

MININD1911-2

THE PROGRESS OF
THE MINERAL INDUSTRY
OF
TASMANIA

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1911

COMPILED BY

W. H. WALLACE

SECRETARY FOR MINES

BY ORDER OF

THE HONOURABLE A. E. SOLOMON

MINISTER FOR MINES



Tasmania:

JOHN VAIL, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, HOBART

1911



PROGRESS OF THE
MINERAL INDUSTRY OF TASMANIA,
 FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1911.

Hobart, 7th August, 1911.

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, 1911, as compared with the previous quarter ending 31st March, 1911:—

	During the Quarter ending 30th June, 1911.		During the Quarter ending 31st March, 1911.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
• Gold won	oz. 9389·022	39,882	8529·034	36,229
Silver-lead Ore produced tons	8988·94	41,372	9334·67	39,238
† Blister Copper produced ..	2136	135,736	2180	140,042
Copper Ore and Copper produced.....	677	8344	569	6832
Tin Ore produced.....	997·85	130,595	880·93	113,036
Coal raised.....	16,529	7623‡	11,072	5053‡
Wolfram Ore produced...	20·59	2201	13·82	1590
Bismuth.....	3·32	1328	4·525	1810
Shale	100	50	400	200
	...	367,131	...	343,970

• 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 5314·5 oz. gold were obtained from quartz, 68 oz. from alluvial, 1698·5 oz. by means of the cyanide and chlorination processes, and 2418 oz. from blister copper from the Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company, Limited, valued at £39,882.

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 1910, and the previous quarter ending 31st March, 1911:—

	Gold obtained during the Quarter ending 30th June, 1911.					TOTAL.	Totals corresponding Quarter, 1910.	Totals for Quarter ending 31st Mar., 1911.
	From Quartz.	Alluvial.	Cyanide & chlorination.	From Blister Copper.	From Silver-lead Bullion.			
	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.
Beaconsfield	4803	...	1314	...	...	6117	4556·5	5256
Mathinna ...	471	...	370	...	...	841	337	307
Mt. Victoria	}	54	...	...	...	54	58·33	10·5
Warrentinna								
Mt. Cameron	}	...	14·5	...	...	23·5	166	57
Lefroy								
Lisle	}	6	...	...	...	3·75	20	32
Lilydale.....								
Golconda ...	}	8	...	2418	...	2426	2912	2886·9
West Coast.								
TOTALS	5314·5	68	1698·5	2418	...	94·9	...	...
Totals corresponding Quarter, 1910.....	2988·5	78·33	2071	2912	...	...	8049·83	...
Totals for Quarter ending 31st Mar., 1911.....	3369·0	56·4	2251	2873	...	...	...	8549·4

Value, £39,882; equal to 9389·022 oz. fine gold.

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

	Gold produced.	Men employed.
	oz.	
Tasmania Mine	6013	484
North Tasmania.....	104	6
Total.....	6117	490

Tasmania Mine.—Twelve thousand one hundred and ninety-five tons of quartz crushed, and 6013 oz. of gold obtained (by amalgamation and cyanide process), which makes a total of 905,003 tons quartz crushed, and 777,099 oz. gold obtained since the mine was first started.

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

	Gold produced. oz.	Men employed.
Creek Cyanide	14·5	3
New Pinafore.....	9	5
Others .....	...	...
Total	<u>23·5</u>	<u>8</u>

LISLE, GOLCONDA, &C.—Six ounces of gold have been won from these fields. Twenty-six men have been employed.

ALBERTON.—Thirty-two ounces were obtained from this district by two men.

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.	22
Briseis Co. ....	...
Total	<u>22</u>

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

	Quartz crushed. tons.	Sand treated. tons.	Gold produced. oz.	Men.
New Golden Gate	580	840	824	26
Golden Horseshoe... ..	29	...	10	6
Others	16	...	7	20
Totals	<u>925</u>	<u>840</u>	<u>841</u>	<u>52</u>

WEST COAST.—Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—

Gold.—Mr. James Elliott reports that he is erecting a two-headed dolly, to be worked by a 12 ft. by 2 ft. breast water-wheel, on his show in Nuggety Creek, Lynchford. He has about 20 tons of stone on hand, that was obtained by two men.

McDowell Prospecting Association, Linda.—Mr. Michael Cunningham reports:—The adit has been extended the estimated distance, and at present a gold-bearing formation is being followed, with 2 men.

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY

Alluvial.—Mr. Charles L. C. Nicholson reports that he has purchased 8 oz. of gold.

