

MININDI 910-1

THE PROGRESS OF  
THE MINERAL INDUSTRY  
OF  
TASMANIA

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 31st MARCH, 1910  
7

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

1910



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

Hobart, 18th May, 1910.

THE following table shows, as far as can be ascertained, the quantities and values of Metals and Minerals raised during the quarter ending 31st March, 1910, as compared with the previous quarter ending 31st December, 1909:—

	During the Quarter ending 31st March, 1910.		During the Quarter ending 31st Dec., 1909.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
* Gold won ..... oz.	11,132·073	47,286	11,274·972	47,893
Silver-lead Ore produced tons	9570·36	44,514	14,272·99	58,103
† Blister Copper produced ..	2183	152,446	1981	135,263
Copper Ore and Copper produced..... ..	48·85	1950	345·75	6027
Tin Ore produced..... ..	740·56	74,407	1302·74	127,401
Coal raised..... ..	26,122	22,204	19,915	16,928
Wolfram Ore produced... ..	15·1	1494	10·75	969
Bismuth..... ..	1·25	465	·35	70
...	...	344,766	...	392,654

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

† Value of gold contents deducted.

## THE MINERAL INDUSTRY

## GOLD.

During the past quarter, 4883·5 oz. of gold were obtained from quartz, 31·7 oz. from alluvial, 2542·3 oz. by means of the cyanide and chlorination processes, and 3695 oz. from blister copper from the Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company, Limited, valued at £47,286.

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 31st December, 1909 :—

	Gold obtained during the Quarter ending 31st March, 1910.						Totals corresponding Quarter, 1909.	Totals for Quarter ending 31st Dec., 1909.
	From Quartz.	Alluvial.	Cyanide & chlorination.	From Blister Copper.	From Silver-lead Bullion.	TOTAL.		
	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.
Beaconsfield	4662	...	2259·8	...	...	6921·8	5809·25	5189·5
Mathinna ...	209·5	...	74	...	...	283·5	264	1136
Mt. Victoria	}	8·5	...	...	...	8·5	93·75	158·84
Warrentinna								
Mt. Cameron	}	...	208·5	...	...	220·5	279	197
Lefroy .....								
Lisle .....	}	20	...	...	...	20	20	78
Lilydale .....								
Golconda ...	}	3·2	...	3695	...	3698·2	4591·63	4542·75
West Coast.								
TOTALS	4883·5	31·7	2542·3	3695	...	11,152·5	...	...
Totals corresponding Quarter, 1909.....	4861	75·25	1552·5	2989	1579·88	...	11,057·63	...
Totals for Quarter ending 31st Dec., 1909.....	5432	188·59	1164·5	3932	585	...	...	11,302·09

Value, £47,286; equal to 11,132·073 oz. fine gold.

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

	Gold produced.	Men employed.
	oz.	
Tasmania Mine .....	6331	542
Moonlight-cum-Wonder .....	4	12
Bonanza .....	...	4
Tasmanian Tailings Syndicate...	586·8	13
Total.....	6921·8	571

*Tasmania Mine.*—Eighteen thousand four hundred and sixty-five tons of quartz crushed, and 6331 oz. of gold obtained (by amalgamation and cyanide process), which makes a total of 832,393 tons quartz crushed, and 750,434 oz. gold obtained since the mine was first started.

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

	Gold produced. oz.	Men employed.
Creek Cyanide .....	208·5	18
Gift .....	12	14
Others .....	...	6
Totals.....	<u>220·5</u>	<u>38</u>

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

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

	Standard Gold. oz.
Dorset Dredge .....	8·5
Total .....	<u>8·5</u>

*Wyniford Company.*—Mr J. M. Clark, manager, reports:—Owing to the exceptionally dry summer there has not been sufficient water to work the mine. Another race has been cut into No. 1 race from Falls River, to carry 12 heads, which will increase the supply considerably. Owing to a large bush fire going through the property, the pipe column had to be disconnected again, but has since been relaid ready for sluicing, which will be commenced as soon as there is sufficient water.

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

	Quartz crushed. tons.	Sand treated. tons.	Gold produced. oz.	Men.
New Golden Gate .....	530	900	296·5	33
Others .....	7	...	7	51
Totals .....	<u>537</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>283·5</u>	<u>84</u>

WEST COAST.—Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—The Davie P.A., Lynchford.—The half-yearly report just issued states that satisfactory progress has been made. Gold in appreciable quantities having been obtained throughout all their northern workings, that is still being vigorously prospected with two men.

