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THE PROGRESS OF  
THE MINERAL INDUSTRY  
OF  
TASMANIA,

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1907.

COMPILED BY

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BY ORDER OF

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MINISTER FOR MINES.



Tasmania

JOHN VAIL, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, HOBART.

1907



PROGRESS OF THE  
**MINERAL INDUSTRY OF TASMANIA**

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1907.

Launceston, 8th August, 1907.

The following table shows, as far as can be ascertained, the quantities and values of Metals and Minerals raised during the quarter ending 30th June, 1907, as compared with the previous quarter ending 31st March, 1907:—

	During the Quarter ending 30th June, 1907.		During the Quarter ending 31st Mar., 1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
* Gold won .....	ozs. 15,984·0·9	£ 67,896	16,100·847	£ 68,392
Silver-lead Ore produced	tons 21,960½	141,525	22,573	134,856
† Blister Copper produced	" 1919	228,708	1920	241,669
Copper Ore and Copper produced .....	" 199½	14,161	463	14,110
Tin Ore produced .....	" 1011½	133,376	886½	114,684
Iron Ore raised .....	" ...	...	1000	350
Coal raised .....	" 15,225	12,941	10,949	9907
Wolfram Ore produced...	" 5½	782	3	368
Bismuth Ore produced...	" ...	...	½	15
	...	599,389		583,751

\* Fine gold, including gold contained in blister copper and silver-lead bullion.

† Value of gold contents deducted.

## GOLD.

During the past quarter, 7218 ozs. of gold were obtained from quartz, 237 ozs. from alluvial, 2918½ ozs. by means of the cyanide and chlorination processes, 4119 ozs. from blister copper from the Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company, Limited, and 1584 ozs. from the silver-lead bullion from the Tasmanian Smelting Company's works, Zeehan, valued at £67,896.

The following table shows the quantities obtained from the various sources on the different fields during the period under review, together with the totals for the corresponding period of 1906, and the previous quarter ending 31st March, 1907:—

	Gold obtained during the Quarter ending 30th June, 1907.					TOTAL.	Totals corresponding Quarter, 1906.	Totals for Quarter ending 31st March, 1907.
	From Quartz.	Alluvial.	Cyanide & chlorination.	From Blister Copper.	From Silver-lead Bullion.			
	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.
Beaconsfield	6378	96½	2838	...	...	9312½	9640½	9148
Mathinna ...	695	35	...	...	...	730	1313½	703½
Mt. Victoria	} 98	38¾	...	...	...	136¼	273½	101¼
Warrentinna								
Mt. Cameron								
New Burns								
Creek.....	47	..	...	...	...	47	...	...
Lefroy .....	...	...	80½	...	...	80½	88	88
Lisle .....	} ...	48	...	...	...	48	56	28
Golconda ...								
Mangana ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bell Mount.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
King Island	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
West Coast.	...	18¾	...	4119	1584	5721¼	6180	6106
TOTALS	7218	237	2918½	4119	1584	16,076½	...	...
Totals corresponding Quarter, 1906.....	8464½	358	2591	5297	841	...	17,551½	...
Totals for Quarter ending 31st Mar., 1907.....	7301¼	88¾	2 634	4888	1262	...	...	16,175¼

Value £67,896 ; equal to 15,984·079 ozs. fine gold.

BEACONSFIELD.—The quarter's statistics for the district are as follows:—

	Gold produced. ozs.	Men employed.
Tasmania Mine .....	8391	648
Tasmanian Tailings Syndicate...	825	15
Prospectors and others.....	96½	32
Total.....	<u>9312½</u>	<u>695</u>

*Tasmania Mine.*—Fourteen thousand one hundred and forty-one tons quartz crushed, and 8391 ozs. gold obtained (by amalgamation and chlorination), which makes a total of 657,687 tons quartz crushed, and 679,284 ozs. gold obtained since the mine was first started.

Mr. C. F. Heathcote, A.M.I.C.E., the general manager, reports:— During the past quarter the sinking of Grubb shaft and Hart shaft, the two large pumping and hauling shafts, has been continued, the respective depths now being 1205 and 1208 feet from the surface.

*Bonanza Proprietary* has been preparing to resume sinking at this mine from the 600-feet with a view of reaching the Tasmania reef on its underlay. The company has obtained an opinion from Mr. Montgomery, late Tasmanian Government Geologist, to the effect that at somewhere about the 1100-feet level the Tasmania reef may be expected to enter the Bonanza shaft. At date, this shaft is down to 675 feet.

