

ANNEXURE A.

SUMMARY OF REPORTS BY INSPECTORS OF MINES.

NORTHERN INSPECTION DISTRICT (E. J. SCOBLE, Inspector of Mines).

QUARTZ-MINING.

Martha Gold-mining Co. (Waihi), Ltd. (W. Morrison, Manager).—No. 14 level: Ore was drawn from Trout block, on the Edward lode, and Gin block, on the Martha lode. No. 13 level: About 10,000 tons were drawn from Cow block, on the Martha lode. No. 12 level: Shrinkage stoping is in operation on the Ulster lode, and broken ore was drawn from this, also the Bath-Fahy block, on the Empire lode. No. 11 (55 ft.) sub-level: The Dreadnought lode was driven on for 128 ft. to the west and 100 ft. to the east. It was found to be comparatively small, but a stope, Bomb block, 77 ft. in length is to be opened up. No. 11 level: The east branch of the Edward lode, also the Royal lode, were further explored, but proved to be of poor grade. No. 11 (71 ft.) sub-level: Investigation of the downward continuation of the big pay-shoot at the southern end of the Edward lode was made by means of an intermediate level at 71 ft. above No. 11 level. This was driven 119 ft. north from Pike rise and 97 ft. southward. Development-work on this intermediate has opened up a block of ore called Pike block, calculated to contain about 9,000 tons, of a stoping value of £1 10s. 1d. per ton. No. 10 level: Broken ore was drawn from Ulster and Edward lodes. No. 9 level: Stoping is in operation in Iris block, Welcome lode. Ore is being drawn from Foal block, on the Martha lode. Further exploration of the north branch of the Martha lode was made. Starting at Foal north crosscut a drive was continued for 179 ft., at which point it connected to the drive westward from Murphy N.W. crosscut. The lode averaged about 2½ ft. in width. It was also driven on westward for a distance of 126 ft., but is too small to work at a profit. An intermediate level has been opened up at 70½ ft. above No. 9 level, for the purpose of facilitating development-work in the caving area of the Martha lode. Python block, on the Royal lode, was tested and found payable for a length of 133 ft., and shrinkage stoping is to be commenced on same. No. 8 level: Extensive driving and crosscutting were carried out on the Martha lode westward from No. 6 shaft preliminary to caving-work being undertaken. A total of 53,311 short wet tons was won from this section of the mine during the year. The drive on the west branch of the Edward lode was extended to 282½ ft. A good strong body of quartz was disclosed, but it assayed, in general, only a few shillings per ton, and driving was stopped. Alpha rise, put up at 21 ft. south, has been taken to a height of 110 ft. It showed quartz ranging in width from 2 ft. to 4 ft. and averaging £2 3s. 3d. per ton. Work is being continued. No. 7 (105 ft. and 80 ft.) sub-levels: Ore was won from the Venus and Jim arches in the Martha lode caving-area. About 12,000 tons of stone has also been obtained from Wyatt and Hamilton arches by square sets and caving. No. 7 (60 ft.) sub-level: The caving-area at Posterson, Deer, Kangaroo, Nos. 4 and 5 crosscuts, Venus, Wyatt, Jim, and Hamilton arches and drives has produced a total of 53,311 tons for the year. No. 7 level: A block of ore, calculated to contain 4,600 tons, was opened up on the north branch of the Royal lode, west and east of Cobra north crosscut. Edward lode, west branch: Following up the explorations at No. 8 level, investigation of this branch at No. 7 level has been put in hand. Communication with this lode was made by constructing a dip on the east side of the Edward filling-pass, then connecting with the Edward east-wall gangway, and projecting a crosscut, known as Roach N.W. crosscut, for 63 ft. It was found that the west branch comprised four parts. Starting at 52 ft. in Roach crosscut, a total distance of 130 ft. was driven south-westward, at which point driving was suspended owing to the dangerous state of the roof. The reef averaged about 3½ ft. in width and £2 2s. 3d. per ton in value. At the 38 ft. mark a drive was started on the low-grade quartz which represented the