

WALLACE SECTIONS (Old Grand Prize Mine)NORTH DUNDASGeneral Statement

The writer some months ago when holding the position of Government Mining Engineer furnished a report on this property.

Since that date a Hobart syndicate has carried out some prospecting and developmental work on the property.

In addition to some trenching a tunnel was commenced at a point 250 feet south of an old shaft sunk many years ago in a search for lead ore, and driven towards the latter on the course of the lode a distance of 152 feet. The vertical depth of tunnel level below the collar of shaft is 115 feet.

When cutting approach to tunnel the ore body was entered and continued in it throughout its length.

Ore Values

The outcrop of lode at shaft is of considerable width, at that point about 30 feet across and carries very good values in tin. On the footwall portion rich veins were located. The ore consists of gossan (hydrated ferro-manganese oxide) which is a soft porous rock, being the oxidised product of iron pyrite. The oxidation of this ore body is found to extend to a much greater depth than usually occurs in an ore body of this description.

Picked samples of the ore at the surface assayed as high as 20% tin and over while sections of the lode nearby would show but a trace. It was with the object of proving if the ore carried average payable values that tunnelling work was carried out.

At the entrance of tunnel small quantities of payable ore were met with but it proved to be a small bunch. Beyond this the first 50 feet section driven gave poor returns. At about a distance of 50 feet from the entrance a make of rich stone was cut, this continued for a few feet along the drive then cut out. At this point a sample taken over a considerable weak return 8% tin. A cross cut driven westerly to hanging wall proved the ore body to be 21 feet wide, a bulk sample taken across the full width assayed 0.38% tin.

From this point along drive a distance of 20 feet a bulk sample assayed 0.25% tin.

The next 20 feet along drive assayed 0.13% tin.

At 100 feet from entrance of tunnel a cross cut was put across the lode to hanging wall a distance of 18 feet, a bulk sample from this returned 0.13% tin.

The next section of tunnel over a distance of 25 feet returned 0.20% tin, a similar length of section to face assayed 0.50%. The face of tunnel at end 152 feet from entrance assayed 0.20% tin.

It may seem extraordinary to get such a high bulk assay as 8% when driving the tunnel, when a re-sampling returned only 0.38% tin. Such an incident is characteristic of tin ore occurrences. A number of tons of the ore of the better value met with was stacked near the mouth of tunnel, which in appearance is in every respect similar to the general class of one passed through. Some portions of the enrichment consisted of dense rich stone having the appearance of hematite.

The results so far obtained would indicate that the average value of the ore at least on this section of the property is below payable grade.

On the northern fall of the hill on the adjoining section the one which is a continuation of the same lode appears to carry high average values. No work to speak of has to be carried out to prove its extent.

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Mines Department
Hobart.

22nd November, 1927.