

## QUARTZ-MINING.

## MARLBOROUGH.

*Dominion Consolidated Developing Company* (Mr. Oats, mine-manager).—This company has claims situated two and a half miles from Deep Creek, Wakamarina, covering an area of 83 acres, which are held under special quartz claim license, also 100 acres held under a prospecting license. The capital of the company is £15,000, and the operations consist of mining for gold and scheelite. During the year an average of twenty-one men have been constantly employed. The total value of minerals won is £1,358 7s. 6d., as follows: Gold, £1,133 7s. 6d.; scheelite, £225. The total expenditure for the year was £3,517, which amount has been spent principally in development, as follows: Mine-development, £1,519; water-races, £490; mining and treating quartz, £1,108; sundries, £400. The value of equipment is estimated to be £1,780. The development for the year has provided an ore reserve, ready for stoping, which is estimated to be worth £3 per ton, gold and scheelite. The New Zealand Mines Trust (Limited), have been appointed consulting engineers to the company. During the last two months Mr. Hopkins, metallurgist of the Waihi Gold-mining Company, and Mr. Rhodes, manager of the Mine Trust, have visited the mine, and thoroughly inspected and sampled the various ores. On their advice, the installation of a twenty-stamp mill, capable of treating 1,200 tons per month, is being proceeded with, and provision will be made for further extension as developments warrant.

*Jubilee Mine, Top Valley* (owners, the Wairau Valley Gold-mining Company; manager, Mr. Jackson).—Two men have been employed for the year extending the low-level crosscut, the work being subsidized by the Government at the rate of 5s. per foot. No reef has yet been found at this level. The workings were safe when visited on the 5th August.

*Morayshire Scheelite Claim* (owners, Messrs. Dowman and Bradcock).—In this property a 3 ft. reef carrying scheelite is being developed, and prospects appear to be good.

## NELSON.

*Golden Blocks Mine* (Mr. Annear, manager).—During the year a shaft has been sunk 90 ft. below No. 3 level, with satisfactory results. The battery was destroyed by fire, but was replaced by one of more modern type, and crushing was resumed in November. A 25 in. Sirocco fan has been installed at the mine for the purpose of ventilating the lower workings, and will be capable of providing efficient ventilation for a long time to come.

## LYELL.

*New Alpine Mine*.—This mine is now the property of a private syndicate, Mr. D. Cadigan being in charge. During the year a rise was put up from the intermediate level above No. 7, and intersected a block of quartz in the footwall of the main reef. A trial crushing of 70 tons yielded very favourable results, and further work is now being carried on to prove the extent of ore available.

*Victory Mine* (owners, the Victory Gold-mining Company; manager, Mr. G. W. Turner).—This mine, which has lain idle for many years, is now being prospected at a deeper level, and the owners are also prospecting several other reefs which had not been previously tried. A Government subsidy at the rate of 5s. per foot for 1,000 ft. of driving (£250) has been granted for the purpose of opening these reefs by means of tunnels, and this work has been started. In the event of this prospecting proving successful it may lead to further operations in the practically untried field between the Lyell and Mokihinui.

## WESTPORT.

No quartz-mining operations have been carried on in the neighbourhood of Westport during the year.

## CAPLESTON.

*Just-in-Time Mine* (J. Bolitho, manager).—Operations have been confined to prospecting at the 400 ft. level. The main crosscut was driven east 120 ft., cutting two reef-tracks. The first of these was driven on for 322 ft. For the first 200 ft. boulders of gold-bearing quartz were met with, but for the last 100 ft. the quartz was poor. From the end of this drive a crosscut has been driven 125 ft. to the west, and is being continued.

*Welcome and Fiery Cross Mines*.—This group of once payable properties is still lying idle. It does not appear that anything less than 1,000 ft. of sinking would, if successful, open up the mines to any advantage, and so far the holders have not been successful in raising sufficient capital for this purpose.

*Golden Arch Mine* (Tripoli Syndicate, owners).—Two tributers were employed for a portion of the year, and treated 30 tons, for a return of £129. The reef is very small, and the value is uncertain. No work was done for the last few months of the year.

*Victoria Range Syndicate*.—Two men have been employed in the neighbourhood of the old Kirwan's Reward workings, and a drive was put in 500 ft. to intersect the solid reef, but met with no success, being in very faulted and disturbed country the whole way.

*Knight and Party*.—Two men were employed for the greater portion of the year driving on a reef outcropping on the ridge north of Kirwan's Reward. The reef was narrow and poor for the whole distance driven—350 ft.—and towards the end of the year work was suspended.

## REEFTON DISTRICT.

*Big River Mine* (owners, New Big River Gold-mining Company; manager, J. H. McMahon).—During the year operations in the mine have been chiefly confined to No. 10 (1,575 ft.) level workings, and the rise from such level is now connected with the New Eastern level, thus assisting the ventilation of the mine-workings. In the south-eastern end of No. 10 level a crosscut was driven a distance