*Alluvial.*—Mr. F. O. Henry kindly supplies the quantity of gold bought by his Gormanston and Queenstown branches as 3 oz. 4 dwt. For this quantity four men are located, but possibly more intermittingly follow the calling, distributing their time between it and wood-cutting, with which they are associated in the Mt. Lyell Company's general returns.

## 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	8.15	612	40	...
North-Eastern Division.....	274.45	29,655	426	50
Eastern Division.....	51.45	5217	186	37
North-Western Division.....	322.25	30,883	409	...
Western Division.....	84.26	8040	162	...
Totals.....	740.56	74,407	1223	87

## NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

The output has been as under:—

	Ore won. tons.	Men employed.
Mt. Bischoff .....	270	320
Mt. Bischoff Extended .....	46.50	75
Waratah Alluvial.....	...	4
Bischoff Taylor .....	...	2
Weir's Bischoff Surprise.....	2.55	5
Stanley River .....	3.20	3
Totals.....	322.25	409

## NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

PIONEER AND GLADSTONE DISTRICTS:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Pioneer Tin Mine .....	2.80	36	...
Aberroe .....	1.75	3	...
Argus Tin Mine.....	3.75	16	...
South Mt. Cameron .....	...	26	...
Dorset .....	5.85	16	...
Purdue Tin Mine .....	11.75	22	...
Garibaldi.....	1.75	10	5
Other Claims .....	11.95	49	26
Totals.....	39.60	178	31

## RINGAROOMA DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Various Claims.....	1·1	11	...
	—	—	—

## DERBY DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Briseis Tin Mines.....	198	146	...
New Brothers' Home, No. 1....	9·95	14	...
Clyde .....	1·45	2	...
Other Derby Claims .....	4·05	21	6
	—	—	—
Total .....	213·45	183	6
	—	—	—

## BRANXHOLM DISTRICT:—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Arba Tin Mine .....	...	12	...
New Ruby Flat .....	...	10	...
Other Claims .....	3·85	4	13
	—	—	—
Total .....	3·85	26	13
	—	—	—

## MOORINA DISTRICT.—

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed.	
		Europeans.	Chinese.
Weld Tin Mine .....	4·50	8	...
Native Youth .....	5·75	6	...
Banca .....	...	3	...
Wilberforce .....	4·75	6	...
Other Moorina Claims .....	1·45	5	...
	—	—	—
Total... ..	16·45	28	...
	—	—	—
<i>Total for North-Eastern Division .....</i>	<i>274·45</i>	<i>426</i>	<i>50</i>
	—	—	—



## EASTERN DIVISION.

<i>Weldborough Mines.</i>	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed. Europeans, Chinese.	
Fancy Creek Co. ....	1·10	2	...
Dickinson .....	·70	2	...
Chinese .....	9·95	...	36
Other Claims .....	16·55	28	...
Total .....	28·30	32	36
<i>Lottah and Blue Tier Mines.</i>			
Anchor Mine .....	10·90	68	...
Emu .....	·80	4	...
Poimena Claims .....	1·85	10	1
Total .....	13·55	82	1
<i>St. Helens Mines.</i>			
C. Miller .....	·15	3	...
A. Williams .....	·95	4	...
J. C. Macmichael .....	·65	2	...
M. Hartnett .....	3·05	2	...
Deep Lead.....	·65	2	...
Others .....	2	14	...
Total .....	7·45	27	...
<i>Avoca Mines.</i>			
Storey's Creek Claims .....	·80	24	...
Roy's Hill .....	·55	2	...
Gipp's Creek....	·30	14	...
Other Claims .....	·50	5	...
Total .....	2·15	45	...
<i>Total for Eastern Division</i>	<u>51·45</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>97</u>

## NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed. Europeans.
Shepherd and Murphy Mine ...	<u>8·15</u>	<u>40</u>

## WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tin ore won. tons.	Men employed. Europeans.
Boulder .....	16·5	17
Renison Bell.....	45	57
Montana Tin Syn. ....	7·76	15
Various Claims.....	15·	73
Total .....	<u>84·26</u>	<u>162</u>

OF TASMANIA.

SILVER.

