

ANNEXURE A.

REPORTS OF INSPECTORS OF MINES.

The INSPECTOR OF MINES, Waihi, to the UNDER-SECRETARY, Mines Department, Wellington.

SIR,—

Inspector of Mines' Office, Waihi, 31st March, 1912.

I have the honour to present my report on the gold-mining industry in the Hauraki Mining District for the year ended the 31st December, 1911.

Waihi Gold-mining Company (Limited) (J. L. Gilmour, Mine-manager).

The following is a description of the most important works carried out on the Nos. 8, 9, and 10 levels during the year :—

No. 10 Level (1,151 ft.).—The north crosscut from No. 5 shaft was extended from 200 ft. to 1,120 ft. from No. 5 shaft. From 670 ft. to 700 ft. is the Empire lode (30 ft. wide). At 1,040 ft. the Martha lode was met and proved to be 45 ft. wide.

Martha lode, south section : A length of 274 ft. has been developed on this lode, 153 ft. of which is east and 121 ft. west of No. 5 shaft north crosscut. For the length so far opened up the Martha lode is poorer in quality, and much smaller in width, than the corresponding length on the No. 9 level.

Empire lode : A total of 290 ft. has been developed on this lode, 135 ft. being east and 155 ft. west of No. 5 shaft north crosscut. At 706 ft. in No. 5 shaft north crosscut an irregular body of ore, called the North Branch of Empire, was followed eastward for 85 ft. At 20 ft. east it joins the Empire, and at 70 ft. is separated again by a horse of country 6 ft. wide. At this point it is 14 ft. in width.

South-south-west crosscut from No. 5 shaft has been advanced from 32 ft. to 114 ft. At 107 ft. there is quartz about 2 ft. wide, and it is anticipated that the Royal lode is a few feet ahead of the face of crosscut. The country rock is of good class.

Royal lode : The level has been extended west of No. 5 shaft south crosscut from 483 ft. to 1,060 ft. No driving was done eastward, but the level has been widened for stoping from No. 5 shaft south crosscut to 325 ft. west of same. The level was also widened from 50 ft. to 110 ft. east of No. 5 shaft south crosscut. No stoping has yet been done. Frog, Boa, and Nite passes have been sunk varying distances in partly sulphide ore. Nite and Cobra passes were connected with No. 9 level (1,000 ft.).

Reptile south-east crosscut : This has been extended from a point 137 ft. south-east of Royal lode to 1,216 ft. Several leaders and reefs were intersected, one of which, cut at 1,100 ft., was a nice body of quartz 13 ft. in width. This reef carried very little water, proving that it had been drained in some way by the pumping operations at No. 10 level. Work has been intermittent during the last three months, owing to gas coming out of the reefs and cracks whenever the barometer fell, and, with the Roots blower giving 1,800 cubic feet of air per minute, the gas was not diluted sufficiently to allow candles to burn.

Adder east crosscut was driven a total of 118 ft. from Royal lode. At 20 ft. in, what is evidently the Rex lode was cut, but it was only 15 in. wide at floor of level, and a track of the fissure in the roof.

Rex lode : Cut at 92 ft. in crosscut at 350 ft. east of No. 5 shaft south crosscut. This lode was driven on 43½ ft. south and 24 ft. north.

Empire lode : East of No. 4 shaft north crosscut the level has been extended from 530 ft. to 699 ft. The face is within 63 ft. of the east boundary. Stoping is in progress between Ellis and Power passes at 70 ft. up, and also between Rolker and Paul passes at 40 ft. up from level.

Alexandra lode : East of Rata pass the level was driven a total of 94 ft., where a connection was made to Empire lode.

Edward lode : This lode has been developed for its full length from Welcome junction to Royal junction, making a total length of 820 ft., 600 ft. being south of Perch crosscut, and 220 ft. north of same. From 600 ft. the lode has a westerly course, and is evidently the Royal lode. The lode is about 4 ft. wide at this point. No winzes have been sunk throughout the length of the lode. The level has been widened out for full width of lode for 10 ft. high from the 250 ft. south crosscut to 390 ft. south. The west section of lode has been widened out to full width from Perch crosscut to 150 ft. south, and mostly timbered. South of Perch crosscut on east section a level was driven for 150 ft. north of perch crosscut to 170 ft. point, the level being widened out to an average width of 15 ft., and timbered. Stoping is now in progress south of Trout pass, the first stope over the timbers being in progress.

Welcome lode, south section : The level was driven from Edward junction to No. 2 shaft north crosscut, a length of 149 ft., close to south wall. At 10 ft. east of Edward junction, Rickard crosscut was run north-west a total of 99 ft., to prove the full width of the Welcome lode. The level has been widened out to 12 ft. for stoping.

Martha lode, south section westward : The level was extended from a point 843 ft. west of No. 4 shaft north crosscut to 1,010 ft., where a connection is made to No. 2 shaft north-west crosscut. Eastward the level was extended from 399 ft. to 472 ft. east of No. 4 shaft north crosscut. Stoping is now in operation between Horse and Wheel No. 2 passes over a length of 1,015 ft., and an average width of 18 ft. Most of the above stopes are being broken out on the rill method.

North section : The only work done on this section was to prove if there was any extent of payable ore at the crosscut 200 ft. east of No. 4 shaft. The level was driven east 25 ft., and west 34 ft.

Regina section : Stoping has been started, the first stope taken being 35 ft. east and 20 ft. west of Hedge pass.