

MININD1909_3

THE PROGRESS OF
THE MINERAL INDUSTRY
OF
TASMANIA

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1909

COMPILED BY

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BY ORDER OF

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MINISTER FOR MINES



Tasmania:

JOHN VAIL, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, HOBART

1909



PROGRESS OF THE
MINERAL INDUSTRY OF TASMANIA

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1909.

Hobart, 10th November, 1909.

The following table shows, as far as can be ascertained, the quantities and values of Metals and Minerals raised during the quarter ending 30th September, 1909, as compared with the previous quarter ending 30th June, 1909:—

	During the Quarter ending 30th Sept., 1909.		During the Quarter ending 30th June, 1909.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
* Gold won	oz. 10,013·358	42,533	12,449·248	52,881
Silver-lead Ore produced	tons 26,810·59	76,032	20,821·26	82,790
† Blister Copper produced	„ 2338	157,639	2199	148,544
Copper Ore and Copper produced	„ 110·5	2327	819	9617
Tin Ore produced.....	„ 1213·44	111,579	1132·32	102,731
Coal raised.....	„ 16,596	14,106	16,297	13,852
Wolfram Ore produced...	„ 5·05	453	9·75	820
Bismuth.....	„ 3	60	1	400
	...	404,729	...	411,635

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

† Value of gold contents deducted.

GOLD.

During the past quarter, 3788 oz. of gold were obtained from quartz, 229·5 oz. from alluvial, 702·5 oz. by means of the cyanide

and chlorination processes, 3862 oz. from blister copper from the Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company, Limited, and 1608 oz. from the silver-lead bullion from the Tasmanian Smelting Company's works, Zeehan, valued at £42,533.

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 1908, and the previous quarter ending 30th June, 1909:—

	Gold obtained during the Quarter ending 30th Sept., 1909.						Totals corresponding Quarter, 1908.	Totals for Quarter ending 30th June, 1909.
	From Quartz.	Alluvial.	Cyanide & chlorination.	From Blister Copper.	From Silver-lead Bullion.	TOTAL.		
	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.		
Beaconsfield	3123	...	354	...	...	3477	6808.15	7557
Mathinna ...	605.5	...	94.5	...	...	700	615	350
Mt. Victoria	}	131.5	...	...	...	131.5	49.72	164.25
Warrentinna								
Mt. Cameron	}	15	254	...	...	324	249	132.75
Lefroy								
Lisle	}	82	...	...	...	86.5	105	27.5
Lilydale.....								
Golconda ...	4.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
West Coast.	...	1	...	3862	1608	5471	5666.5	4270.46
TOTALS	3788	229.5	702.5	3862	1608	10,190	...	...
Totals corresponding Quarter, 1908.....	5899	158.22	1773.15	4735	928	...	13,493.37	...
Totals for Quarter ending 30th June, 1909.....	7006.5	140.25	1099.75	2627	1628.46	...	...	12,501.96

Value, £42,533; equal to 10,013.858 oz. fine gold.

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

	Gold produced.	Men employed.
	oz.	
Tasmania Mine	3459	479
Moonlight-cum-Wonder	18	2
Bonanza .....	...	12
Others .....	...	2
Total.....	3477	495

Tasmania Mine.—Eleven thousand nine hundred and thirty-two tons of quartz crushed, and 3459 oz. of gold obtained (by amalgamation and chlorination), which makes a total of 797,134 tons quartz crushed, and 739,173 oz. gold obtained since the mine was first started.

Mr. C. F. Heathcote, superintendent, reports:—At the beginning of the quarter heavy flow of water prevented work. As soon as the pumps mastered this, work was resumed, including the sinking of Grubb shaft, which is the main pumping shaft, and is down to a depth of 1380½ feet.

Bonanza Proprietary.—Mr. Joseph Allan, manager, reports:—Average number of men employed, 12. Total distance driven, 166 feet. Crosscutting and prospecting expenditure, £379 3s. 2d. Operations carried on at 1000-foot level.

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

	Gold produced.	Men employed.
	oz.	
New Pinafore.....	...	13
Creek Cyanide	254	19
Gift	55	6
Others	15	11
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals.....	324	49
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Prospecting operations on Nugget line of reef by New Pinafore Company have proved disappointing, and work is now confined to prospecting on a new reef near the Native Youth line, but so far without payable result. The Gift Gold Mining Company has just been formed to work a vein lately found on Specimen Hill, a crushing from which gave 55 oz. from 12 tons quartz. The main shaft, on Reward reef, is now being unwatered, and a cross-cut will be driven to intersect the reef at 260 feet, where it is hoped the reef will be larger. Some prospecting will likely be done on some of the other veins known to exist on the property.