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

<i>Zeehan Mines :</i>	Ore.	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Mt. Zeehan, Tas.	galena .....	140	£1880	18
Zeehan-Montana	" .....	688·90	11,429	153
Zeehan-Western	" .....	166·38	1399	23
Zeehan-Queen	" .....	3	20	6
Florence	" .....	96·42	779	142
Sunrise	" .....	2·	268	6
Maxim	" .....	12·34	92	3
Balstrup's	" .....	13	85	12
New Mt. Zeehan	" .....	15·50	65	6
Venezia Tribute	" .....	4·55	45	3
Oonah	gossan .....	2·65	22	2
"	stannite .....	1191	4910	83
"	sulphide.....	1068	1982*	30
"	galena .....	18·75	320	3
Austral Valley	" .....	7	70	4
T. L. E.	" .....	7·77	51	9
South Comstock	zinc-blende...	10	25	3
<i>Dundas Mines :</i>				
Mariposa	gossan ... ..	344	327	4
"	galena .....	190	500	4
North Jupiter	" .....	330	800	13
Hercules	zinc-blende .....	1811	4035	55
Comet	gossan .....	393·40	314	12
"	galena .....	14·60	176	
West Comet	" .....	...	...	...
Anderson's Tribute	" .....	...	...	...
Mt. Zeehan, Tas.	" .....	...	...	20
<i>Rosebery Mines :</i>				
Tasmanian Copper	sulphide .....	530	1659	20
Primrose	" .....	...	...	10
<i>Mt. Farrell Mines :</i>				
Mackintosh	galena ... ..	8	112	4
Murchison	" .....	...	...	...
North Mt. Farrell	" .....	487	3496	117
Mt. Farrell	" .....	...	...	...
Others ... ..	.....	...	...	...
<i>North Pieman :</i>				
Chester Mine	sulphide.....	1101·10	1101	55
<i>Mt. Lyell :</i>				
Tasman & Crown Lyell				
Extended .....		241	1176	20
<i>Sundries :</i>				
Tasmanian Smelting Co. ....		...	...	44
Others .....		...	...	155
Total .....		8923·36	£37,138	1039

\* £982 added to adjust error in value for last quarter.



*The Mt. Zeehan (Tasmania) Silver-Lead Mines, Limited.*—Mr. T. Vincent, manager, reports:—At Company's Dundas Mine about nine acres have been cleared for shaft-site and mine-buildings. Main shaft sunk 50 feet, when sinking has had to be suspended owing to heavy flow of water. No. 1 winze sunk 35 feet; full distance highly payable. No. 2 lode has been stripped, showing chute of ore 300 feet long. Ore has been proved in No. 3 lode for 90 feet.

*Zeehan-Montana.*—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—No. 2 lode, north, No. 3 level: A new shoot of ore has been discovered in this end, at a point 200 feet north of the recent ore-shoot found north of main slide. Exploratory work is being carried on at Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 levels. Drives and crosscuts in the latter three levels are in search of the new ore shoot now showing in the drive at No. 3 level. There is a good show of ore in the latter drive, and the ground, both above and below, is all virgin ground, hence it appears likely that a new mine is being opened up north of the main works.

*Zeehan-Western.*—Mr. J. Craze, manager, reports:—There are no new discoveries since my last report. We have three men prospecting the surface north of the main works, and a considerable amount of prospecting is being done above water-level at the main works, but so far nothing of much importance has been found. There are several stopes in operation above water-level, which are producing sufficient ore to about pay expenses.

*ROSEBERRY DISTRICT.—Tasmania Copper Mine.*—Mr. G. Barker, manager, reports:—Main Adit Level: Cut the lode at 1397 feet and passed through a solid, unbroken body of ore for 22 feet of good grade. Stopping operations are confined to Nos. 5 and 6 levels. The ore returns a small profit.

*MT. REID DISTRICT.—Hercules Mine.*—Mr. Claude H. Moxton, manager, reports:—Total quantity zinc-blende ore exported has been 1811 tons of a net value of £4035. The production has been made from the "E" lode, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd stopes, which are still showing large quantities yet to be extracted of a payable quality. Developmental work is in progress above No. 3 level, and at 5B level the lode passed through at the latter has proved to be 40 feet in width. The usual maintenance works and the filling of the open workings has been attended to, and the mine generally is in a first rate working condition.

