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PRELIMINARY NOTE ON WOG MOUNTAIN FELSPAR  
AND MOLYBDENITE

by

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DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY AND SHIPPING.MINERAL RESOURCES SURVEY.PRELIMINARY NOTE ON WOG MOUNTAIN FELSPAR AND MOLYBDENITE.

Report No. 1943/45.

Situation.

These deposits, usually known as Hite's Felspar, are situated southeast of Bombala, in M.L.L., Parish of Nalbaugh, County of Auckland, on the easterly slope of a spur running northward from a sister peak to Wog Mountain. They are 22 miles by road from Bombala, the nearest railway, eleven miles south along the Cann River Road, then eleven miles generally east by reasonably good though hilly bush road, partly through a government pine plantation. Three men are at present employed in mining the felspar. Wet weather and snow have held up transport to Bombala during recent months and a considerable quantity of felspar is mined ready for shipment. It is sold to Australian Window Glass Pty. Ltd. for £2/5/- per ton on rails Bombala, bags being supplied by the Company.

Geology.

The felspar occurs as a fine to medium grained dyke with steeply dipping walls, striking generally 50 degrees east, oblique to the contour of the steep hillside on which it outcrops. It is worked by an open cut in which it is as much as 40 feet in width. The walls in places are irregular and sections of country rock protrude into the dyke. 50 feet or so to the northeast a crosscut put in to test for molybdenite shows the felspar to be 7 feet wide. The outcrop was not traced to its termination in either direction. The country rock on the walls of the lode is aplitic granite, similar in appearance to the dyke material but containing a fairly high proportion of quartz crystals distributed through it. Farther away the granite is mostly coarse, with pegmatitic phases, and carries in places veins and masses of quartz associated in a general way with coarse molybdenite, which is usually distributed in lumps through the granite adjacent to the quartz.

Examination in thin section shows the felspar to consist almost entirely of albite (determined by refractive index, specific gravity and symmetrical extinction angles) with a little orthoclase, so that the dyke rock could be classified as an albitite. The only impurities noted in the felspar were very small amounts of tiny quartz crystals in vugs, which may belong partly to the later quartz-molybdenite mineralisation, and a few specks of metallic minerals. The felspar grinds to a fairly good white colour.

Molybdenite-bearing rock outcrops mainly higher up the hill, above the felspar, though small amounts are found close by. The igneous geology is apparently complex and no attempt to map the area could be made in the time available. Consequently this report is of a preliminary character only and it is recommended that these deposits be examined in greater detail at the first opportunity and the area mapped by plane table.

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