Kitto's Chum Mine.—Mr. T. L. Kitto, manager, reports:—Work done in Kitto's Chum Mine: Shaft sunk 210 feet. Crosscut at 120-foot level, 27 feet north. Levels 47 feet west, 89 feet east. At 200-foot level, crosscut north, 26 feet. Levels, west 81 feet, east 66 feet. There was a small amount of stoping done at a point 56 feet east on 120-foot level.

LISLE, GOLCONDA, &c.—Eighty-two ozs. of gold have been won from these fields. Eighteen men have been employed.

New Wyengatta Gold Mine.—Mr. R. H. T. Brook, manager, reports:—Work has been chiefly composed of stoping on the 170-foot level, on the reef on the east and west of the main shaft.

During the quarter I connected No. 2 and No. 3 levels by a winze and put in short intermediate levels 18 feet long, 25 feet below No. 2 level. I am now driving north off No. 2 level, and am carrying the eastern face of the same level forward.

LILYDALE.—Four and a half ounces won by 20 men.

RINGAROOMA.—The New River Freehold Company obtained 17 ozs. of alluvial gold, and employed one man.

Other Alberton claims obtained 35 ozs. alluvial, and employed three men.

Alluvial Gold and Dredging Companies.—Gold has been obtained by the following companies in streaming tin:—

	Standard Gold.
	oz.
Ringarooma Dredge	30
Dorset Dredge	10·5
S. Mt. Cameron T.M. Co.	13
Braisé Co.	15
New Brothers' Home No. 1 Co.	11
Total	79·5

Gladstone Prospecting Association.—Mr. M. O'Halloran, manager, reports:—From the 10th February up to the 30th September, a shaft 6 feet by 3 feet was sunk to a depth of 50 feet, from the surface, and a crosscut put in from this shaft for a distance of 23 feet. Another shaft, 7 feet by 3 feet, was sunk at a point 140 feet north of the first shaft to a depth of 30 feet. The work has been confined to a line of quartz reef which carries sufficient gold to warrant further prospecting. We have discovered what appear to be three distinct reefs, each carrying encouraging prospects of gold—No. 1 running 20° west of north, 5 feet wide, between walls composed of sandstone and slate; No. 2 running nearly east and west, 1 foot 6 inches wide; No. 3, north-east by south-west, 2 feet 6 inches wide. Underlie No. 1, 5° west; No. 2, 20° south; No. 3, 10° south-east.

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

	Quartz crushed.	Sand treated.	Gold produced.	Men.
	tons.	tons	oz.	
New Golden Gate	954	975	700	42
Eldorado .....	...	...	..	2
Golden Horseshoe .....	...	...	...	10
Others .....	...	...	...	32
Totals	954	975	700	86

New Golden Gate.—Mr. T. J. Andrews, manager, reports:—Work in the old mine has been confined to stoping out blocks of quartz in upper levels.

Prospecting on Eastern Sections.—The main shaft has been sunk to a total depth of 319 feet 6 inches. Plat cut at 308 feet. Machinery and poppet heads erected, and as soon as latter is complete, crosscutting will be started.

Golden Horseshoe.—Mr. Ben. Searle, manager, reports:—Have been engaged on erection of winding-engine and boiler, engine-house, and changing-room over the same. Shaft sinking, 50 feet, making a total of 110 feet from the surface; 40 feet of cross-cutting at the 100-foot level; and quartz treated, nil. Gold won nil; and fair amount of surface work round about the mine. Hands employed average 10 men.

WEST COAST.—Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—The Davie P.A. have continued their prospecting drive for some 500 feet without to the present locating the downward "pitch" of their surface prospects; four men employed.

Alluvial.—The quantity from this source is most meagre; only 1 oz. 8 grs. being accounted for by Mr. F. O. Henry, who is the only licensed buyer in these parts, from two men.

TIN.

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

	Ore won.	Value.	Men employed.	
	tons.	£	Europeans.	Chinese.
Northern and Southern Division	28·05	2104	39	...
North-Eastern Division.....	681·30	64,351	724	88
Eastern Division.....	127·10	11,779	297	20
North-Western Division.....	308·01	27,463	391	..
Western Division.....	68·98	5882	132	...
Totals.....	<u>1213·44</u>	<u>111,579</u>	<u>1583</u>	<u>108</u>

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

The output has been as under:—

	Ore won.	Men employed.
	tons.	
Mt. Bischoff	255	307
Mt. Bischoff Extended	46	70
Waratah Alluvial.....	2·56	6
Wombat Mine	3·20	3
Weir's Bischoff Surprise.....	1·25	4
Others .....	...	1
Totals.....	<u>308·01</u>	<u>391</u>

Mt. Buschoff Mine.—Mr. J. D. Millen, manager, reports:—During the past quarter the usual productive work has been carried on in the different open-cuts and benches. In the underground workings stoping has been proceeding from the various levels of the Queen lode, and a considerable amount of prospecting and developmental work has been accomplished. Hydro-electrical power plant.—During the period under review a new turbo generator set has been installed at the power-station, and is working very satisfactorily. The new 10-head stamp mill, with the necessary concentrating appliances (erected during last half-year), is doing efficient work, a heavy stamp duty being maintained, and a decided reduction in the percentage of slimes.

