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Rich Strike of Silver is Made at Early Bird Mine

The richest mineral discovery in this section in recent years has been made on the Early Bird group on the divide between Ouray and Animas Forks by the owners, A. E. McCormick, George Gardner, Clay Ashley, and James Bass, who purchased the group of four claims from the Pueblo owners last fall. A. E. McCormick, who came in from the mine early in the week, reports that he and his partners are working on a three-foot vein of almost solid gray copper ore. Samples taken across the breast give results of 1,400 ounces silver, 10 per cent copper and a small gold content. One selected sample gave better than 3,000 ounces silver to the ton.

McCormick and his partners started work on the trail the 6th day of December and it took them eight days to open it up from the Cement bridge to the Ben Buttler. After getting their supplies through they went to work in the Early Bird tunnel, which was in at that time about 150 feet, on two feet of \$100 ore. From the very first round they could see that the pay streak was getting better every foot and was widening out, until

now, after driving twenty feet they have three feet of high grade in the breast and are taking out over twenty-five sacks of ore a shift with only eight men working. They now have a vertical depth of eighty feet which gives them plenty of stopping ground.

The gentlemen have eighteen head of pack stock working between the mine and Ouray and expect to ship their first car of ore within the next week or ten days and are going to put on ten more animals this week. They also intend to increase the force at the mine to 25 or 30 men within the next thirty days.

Every indication points to the fact that the Early Bird will be a winner. Eight hundred feet ahead on the same vein that is now producing there is an outcrop that assays across two feet fifty ounces in silver and five to seven ounces in gold. There are also two strong cross veins on the ground, one crossing the main vein 150 feet from the breast and the other one 350 feet further on. They all show mineral on the surface.—
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