsequent to 1919, and unbeknown to Leonard. The Indian or Mexican, Ramon Andrade, who brought out the first ore in conjunction with Alvarez, decided to do some work on his own account, and took out about two car-loads of high-grade ore, which was shipped, also a considerable quantity of lower grade material still on the dump. He then abandoned the property.

As the showing now stands, there is very little high-grade ore left, although a considerable tonnage of material running close to ten per cent might be mined, but could not be handled with profit under present conditions. The vein is strong and showings well at the bottom of the shaft, but the values in copper rapidly decrease with depth, and in my opinion, the ore occurrence is entirely secondary with the concentration of high-grade ore near the surface, and not likely to persist to any substantial depth.

Considering the location, difficulty of access, lack of water and formation, I do not consider this property of any probable value, nor worth the additional expenditure which would be necessary to perform the assessment work and prove up the claims.

2. Some fifteen miles south and west of the Copper Bell, Leonard had staked three claims under the name of Papago, on our behalf, in the Santa Rosa Mountains and near some surface workings from which a little high-grade ore was mined several years ago.

Formation here is limestone intruded by an eruptive greenstone but the veins are filled with quartz and secondary copper minerals, and do not show any large tonnage of high-grade material.

Leonard is of the opinion that primary copper ore is disseminated through the igneous rock, but I could see no evidence of such dissemination to any extent that might possibly prove commercial, and here also, I believe it will not pay to do any additional work.

3. Some ten miles north of the Copper Bell we visited the Palo Verde group of claims occupied at present by Francesco Piccini, an old Italian miner and prospector, who has been working there for several years, and is now apparently on his last legs.

At the point, dykes of andesite and other porphyry rock intrude the granite; there has certainly been considerable dissemination of copper in the andesite which may develop into a substantial deposit of the usual porphyry type.

At various points there has been concentration of copper values in veins, and on one of these, a shaft was sunk forty-five feet, and produced one hundred and fifty tons of ore containing ten per cent copper and six dollars value gold and silver per ton. The ore is mostly chrysocolla and some carbonate and values appear to be extremely good on both sides of the shaft and the small stopes which are now largely caved.

February 12th, 1925

The geology and surface indications are extremely interesting, and call for a more careful examination than ^{time} would permit, and I hope to visit this showing again in the course of a short time.

It appears to me that a small amount of additional work might result in permitting the production of some fairly high-grade ore, the proceeds of which could be used for additional exploration and I will try to work out some plan by which this could be accomplished with little or no additional expense to our present syndicate.

I took several samples at places mentioned which have not yet been assayed, but I am confident that the results will not in any way change my general opinion. We had best forget our claims at the Copper Bell and Papago and concentrate on the Palo Verde, which Piconi is willing to let us have on practically our own terms, and where I believe there is a possibility of proving up a really worth while mine, with small showings of high-grade ore, and perhaps a large showing of lower grade material that might be of substantial interest to some one of the operating companies.

I paid Leonard in full, the six hundred dollars which the syndicate agreed to advance, and he intends to continue some further work without expense to us, since he feels that we were misled by statements regarding the chalcocite ore, which he made

Members of the Syndicate.....5

February 12th, 1925.

in absolutely good faith, not knowing that any work had been
done there subsequent to 1919.

Yours very truly,

GMC/e

L. H. Colman

PICCONI PROSPECT

Note by G. M. Colvocoresses

March, 1925.

This property was visited by me in company with Frank Leonard, Sr. in December of 1924, and again in March of 1925.

It is located some six miles southeast of the Lake Shore Mine on the edge of what is known as the Black Range of hills; three unpatented claims were held at that time.

The country is granite and limestone cut by a narrow dike of andesite which runs northeast to southwest, and is only about 6' in width. This dike forms the filling of the vein with a brecciated zone along the foot wall.

Copper minerals are noted in the breccia and andesite with pockets of rich secondary ore, mainly chrysocolla.

A shaft had been sunk to a depth of 45' with a little drifting near the bottom and Picconi has gouged out and shipped 150 tons of ore with gold \$1.50 per ton (old price), silver 6. oz. and copper 10%.

The showing in the bottom of the shaft and drift appeared favorable on my first visit and it was decided to watch this development and check up at intervals.

The impression gained from the second visit and subsequent reports by Leonard indicated that there was no probability that any persistent body of ore would be developed, but Picconi continued for some years to work out little pockets of high grade secondary ore and it is my opinion that these are all that can be expected.

All of this district, including some other prospects in the Black Hills which I have visited, show evidences of secondary enrichment from surface solutions, but no substantial body of primary ore has yet been developed as may be noted from reports on the Lake Shore and other mines in that vicinity.

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