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Syenite Mining Prospects Probed

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Possibility of profitably mining Pulaski and Saline county rock containing nepheline syenite is being investigated by the United States Bureau of Mines following receipt of samples of the rock from the State Geological Survey, Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, revealed today.

The samples were forwarded following receipt of a letter from Frank L. Hess, principal mineralogist with the federal bureau, calling attention to the fact that glass manufacturers had become greatly interested in the use of nepheline syenite.

Mr. Hess wrote that he had been informed that deposits in Arkansas were easily accessible to railroads and that this fact might indicate that the ore could be marketed at a profit, even though the price per ton is low.

Arkansas has about 12 square miles of rock formations containing the element with the majority of this in Pulaski and Saline counties, Dr. Branner said. The rock is of the

type seen at abandoned quarries on Fourche mountain, he said.

At the request of H. E. Nold, secretary of the coal division of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, New York City, the state survey is co-operating in conducting a study of coal seams in Arkansas, Dr. Branner announced. The study will include work in Arkansas, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas and western Kentucky.

Syenite Mining Possibilities Being Investigated.

Jan 2 1935
The United States Bureau of Mines is investigating the possibility of profitably mining rock containing nepheline syenite in Pulaski and Saline counties, Dr. G. C. Branner, state geologist, said yesterday. The federal bureau requested that samples of the stone be sent to Washington for analysis. The syenite rock contains feldspar which is used in manufacture of glass and clay products.