

MININD1910-4

THE PROGRESS OF  
THE MINERAL INDUSTRY  
OF  
TASMANIA

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1910

COMPILED BY

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BY ORDER OF

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MINISTER FOR MINES



Tasmania:

JOHN VAIL, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, HOBART

1911



PROGRESS OF THE  
**MINERAL INDUSTRY OF TASMANIA.**  
 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1910.

Hobart, 17th February, 1911.

The following table shows, as far as can be ascertained, the quantities and values of metals and minerals raised during the quarter ending 31st December, 1910, as compared with the previous quarter ending 30th September, 1910:—

	During the Quarter ending 31st Dec., 1910.		During the Quarter ending 30th Sept., 1910.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
* Gold won ..... oz.	9214·340	39,140	8687·943	36,904
Silver-lead Ore produced tons	10,980·32	62,857	20,545·35	72,219
† Blister Copper produced ..	1933	130,809	1991	131,746
Copper Ore and Copper produced .....	348	4400	117·92	2790
Tin Ore produced..... "	1005·83	118,013	1094·78	118,009
Coal raised..... "	14,100	6463‡	21,066	9858‡
Wolfram Ore produced... "	23·75	2655	14·6	1675
Bismuth..... "	4·1	1640	3·6	1444
Shale .....	364	214	...	...
	...	366,191	...	374,645

\* Fine gold, including gold contained in blister copper and silver-lead bullion.  
 † Value of gold contents deducted.  
 ‡ Value at pit's mouth.

## GOLD.

During the past quarter 4328·5 oz. of gold were obtained from quartz, 162 oz. from alluvial, 2295 oz. by means of the cyanide and chlorination processes, and 2484 oz. from blister copper from the Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company, Limited, valued at £39,140.

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 1909, and the previous quarter ending 30th September, 1910:—

	Gold obtained during the Quarter ending 31st December, 1910.					TOTAL.	Totals corresponding Quarter, 1909.	Totals for Quarter ending 30th Sept., 1910.
	From Quartz.	Alluvial.	Cyanide & chlorination.	From Blister Copper.	From Silver-lead Bullion.			
	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	
Beaconsfield	3899	...	2151	...	...	6050	5189·5	5237
Mathinna ...	427	...	...	...	...	427	1136	386·5
Mt. Victoria	}	24	...	...	...	24	158·84	27·24
Warrentinna								
Mt. Cameron	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lefroy .....	...	...	144	...	...	144	197	175
Lisle .....	}	84	...	...	...	86·5	78	75
Lilydale.....								
Golconda ...	...	54	...	2484	...	2538	4542·75	2829·75
West Coast.	...	54	...	2484	...	2538	4542·75	2829·75
TOTALS	4328·5	162	2295	2484	...	9269·5	...	...
Totals corresponding Quarter, 1909.....	5432	188·59	1164·5	3932	585	...	11,302·09	...
Totals for Quarter ending 30th Sept., 1910.....	3887·5	171·99	1911	2760	...	...	...	8730·49

Value, £39,140; equal to 9241·340 oz. fine gold.

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

	Gold produced.	Men employed.
	oz.	
Tasmania Mine .....	6050	530
Moonlight-cum-Wonder .....	...	2
Total.....	6050	532

*Tasmania Mine.*—Fourteen thousand nine hundred and sixty-three tons of quartz crushed, and 6050 oz. of gold obtained (by amalgamation and cyanide process), which makes a total of 879,210 tons quartz crushed, and 764,874 oz. gold obtained since the mine was first started. Workings on the lode are now being carried on at the 1370-foot level, and the main pumping shaft (Grubb's) has been sunk to a depth of 1530½ feet.

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

	Gold produced.	Men employed.
	oz.	
Creek Cyanide .....	41	8
New Pinafore.....	63	3
Others .....	40	9
Total .....	<u>144</u>	<u>20</u>

LISLE, GOLCONDA, &C.—Eighty-six and a half ounces of gold have been won from these fields. Thirty-two men have been employed.