LEFROY.—The quarter's statistics are as follows:—

	Gold produced. ozs.	Men employed. Europeans.
New Pinafore .....	80½	14
Prospectors and others.....	—	43
Totals.....	<u>80½</u>	<u>57</u>

*Lisle, Golconda, &c.*—Forty-three ozs. of gold have been won from the Lisle field, and 5 ozs. from Golconda. Thirty men have been employed in these fields.

*New Burns Creek.*—Forty-seven ozs. gold have been won during the quarter.

*Mt. Victoria.*—Eight men have been engaged in these mines, winning 98 ozs. of gold; 85 tons quartz crushed.

*Briseis and New Bros. Home No. 1.*—From these mines 38½ ozs. gold have been produced in streaming tin.

MATHINNA.—The quarter's statistics are as follows:—

	Quartz crushed. tons.	Gold produced. ozs.	Men employed. Europeans.
New Golden Gate .....	565	702	45
The Miner's Dream .....	11	13	3
Searle Pros. Association....	20	15	2
Tas. Consols.....	—	—	53
Others .....	—	—	49
Totals.....	596	730	152

*The Tasmanian Consols.*—Mr. Arthur R. Canning, general manager, reports:—The past three months have seen the Tasmanian Consols busily improving their mill from the old Victorian, hand-fed and blanket-streak type, to what is now, with the exception of the mortar-boxes and stamps—which remain untouched—a modern battery.

It would have been easier, no doubt, for the management to have erected a new mill, but recent developments in the mine hardly justified that course, and the battery has been modernised at considerably less cost than laying down an entirely new plant. Ore is now raised to the top of the battery by a self-acting incline, tipped over a grizzly, passed through a rotary rock-breaker, and fed by Challenge ore-feeders into the mortar-boxes. The stamps originally running off two 10-cam shafts, driven by toothed gearing, and dropping 73 to the minute, are now belt-driven, each 5-head working independently; they are run over 90 drops per minute. Wilfley tables have also been introduced. Further, the engine has been shifted, and the boilers grouped. Somewhere about double the original duty will be crushed. With regard to costs, it is expected that something like 2 dwts. lower value in the stone can be worked than previously.

In the mine, no further developments have been made on the western reef during the past quarter. The position with regard to this is that a block of good stone remains above the 1350-foot level, and the newly-opened-up section between the 1400 and 1500-foot levels (a shoot some 200 feet in length, and of lower grade), together form our reserves, that will take the new mill at least a year to crush.

On the Eastern reef a very interesting development has been made. This is a body that yielded large dividends in the New Golden Gate, but it does not enter the Consols' ground until a section lying considerably north of this company's shaft is reached. At the 1200-foot a crosscut from the western reef found the ore-channel with well-defined walls, 5 feet apart, and the small lenses of quartz which appeared on one or other of these walls carried some  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of gold. The quantity of quartz, however, was far too small to be payable, and the management determined to drive for

the same channel at the 1400-feet. At 242 feet the crosscut struck an 11-ft. mixed lode, and remarkable values, from 2 ozs. upwards, were obtained from the whole body. On driving each way these values, however, were not maintained, for going south they cut out at once, and north the gold in a poorer quantity held on for only some 25 feet. Further east, and beyond the ore-channel, an exceedingly rich seam, averaging some 3 inches in width, and assaying 3 to 4 ozs., ran out due east for some 24 feet, when it turned north and lost value.

A winze has been begun to follow down the main ore-channel, and this had reached a depth of 25 feet, where the hanging-wall portion of the vein is about 15 inches wide, and assays about 16 dwts. At this point work was suspended to give place to a main vertical winze, which will allow for a proper development of this most promising spot. That there is a considerable amount of rich gold about seems to be beyond question. This ground is fully 600 feet distant from the most northerly workings of the Golden Gate Company, on the east reef.

This company, has, during the past quarter, come to an agreement with the New Golden Gate Company, and driven into its ground and connected the two mines, thus securing their better ventilation and safety. It is to be congratulated on effecting this desirable step.

The Tasmanian Consols have also come to an arrangement with their neighbours for the use of their cyanide plant, and the tailings from their former crushings are about to be put through.

This company has also purchased a diamond-drill to prospect its leases. Owing to lack of boiler-power and other causes its operation has been delayed, but it will be at work shortly.

MANGANA.—Work is to be resumed by the Buckland Freehold Estate Syndicate, and a tunnel driven from the eastern side of the Alpine Hill to intersect the No. 1 Buckland reef at 170 feet below the old tunnel.