Mt. Bischoff Extended Mine.—Mr. F. H. Granstedt, manager, reports:—Three thousand one hundred and twenty-four tons of ore were raised and crushed, for a return of 46 tons tin oxide, assaying 66 per cent. = 30·36 tons tin; approximate value, £4050.

The ores in the deeper levels are now becoming more pyritic, and in order to turn these into profit a calciner is at present being installed. More concentrating tables are also being added to the mill to more effectually deal with the slimes.

NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

PIONEER AND GLADSTONE DISTRICTS:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Pioneer Tin Mine	149	100	...
Aberroe	3·5	10	...
Argus Tin Mine.....	3	14	...
South Mt. Cameron	30	40	...
Ringarooma Dredge	6·8	18	...
Dorset	9·75	20	...
Purdue Tin Mine	21	21	...
Garibaldi.....	12·75	22	8
Other Claims	44·2	89	53
Totals.....	280	334	61

RINGAROOMA DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
S. Flaherty	3·4	4	...
Others	3·7	30	...
Totals.....	7·1	34	...

DERBY DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Briseis Tin Mines.....	240	158	...
New Brothers' Home, No. 1....	34·85	15	...
Briseis Extended	25	38	...
Other Derby Claims	4·9	21	2
Total	304·75	232	2

BRANXHOLM DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Arba Tin Mine.....	22·4	40	...
New Ruby Flat	24	22	...
Other Claims	5·75	4	15
Total	52·15	66	15

MOORINA DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Weld Tin Mine	13·9	12	...
Native Youth	7	7	...
North-Eastern	4 35	6	...
Banca	2·85	4	...
Other Moorina Claims	7·2	24	10
Total.....	35·3	53	10
Mt. Stronach	2	5	...
Total for North-Eastern Division	681·3	724	88

Briseis Tin and General Mining Company.—Mr. Lindesay C. Clark, general manager, reports:—There is little change of consequence to report. The usual monthly yield of tin ore has been maintained. The drift carries very large amounts of cement and granite boulders, requiring much labour and explosives to remove them. The tailings are stacked in worked-out ground either by gravity or gravel pump, as required. At the northern end of the workings, removal of overburden has been pushed on vigorously. As the centre of the basaltic hill overlying the drifts is reached the overburden gets harder, and now requires a large amount of labour. The head races are all in good order, and have delivered a fair average supply of water.

Pioneer Tin Mine.—Mr. M. H. Carlin, acting-manager, reports:—The output of tin ore from this mine is as follows:—From mine, 145 tons 8 cwt.; from tributors, 3 tons 10 cwt. 1 qr. The mine output was obtained from 157,100 cubic yards of drift sluiced. The electrical scheme, completed during the previous quarter, has been in continual operation, and materially assists in the successful working of the mine.

Purdue Tin Mines.—Mr. George Watt, manager, reports:—The principal work carried out during the last quarter has been sluicing the tin drifts on various leases. For the whole of the term the ground operated on has been shallow, but satisfactory results are being obtained.

Dorset Bucket-dredging Company.—Mr. C. Murison, manager, reports:—Tin, 9 tons 15 cwt.; gold, 10 oz. 6 dwt.; men employed, 20; cubic yards treated, 98·750 approximately; average depth, 18 feet.

Ringarooma Bucket Dredging Company.—Mr. C. Murison, manager, reports:—Tin, 6 tons 16 cwt.; gold, 29 oz. 18 dwt.; cubic yards treated, 50·020 approximately; men employed, 18; depth, average, 25 feet.

Mt. Stronach Mine.—Mr. F. L. Graves reports:—Since July I have employed five men regularly, and two extra men occasionally. Amount of tin won from July till end of September, about two tons.

EASTERN DIVISION.

