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NOTES ON
THE BORING CAMPAIGN AT THE NORTHERN
END OF THE ALBERTON FIELD. (New River)

No. 1 Borehole

This hole was bored to cut Krushka reef at a vertical depth of 100 feet below the outcrop, the deepest workings having been 48 feet. It was stated at a point, 100 feet west of the north shaft on the reef and drilled in an easterly direction at a depression of 45°. Slates and quartzites were passed through with one inch of quartz at 162 feet. The reef should have been cut between 150 and 160 feet and it is evident that it is represented by the one inch of quartz. The hole continued to 200 feet without cutting any more quartz.

A fault probably exists at the north shaft and the bore hole was very close to this fault and may possibly have passed through it.

The cuttings between 105 and 110 feet were assayed with the following results, the rocks at that point being broken sandstone.

Gold 0 dwts. 13 grs. per ton
Silver 4 dwts. 17 grs. per ton

No. 2 Borehole

This was put down about 16 chains south of No. 1 and was sited to cut at depth any downward extension of an outcrop of oxides of iron. It was drilled in an easterly direction with a depression of 45°.

The bore passed through ironstone rubble with specks of quartz between 10 and 32 feet with 6 inches of quartz below. The remainder of the bore was in slates, quartzites and sandstones with veins or irregular patches of quartz in the rocks between 48 and 50 feet; 83 and 83.5 feet; 154 and 168 feet; and 172 and 180 feet.

The cuttings between 48 and 50 feet were assayed and gave a result of "nil" gold and a "Trace" of silver.

No. 3 Borehole

This hole is located about 41 chains east of south from No. 2 and was sited to cut the Prendergast reef at a vertical depth of 180 feet. The reef strikes at 60° and dips to the south at 80°. The hole was commenced to the south of the reef and was bored at a bearing of 298° from a point 163 links from the reef and at a depression of 70°.

The rocks passed through were slate, sandstone and quartzite. A two-foot reef was passed through at 195-197 feet which was the estimated position. An assay gave a result of a trace of gold and 1 dwt. 1 gr. of silver per ton. Quartz veins mixed with slate &c. were cut between 20 and 30 feet; 44 and 51 feet; 80 and 82 feet; 200 and 206 feet; and 222 and 255 feet. The samples between 200 and 203 feet and 203 and 206 feet were assayed and gave gold "Nil" and Silver "Nil", and gold "Nil" and silver "Trace" respectively.

No. 4 Borehole

This hole was started from a point 105 feet

W.S.W. of No. 3 and was sited to cut Prendergast reef further west than in No. 3 hole. The collar was 150 links from the reef at a bearing of 298° , and the angle of depression was 70° .

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The rocks passed through were slate, sandstone and quartzite. Between 194 and 198 feet, a reef of highly mineralised quartz mixed with some quartzite was passed through. An assay of the material returned a trace only of gold and silver respectively.

A foot of white quartz was cut between 199 and 200 feet which gave an assay of gold "Nil", silver "Trace", while veins of quartz in the country rock were passed through between 119 and 119.5 feet; 177 and 179 feet; and 188 and 190 feet.

The Prendergast reef through which Nos. 3 and 4 bores passed had previously been partly worked down to a depth of 80 feet below the collar of the bore holes. At this point only 40 feet of driving had been attempted owing, it was said, to the lode splitting.

The money expended was provided by the Unemployment Council. The amount allotted being exhausted, work has been discontinued and the drill removed from the field.

In a recent conference with the officers of the Geological Survey on gold mining in the State, Sir Herbert Gepp and Dr. F. Stillwell, members of the council for Scientific and Industrial Research, expressed themselves as being unfavourably disposed to expenditure of money for diamond drilling as a means of endeavouring to resuscitate gold mining in the State. In the circumstances application for further assistance from the Commonwealth Government would not succeed.

Actual drilling work commenced on 12th November, 1932 and ceased on 28th April, 1933.

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16/5/33.