

UR 1942/1-2

BAUXITE - CAMPBELL TOWN

Geological formations carrying bauxite are of recent discovery in the Campbell Town district.

Outcrops occur at "Rosedale" 2½ miles north-westerly, "Meadowbank" 2 miles north-westerly, "Riccarton" 2 miles north-westerly, "Forton" 13 miles northerly, "Baskerville" 6 miles north-westerly, "Cressy Road" 10 miles north-westerly, and "Fingal Road" 10 miles northerly from Campbell Town.

Type samples of bauxite from various outcrops ranged from 40.16 per cent allumina and 2.28 per cent silica to 51.33 per cent alumina and 1.76 per cent silica.

The type material is not a high grade ore of aluminium but, nevertheless, conforms with the requirements of a commercial grade bauxite. Although the bauxite appears to be patchy in the formations, the areal extent of the formations, of which the bauxite is a part, has warranted a systematic survey and the sinking of prospect shafts to determine factors of potential tonnages or commercial bauxite and average grades.

The areal extent of the formations containing patches of bauxite is :-

Rosedale	..	..	..	19.5	acres.	Surveyed
Meadowbank	..	..	..	30.5	"	"
Forton	..	..	..	50.0	"	"
Baskerville	..	..	..	10.0	"	"
Cressy Road	..	..	..	10.0	"	"
Fingal Road	..	..	..	30.0	"	"

The total area of known formations is about 150 acres.

Shaft sinking has been proceeded with and the following shafting has been completed :-

Rosedale	..	..	..	7	shafts,	aggregating	137	ft.
Meadowbank	..	..	..	12	"	"	146	"
Riccarton	..	..	..	6	"	"	40	"
Forton	..	..	..	5	"	"	40	"

Prospecting results tend to the indication that whilst the formations are extensive, the actual bauxite is patchy. This is evidenced by group samples from the shafts on Rosedale and Meadowbank, where the first set of

channel samples has ranged from 49.0 per cent alumina and 1.9 per cent of silica to as low as 15.3 per cent alumina and 12.1 per cent silica, the former being commercial grade bauxite and the latter of no commercial moment. In parts, an excessive iron content may mitigate against the commercial utility of the material.

It is not yet practicable to make any useful estimate of probable tonnages of commercial ore available. Channel samples from the shafts have been of inferior grade to the surface type samples but shaft results relate only to four shafts and the position may vary as the assay results of progressive sampling come forward. The purpose of present work is to correlate the isolated spots of grade bauxite to determine if a useful tonnage of commercial ore is available in the various formations.

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