<i>Weldborough Mines.</i>	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Fancy Creek Co.	5·6	13	...
Weldborough Mine.....	3	4	...
Pioneer Tribute	4·75	5	...
Tallywang.....	5·9	4	...
Other Claims	26·15	24	20
Total	45·4	50	20
<i>Lottah and Blue Tier Mines.</i>			
Anchor Mine	51·5	115	...
Total	51·5	115	...
<i>St. Helens Mines.</i>			
C. Miller	2·7	5	...
A. Williams	2·25	6	...
J. C. Macmichael.....	4·65	9	...
J. J. Brook	1·35	5	...
Deep Lead.....	1·8	3	...
Others	2·8	12	...
Total	15·55	40	...

<i>Scamander.</i>	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Great Pyramid.....	...	43	...
<i>Avoca Mines.</i>			
Story's Creek Claims	3·45	10	...
Roy's Hill	3·75	6	...
South Esk	1·4	3	...
Other Claims	6·05	30	...
Total	14·65	49	...
<i>Total for Eastern Division</i>	<u>127·1</u>	<u>297</u>	<u>20</u>

Fancy Creek Tin Sluicing Syndicate.—Mr. F. H. Walker, manager, reports:—Have been working four faces, which comprise the following:—

Waverley Face.—Average depth from 60 feet to 150 feet. This face is composed of a body of tin-bearing leaders running in a north and south line through decomposed granite country. Seven men are employed in this face, and they work three shifts.

Three Alluvial Faces.—These faces are composed of surfacing, average depth of same from 2 to 4 feet. Five men are employed in the three faces, and they work one shift. One man is also employed as caretaker on 8 miles of water-race.

Weldborough Tin Mine.—Mr. W. Dickinson, manager, reports:—Sluicing has been carried on on the various sections held by the company; work by suction blower and by ground-sluicing. The formation raised by blower, 2000 yards, from which 1 ton 2 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb. of tin was won. Owing to the inadequate water-supply and the formation underfoot being too hard for profitable working, work in this face was suspended. The higher level ground was worked by ground-sluicing, for which a fair supply of water was available. Owing to insufficient head pressure this ground had to be worked with picks, and from, approximately, 4000 yards of material sluiced 1 ton 17 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb. of tin was won; making a total of 6000 yards of material treated from the various sections, for 3 tons 1 qr. of tin ore. The average number of men employed was four.

Great Pyramid Tin Mine (Scamander).—Mr. W. Gullock, manager, reports:—Prospecting work has been carried on during the last three months by driving adits into the central axis of the hill. Altogether seven adits are being continued, with a staff of 43 men. Possible ore proved on the first pinnacle, 817,700 tons, averaging 1 per cent. metallic tin. An average of 500 feet of driving per month has been carried out in developing work.

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed. Europeans.
Shepherd and Murphy Mine	28·05	39

WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed. Europeans.
Boulder	15	21
Renison Bell.....	7	22
Montana Tin Syn.	27·58	33
Federation and Mayne's.....	8·40	12
Various Claims.....	11	44
Total	68·98	132

Renison Bell.—Mr. W. A. J. Briggs, manager, reports:—The ore has been drawn from the gossan ore-body and from the siliceous detrital faces, and stacked stone derived from sluicing operations at a prior date. The mill comprises 5 head stampers, battery, one Gate's crusher, one grinding-pan, two jigs, two card-tables, two double Luhrig vanners, and three classifiers.

Federation Tin Mine.—Mr. J. S. Munro reports:—Four men have been regularly employed on the above property as tributors in general mining work. There has also been one man employed as supervisor and caretaker. During the period mentioned our work as carried out has been encouraging, and a fair output of tin ore of high grade has been maintained. An additional man on wages in general prospecting work was started on the property two and a half weeks ago, and with more settled weather it is our intention to put on at least one man more.

SILVER.

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

Zeehan Mines:	Ore.	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Mt. Zeehan, Tas.	galena	159	£2919	75
	gossan	162		
Zeehan-Montana	galena	4978	14,631	202
Zeehan-Western	galena and gossan	687·3	1366	26
Zeehan-Queen	gossan	117	105	2
Florence	"	135	124	21
Nubeena	galena	13	86	9
Section 1816	flux	153	38	2
Oceana	galena	22·5	158	4
Colonel North	"	70	567	25
T.L.E.	"	10	101	4