## TIN.

The statistics for this metal for the past quarter are as follows:—

	Ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Northern and Southern Division	—	—	28	—
North-Eastern Division.....	619	15	840	93
Eastern Division.....	128	18	328	35
Western Division.....	42	18	84	—
North-Western Division.....	219	15	437	—
Totals.....	1011	6	1717	128

## THE MINERAL INDUSTRY

## NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

The output has been as under:—

	tons.	cwt.	Men employed.
Mount Bischoff .....	170	0	293
Mt. Bischoff Extended .....	19	15	38
Weir's Bischoff Surprise .....	2	0	8
Waratah Alluvial.....	1	10	5
Stanhope Alluvial .....	1	10	4
Others .....	—	—	19
Mt. Balfour .....	25	0	70
Totals.....	<u>219</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>487</u>

*Mt. Bischoff Mine.*—The directors report to the shareholders:—As to the present appearance and future outlook at the mine, in both respects the position is better than it was six months ago, and while the desired monthly output has been approximately maintained during the past term, your Board feel justified in the belief that a similar output can still be secured without unfairly calling upon the mine's resources. No time is being lost in the opening-up and development of the Wheal Bischoff, where the prospects justify the expenditure of a considerable sum of money in transit, connection, and equipment. The promise of reduction in costs at the mine has been redeemed, with the result that the profit made during the past half-year has been derived from crush-dirt decidedly poorer than any previously handled. The Board, however, would remind you that the high price of tin materially assisted in such result.

Mr. H. W. Ferd. Kayser reports:—The quantity of crude ore treated during the half-year is 51,902 tons, as follows:—Sixty-head battery, 40,502 tons, producing 210 tons 18 cwt. 3 qrs. of dressed ore; 15-head battery, 11,400 tons, producing 73 tons 5 cwt. 3 qrs. of ore. The reduction of ore by the stampers, after allowing for holidays and other stoppages, is 4,945 tons per stamp-head per twenty-four hours. The average percentage of ore obtained from the whole mine is 0.654.

Slime Sheds.—All the machinery in these sheds is in the usual good working order. The output of tin ore totals 43 tons 13 cwt. 2 qrs.

Ringtail Sheds.—Everything here is working satisfactorily. Output of tin ore is 12 tons 2 cwt.

Diamond-drill.—The 10 holes put down by this plant have all turned out failures, and apparently we have little to expect from the deep ground (that is, below 200 or 300 feet), which appears to be of the same formation all over the mine, viz., slate, schist, and quartzite. This formation contains occasional veins of pyrites of varying character and size, but none of them have been of any commercial

value. We have about 300 feet more drilling to do to complete the 5000-feet contract, and this balance will be utilised in testing the old Don Company's ground.

The following particulars will show the cost of mining, crushing, and dressing a ton of crude ore:—

	s.	d.
Mining, including New Works, Maintenance, and other expenses .....	2	5 904
Filling, hauling, and Emptying Trucks .....	0	5 533
Crushing, Dressing, and Maintenance of Plant ...	0	7 382
Slime Sheds .....	0	1 076
Ringtail Sheds .....	0	2 055
Management and Supervision.....	0	9 497
Plant, including all Machinery .....	0	0 401
Development and Progressive Work.....	0	3 566
Waterworks .....	0	0 008
Ore Bagging .....	0	0 025
Stores .....	0	0 512
Sundries .....	0	0 081
Wheal Mine .....	0	1 591
	<u>5</u>	<u>1 631</u>

The expenditure on diamond-drilling for the half-year amounts to £1421 0s. 4d.; railway material, £947 19s.; pyritic works, £65 16s. 6d.; Wheal tram, £709 11s. 5d.; electric scheme (wages), £1587 4s. 4d.

	Tons	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Ore obtained during last six months .....	340	0	0	0
Since the formation of the Company.....	66.172	18	2	2

Approximate amount of ore in sight at the mine is as follows:—

	Tons.
Gossan .....	83,704
Porphyry .....	951,330
Queen Lode .....	2031
Pyritic .....	2485
	<u>1,039,550</u>

Allowing for the pyritic ore, this leaves about 1,000,000 tons of crushing material.

The Mt. Cleveland Tin Mining Company is developing its property near the Whyte River. The lode, some 50 feet from surface, is reported to be gossanous and rich in the north adit, and also good at the deep cut about 40 feet down.

## NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

## RINGAROOMA DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Tin-pot Creek Mines.....	5	10	14	...
Tin-pot Creek Claims .....	0	2	2	...
Cascade River.....	3	16	33	6
Black Creek.....	1	17	11	2
Dorset River .....	2	6	9	...
Dunne's Creek.....	1	4	17	...
Britannia Creek.....	0	7	3	...
Hope Creek .....	2	7	7	...
Gorge Creek .....	1	10	5	...
Ringarooma River.....	0	13	7	...
Totals .....	19	12	108	8

## PIONEER AND GLADSTONE DISTRICTS:—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Pioneer Tin Mines .....	71	0	105	...
Pioneer Extended .....	11	8	14	...
Argus Tin Mines .....	6	12	16	...
South Mt. Cameron .....	8	6	42	...
Ringarooma Dredge .....	9	13	13	...
Gladstone .....	8	12	16	...
Mussel Roe .....	5	8	15	...
White Rock .....	6	17	9	...
Garibaldi .....	4	11	7	6
Aberfoyle .....	0	17	56	...
Other Mines .....	0	4	31	...
Miners' Claims.....	19	18	46	41
Totals .....	153	6	370	47

<i>Mt. Horror Claims.</i>	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	Tons	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Wilberforce Pump Co., No. 1.	4	0	5	...
Others .....	1	13	6	...
Total.....	5	13	11	...

## DERBY DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Briseis Tin Mines.....	259	0	130	...
New Brothers' Home, No. 1.....	97	7	28	...
Briseis Extended .....	7	0	32	...
Other Derby Claims .....	5	19	14	24
Total.....	369	6	204	24

## BRANXHOLM DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Arba Tin Mine .....	23	17	43	...
New Ruby Flat .....	11	0	15	...
South Arba .....	1	0	4	...
Other Branxholm Claims.....	...	4	2	...
Chinese Claims.....	3	15	...	14
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>14</b>

## MOORINA DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
Weld Tin Mine .....	10	0	11	...
Moorina Tin Mine.. .....	3	2	7	...
Native Youth .....	3	15	9	...
Wyniford.....	1	5	10	...
Abbotsford .....	1	15	12	...
Others .....	3	11	18	...
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>...</b>
Mount Stronach Tin Mine .	8	14	16	...
<i>Total for North-Eastern Division .....</i>	<b>619</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>93</b>

*Arba Tin Mining Company.*—Mr. L. B. Mitchell, mine manager, reports for the half-year ending 30th June:—The pumping-plants treated 159,465 cubic yards. No. 1 plant worked 2971 hours, the average number of cubic yards treated per hour being 27.67, and the actual working cost 6.35d. per cubic yard. No. 2 plant worked 2682 hours = 28.80 cubic yards per hour; working cost, 2.52d. per cubic yard. The total quantity of tin ore recovered = .645 lbs. per cubic yard of overburden and drift treated. During the half-year No. 1 plant was engaged for several weeks sluicing out a site for new incline and working on overburden, and during the last three months No. 2 plant has been removing the overburden on Estate side of lead. No. 1 plant is at present removing overburden from the angle piece opposite old incline. The works carried out during the last six months have been practically development works, to properly open up the mine, and as a considerable quantity of overburden has been removed there is now a large area of lower drifts stripped ready to be handled, which will give handsome returns.

## EASTERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won.		Men employed.	
	tons.	cwt.	Europeans.	Chinese.
<i>Weldborough Mines.</i>				
Weldbrook Tin Mine.....	15	13	20	...
Fancy Creek Co. ....	4	7	12	...
Weldborough .....	3	17	6	...
Cambria .....	2	0	11	...
Symons & Party .....	1	8	3	...
Chinese (Weldborough).....	8	9	...	30
Other Claims .....	6	8	21	...
Total .....	42	2	73	30
<i>Lottah and Blue Tier Mines.</i>				
Anchor Tin Mine.....	52	9	124	...
Blue Tier, Mount Lyell .....	2	4	13	...
Chinese, Blue Tier .....	...	8	...	4
Other Claims .....	3	13	20	...
Total .....	58	14	157	4
<i>St. Helens Mines.</i>				
J. C. Macmichael .....	2	12	6	...
Royal Ruby .....	2	4	6	...
Hunt Co. ....	2	9	2	...
Chas. Miller ..	1	11	6	...
Thureau's Deep Lead.....	0	18	2	...
A. Williams .....	0	17	6	1
Others .....	2	6	13	...
Total .....	12	17	41	1
<i>Avoca Mines.</i>				
Storey's Creek Co. ....	1	18	4	...
Gipp's Creek.....	2	5	6	...
Cameron and Party.....	6	10	12	...
Mount Rex Co.....	1	14	4	...
Others.....	2	18	31	...
Total .....	15	5	57	...
<i>Total for Eastern Division</i>	128	18	328	35

*Anchor Tin Mine.*—Mr. James B. Lewis, general manager, reports:—For the quarter ending 30th June we have crushed 38,395 tons of ore, for a return of 52 tons 9 cwts. of black tin, and employed, on an average, 124 men. Very little work was done on the alluvial, as water was not sufficiently plentiful.

## WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons. cwt.	Men employed. Europeans.
Renison Bell .....	4 10	12
Heemskirk Claims.....	9 2	19
Brumby's Section, 1215, N.E. Dundas	5 0	5
Other Dundas Claims .....	24 6	48
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>42 18</b>	<b>84</b>

## SILVER.

WEST COAST.—The registered output of silver ores in the Western Division for the quarter ending 30th June is given below:—

	Ore.	Tons.	Value. £	Men
<i>Zeehan Mines :</i>				
Mount Zeehan, Tas.	galena .....	1403	24,362	224
Zeehan-Montana	„ .....	1042½	18,075	230
Zeehan-Western	galena &c .....	524½	5771	133
Zeehan-Queen	„ .....	133	1061	16
Watts' Section	„ .....	53	606	7
Silver Queen Extended	galena, &c.....	90	914	13
Oonah	su'phide ores.....	852	3849	90
Nubeena	galena.....	27¾	402	8
Fox's Sections	gossan.....	68¼	538	7
Comet Bell	galena.....	108	1307	41
New Mt. Zeehan	„ &c. ....	83	385	12
Section 1846-M	„ „ .....	40	503	5
Florence	galena .....	312	4673	100
Silver King	„ .....	29	235	9
Queensberry	„ .....	78	800	12
Sylvester	„ .....	31	150	3
Balstrup	„ .....	30	507	9
Silver Harp	„ .....	11	115	3
T.L.E. Section	„ .....	46½	984	5
South Comstock	„ and zinc.....	45	689	10
Austral Valley	galena.....	...	...	25
<i>Dundas Mines :</i>				
Hercules	{ zinc-lead .....	4340½	20,374 }	80
	{ zinc .....	263½	2107 }	
West Comet	fluxing ore .....	3743	1825	40
Comet	galena, &c .....	1942	4318	60
Ring Valley	fahl ore .....	68	1298	12
Adelaide	— .....	...	...	30
Colebrook	— .....	...	...	45
<i>Rosebery Mines :</i>				
Tasmanian Copper	zinc-lead.....	3061	10,769	35
Primrose	— .....	...	...	11

*Mt. Farrell Mines:*

North Mt. Farrell	galena.....	784	8600	160
Mt. Farrell	" .....	78	2028	20
Murchison River	" .....	221½	3632	60
Mackintosh	" .....	17	197	6

*Sundries:*

Tasmanian Smelting Co. ....	...	...	...	325
Prospectors, &c. ....	...	...	...	213
Total .....		<u>19,526</u>	<u>121,074</u>	<u>2059</u>

*Mount Zeehan (Tasmania).*—Mr. T. Vincent, manager, reports:—Spray Mine: Have connected tunnel-shaft workings with new shaft workings, and proved chute of ore for 300 feet in length, highly payable. Driving No. 3 lode. No. 3 level, south, lode no value. Nothing of value met with in driving north and south. Main lode: No. 2, or tunnel shaft, sunk to 60 feet below No. 5 level. No. 6 level will be opened at 80 feet, or 450 feet below the adit level. New shaft: Have completed erection of 20-inch first-motion winding-engine, and are making good progress with other construction work. Hope to resume sinking by the end of July. No. 2 shaft: Development and exploration have been confined to No. 2 level. Nothing of value has been met with. Stopping: Nos. 30 and 10 lodes payable. Hope to start shaft-sinking in two months. No. 5 shaft, Balstrup section: Are excavating in preparation for installation of new plant; intend sinking shaft 200 feet further, or 246 feet from surface.

*Zeehan-Montana.*—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—No. 1 shaft: Active mining operations have been carried on at Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 levels. No. 8 lode: Nos. 7 and 8 levels are now in strong, payable milling ore. No. 2 shaft: No. 2 lode, Nos. 3 and 4 levels, are proving fair quantities of payable ore. No. 1 lode, at levels 2, 3, and 4, continues to produce payable ore. The crosscut east of shaft has now intersected Bullock's lode. This lode is in the Despatch section, and is situate 1232 feet east of shaft. A rise is now being put up to surface, which will give good ventilation in this part of the mine. No 3 shaft: This has been sunk to a depth of 85 feet, and driving is now being carried on with a fair lode in both north and south ends.

*Zeehan-Western.*—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—There are three parties of men exploring Nos. 2, 5, and 6 levels, but so far nothing of value has been discovered. Preparations are being made for sinking the shaft to the 1000-foot level, where it is hoped that the lode will be found to be of better value.