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

	Standard Gold.
	oz.
Dorset Dredge .....	...
S. Mt. Cameron T.M. Co. ....	8
Briseis Co. ....	16
New Brothers' Home No. 1 Co. ....	...
Total .....	<u>24</u>

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

	Quartz crushed.	Sand treated.	Gold produced.	Men.
	tons.	tons.	oz.	
New Golden Gate .....	640	...	298	44
Golden Horseshoe.....	830	...	79	20
Others .....	110	...	50	30
Totals .....	<u>1680</u>	<u>...</u>	<u>427</u>	<u>94</u>

WEST COAST.—Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—

*Davie P.A.*—Work was suspended on this property on the 9th of December, until which date two men were employed prospecting.

In *Specimen Creek*, above Lynchford, and in a portion of the ground formerly held by the King River P.A., Messrs. Elliott and Davie are prospecting a "make of stone" that is most promising. They have a small paddock of selected stone at grass, which they purpose "dollying," with results that must prove satisfactory.

The total quantity of gold obtained during the quarter was 54 oz., by twenty men.

## TIN.

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

	Ore won. tons.	Value. £	Men employed.	
			Europeans.	Chinese.
Northern and Southern Division	8.30	830	4 <sup>4</sup>	...
North-Eastern Division .....	448.25	53,236	567	89
Eastern Division .....	120.35	13,954	327	34
North-Western Division .....	311.23	37,379	467	...
Western Division .....	117.70	12,614	194	...
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>1005.83</b>	<b>118,013</b>	<b>1601</b>	<b>123</b>

## NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

The output has been as under:—

	Ore won. tons.	Men employed.
Mt. Bischoff .....	280	382
Mt. Bischoff Extended .....	24.55	75
Weir's Bischoff Surprise.....	4.78	4
Wombat .....	1.90	6
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>311.23</b>	<b>467</b>

## NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

PIONEER AND GLADSTONE DISTRICTS:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Pioneer Tin Mine .....	70.25	80	...
Aberroe .....	11	11	...
Argus Tin Mine.....	18.60	19	...
South Mt. Cameron .....	30	35	...
Dorset .....	3.95	8	...
Pioneer Extended .....	3.45	9	...
Garibaldi.....	6.75	17	3
Other Claims .....	65.25	91	64
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>209.25</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>67</b>

RINGAROOMA DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Bell's Hill.....	3.7	4	...
Red Bank.....	0.9	2	...
New Hope.....	1.85	2	...
Montrose .....	0.30	2	...
Enterprise.....	0.40	2	...
Other Claims .....	2.70	14	...
	9.85	26	...

## DERBY DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Briseis Tin Mines.....	143	147	...
Clyde .....	2.45	2	...
Other Derby Claims .....	0.85	3	...
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>146.30</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>...</b>

## BRANXHOLM DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Arba Tin Mine .....	23.50	37	...
New Ruby Flat .....	8.00	24	...
Other Claims .....	5.60	10	8
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>37.10</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>8</b>

## MOORINA DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Wilberforce Pump Co.....	8.00	8	...
Weld Tin Mine .....	17.30	12	...
Native Youth .....	7.50	7	...
Banca .....	5.50	8	...
Abbotsford .....	3.15	3	...
Other Moorina Claims .....	4.30	10	14
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>45.75</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>14</b>

*Total for North-Eastern  
Division .....*

<b>448.25</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>89</b>
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## EASTERN DIVISION.

