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PRELIMINARY REPORTONLOTTIE CHINTOCK PROSPECTIntroduction.

The ore-body on this property was discovered by W. Chintock about five years ago when engaged in sluicing the granite porphyry detritus for tin ore. Shortly after a working option of purchase was let to J. Northey who on behalf of a Melbourne Syndicate sank a shaft from a point on the outcrop to a depth of 40 feet and cut across the body east and west. It is stated by the lessee that the optionees were operating under the impression that the trend of the body is east-west and on that account exploration was not carried north or south. However, the lessee has not proved the north trend of the lode.

About 12 chains west of north of Chintock's is the site of the late Kent Company's workings where an old battery of stampers still remains. Whether the two ore-bodies are in any way related has not been proved, but it is thought by some that there is a definite connection between them. Assuming a west of north trend Chintock's lode would junction with the Kent body. At the shaft Chintock's lode appears to course due north and the line would pass east of the Kent workings. This shaft was inaccessible at time of visit, therefore the information revealed in that opening was not available.

Area, Situation &c.

The property is one of 5 acres and is held under lease 9489/M.

It is situated six miles by road north-east of Waldborough and less than half a mile south of Wyniford River. The road in sections is well graded and in good repair; but in parts, the latter section in particular, it is impassable to vehicles and is steeply graded.

The ore body.

The ore-body, which is not visible at surface except where sunk upon, consists of quartz and mica greisen and is contained in granite porphyry. The felspar of the original unmineralised rock is almost wholly transformed, and replaced into pinite and secondary white mica and by quartz, and cassiterite. The openings through which the mineralising solutions entered are marked by lines of crystallised quartz and cassiterite in geodes and again in comb formations. Much of it is cellular and ironstained suggesting a later dissolution of sulphidic ores such as pyrite and chalcopyrite, the latter in particular. The secondary mica is in fine crystal aggregates after felspar, and in parts fine crystal aggregates of quartz are found.

Cassiterite extends into the wall-rock of granite porphyry which appears quite fresh. The porphyry consists of felspar and quartz phenocrysts, with interstitial plagioclase and biotite in little flakes and small porportion.

A dyke of diabase, well exposed in the bed of Wyniford River at the left arm of a sharp bend a few chains east of the Pioneer Dam site, passes in a south-westerly direction a little to the north of the property. This dyke took has no bearing at all upon the formation of the lodes.

Developments. Present and Future.

The only productive development work is the 40-foot shaft sunk at the one point of outcrop. That work was insufficient to determine the trend and size of the body as proved by the difference in the opinions of the operators and the lessees. Apparently no attempt has been made to cut the body south of the shaft, and north of it two of the trenches have not been cut through the detritus, one north trench appears to be cut into the diabase dyke which completely intersects the ore-body. This unexplained occurrence probably deterred the prospectors from further effort at that point and discouraged them from extending the field of exploration in a northerly

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direction, where large boulders of quartz greisen and vein quartz found in the detrital material indicate the course of the lode.

The ore-body, exposed on the western slope of a hill 2350 feet above sea-level, is not easily explored because the slope is at a very low angle. If proved in a northerly direction - it is reported to have been cut 10 chains away & the ore could be open-cut to a depth of 60 feet.

The ore in the dump at the shaft is rich (1 to 2% tin) and if that can be taken as a fair sample as a whole the prospect is worthy of further attention.

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DIRECTOR OF MINES.

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Hobart.

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