Red Bluff Group.

Looking up the wide valley of the Kitzault river from the head of Alice arm, a red patch shows prominently on the face of a mountain north of the river, distant about 4½ miles. A number of claims have been staked on the red area and grouped together under the name of the Red Bluff group.

A short visit to the showing was made in company with Mr. Young, one of the owners, but as little development work has been done, observation was limited to the general surface features. A rough trail leading up the valley of the Kitzault for some distance, then up a tributary stream from the north, has been brushed out to the foot of the red bluff.

The rocks in the neighbourhood of the showing consist mostly of fine and medium-textured, greenish, tufaceous sandstones alternating in places with bands of finer grained, dark argillaceous rocks. The tufaceous sandstones occur in wide, practically massive bands, showing little stratification. They are not much altered and consist mainly of rounded and angular feldspar grains, some quartz, and fragments of glass and volcanic rocks.

The mineralized area is very large, fully a thousand feet in width, and traceable for a long distance up the steep slopes of the mountain. The rocks are fractured and the pyrite oxidized to a greater depth than usual, and no large mass of sulphides is exposed on the surface. Copper carbonates in small quantities occur at a number of points, and a specimen consisting mostly of white pyrite in a siliceous gangue contained small specks of bornite. Some pyrargyrite in small grains was also found with pyrite in one exposure. This mineral does not occur, or at least has not been found, in the other large iron croppings of the district. A crust deposited by a spring bubbling up near the centre of the deposit was determined by Mr. R. A. A. Johnston as allophane, a hydrous silicate of aluminium.

The economic importance of this large pyritized area is uncertain. It contains some copper, and while the small amount of surface work which has been done has not exposed it in commercial quantities, the prospects certainly warrant further exploration. The presence of the rich silver mineral pyrargyrite, even in small quantities, is important.

QUARTZ VEINS.

Aldebaran, Black Bear, Etc.

Quartz veins rich in silver occur on a group of claims, including the Aldebaran and Black Bear, located three-fourths