<i>Weldborough Mines.</i>	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Fancy Creek Co. ....	3.80	8	...
Bryce Bros. ....	6.60	5	...
Other Claims .....	29.70	56	34
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>40.10</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>34</b>

## THE MINERAL INDUSTRY

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed. Europeans. Chinese.	
<i>Lottah and Blue Tier Mines.</i>			
Anchor Mine .....	43·75	146	...
Pioneer Tribute .....	2·60	4	...
Total .....	46·35	150	...
<i>St. Helens Mines.</i>			
C. Miller .....	1·95	5	...
A. Williams .....	1·55	5	...
J. C. Macmichael .....	2·05	6	...
G. Briggs .....	·95	3	...
J. Smith .....	·85	3	...
Others .....	6·10	21	...
Total .....	13·45	43	..
<i>Avoca Mines.</i>			
Mt. Rex .....	10·30	17	...
Gipp's Cre k. ....	0·70	19	...
S. Esk .....	6·45	5	...
Foster .....	3·00	7	...
Roy's Hill .....	...	17	...
Total .....	20·45	65	...
<i>Total for Eastern Division</i>	<u>120·35</u>	<u>327</u>	<u>34</u>

## NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed. Europeans.
Shepherd and Murphy Mine ...	<u>8·3</u>	<u>46</u>

## WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed. Europeans.
Boulder .....	19·75	23
Renison Bell .....	36·50	66
Montana Tin Syn. ....	28·84	30
Others .....	32·61	75
Total .....	<u>117·70</u>	<u>194</u>

## SILVER.

WEST COAST.—The registered output of silver ore in the Western Division for the quarter ending 31st December, 1910, is given below:—

Mines:	Ore:	Tons.	Value.	Men.
<i>Zeehan Mines:</i>				
Mt. Zeehan, Tas.	flux .....	360	£139	14
	galena .....	136	2148	
Zeehan-Montana	" .....	603·26	11,130	151
Zeehan-Western	" .....	118·65	1728	32
Zeehan-Queen	" .....	6	88	2
Florence	" .....	52	844	34
S. Nubeena	" .....	5·50	60	3
Boz Mine	flux .....	660	670	6
Oonah (Bruce's Tribute)	pyrites .....	1625	1625	40
"	matte .....	369	11,612	270
South Comstock, Block 10	galena .....	...	...	17
<i>Dundas Mines:</i>				
Adelaide	" .....	66·8	1020	8
Hercules	zinc-blende .....	1494·9	3975	70
Comet	gossan .....	...	...	...
Mt. Zeehan, Tas.	...	...	...	34
Ring Valley	...	...	...	14
Mt. Read	...	...	...	2
<i>Rosebery Mines:</i>				
Tasmanian Copper	zinc-blende .....	104	1354	9
Primrose	...	...	...	...
N. Tasmanian Copper	...	...	...	5
<i>Mt. Farrell Mines:</i>				
Mackintosh	galena .....	8	132	3
N. Mt. Farrell	" .....	543	5170	110
<i>North Pieman:</i>				
Chester Mine	pyrites .....	2628·21	940	56
<i>Mt. Lyell:</i>				
Tasman & Crown Lyell	... ..	115	733	17
<i>Sundries:</i>				
Dunkley Bros.	.....	...	...	75
Others	.....	...	...	80
Total	.....	8895·32	£43,368	1052

*Zeehan-Montana.*—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—

No. 1 Shaft.—Exploratory work is being carried on by driving north on No. 2 lode at Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5 levels. The lode at Nos. 2 and 4 levels is of fair value. There are 20 stopes working at various points in the mine, and generally these are producing ore in sufficient quantities to pay for the dead work and leave a small profit.

*Zeehan-Western.*—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—

No. 1 Shaft.—Two drives are being driven on a small lode at No. 1 level; both drives show a small vein of galena ore. Stopping is also being carried on, with payable results.

South Boundary Shaft.—This shaft has been sunk 20 feet below the 78-foot level. The lode is showing in the bottom of this shaft 1 foot 6 inches wide, composed of carbonate of iron with bands of clean galena ore of high silver value. Sinking has been discontinued for the purpose of enlarging the shaft. This shaft was formerly sunk small as a prospect shaft, and was carried down to 78 feet on the dip of the lode to that level. We are now enlarging this shaft, making a three-compartment shaft—two winding and one pumping compartments. This shaft will be continued downward on the dip of the lode, and is therefore our incline working shaft. The lode at this point shows good values along the 78-feet for a length of 180 feet north of the shaft. Stopes are being worked above this level, with highly satisfactory results.

