

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

The production of gold for the quarter was 2323.70 ounces, compared with 1386.65 for the previous quarter, representing an increase of 937.05. This increase was due to a general increased output from the Mt. Lyell Smelters and to a plentiful supply of water throughout the State.

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

	Quarter ending 30th September. 1934	Quarter ending 31st December. 1934
Northern & Southern	66.79	197.50
North-eastern	14.67	38.49
Eastern	38.98	57.23
North-western	40.48	30.78
Western	1225.73	1999.70
Total -	1386.65	2323.70

Northern and Southern Division: -

Prospecting and mining were carried out at a number of localities including Beaconsfield, Lefroy, Back Creek, Lisle, Golconda etc., the production being 197.5 ounces. At Lisle several parties worked alluvial deposits and produced 40.1 ounces. Material progress was made by Greta (Tas.) Hydraulic Sluicing Company in preliminary work for establishment of sluicing operations at Greta. Prospecting operations were active in the Golconda and Patersonia areas.

At Beaconsfield the G. L. K. Gold Mines Pty. Ltd. continued investigations concerning the cyanidation of battery sands at North Arm. Recent results have induced the company to install additional plant to treat larger quantities. Sixty-two tons of lode material obtained from Golden Horse-shoe Mine at a depth of $47\frac{1}{2}$ feet was crushed at the 4 head stamper battery for a recovery of 103.09 oz. of fine gold. A two compartment shaft is being sunk to cut the reef on the dip and to improve working conditions. The Salisbury Blue Tier Gold Mines Ltd. treated 20 tons of material from an old dump, by means of their "pug" plant and recovered 1.6 ounces of gold. Old battery residues from Tasmania Gold Mine were treated by R.V. Jillett and 10.1 ounces of fine gold recovered. Only $3\frac{1}{2}$ ounces were obtained from alluvial deposits.

Following the installation of a 5-head stamper battery by the "Lefroy Mines" 384 tons of material, comprising a small parcel of ore from Peden workings and a much larger quantity of material from the dumps at the old Volunteer workings, were crushed for a recovery of 31.38 ounces of fine gold. Mining operations were continued by the Wallis Company on a lode channel south easterly

from the main workings on Lee-Floyd section.

Several parties continued with sluicing and driving alluvial ground along Sludge Creek in the vicinity of the old Pinafore mines. At Back Creek a gold bearing reef was discovered by McDonald and party, and this is still in the prospecting stage of development.

North-Eastern Division.

The chief centre of activity was at North Mt. Victoria. At Alberton small-scale operations were conducted by Matthews and party on the Mt. Victoria and adjoining leases, and an effort is being made to introduce capital for more active mining. One parcel of 7 tons of quartz was crushed for a return of 3.04 ounces of fine gold.

A Tasmanian syndicate is now engaged in equipping the Long Struggle mine for the purpose of cross-cutting and testing several of the reefs from the bottom adit. Efforts are being made to form a company to work the Ringarooma United - Mercury - Forest King group of mines.

Attention is being directed to the possibilities of sluicing the gold and tin alluvial deposits of Pero Flats along the lower portion of New River valley. A syndicate has been capitalised for the purpose of systematically boring this area.

Eastern Division.

At Mangana, Mathinna and South Mt. Victoria interest was maintained in the search for new discoveries and in the possibilities of a resumption of operations at previously abandoned mines.

The main adit is being re-opened and other work is being carried out at the old Sovereign mine at Mangana for the purpose of testing the mine under present economic conditions. Exploratory operations were continued by Messrs. Brock Bros. on several reefs in the Mathinna area. At Dead Horse Gully a prospecting cross-cut is being driven to intersect Malahide reef below the old workings. The Golden Gate mine is held under option and an endeavour is being made to raise sufficient capital in England to re-open the mine. Cyanidation of battery tailings was continued, and 1359 tons were treated for a recovery of 46.4 ounces of fine gold.

Several parties were engaged in the search for gold at South Mt. Victoria, particularly at the Una and Hinemoa workings.

North-Western Division

Gold mining in this division was chiefly confined to alluvial workings, the production being 30.78 ounces. At Holdfast Gold Mine, Whyte River, sluicing was suspended after a final recovery of 12.10 ounces. Approximately 100 cubic yards of material were sluiced by Crabtree and party at Middleton Creek near Corinna for a recovery of 2 ounces of gold. Evans and McAuliffe at Smith Creek have

obtained 3.8 ounces by ground sluicing. At Savage River Allen Bros. won 3.4 ounces of fine gold. At Inglis River D. O'Leary obtained 1.42 ounces by ground sluicing methods. Higgs and party at Narrawa Creek Gold Mine, Moina, have completed the erection of a small shaking table and water wheel to drive same. Sluicing commenced recently and 4.49 ounces of fine gold have been recovered. The gold is of fine grain size and slight alterations to the plant will be necessary before a high recovery can be made possible.

At Oliver Hill McAvoy and party secured 1.10 ounces of fine gold before work was suspended in that area and continued at Dove River on a large quartz formation reported to carry gold, silver and copper.

Developmental work was continued at Mt. Stormont Gold Mines, Lea River. The mill was worked intermittently and some concentrates were shipped but the gold content of the latter has not yet been reported. Prospecting for alluvial and lode has been carried out at Middlesex, Minnow River, Dasher River, Kimberly and Latrobe.

Western Division.

Increased production of gold was notable in this division during the quarter.

The products of the Mt. Lyell Mining and Railway Company yielded 1966.72 ounces of gold obtained as a bi-product from the smelting and refining of copper ore. At Koonya Mine, in Rosebery district, Johnson and party won 13.32 ounces fine by treating iron oxide from old shaft workings.

Thirty alluvial miners, working intermittently, produced 19.38 ounces from Lynch Creek, Conglomerate Creek, West Queen River, Linda Creek, Swan Creek and gullies in the vicinity of Lake Margaret and Mount Jukes.

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