*Silver Queen Extended.*—Mr. Chas. Stevens, manager, reports:—Developmental work carried on: 466 feet driven, stoped, risen and sunk during the quarter.

*Oonah*.—Capt. W. Fisher, manager, reports:—The Oonah option is meeting with good results in opening up the mine. At each level a good stannite lode, which now only requires a method of treatment to make the mine a success. There are 50 tributors working in the No. 3 level and up to the surface with payable results. Bruce is erecting a mill at his tribute to clean the pyrites.

*Florence*.—Mr. F. K. Astell, manager, reports:—Work this quarter has been carried out under the tribute system with good results. The main lodes being worked are McKay's, Astell's, South lode, old Venture, Flaherty's Last Hope, Currie's lode, Bramton's, and Thorne's; all at shallow depths.

*Silver King*.—Capt. W. Fisher, manager, reports:—Cowburn and Pepperd are working lodes cut between the main workings and the Zeehan-Strahan railway line. The lodes do not come right up to the track of the tunnel, and sinking will have to be resorted to. There is every likelihood of this property being refloated in Melbourne.

*Dundas Mines (Ring Valley)*.—Mr. W. J. Moyle, acting-manager, reports:—No. 1 level winze: During past quarter a drive was started, and was extended 30 feet south, but owing to a burst of water work had to be discontinued. The lode in south end of drive is 2 feet wide, of good second-class ore. Twenty-five feet level, south: Driving is now in progress at this level; total length of drive, 60 feet. For 50 feet the lode contained good fahl ore up to 2 feet wide, but for the last 10 feet the material is chiefly pyrites.

*Tasmanian Smelting Company*.—Mr. T. Kapp, manager, reports:—

Ore bought during the quarter, 12,242 tons.

Containing—	£
2600 tons lead of a gross value of .....	52,340
341,349 ozs. silver " " .....	42,859 (Standard)
153½ ozs. gold " " .....	6144
Total.....	£101,343

Exported 2477 tons bullion, containing 340,517 ozs silver and 1584 ozs. gold.

*Mt. Farrell Mines (North Mt. Farrell)*.—The water-power scheme has been completed, and the construction of a steam tramway in lieu of the wooden tram to the Emu Bay railway line has been started. The enlargement of the concentrating mill is being carried out, and the prospects of the mine are reported to be excellent. The manager estimates roughly that some 60,000 tons of ore is opened up and ready for stoping. The company publishes an

analysis of mining cost per ton of crude ore, for the half-year ending 30th April last, as follows:—

	s.	d.
Cost per ton winning ore .....	6	11·2
"    "    milling ore .....	4	0·7
"    "    other charges on ore.....	0	11·3
"    "    office and other expenses .....	0	7·1
"    "    development and prospecting .....	3	11·2
Total.....	16	5·5

#### NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

*Magnet Mine.*—Two thousand three hundred and fifty-one and a half tons silver-lead ore were raised during the quarter, of a gross value of £19,307 15s., and consigned to Cockle Creek and Zeehan Smelting Works. The concentrating plant at the mine is to be duplicated and improved as the extent and quality of the ore-body may warrant. One hundred and ninety-six men are employed.

*Mt. Stewart Mine, Hazlewood.*—Sixty-three tons of ore were raised, value £684. Ten men employed.

*Magnet (Victoria).*—Five men were employed.

#### NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

*Devon Mine.*—During the quarter 20 tons of galena were raised, value £459. Six men employed. The level south from the shaft has been extended to 43 feet. The formation is 4 feet wide, consisting of iron carbonate, fine-grained galena and copper pyrites throughout. Six inches of galena showing.

*Round Hill Silver-Lead Mine.*—This is situate near Mt. Claude, 14 miles from Sheffield. A good-quality galena lode has been discovered, and is being opened upon.

#### COPPER.

*Mt. Lyell Mine.*—Mr. Robert Sticht, general manager, reports:—The ores and metal-bearing fluxes treated during the quarter ending 30th June, are as follows:—

	Dry weight.			
	tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Mt. Lyell Mine ore.....	72,589	16	1	8
North Lyell Mine ore .....	30,905	1	3	25
Purchased ore.....	111	19	1	20
Metal-bearing fluxes :				
North Lyell Mine .....	658	0	1	21
Lyell Tharsis .....	5474	7	1	19
Total . .....	109,739	5	2	9

## Quantity and value of metal produced :—

	£	s.	d.
Blister Copper, 1919 tons, containing —			
Copper, 1895 tons, valued at .....	207,635	3	0
Silver, fine, 165,168 ozs., valued at.....	21,072	13	8
Gold, fine, 4119 ozs., valued at .....	17,505	15	0
Total.....	<u>£246,213</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>