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	9·49	949	57	...
North-Eastern Division	479·55	65,322	616	75
Eastern Division	101·75	13,385	312	40
North-Western Division	335·80	43,343	484	...
Western Division	71·26	7596	149	...
Totals	997·85	130,595	1618	115

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

The output has been as under:—

	Ore won. tons.	Men employed.
Mt. Bischoff	280	400
Mt. Bischoff Extended	51·5	75
Weir's Bischoff Surprise.....	2·05	6
Wombat	2·25	3
Totals.....	335·80	484

NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

PIONEER AND GLADSTONE DISTRICTS:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Pioneer Tin Mine	158	100	...
Aberroe	4	9	...
South Mt. Cameron	36	38	...
Garibaldi.....	3·2	12	2
C. A. MacDonald.....	7·5	16	...
Other Claims	34·2	99	49
Totals.....	242·9	274	51

RINGAROOMA DISTRICT:—

Bell's Hill.....	1·3	4	...
Federal	0·4	4	...
Enterprise.....	0·2	2	...
Other Claims	1·2	9	..
Totals.....	3·1	19	...

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
DERBY DISTRICT:—			
Briseis Tin Mines.....	145	150	...
Clyde	1·5	3	...
Abbotsford	2·2	4	...
Other Derby Claims	11·5	31	10
Totals	160·2	188	10

BRANKHOLM DISTRICT:—			
Arba Tin Mine.....	25·85	38	...
New Ruby Flat	17·00	22	...
Other Claims	8·45	26	14
Totals.....	51·3	86	14

MOORINA DISTRICT:—			
Wilberforce Pump Co.	7·00	9	...
Weld Tin Mine	6·95	14	...
Native Youth	2·2	5	...
New Banca.....	3·3	10	...
Other Moorina Claims	2·6	11	...
Totals	22·05	49	...
<i>Totals for North-Eastern Division</i>	<i>479·55</i>	<i>616</i>	<i>75</i>

EASTERN DIVISION.

<i>Weldborough Mines.</i>	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Fancy Creek Co.	1·6	8	...
Bryce Bros.	0·25	4	...
Other Claims	7·85	...	35
Totals.....	9·7	12	35

<i>Lottah and Blue Tier Mines.</i>			
Anchor Mine.....	57·15	136	...
Emu Tribute	2·95	4	...
Others	15·35	51	5
Totals.....	75·45	191	5

THE MINERAL INDUSTRY

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
<i>St. Helens Mines.</i>			
S. M. Miller	0·75	6	...
A. Williams	0·5	4	...
J. C. Macmichael	1·5	6	...
T. Budgeon.....	0·5	4	...
Others	1·45	10	...
Totals.....	4·7	30	..
<i>Avoca Mines.</i>			
Rex Hill	1·15	5	...
Gipp's Creek....	0·95	10	...
S. Esk	4·5	5	...
Foster.....	4·6	6	...
Roy's Hill.....	...	18	...
Storey's Creek	0·7	35	...
Totals.....	11·9	79	...
<i>Totals for Eastern Division</i>	<u>101·75</u>	<u>312</u>	<u>40</u>

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	
Shepherd and Murphy Mine...	9·49	45	
Lady Barron Mine .....	...	12	
Totals	<u>9·49</u>	<u>57</u>	

WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	
Boulder	21	14	
Renison Bell	29·55	63	
Montana Tin Syn.....	8·66	21	
Others	12·05	51	
Totals	<u>71·26</u>	<u>149</u>	

SILVER.

WEST COAST.—The registered output of silver ore in the Western Division for the quarter ending 30th June, 1911, is given below:—

<i>Zeehan Mines:</i>		Ore.	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Zeehan-Montana	galena		588·58	£10,532	154
Zeehan-Western	"		99	1659	28
Zeehan-Queen	"		6	92	2

OF TASMANIA.

7

<i>Zeehan Mines, cont.:</i>	Ore:	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Mt. Zeehan (Tas.)	pyrites	108	£48	18
Oonah (Bruce's Tribute)	"	1726	1040	38
South Comstock, Block 10	galena	21	127	8
Tasmanian Smelting Co.'s Sections.....	.....	...	...	3
<i>Dundas Mines:</i>				
Adelaide	galena	84	840	20
Hercules	zinc-blende	1727·36	4392	45
Anderson's	galena	100	400	6
Mt. Zeehan, Tas.	... ..	150	2802	60
Ring Valley	... ..	147	1470	14
Mt. Read	... ..	...	...	...
<i>Rosebery Mines:</i>				
Tasmanian Copper	zinc-blende .....	...	...	6
Primrose	... ..	...	...	6
N. Tasmanian Copper	... ..	...	...	...
<i>Mt. Farrell Mines:</i>				
Mackintosh	galena .....	...	...	...
Mt. Farrell	" .....	...	...	...
N. Mt. Farrell	"	745	6787	104
<i>North Pieman:</i>				
Chester Mine	pyrites	2200	825	38
<i>Mt. Lyell:</i>				
Tasman & Crown Lyell	... ..	...	...	13
<i>Sundries:</i>				
Dunkley Bros. ....	.....	...	...	134
Tasmanian Smelting Co. ....	.....	...	...	23
Others .....	.....	...	...	45
Total .....	.....	7701·94	£30,914	765