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Zeehan Mines—continued.		Ore.	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Austral Valley	flux	800·35	252	5
Balstrup's	galena	.....	31	250	7
S. Comstock	...	.....	...	...	3
New Mt. Zeehan	galena	.....	42·75	189	4
Venezia Tribute	"	.....	26	152	3
Oonah	gossan	.....	160	34	3
"	sulphide	.....	1349	6821	52
"	flux	.....	93		
Queen Extended	galena	.....	14	95	10
Dundas Mines:	galena	.....	342	4289	62
Adelaide	gossan	.....	265	295	
"	galena	.....	108	422	4
Jupiter	sulphide	.....	3772	13,063	
Hercules	zinc blende	.....	1786	4074	93
"	gossan	.....	5551	3874	
Comet	zinc ore	.....	100	2302	14
Rosebery Mines:	galena	.....	40	600	5
Tasmanian Copper	"	.....	42	631	9
Primrose	"	.....	16·4	172	6
"	"	.....	774	5875	140
Mt. Farrell Mines:	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Mackintosh	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Murchison	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Mt. Farrell	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
North Farrell	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Others	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
North Peman:	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Chester Mine	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Mt. Lyell:	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
Tasman & Crown Lyell	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
Extended	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
Sundries:	.....	.....	.....	.....	38
Tasmanian Smelting Co.	.....	.....	545	2264	16
Others	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	285
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	179
Total	.....	.....	25,355·80	£66,477	1392

The Mt. Zeehan (Tasmania) Silver-lead Mines, Limited.—Mr. T. Vincent, manager, reports:—Nothing of value being found in No. 8 shaft workings, the mine was closed down. Prospecting is now being done on the western part of the company's lease.

Zeehan-Western.—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—During the quarter mining operations have been carried on at the main works.

No. 1 Lode, No. 1 Level.—Driving north we have developed a fair body of ore. A winze has been sunk on the lode and a drive driven north above water-level. Stopping is being carried on at this level.

No. 2 Lode.—A shaft has been sunk to a depth of 70 feet from the surface, and No. 2 lode cut. Driving and stopping are being carried on on this lode with fair results.

A shaft has been sunk on the Beauty section of the property to a depth of 50 feet, but owing to heavy influx of water this work has been abandoned. A large amount of surface prospecting has been carried on, but so far without any good results.

Tributors.—There are four parties of tributors at work above water-level.

Zeehan-Montana Mine.—Mr. John Craze, manager, reports:—

No. 1 Shaft.—The usual exploratory work has been carried out at this shaft. At No. 3 level we have driven through the main slide, and have cut No. 2 lode, showing a little ore. This is quite a new discovery from anything formerly seen in the mine. Although we have cut through this slide at several other points and levels, we have never been successful in finding either lode or ore. We have cut ore at No. 3 level north of the slide. The north drive at Nos. 4 and 5 levels has since been driven through the slide, and at each level the same ore-shoot has been discovered, and is now being driven on. The north drive at No. 6 level is now being driven through the slide with the hope of meeting with the same ore-shoot. The cutting of ore north of the main slide has opened up a considerable reserve of stoping ground, and as the whole of the ground north for a distance of 400 feet is purely virgin, there are considerable possibilities for the opening-up of considerable payable ground.

No. 2 Shaft.—The exploring of the No. 5 level at this shaft has not been very encouraging. No. 1 lode has been cut and driven on for a considerable distance, but so far no ore has been met with. A rise put through from No. 5 to No. 4 level has proved the lode to be not payable. We are crosscutting for No. 2 lode, No. 5 level, and hope to cut the lode in about 50 feet.

Oonah Mines, Limited.—Mr. Rupert C. Alabaster, general manager, reports:—Mine developments confined to stannite lode, levels 4, 5, and 6. Results have been to open up wide ore-body still continuing in north faces, and to place available for extraction additional reserves equivalent to at least one year's output at present rates, while adding materially to prospects of further successful developments in the north end of the Mine. Stopping carried out on same levels, producing 1230 tons of first-grade ores, railed to company's smelting works, and 477 tons of second-grade ores and fine ore for subsequent despatch. A railway with both gauges from Silver Bell Siding to company's smelter site and smelting works was finished in June, the latter comprising dry crushing mill, two mechanical calciners, reverberatory furnace, with all appurtenances thereto, and provision for alternative electric motor and steam-driving. Blast furnaces installation, with 72 inches by 42 inches water-jacketted furnace, boiler, combined engine and blower, belt-driven hoist, water storage and sump, service pump, &c., completed in August. The reverberatory furnace plant was more or less in experimental operation during the period

under review, treating 1359·5 tons of ore, producing 124·15 tons high-grade copper silver matte. The blast furnace is now placed in permanent operation, but during the quarter ending 30th September operated for trial run, lasting 13 days, producing 65 tons low-grade matte, for return to reverberatory furnace, 8½ tons tin-copper alloy and a small quantity of "bottoms" with highly concentrated silver-bismuth and tin values.

Florence Mine.—Mr. F. K. Astell, manager, reports:—Work has been confined to the erection of the pumping-plant, and now everything is finished, and in waiting for the Tasmanian Smelting Company, who have taken the mine on tribute for a period, and will make a start, I understand, at the end of this, or beginning of next, week.