## Number of men employed :—

At the Company's Mt. Lyell Mine .....	412
"    "    North Lyell Mine.....	432
"    "    Lyell Tharsis Mine.....	34
"    "    Royal Tharsis Mine .....	3
"    "    Reduction Works.....	993
Railway Department—Mt. Lyell Railway .....	145
"    "    North Lyell Railway ....	20
Total .....	<u>2039</u>

*Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company's Mines.*—Inspector Curtain reports: At the North Lyell group both the main and auxiliary shafts are 80 feet below the 850-foot level, and sinking will be continued for some time before the next, or No. 9 level, will be opened for exploitation and ventilation purposes. The development at the 850-foot level, especially at the Nos. 18 and 19 stopes, west and east of the main shaft, has been most satisfactory, and augurs a continuation of these ore-bodies at the next level and at greater depths. At the reduction works the recently-completed sintering plant has been started on flue dust slimes, and concentrates which, in combination, form a servicable matte for smelting the cruder ores in the main blast furnaces. A third turbo-electrical generator has been added to those already in commission in the power-house, and initial trials were stated to be satisfactory.

*Mt. Lyell Blocks Mine.*—Mr. Robert Ferguson, manager, reports that 18,565 tons of cupriferous clay have been mined and milled for a return of 152½ tons of fine copper, worth £13,702. One thousand five hundred and eighty-three feet have been driven, 448 feet crosscut, and 427 feet risen. Two hundred and fifty men employed. The company has relinquished an option held by it over Hyde's show, at Darwin, upon which it had 7 men employed.

*Mt. Lyell Consols.*—Mr. Hy. Hoyle, manager, reports that the main shaft has been sunk to 87 feet, and the main, or No. 3, tunnel driven 13 feet. There has been prospecting on the surface by boring, which has revealed such favourable shallow prospects that a system of open-cutting is about to be inaugurated. The large and commodious galvanised building for housing the concentrating plant has been finished, and the work of completing the puddling machines, 5-head battery, Wilfley and canvas tables, is proceeding.

The whole will be driven by a compound tandem engine, which has been seated, with its boiler, capable of carrying 120 lbs. working pressure. Thirty-one men employed.

*Crown Lyell Mine.*—Mr. Wm. Madden, manager, reports that the western fall tunnel has been advanced to 200 feet in mineralised country. Four men employed.

*Tasman and Crown Lyell Extended Mine.*—Mr. Ed. Carter, manager, reports that the jig drive has been raised and driven 80 feet, carrying favourable prospects of bornite for the whole of this distance, from which about 40 tons of high-grade ore have been stacked and selected. The drive from the 70 feet intermediate, below No. 2, having been driven beyond the computed underlie of the sulphide lode has been stopped, and operations have been directed to connecting this level with the winze sunk from No. 2 on this ore shoot by rising. Two comfortable huts have been built for the workmen. Nine men employed.

*Lyell Comstock Consolidated Mine.*—Mr. W. A. J. Briggs, manager, is arranging accommodation for workmen prior to starting mining operations here.

DUNDAS DISTRICT.—*Ring River Mine.*—Twenty-seven tons copper ore were raised, value £209. Nine men employed.

#### NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

*Burnie Copper Mines.*—The lode at the 150-foot level crosscut has been intersected and driven upon north and south. Payable lode stuff has been met with.

*Derwent P.A. Mines.*—These are near Cradle Mountains and Barn Bluff, and have been recently examined by Dr. Fritz Noetling, M.A. There are three properties owned by the Association, viz., the Derwent Copper Mine, the Cradle Mt. Copper Mine, and the Lake Windermere Copper Mine. Dr. Noetling describes the ore as occurring in fissure veins and stockworks in Archæan schists, and regards the proposition as a great mass of low grade ore, which, at the Derwent and Cradle, can be extracted by open cuts. The Derwent and Cradle mines are situated 22 to 24 miles from Liena.

#### WOLFRAM.

The output of wolfram during the quarter was as follows:—

	tons.	cwt.	Men employed.
Ben Lomond, Tungsten Mine .....	3	6	8
Storey's Creek.....	2	6	6
	<u>5</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>

*All Nations Wolfram Mine.*—Owing to the death of the late Mr. R. Mitchell, the London flotation of this mine was interrupted. Mr. T. J. Clerke, Wilmot, is the lessee of the sections, and intends

getting in touch with investors desirous of developing a wolfram proposition. The property is worth proving during the present favourable state of the wolfram market.