NORTH DUNDAS DISTRICT.—

Ring Valley Mine.—Mr. W. J. Moyle, manager, reports:—The underground shaft is down 137 feet below tunnel level. The north drive is extended to 61 feet, and south drive 10 feet. The lode in each of these drives consists of antimony and lead sulphides, intermixed with iron pyrites, and varies in thickness from 2 to 4 feet. Occasionally fahl-ore veins are encountered, and when this kind of ore is present the silver and copper contents of the grade of the ore average 100 oz. of silver per ton. The whole product is being shipped to Europe, where a good market is obtained for this class of ore.

MT. READ DISTRICT.—Hercules Mine.—Mr. Claude H. Moxon, manager, reports:—The shipment of zinc ore to Europe has been continuous, 1727 tons having been exported. The whole supply has been extracted from the "E" lode, chiefly from the 4th and 5th stopes. Development work has been in progress at the 3A level, where the ruby silver ore seam has been exploited with varying success, and at the 5B level, where the main "E" ore-

body was intersected at an increased vertical depth of practically 40 feet, the ore passed through being a payable lead-zinc sulphides. This is a most important development, as it largely increases the payable ore reserves in the mine. A quantity of maintenance work has been completed, and the mine trucking roads attended to; and everything is in readiness to cope with the larger tonnage to be at once delivered to the Tasmanian Smelting Company.

ROSEBERY DISTRICT.—*Tasmanian Copper Mine.*—Mr. G. Barker, manager, reports:—The only work underground for the past quarter was the completion of the main adit and timbering the north drive (78 feet) up to the Primrose boundary. Prospecting west of our main lode we have very encouraging prospects of picking up another sulphide body, as we are getting large blocks of sulphide in the alluvial wash.

Mt. LYELL DISTRICT.—*Tasman and Crown Extended.*—Mr. Edward Carter reports:—After having driven another 120 feet, 50 feet has been risen from the floor of No. 3 adit to connect with the main shaft at the 125-foot level, in addition to which a concentrating plant capable of negotiating 300 tons of crude ore per week is under construction. Thirteen men are now engaged locally in connection with the company.

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

Round Hill Mine.—Two men employed.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Magnet Mine.....	1287	£10,458	199
Victorian Magnet .....	...	...	5
	<u>1287</u>	<u>£10,458</u>	<u>204</u>

COPPER.

Mt. Lyell Mine.—Mr. Robert Sticht, general manager, reports:—The ores and metal-bearing fluxes treated during the quarter ending 30th June, 1911, were as follow:—

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

	Dry weight.		
	tons.	cwt.	qr. lb.
Mt. Lyell Mine ore	54,169	2	2 27
North Lyell Mine ore	30,479	4	0 26
Purchased ore.....	75	16	3 16
Metal-bearing flux from North Lyell Mine	170	3	0 16
	<u>84,894</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0 1</u>

Quantity and value of metal produced:—

Blister Copper, 2136 tons, containing—	£	s.	d.
Copper, 2111 tons, valued at	120,622	10	9
Silver, fine, 136,365 oz., valued at	15,113	15	9
Gold, fine, 2415 oz., valued at	10,276	10	0
Total.....	£146,012	16	6

Number of men employed:—

At the Company's Mt. Lyell Mine	326
" " North Lyell Mine.....	433
" " Lyell Tharsis Mine.....	...
" " Crotty.....	23
" " Reduction Works.....	782
Railway Department—Mt. Lyell Railway	134
" " North Lyell Railway....	19
	— 153
Total.....	1685

Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company's Groups.

Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—

Mt. Lyell Mine.—Work in the open cut has been chiefly confined to extractions from the two lowest benches, with removals for "filling" from the overburden faces. The greatest proportion of the ore (iron pyrites) is now obtained from underground, where it may be stated four 100-foot square stopes are practically now in operation in each of the three levels, whose production has already reached 600 tons per day. This is despatched through the "incline" or "underlie," that in future may be termed the main shaft, in carriage-mounted skips or tanks of 5 tons capacity. This shaft is substantially constructed and thoroughly equipped with up-to-date appliances to the lowest level, below which reserve bins are being mounted, and when finished all production will pass through this channel, the old shaft being retained for the transit of men and supplies used in the mine, so that all branches may be expeditiously attended to, and similarly handled.