Oceana Mine.—Mr. R. Fox, manager, reports:—The pumping-plant has been replaced by heavier machinery, to allow of unwatering to a greater depth. Owing to the cessation of pumping, mining operations have been confined to the stopes above water-level. Stope faces showing 2 feet mixed galena and gossan.

Colonel North Mine.—Mr. C. W. Mayo, manager, reports:—Work is confined to the crosscutting west at 130-foot level, and to driving north and south, on a vein met with in the crosscut 300 feet from main shaft. One party of tributors are stoping above No. 1 level south of main shaft.

Silver Queen Extended.—Mr. W. Fisher, manager, reports:—The chief tribute is Featherstone's. The Argent No. 2 closing down flooded the lower workings of this tribute. A winze was then sunk from the upper (adit) level down to the water 4 feet 2 inches, and opened out and driven south 1 foot 3 inches and north 2 feet 2 inches, lode 8 inches mixed ore. This block should produce a fair amount of metal.

Clarke is driving a crosscut to cut a lode on Argent ground just outside Queen Extended boundary. In 26 feet 2 inches, leaving 18 to 20 feet to go to meet with the line of lode.

New Mt. Zeehan Mine.—Mr. J. H. Munro, local representative, reports:—Tributors: Three men have been regularly and continuously employed working plant and machinery in connection with saving galena and lead slimes, for an output valued, as per our return herewith, at £189 4s. 6d. There has been one man also employed for seven weeks in overhauling, painting, and generally doing up the company's pumping and winding plant, whilst another man has been engaged six weeks in trenching on our ironstone outcrop. Further work on this surface trenching is now being carried out, and will be continued till, at least, the end of the year. Timbering and repairing the main shaft is to be started next week. A caretaker of the whole property is living in the manager's house.

DUNDAS.—*Comet Mine*.—Mr. Gerald Ahern, manager, reports:—The northern open-cut shows large bodies of iron flux; the bulk of the output was taken from these workings. The lower level is now in 500 feet, and is producing payable flux of similar quality to the surface workings. The work on the southern open-cut has been confined to hydraulicking the overburden. This is proceeding at a rapid rate.

Adelaide Mine.—Mr. Thomas J. Dyson, manager, reports:—Work confined chiefly to stoping. No. 5 level driven, but ore was low grade, and the mine at this depth generally unsatisfactory. Operations resulted in loss.

MT. READ DISTRICT.—*Hercules Mine*.—Mr. Claude H. Moxon, manager, reports:—The work has been principally stoping for both lead and zinc-blende ores, and about the usual average tonnage has been sent out. Developmental work has also been in progress, principally proving the length and width of the ore-bodies already known. Further exploration in the lower levels is contemplated, and a start has already been made in the intermediate 5B level.

Mt. Read Mine.—Mr. W. J. Moyle, manager, reports:—The 600-foot level tunnel is being driven by two men; total length of tunnel to date, 1641 feet. At certain points of this tunnel two lode formations were intersected, varying from 28 feet to over 30 feet in width; and although each of these lodes contain the usual zinc-lead sulphides of the district, and may be classed as typical ore-deposits, the average values in zinc, lead, silver, and gold and copper are extremely poor, and much below the payable standard line. Nothing has been done to further prove them north and south, except in one place, but no improvement in value was disclosed in a length of 80 feet of driving on the course of No. 2 lode north. The adit is being further advanced in the hope that other parallel lodes or lenses of ore will be disclosed. The enclosing rocks comprise schists with alternating bands of impure limestone rocks.

ROSEBERRY DISTRICT.—*Tasmanian Copper Mine*.—Mr. G. Barker, manager, reports:—Developmental work, No. 2 level: North drive extended 53 feet (total 710 feet), in lode-channel, of poor value. The main adit has been extended 167 feet (total, 1147 feet) through bands of quartzite and hard schist. At Nos. 5 and 6 levels the usual amount of stoping has been carried out.

MT. FARRELL DISTRICT.—*Mackintosh Tribute*.—Mr. J. Geddes, manager, reports:—Work has been confined to stoping on main lode between Nos. 1 and 2 rise, &c., on good seconds. Two hundred

and fifteen tons of seconds treated at North Mt. Farrell mill for return of 36 tons of marketable ore and 4 tons of first-class ore.