NORTH DUNDAS DISTRICT.—*Ring Valley Mine.*—Mr. W. J. Moyle, manager, reports:—During the past quarter general underground repairs have been carried out satisfactorily; also the underground machinery and plant have been thoroughly overhauled and put in good order prior to sinking engine-winze. This is advanced 37 feet 6 inches; total depth from main adit level, 87 feet 6 inches. Lode formation 5 feet wide, but none of it payable. Ventilation good.

MT. READ DISTRICT.—*Hercules Mine.*—Mr. Claude H. Moxon, manager, reports:—The production of zinc ore has been continued, the supplies being drawn from the "E" lode at Nos. 3 and 4 levels. No developmental work to any extent has been done, but from the opening up of the ore-body by the stopping it is shown that the ore reserves have not been diminished during the quarter. The ordinary surface works have been carried on, and the Williamsford Mill has been in operation for the whole term.

#### NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Magnet Mine.....	2085	£19,489	195
Long Tunnel .....	...	...	...
	<hr/> 2085	<hr/> 19,489	<hr/> 195
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

#### COPPER.

*Mt. Lyell Mine.*—Mr. Robert Sticht, general manager, reports:—The ores and metal-bearing fluxes treated during the quarter ending 31st December, 1910, were as follow:—

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

	Dry weight.			
	tons.	cwt.	qr.	lb.
Mt. Lyell Mine ore .....	57,864	18	1	13
North Lyell Mine ore .....	32,235	4	1	14
Purchase ore .....	17	18	1	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	90,118	1	0	5

## Quantity and value of metal produced:—

Blister Copper, 1933 tons, containing —	£	s.	d.
Copper, 1909 tons, valued at .....	112,998	14	2
Silver, fine, 155,710 oz., valued at .....	17,815	16	4
Gold, fine, 2484 oz., valued at .....	10,557	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	£141,366	10	6

## Number of men employed:—

At the Company's Mt. Lyell Mine .....	369
"    "    North Lyell Mine.....	419
"    "    Lyell Tharsis Mine.....	4
"    "    Crotty.....	22
	<hr/>
"    "    Reduction Works.....	834
Railway Department—Mt. Lyell Railway .....	141
"    "    North Lyell Railway...	18
	<hr/>
Total.....	1807

## Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—

*Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company's Groups.*

*Mt. Lyell Mine.*—Pyritic extractions continue from the surface and underground; that from the latter is steadily increasing, where the three levels are now in active operation. The main incline hoist shaft has been connected with the lowest or No. 8 level, and its capabilities made general during the ensuing quarter.

*North Lyell Mine.*—All the levels below the "200" are either prospecting or producing, the chief supplies being drawn from the stopes below the "600," where substantial reserves remain throughout the mine. The most recent development was made in the "north drive," from the "eastern" crosscut, at the 1100-foot level, by boring with the diamond-drill, and the position occupied by this "make of ore" must add materially to the future.

*Reduction Works.*—The old furnaces are being replaced by others of greater capacity, three, with their increased column and necessary equipment, being in commission, and doing excellent work both as regards labour and efficiency. The buildings in general are being renovated, and the framework of the principal roof replaced with steel. The power generated and distributed electrically and pneumatically is returned as being first-class, which also applies to the railways and their rolling-stock.

*Water.*—That supplied by gravitation will be augmented on the completion of a second dam that at present is being constructed higher up the stream, in order to ensure a constant supply by this means during all seasons for the smelters. The balance of the works need no special comment, being in good working order and satisfactory through their various ramifications.