*MT. FARRELL DISTRICT.—North Mt. Farrell Mine.*—Mr. L. C. H. Woodroffe, B.C.E., manager, reports:—During last quarter 4485 tons of crude ore were mined, from which 152 tons of first-class ore were obtained by hand-sorting. The balance, 4333 tons, was milled for a return of 335 tons of concentrates, making a total output of 487 tons of marketable ore. Owing to the exhaustion to a great extent of

the reserves of payable ore, the output from the upper levels has fallen off considerably, and now that an increasing tonnage is being won at the No. 5 level, productive operations on the low-grade ore remaining in the levels above will be curtailed until prices of silver and lead improve. At the new level—No. 5—developmental work is in progress on the No. 3 lode, which was met at 93 feet east from the shaft. The main drives are in 80 feet and 120 feet north and south respectively. The lode has averaged 7 feet in width of payable milling ore. A connection has been effected with the No. 1 winze from the No. 4 level, and stopes north and south from the winze have been started.

*Mackintosh.*—Mr. J. Geddes, manager, reports:—Since last report work has been confined to stoping north and south of No. 2 rise. Lode 8 feet wide, from 3 to 4 inches of first on footwall, and 2 feet of jiggs; balance of no value.

MT. LYELL DISTRICT.—*Tasman and Crown Lyell Extended.*—Mr. Edward Carter, mine manager, reports:—The chief work has been confined to extractions from the Nos. 2 and 3 intermediates that have produced 241 tons of ore, assaying 26 per cent. of lead and 15 ozs. of silver, that were despatched to the Tasmanian Smelters at Zeehan. Value, £1176. Twenty men employed.

*Tasmania Smelting Company.*—Mr. H. Harris, manager, reports:—Ore bought during the quarter, 2046 tons, containing 461 tons lead, 59,184 oz. silver, 298 oz. gold. No complete smelting operations were conducted during the term, work for the first two months having been confined to making repairs and attending to the acceptance of ore parcels. For this work an average of 42 men was employed. During March roasting operations were commenced in preparation for the smelting campaign to be commenced in April, and during this month 61 men were employed.

## NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Magnet Mine.....	647	£6376	83
Mt. Jasper Mine .....	...	...	15
			<hr/>
			98
			<hr/>

## NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	Value.	Men.
Round Hill Mine .....	...	...	1
Devon Mine .....	...	...	6

## COPPER.

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

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

	tons.	Dry weight.		
		cwt.	qr.	lb.
Mt. Lyell Mine ore .....	62,636	17	1	19
North Lyell Mine ore .....	35,224	11	3	2
	97,861	9	0	21

Quantity and value of metal produced:—

Blister Copper, 2183 tons, containing —	£	s.	d.
Copper, 2157 tons, valued at .....	134,963	9	9
Silver, fine, 175,484 ozs., valued at.....	17,482	11	10
Gold, fine, 3695 ozs., valued at .....	15,703	15	0
Total.....	£168,149	16	7

Number of men employed:—

At the Company's Mt. Lyell Mine .....	385
" " North Lyell Mine.....	422
" " Lyell Tharsis Mine.....	4
" " Crotty.....	12
" " Reduction Works.....	823
" " Railway Department—Mt. Lyell Railway .....	910
" " North Lyell Railway...	145
	20
	165
Total.....	1988

Mr. Inspector Curtain reports:—

*Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company's Group.*

*Mount Lyell Mine.*—As in the past the chief quantities of pyritic ore continue to be obtained from the five (5) lower benches of the open-cut workings, which will tend to decrease as the three deeper levels, 6, 7, and 8, that are being made accessible for stoping, are called on to assist this supply. Connections for hoisting, filling, and ventilation being made, and in some instances completed for the said purposes throughout those lastmentioned workings. At the compressing plant the two mechanically-stoked high-pressure boilers have been installed, put into commission, and give increased power and satisfaction.

*North Lyell Mine.*—The most important development that has taken place is the location of high grade ore (boronite) in the Nos. 1 and 2 south drives at the 1100-foot level, upon which stopes 35 and 36 have been opened. At the 1000-foot level, beyond 34 stope in the north drive, a promising make of metal has been cut, while 23, 24, 26, and 31 stopes in other parts of this level are producing large and serviceable quantities of high grade copper ore. That also refers to 18, 19, 20, 22, and 25 stopes in the 850-foot level, and 15, 16, 17, sub and intermediate stopes on the 700-foot and upper levels of the mine.

*Reduction Works.*—Operations of the usual character continue through the various departments in this branch of the mine—the utility of the water conservation dam in the Queen River being fully recognised during the recent period of dry weather, where by its aid little or no inconvenience was experienced in keeping up the full capacity of the furnaces, as the output for the term must disclose.