North Mt. Farrell Mine.—Mr. L. C. H. Woodroffe, B.C.E., manager, reports:—The usual average output of first-class and milling ore has been maintained. Development work in the main has been confined to the opening-up and proving of the extent of ore-bodies already known to exist. From the No. 4, or bottom, adit a winze is being sunk on the No. 3 lode, and is down 30 feet in good-quality milling ore. The main shaft is completed to 60 feet below the No. 4 level. At this depth opening out and cross-cutting for the lodes is now in progress. Ore-bins and landing flat at No. 4 level are approaching completion. To provide for the transmission of power for hoisting and pumping purposes an Ingersoll-Sergeant, Class A type, air-compressor has been installed at the mill, and is now in use. New ore-classing and sampling sheds have been erected at the No. 4 adit level; and the formation of a commodious yard thereat has afforded much needed facilities for the carrying out of the necessary surface operations.

Mt. Farrell Mine.—Mr. J. H. Astell, manager, reports:—North workings: A rise has been put up 20 feet on the western lode, and south drive carried along on footwall 16 feet; lode, 2 feet to 6 feet milling ore. South workings: A fair quantity of mixed ore has been stoped.

NORTH PIEMAN.—*Chester Mine.*—Mr. Luke Williams, manager, reports:—No mining for ore has been carried on during this quarter, as all attention has been given to putting in horse trams from Chester siding, and a self-acting tram to the mine. The horse trams are completed, and the self-acting tram has been constructed and equipped, and will be ready in a week's time for work.

MT. LYELL DISTRICT.—*Tasman and Crown Lyell Extended.*—Mr. Ed. Carter reports:—The driving of 113 feet easterly and rising 30 feet from the No. 3 "intermediate" are proceeding. From the "end" of the No. 3, or low level, adit, 90 feet has been driven, and 20 feet risen, on the "contact" in favourably mineralised country, with 16 men. During the term 545 tons of crude ore, containing 29.3 per cent. of lead and 18.392 oz. of silver to the ton, has been disposed of to the Tasmanian Smelting Company at Zeehan for the sum of £4 3s. 1d. gross per ton.

Tasmania Smelting Company.—Mr. H. Harris, manager, reports:—Ore bought during the quarter, 10,039 tons, containing—1491 tons lead, 193,357 oz. silver, 1174 oz. gold. Exported, 1886 tons bullion, containing 1814 tons lead, 226,508 oz. silver, 1608 oz. gold.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Magnet Mine.....	1454·79	£9555	160
Victoria Magnet.....	...	...	5
New Magnet.....	...	...	2
Mt. Stewart.....	...	...	10
Long Tunnel.....	...	...	10
			<hr/>
			187
			<hr/> <hr/>

Magnet Mine.—Mr. C. A. De Lautour, manager, reports:—

Tramway.—One thousand four hundred and fifty-four tons net dry weight of ore were handled. An additional amount of ballasting is being carried out, and a couple of $1\frac{1}{4}$ chain curves cut out.

Mill.—For the most part three shifts have been worked, treating 7963·5 tons of seconds.

Underground.—The ore has been produced mainly from Nos. 7 and 8 levels, in the latter of which the ore-body has been driven on for a length of 400 feet, having a maximum width of 64 feet. The ore is being taken out on the square-set system, followed by close filling; rises being placed 30 feet apart.

New Magnet.—Mr. H. D. Osborne, manager, reports:—Main crosscut has been extended a distance of 31 feet through dolomite country. A little trenching on the surface has been done, and a copper lode 2 feet wide carrying small veins of clean copper ore has been exposed.

COPPER.

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

Mt. Lyell Mine.—Mr. Robert Sticht, general manager, reports:—The ores and metal-bearing fluxes treated during the quarter ending 30th September, 1909, were as follow:—

Ores and metal-bearing fluxes treated at Reduction Works:—

	tons.	Dry weight.		
		cwt.	qr.	lb.
Mt. Lyell Mine ore	61,916	0	1	22
North Lyell Mine ore	33,478	13	3	26
Purchased ore.....	68	6	2	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	95,463	0	3	26

Metal-bearing fluxes:—

Lyell Tharsis Mine	427	6	1	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	95,890	7	0	26
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Quantity and value of metal produced :—

	£	s.	d.
Blister Copper, 2338 tons, containing—			
Copper, 2311 tons, valued at	139,723	1	2
Silver, fine, 182,036 ozs., valued at.....	17,915	7	6
Gold, fine, 3862 ozs., valued at	16,413	10	0
Total.....	£174,051	18	8

Number of men employed :—

At the Company's	Mt. Lyell Mine	392	
"	North Lyell Mine.....	444	
"	Lyell Tharsis Mine.....	4	
"	Crotty.....	13	
		—	853
"	Reduction Works.....	...	918
Railway Department—	Mt. Lyell Railway	130	
"	North Lyell Railway .	17	
		—	147
Total.....			1918

Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—

Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company's Group.