*Mt. Lyell Blocks Copper Mines.*—Mr. Robert Ferguson reports:—The seating of a double 12-inch cylinder engine has been completed, and put into operation. It is mounted with two new flexible 3-inch wire ropes, a set of poppet-legs 28 feet high, and two 6 feet 3 inch pit-head pullies. The whole is snugly ensconced underground on the level of the Consols adit, from which datum, or 589 feet from the surface, the main shaft—that is 12 feet 6 inches by 6 feet 6 inches in the clear—has been sunk 54 feet. For ventilating purposes a suction fan, situated 1430 feet from the entrance and driven by an air-engine, has been installed. The number of men employed was twenty-three.

*Lyell Consols Copper Mines.*—Mr. John Wm. Carroll reports:—Production for the quarter has been suspended, and the work devoted to prospecting, which consisted of sinking 163 feet, cross-cutting 23 feet, hand-boring 191 feet, and diamond-drilling adjacent to the North Lyell property 91 feet, with an average of seven men employed during the quarter.

*Mt. Lyell-Comstock Copper Mine.*—Mr. Charles E. Coote reports:—Active operations were suspended on the 9th of November, when 107 feet of crosscutting was added to that at the "low-level" adit, with sixteen men.

*Darwin Prospecting Syndicate.*—Mr. James Souter reports:—Work continued on the "contact" for a distance of 162 feet, in favourable country, with two men.

#### NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	±	Men employed.
Murray's Reward .....	348	4400	53
Mt. Jasper .....	...	...	15
.....	...	...	7
Others (estimated) .....	...	...	50
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	348	4400	125
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## COAL.

The output this quarter was 14,100 tons, against 21,060 tons the previous quarter. The output of the respective collieries was as follows:—

Colliery.	Tons raised.	Value at mine.	Men employed.
Cornwall Colliery .....	6815	£3067	75
Mt. Nicholas „ .....	6538	2942	75
Enterprise „ .....	40	17	4
Spreyton „ .....	253	165	7
Illamatha „ .....	...	...	...
York Plains „ .....	168	109	2
Mount Cygnet „ .....	...	...	...
Wallsend „ .....	166	104	12
Ida Bay „ .....	40	25	5
Colebrook „ .....	80	34	6
Total .....	<u>14,100</u>	<u>£6463</u>	<u>186</u>

## SHALE.

The output for the quarter was:—

	Tons.	Value.	Men employed.
Tasmanian Shale and Oil Mine...	300	£150	39
Latrobe Shale and Oil Mine .....	64	64	12
	<u>364</u>	<u>214</u>	<u>51</u>

## BISMUTH.

The Shepherd and Murphy Company obtained 4·1 tons of bismuth from its tin ore, valued at £1640.

## WOLFRAM.

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

	Tons.	£	Men.
Avoca Mines.....	19·2	2154	36
Shepherd and Murphy Mine.....	4·20	462	...
Lady Barron Mine .....	0·35	39	1
	<u>23·75</u>	<u>2655</u>	<u>37</u>

The following return shows the average number of men employed in or about the mines during the quarter ending 31st December, 1910:—

District.	European.	Chinese.	Total.
Northern and Southern .....	714	...	714
North-Eastern .....	567	89	656
Eastern .....	611	34	645
North-Western .....	787	...	787
Western .....	3121	...	3121
Total .....	5800	123	5923

Value of mineral output per man:—£61 16s. 6'06d.

Dividends paid by mining companies during the quarter ending 31st December, 1910:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Copper Mines:—						
Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Co., Ltd.....	75,000	0	0	75,000	0	0
From Tin Mines:—						
Bischoff T.M. Co., Registered .....	12,000	0	0			
Pioneer T.M. Co., Ltd.....	8062	0	0			
Montana Tin Prospecting Co. ....	300	0	0			
Briseis Tin and General Mining Co., Ltd....	15,000	0	0			
Aberroe T.M. Co. ....	346	0	0	35,708	0	0
From Coal Mines .....			Nil			
From Silver Mines.....			Nil			
Total .....			...	£110,708	0	0