*Lyell Consols Copper Mine.*—Mr. John William Carroll reports:—During the quarter, payable ore has been met in the drive east from the main crosscut at No. 2 level, and is being further developed, while ore extractions continue at No. 1 level with fairly satisfactory results; the total work of development for the period under review being 540 feet of driving, 118 feet crosscutting, and 216 feet of rising: 3285 tons of ore were treated for a return of 4885 tons of concentrates, valued at £1950. Eighty men were employed.

Note.—There are only two levels (Nos. 1 and 2) at the Lyell Consols Mine. In a previous report, through my joining the numeral with the sign—as I have done again in this report—it was made to read No. 7, which is not correct.

*Lyell Blocks Mine.*—The work of reclaiming the main or Consols adit has principally occupied the time of the manager, Mr. Robert Ferguson, 1750-feet of which, with a 200-foot deviation to avoid uncontrollable ground, has been accomplished, and a compressing plant, with two (2) Cornish multitubular boilers, seated and installed, the whole employing an average of 16 men.

*Mt. Lyell Comstock Copper Mine.*—Mr. Charles E. Coote reports:—Eighty-eight feet of driving, 27 feet sinking, and 33 feet rising have been done in the low level adit with 15 men. It is currently stated that preliminary surveys are being made by this proprietary for the purpose of ascertaining the practicability of obtaining a railway route, and connecting their works here with those in the same office at Zeehan.

*Mt. Jukes Proprietary Mine.*—Mr. Walter Donald, representing Melbourne capitalists, who are again paying attention to this part of the district, reports that towards the end of the quarter work was resumed as follows:—The track from Crotty put in order, and a

bridge erected over the Traveller River. Building material provided for the erection of a new camp and blacksmith's shop; repairing and relaying rails in Nos. 1 and 2 adits; bailing out and overhauling the winze, after which sinking thereon will be resumed, and the adits mentioned extended to cut the lode. Thirteen men were already employed; that would, within the ensuing quarter, be extended to 20.

*Lake Jukes Mine.*—An application for forfeiture of this lease was heard before Mr. Warden Turner, who recommended the same, the applicant, Mr. Ryan, from Melbourne, asserting that he was prepared to go on with active operations were he placed in possession of the property.

*Darwin Prospecting Syndicate.*—Mr. James Souter reports :—The drive towards the contact country has been completed and reached its objective, after a distance of 175 feet has been driven; the last 10 or 12 feet being through schist impregnated with copper pyrites, together with a vein of corellite ore. A distance of 20 feet has since been driven north with highly gratifying results, both as regards width of ore-bearing channel and metal contents. Two men were employed.

#### NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.

	Tons.	±	Men employed.
Murray's Reward .....	...	...	12
Others (estimated) .....	...	...	50
F.G.D. Copper Mines .....	...	...	4
	...	...	66

*Murray's Reward.*—Operations were confined to prospecting owing to coal strike.

#### COAL.

The output this quarter was 26,122 tons, against 19,915 tons the previous quarter. The output of the respective collieries was as follows :—

Colliery.	Tons raised.	Men employed.
Cornwall Colliery .....	8545	70
Mt. Nicholas „ .....	13,485	100
Cardiff „ .....	644	8
Spreyton „ .....	491	12
York Plains „ .....	140	2
Wallsend „ .....	2767	84
Ida Bay „ .....	50	4
Total .....	26,122	280

## BISMUTH.

*The Shepherd and Murphy Company* obtained 1·25 tons of bismuth from its tin ore, valued at £465.

## WOLFRAM.

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

	Tons.	£	Men.
Avoca Mines.....	16·6	954	...
Shepherd and Murphy Mine .....	4·5	540	...
	<u>15·1</u>	<u>1494</u>	<u>...</u>

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

District.	European.	Chinese.	Total.
Northern and Southern .....	777	...	777
North-Eastern .....	426	50	476
Eastern .....	448	37	485
North-Western .....	573	...	573
Western .....	3231	...	3231
Total .....	<u>5455</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>5542</u>

Value of mineral output per man: — £62 4s. 2·32ld.

Dividends paid by Mining Companies during the quarter ending March, 1910:—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Copper Mines.....	Nil					
From Tin Mines:—						
Mt. Bischoff T.M. Co., Registered.....	9600	0	0			
Shepherd and Murphy Syndicate .....	1000	0	0			
Briseis Tin and General Mining Co. Lim. ....	15,000	0	0			
				25,000	0	0
From Coal Mines:—						
Cornwall Coal Co. ....	1359	0	0			
				1359	0	0
From Silver Mines .....	Nil					
Total .....				£26,359	0	0