

REVIEW OF THE GOLD MINING INDUSTRY OF TASMANIA
FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 31st March, 1934

The production of gold for the quarter was 190.73 ounces, compared with 1924.22 for the previous quarter representing a decrease of 1733.49 ounces. This large decrease was due to the fact that the Mt. Lyell Smelters were not in operation owing to the extremely dry weather and lack of water for power, etc.

The dry weather also resulted in decreased production from all other fields.

The production from the various divisions are shown below as well as those of the previous quarter for comparative purposes.

	Quarter ending 31st March, 1934	Quarter ending 31st December, 1933
Northern & Southern	80.90	266.69
North-eastern	30.16	137.66
Eastern	13.90	22.52
North-Western	42.63	69.98
Western	23.14	1427.37
	190.73	1924.22

Prospecting was fairly active on all fields but no important discoveries were made.

Northern & Southern

Prospecting and mining operations on a small scale were carried on at Lefroy, Beaconsfield, Lisle and Golconda.

At Lefroy, the Wallis Gold Mining Company continued operations at the Lee-Floyd mine and stopping a short shoot above the 50 feet level. One parcel of 8 tons was crushed at Beaconsfield and yielded 9.25 ozs. (8.48 fine ounces). The Prince of Wales P.A. commenced work at the old mine of the same name, sinking a new shaft to 50 feet, crosscutting northward and driving eastwards to connect with the old workings. It is intended to mine a trial parcel of quartz. Parties were working alluvial ground at Sludge Creek, Back Creek etc.

At Beaconsfield, both reef and alluvial mining operations are being carried on. The Beaconsfield Gold Mines in rising from the 180 foot level intersected an extremely small body of quartz from which 6 tons were obtained and yielded 5.32 ozs. Operations are continuing at the 180 feet level where a crushed zone is reported to have been cut.

To the north of Cabbage Tree Hill, where detrital and alluvial gold had previously been obtained, a narrow formation in sandstones was located with financial assistance from the Department. A parcel of 20 tons of formation and detrital material yielded 17.90 ozs. The Tasmanian G.M. Syndicate produced only 0.69 ozs.

The G.L.K. Gold Mines Pty. Ltd. continued their testing of the treatment processes of the sands along Blyths Creek. The treatment of the debris at the old Tasmanian mine battery site yielded 16.90 ozs. Alluvial mining at Brandy Creek, Cabbage Tree Hill and Eaglehawk was not as active as formerly was the case.

In the Lisle-Golconda fields, only general and prospecting work was carried out, the shortage of water preventing alluvial operators (including the Cradle Creek G.M. Syn. Ltd.) from working. Boring has been performed by the National Bureau of Mining and Metallurgy Reg. between Lisle and Greta but the results are not known.

North-Eastern Division

The chief centres of activity were around Gladstone, Warrentinna and Alberton, the production being 30.16 ozs.

At Gladstone, the Gladstone G.M. Co. extended their north drive towards the old Royal Tasman Workings and also carried out prospecting at the north end of the old Royal Mint line of reef. A parcel of 24 tons were crushed for 5.4 ozs. Alluvial tin mining at Gladstone and South Mount Cameron yielded 8.5 ozs.

At Warrentinna, the Renown mine suspended operations. Prospecting was carried on at several places by parties and in one case a trial parcel was sent for crushing, but results are not available.

Operations were continued on the normal scale at Alberton. At the Mt. Victoria mine, small scale underground work including winzing was performed. Similar operations were carried out at the Long Struggle and Una mines. Krushka and party mined 10 tons of quartz at New River, which yielded 3 ozs.

Eastern

There was a considerable amount of prospecting around Mathinna etc. but the production was small and amounted to only 13.9 ozs.

At South Mount Victoria, crosscutting was continued at the Hinemoa mine. Depth exploration was discontinued at Church Hill, but shallow exploration was carried out near the new cemetery at Mathinna. Messrs. Brock Bros. are testing an auriferous formation to the south of the Gold Gate mine.

North-Western Division

The chief centres of activity were Gawler River, Arthur River, Whyte River and Savage River, the production being 42.63 ozs.

At the Gawler River, the Gawler River G.M. Company continued their underground operations of driving adits and sinking shafts. Surface prospecting is being carried on in adjacent areas.

In the Calder River, Takone and Oldina areas, Messrs. O'Leary and Wilson won 10.28 ozs. of alluvial gold and W. Reeve 2.67 ozs. At the Arthur River, W. North and Son won 12.41 ozs. of alluvial gold.

At the Whyte River, the Holdfast Company were

hydraulic sluicing but did not clean up during the period. The osmiridium miners at Savage River and elsewhere recovered 17.28 ozs. of alluvial gold.

Near Corinna, the Austral Malay T.M. Co. discontinued their boring operations on the Savage River flats, the ground being too deep for dredging. Boring may be commenced elsewhere at a later date.

Western Division

There was a large decrease in the production from this division, owing to the water shortage preventing the Mt. Lyell Company from operating their smelter and converter plants during the quarter.

Miners from Lake Margaret, Linda Creek, Lynch Creek, Conglomerate Creek, Raggetty Creek, Diamond Creek, and Flannigan's Flat produced a total of 19.89 ozs.

Prospecting operations are being carried on in the alluvial deposits near Lynch's Creek and an adit is being driven near Banjo Creek.

At Diamond Creek, a party was engaged in testing the surface outcrop of the quartz reef opened up some years ago.

Some 3.25 ozs. were won in the Renison Bell district.

Sgd. P.B. Nye

GOVERNMENT GEOLOGIST

Mines Department
HOBART
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