eastern part of the West branch, and same was extended for 112 ft. south-west. Between the 43 ft. and 100 ft. marks the quartz averaged about 4 ft. in width and £1 10s. per ton in value. North branch of Martha lode: Giddens south rise, situated 244 ft. west of a point 318 ft. west of No. 2 shaft N.W. crosscut, was risen 116 ft. and later connected by winze from No. 6 level. At 50 ft. up this rise an intermediate level was driven westward for 98½ ft. Preparations are now in hand for stoping a block (to be known as Whittaker block) above the intermediate, and extending east and west of Giddens south rise. The reef is small, but assays well. No. 6 level: Driving westward on the main north branch of the Martha lode, which was stopped in January, 1935, was resumed and continued to 862 ft. From 485 ft. to 589 ft. west the reef was narrow, but of good value. At 490 ft. Denby winze was sunk 86½ ft. and connected to the rise from No. 7 level. Ore was drawn from Payne and Munro blocks. A sub-level is being driven at 46 ft. down Giddens winze. Giddens south crosscut was projected a total of 180 ft., measuring from the north branch of the Martha at Munro block. Several veins were met, but were not payable. A shrinkage stope has been opened up on the Royal lode, extending from 86 ft. east of Princess south crosscut to 273 ft. No. 5 level: Lovett south-east crosscut was extended from 70 ft. to 173 ft. and several narrow veins were intersected. A reef met at 99 ft., called H. branch lode, was driven on eastward for 93 ft. From 0 ft. to 86 ft. it is payable, and about 3 ft. in width. A shrinkage block called Lovett block is now in operation at 63 ft. up on this lode. Two other small lodes—viz., at 52 ft. and 59 ft.—were driven on and some payable ore was disclosed. No. 4 level: Lovett south-east crosscut was commenced at a point 158 ft. south-west of No. 2 shaft and driven a total distance of 217 ft. It is exploring the same block of ground as the crosscut of the same name at No. 5 level. This block is traversed by a great number of leaders and small reefs, some of which contain ore of very good grade, but they are too narrow to be worked at a profit. At 141 ft. a branch of the H. reef was driven on for 46 ft., but it proved unpayable. Lovett north-west crosscut was projected 35 ft., and connected to Edward filling-pass. Broken ore was drawn from Roach block, Edward lode, and Fallon east block on a north branch of the Martha lode. No. 3 level: On the Edward lode a prospecting crosscut, heading southward, was started at 40 ft. in No. 2 shaft S.E. crosscut, and at 14 ft. met the east part of the Edward lode. The latter was driven on for 311 ft. From 54 ft. to 279 ft. the ore is payable and about 3 ft. wide. No. 2 level: Breaking of ore was completed in the north part of Trout block, on the Edward lode, and most of the broken ore has been drawn off from the south part of the same block. A north branch of the Martha lode, situated 64 ft. in Brown N.W. crosscut, was driven on westward for a total of 324 ft. The greater part of the lode was narrow and unpayable, and driving was stopped. Potts rise, situated 116 ft. west, was put up 68½ ft. on the payable north part of the lode. Driving east and west was carried out on a reef met in Haigson south crosscut, but values were low. Open-cut level: Rill stoping was stopped at 75 ft. up in Dix block, Martha lode, owing to values falling. West of Edward filling-pass north crosscut, a drive was advanced to 364½ ft. on the south branch of the Martha lode. Ore payable and about 2½ ft. in width. The south branch of the Martha lode, east of Haigson south crosscut, was driven on for 187 ft. The reef varies from 1½ ft. to 4½ ft. in width and contains payable values from 100 ft. to 173 ft. Walker north crosscut, situated 46 ft. east of Haigson crosscut, was extended 82 ft., and will be continued to the intersection with the north section of the Martha lode, which is expected at 110 ft. The work of testing the country north-west of the Martha north branch lode by diamond drilling was completed. Output: A