North Lyell Mine.—Possibly the most important items attached to this mine are the extension of the ground-floor areas of 41, 34, 40, and 22 stopes at the 1100-foot, 1000-foot, and 850-foot levels, where, in addition to the other sources of production, these stopes are producing large quantities of exceptionally high-grade ore. Prospecting with the diamond-drill is continued through the mine, its present course being directed from 22 stope, at the 850-foot level.

Reduction Works.—Three furnaces are constantly in blast, and cope with the mine's requirements. To maintain a permanent water-supply another dam has been constructed above the one already in commission, and provides an extra storage capacity of 42,000,000 gallons, extending over a length of 33 chains. It is built of concrete, reinforced, longitudinally and vertically, with 40-lb. railway iron, curved to a breast-radius of 60 feet; the chord from bank to bank on the casement being 85 feet, with a central depth on the face of 44 feet, to which both sides converge. The base has a width of 6 feet, built from and let into the solid, tapering to 3 feet on the parapet, that is pargetted and finished on the "weir" principle, with an adequate bywash to take the overflow or stormwater, as occasions may require. Its construction is somewhat unique, and the relative cost does not exceed £40 to the million gallons conserved.

The Lake Margaret Hydro-electric Scheme is also receiving official attention, but its description will be a matter for future notice. The several plants in the other departments are in first-class order.

Mt. Lyell Blocks Mine.—Mr. Robert Ferguson reports:—The main shaft has been sunk 70 feet for the quarter, and totals approximately 720 feet from the surface, beyond which no other work is for the present occupying his attention. Twenty-four men are employed.

Mt. Lyell Consols Mine.—Mr. J. W. Carroll reports:—The work done on the property has been confined to boring with the diamond-drill, by which means 1179 feet was attained on the northern boundary adjoining the the North Lyell Mine, with seven men.

Darwin Prospecting Syndicate.—Mr. James Souter reports:—Forty-two feet of driving and crosscutting have been done, and disclosed some promising bunches of fair-grade copper pyrites. Two men have been employed.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	£	Men employed.
Murray's Reward	677	8344	48
Mt. Jasper .....	...	...	...
F.G.D. ....	...	...	...
Others (estimated) .....	...	...	50
Totals	<u>677</u>	<u>8344</u>	<u>98</u>

EASTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	£	Men employed.
Seamander Copper Mine	14
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

COAL.

The output this quarter was 16,529 tons, against 11,072 tons the previous quarter. The output of the respective collieries was as follows:—

Colliery.	Tons raised.	Value at mine.	Men employed.
Cornwall Colliery	7100	£3195	71
Mt. Nicholas „	8591	3866	80
Jubilee „ .....	...	...	...
Spreyton „	478	324	8
York Plains „	140	84	2
Illamatha „	20	14	2
Catamaran „	200	140	4
Totals	<u>16,529</u>	<u>£7623</u>	<u>167</u>

SHALE.

The output for the quarter was:—

	Tons.	Value.	Men employed.
Tasmanian Shale and Oil Mine...	100	£ 50	28
Latrobe Shale and Oil Mine .....	...	...	2
Totals.....	<u>100</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>30</u>

BISMUTH.

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

	Tons.	£	Men.
Shepherd and Murphy Mine	3.32	1328	...
Lady Barron Mine .....	...	...	...
Totals	<u>3.32</u>	<u>1328</u>	<u>...</u>

WOLFRAM.

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

	Tons.	£	Men.
Avoca Mines.....	11.1	116	...
Shepherd and Murphy Mine	4.74	521	...
Lady Barron Mine	4.75	515	...
Totals	<u>20.59</u>	<u>1201</u>	<u>...</u>

The following return shows the average number of men employed in or about the mines during the quarter ending 30th June, 1911:—

District.	European.	Chinese.	Total.
Northern and Southern	629	...	629
North-Eastern	618	75	693
Eastern	529	40	569
North-Western	786	...	786
Western	2636	...	2636
Total	5198	115	5313

Value of mineral output per man:—£69 2s. 0 12d.

Dividends paid by mining companies during the quarter ending 30th June, 1911:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Copper Mines:—						
Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Co., Ltd.....	53,344	0	0			
				53,344	0	0
From Tin Mines:—						
Bischoff T.M. Co., Registered	11,700	0	0			
Pioneer T.M. Co., Ltd.....	10,077	0	0			
New Brothers' Home, No. 1 T.M. Co., N.L.	...					
New Ruby Flat T.M. Co., N.L.	609	0	0			
Aberroee T.M. Co., N.L.....	346	0	0			
S. and M. T.M. Co., N.L. ....	...				
Montana Tin Proprietary Syndicate.....	420	0	0			
				23,152	0	0
From Silver Mines:—						
Zeehan Montana Mine, Ltd.....			Nil			
From Coal Mines:—						
Cornwall Coal Company			Nil			
Total				£76,496	0	0