Mt. Lyell Mine.—Beyond the fact that active stoping operations have been resumed underground in Nos. 6 and 7 levels, there is nothing of importance to add to the various references that have from time to time been made on these workings in past reports. At the power-house (compressing plant) preparations are being made to seat another set of improved boilers.

North Lyell Mine.—Underground operations here also continue on lines similar to my last. The downward continuation of the ore has, however, in the interval been established in the south drive from the eastern crosscut at the 1100-foot level. The various stopes at the 1000-foot and 850-foot levels continue to open exceptionally well, while those operating over the 700-foot level supply a proportional quantity of serviceable ore to the smelters. At the latter the various operations are satisfactory, possibly the most important reference to this part of the mine relates to the construction of a fairly extensive dam on the west branch of the Queen River for the purpose of conserving and supplying these works with their necessary water requirements by means of gravitation, and thereby modifying, if not entirely doing away with, the pumping-station in the Queen Valley.

Lyell Consols Copper Company.—Mr. John Carroll reports:—During the term under review 608 feet has been driven, 140 feet crosscutted, and 420 feet stoped and risen, for a production of

4200 tons of clay, that returned 46 tons of copper concentrates, valued at £1850; 70 men employed.

Lyell Blocks Mining Company.—Mr. Robert Ferguson reports the resumption of work on this property, since when 1389 feet of drives have been reclaimed, with 15 men.

Mt. Lyell Comstock Company.—Mr. C. E. Coote reports:—The low-level adit has been extended 78 feet, and a further 101 feet devoted to prospecting, with 10 men. Preparations are being made to sink in this adit in the part where improved prospects of yellow copper ore was cut in the green schist country.

Lyell Extended Copper Company.—Mr. Wm. Madden, representative, reports:—Prospecting operations have been resumed in the copper clays, where an adit has been driven 60 feet. The face at the present is showing appreciable prospects of native copper; two men employed.

The balance of the mines in this district are idle.

MTS. JUKES AND DARWIN.—*Lake Jukes Proprietary.*—Mr. George Hyde reports:—The work done on the Lake Jukes Mine consisted principally of surface prospecting, which disclosed a band 20 feet wide, with bornite and chalcopryrite well disseminated. Three and a half tons of ore were forwarded to the Mt. Lyell Company's smelters, which gave a return of £5 12s. per ton; two men employed.

The Hyde Prospecting Association, Darwin.—A little surface prospecting has been carried out, which proved the country to be ore-bearing for a considerable distance north of the ore previously exposed; one man employed.

Darwin Syndicate Prospecting Association.—Mr. James Souter reports:—Work has been continued without intermission in extending the crosscut to reach contact country, the same favourable schist still continuing, but showing very much better copper prospects; three men employed.

NORTH DUNDAS DISTRICT.—The Ring Valley Mining Company obtained 61 tons of copper sulphides, valued at £457; eight men employed.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

Murray's Reward.—Twenty men employed.

Others.—(Estimated), 30 men.

F.G.D. Copper Mines.—Four men employed.

COAL.

The output this quarter was 16,596 tons, against 16,297 tons the previous quarter. The output of the respective collieries was as follows:—

Colliery.	Tons raised.	Men employed.
Cornwall Colliery	7683	68
Mt. Nicholas "	6748	64
Spreyton "	437	6
York Plains "	182	2
Mt. Cygnet " (6 months)	200	3
Wallsend "	1296	9
Ida Bay "	50	4
Total!	16,596	156

BISMUTH.

The Shepherd and Murphy Company obtained 3 ton of bismuth from its tin ore, valued at £60.

WOLFRAM.

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

	Tons.	£	Men.
Avoca Mines.....	4.90	441	4
Shepherd and Murphy Mine.....	.15	12	...

The following return shows the average number of men employed in or about the mines during the quarter ending 30th September, 1909:—

District.	European.	Chinese.	Total.
Northern and Southern	645	...	645
North-Eastern	728	88	816
Eastern	519	20	539
North-Western	632	...	632
Western	3559	...	3559
Total	6083	108	6191

Value of mineral output per man:—£65 7s. 5.7d.

Dividends paid by Mining Companies during the quarter ending
30th September, 1909:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Copper Mines:—						
Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Co., Ltd.	105,000	0	0	105,000	0	0
From Gold Mines.....	Nil					
From Tin Mines:—						
Bischoff T.M. Co., Registered.....	9000	0	0			
Pioneer T.M. Co., Ltd.....	8062	0	0			
Montana Prospecting Syndicate (Tin)...	600	0	0			
New Ruby Flat T.M. Co., N.L.	1218	0	0			
				18,880	0	0
From Silver Mines	Nil					
Total				<u>£123,880</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>