

ANNEXURE A.

SUMMARY OF REPORTS BY INSPECTORS OF MINES.

NORTHERN INSPECTION DISTRICT (MR. M. PAUL, Inspector of Mines).

Quartz-mining.

WAIHI BOROUGH.

Waihi Gold-mining Company (Limited).—The following are the particulars of the principal development works carried out in this mine during the year:—

No. 12 level (1,447½ ft. below the collar of the No. 4 shaft): About the end of November this level was unwatered for the first time since 1917. Air-pipes have been put in the drive on the Dreadnought lode, and also in the north-west crosscut.

No. 12 level (1,447½ ft. below the collar of the No. 4 shaft): About the end of November this 69 ft. from the south branch of the Martha lode, and at 28 ft. the north section of the Empire lode was intersected and proved to be 25 ft. wide, worth £1 18s. 6d. per ton. Driving east on the Empire lode was then continued for 233 ft. with the following results: At 50 ft., lode 15 ft. wide mixed with country rock, value 16s. 8d. per ton; at 100 ft., lode 15 ft. wide, value 10s. 9d. per ton; at 127 ft., lode 4 ft. wide, value £1 10s. 1d. per ton; at 213 ft., lode 2 ft. wide, value 5s. 9d. per ton. On driving west for 107 ft. from Lion crosscut values varying from £2 18s. 10d. to 4s. 8d. per ton were found up to 80 ft. west, while crosscuts at 50 ft. and 100 ft. showed the reef to be 23 ft. and 8 ft. wide, with ore averaging 10s. 10d. and 16s. 8d. per ton respectively. East of Pistol north-west crosscut the level was driven 59 ft., and at 50 ft. the lode is 15 ft. wide, mixed with country rock; value, 1s. 4d. per ton.

No. 10 level: The Soldier's crosscut, which is situated 444 ft. north of No. 4 shaft, has been advanced 215 ft., and at 197 ft. the north section of the Empire lode was met; width, 10 ft.; value, £1 9s. 8d. per ton. For 80 ft. east along the level the values vary from 7s. 1d. to £3 13s. 10d. per ton, and the lode is payable. West of Soldier's crosscut the level was driven 47 ft., but the ore met, varying from 5s. 1d. to £1 6s. 5d. per ton, was not payable. West of Cow crosscut 185 ft. of driving disclosed values varying from 4s. 5d. to £1 10s. 10d., and this ore is too low-grade to be payable.

Martha lode: East of Cow crosscut the level has been widened to 11 ft. on the south side from a point 32 ft. east for a distance of 50 ft. In effecting a connection between a point at 40 ft. in Cow south-east crosscut and the south side of the level on the Martha lode some 6 ft. of payable quartz with values averaging £3 10s. per ton was found.

No. 9 level (Ulster reef): This reef was driven upon for 90 ft., the lode varying in width from 1 ft. to 5 ft. and the values from 17s. 6d. to £2 12s. per ton.

Empire lode: Power north-west crosscut was extended 94 ft., and at 87 ft. the north section of the Empire lode was met; width 5 ft., and values £1 12s. per ton. On driving east for 57 ft. irregular values varying from £4 7s. to 1s. 9d. per ton over a width of 2½ ft. to 5 ft. were met.

Alexandra lode: A new shrinkage block has been timbered east and west of Rata rise.

No. 8 crosscut: Horse crosscut was extended 118 ft., and at 96 ft. the north branch of the Martha lode was intersected, having a width of 9 ft. and value of £1 9s. 6d. per ton.

No. 6 level: Marson crosscut, situated at 85 ft. east of No. 6 shaft, was driven upon for 21 ft. At 10 ft. the north section of the Martha lode was met—width 6 ft. and value £2 6s. per ton—and upon driving on this reef for 39 ft. the reef averaged 3 ft. to 6 ft., carrying values ranging from £1 7s. 9d. to £3 1s. per ton.

The south-east drive on H reef was extended 82 ft., the reef varying from 3 ft. to 5 ft. wide, and the value from 8s. 4d. to £1 15s. 6d. per ton. This drive will enable two small payable blocks on the Empire and Albert lodes to be more readily mined.

No. 5 level: The north branch of the Martha lode has been driven upon for 80 ft., the last 40 ft. showing payable ore mixed with boulders of country.

Waihi Grand Junction Gold-mining Company.—No. 1 main shaft: The pumping compartment was sunk through country rock and quartz of no value, making the total depth below the surface 1,401 ft. The presence of quartz and calcite grit in the water caused considerable delay in sinking, owing to the electric pumps being almost continuously under repair. A total of 70,391,358 gallons of water was pumped to the surface during the year. The excavation of a new pumping-chamber and water-cistern at No. 8 level is well advanced. When this work is completed the electric stationary pumps at No. 7 level will be removed and installed at No. 8 level. This should enable the sinking-pumps to cope with the present influx of water for at least another 150 ft.

No. 8 level (1,320 ft.): The drive on the lode in the main north-west crosscut, 17 ft. from the shaft-chamber, was advanced 34 ft., making a total distance of 212 ft. The average value over width of 53 in. was 1s. 5d. per ton.

Empire lode: The drive east was continued 141 ft. in country rock and now measures 1,008 ft. The crosscut at 735 ft. east was advanced 72 ft. The first 57 ft. was through country rock and calcite veins of no value; from 57 ft. to 62 ft., quartz valued at £1 4s. 6d. per ton; from 62 ft. to 72 ft., country rock. The crosscut at 1,000 ft. east was extended 5 ft. north and 92 ft. south. From the main drive to 33 ft. south there is country rock. At 33 ft. a vein of quartz 18 in. wide was passed through; value, 4s. 7d. per ton. The crosscut was continued in country rock until the footwall of the Empire lode was intersected, which assayed 3s. 9d. per ton for a width of 15 ft. On breaking out to the south wall in preparation for stopping from 470 ft.