### ANTIMONY.

No further results have been met with in antimony mining this quarter. Mr. Hy. Ritchie, Launceston, has opened up communications with London respecting the Hall's Creek antimony sulphide ore referred to in the last quarterly report, and kindly furnishes the following results of his inquiries for the information of miners in this State who are raising ore of this description. The London metal brokers write under date of the 4th June:—"The present state of the market is very bad indeed, and the prices ruling, according to quotations in the paper, are £15 to £18 per ton, on the basis of 50 per cent., which brings the unit to 6s. and 7s. The market has been very much higher, only two months ago, and prices have been paid as high as £35 per ton, equal to 14s. per unit. The heavy drop has disturbed the market, and there is at present no buyer whatever to be found, the quotations being simply nominal. The antimony ore, as shown in the Hall's Creek assay, contains over 1 per cent. lead, and several of the refiners would not buy it at any price. As the number of refiners is very limited, there is no regular sale, for the two or three refiners who do buy it are not always in the market, and when they are, the price for this not commercial quality will always depend upon the quantities of good merchantable stuff offered." Mr. Ritchie adds that Messrs. John Terry & Co., 7 Gt. Winchester-street, London, will be pleased to act as agents for any shippers of this or other ore to the London market.

### COAL.

The output this quarter was 15,225 tons, against 10,949 tons the previous quarter. The output of the respective collieries was as follows:—

Colliery.	Tons raised.	Men employed.
Mourt Nicholas Colliery .....	6065	69
Cornwall                   " .....	6560	60
Spreyton                   " .....	357	7
York Plains               " .....	139	2
Sandfly                   " .....	1664	46
Mount Cygnet           " .....	490	3
Woodbridge              " .....	40	1
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>15,225</b>	<b>188</b>

*Cornwall Coal Mine.*—The electrical haulage plant is working satisfactorily. The main heading is now upwards of 3500 feet from the tunnel entrance, and the mine manager (Mr. D. Brough) reports that it is in good settled country, without faults, proving the existence of a large field of coal for future supplies.

## GEOLOGICAL AND MINERALOGICAL.

From time to time samples of Tasmanian minerals and rocks have been sent by the Department to Prof. H. Rosenbusch, Heidelberg. In the recently-published 2nd volume of his great work on the "Microscopical Physiography of Minerals and Rocks," are numerous references to the abovementioned specimens from Tasmania. Among others, mention is made of the dyke rock at the Magnet Mine, in which the silver-lead lode now being worked occurs. The Professor says:—"Mention may be made of the fact that the peridotites and pyroxenites can also be developed in dyke form. There is lying before me a specimen from the Magnet Mine in Tasmania, which certainly is completely altered, but which, in a fresh state, would be called Websterite-porphry. Porphyritic crystals of thoroughly chloritised pyroxene (the outlines of which point partly to monoclinic, partly to rhombic systems) lie in a ground-mass of angular chlorite fragments. The chlorite belongs to the pennine variety. Irregular and evidently secondary quartz grains are not rare in the groundmass. There is a singular absence of iron ores."

## CONCLUSION.

The aggregate value of the mineral production for the quarter amounted to £599,389, as against £583,751 the previous quarter. There are increases under the heads of tin ore, silver-lead, coal, and wolfram. The increase of £6669 under silver-lead represents additional value due to enhanced market prices, but that of £18,692 under tin ore is solely owing to increased raisings. On the other hand, the decrease of £12,910 under copper is due to the falling copper market, and not to any diminution of output. Altogether, the past quarter has been one of the most flourishing in the history of Tasmanian mining.

The following return shows the average number of men employed in or about the mines during the quarter ending the 30th June, 1907:—

District.	European.	Chinese.	Total.
Northern and Southern .....	915	...	915
North-Eastern .....	848	93	941
Eastern .....	623	35	658
North-Western .....	648	...	648
Western .....	4502	...	4502
Total .....	7536	128	7664

Value of mineral output per man employed:—£78 4s. 2d.

Dividends paid by Mining Companies during the quarter ending  
30th June, 1907:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Copper Mines:—						
Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Co. Ltd.	210,000	0	0	210,000	0	0
From Gold Mines .....			Nil			
From Tin Mines:—						
Bischoff T.M. Co., Registered .....	9000	0	0			
New Brothers' Home No. 1 T.M. Co., N.L. ....	4500	0	0			
Briseis Tin Mines, Ltd. ....	22,500	0	0			
New Ruby Flat T.M. Co., N.L. ....	609	0	0	36,609	0	0
From Silver Mines:—						
North Mt. Farrell Mining Co., N.L. ....	3497	0	0			
Hercules Gold and Silver Mining Co. ...	5149	0	0	8646	0	0
Total .....		...		<u>£255,255</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>