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MORNING PAPERS .. TUESDAY, 10TH JANUARY, 1939.
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GOLD MINING INDUSTRY - NOVEMBER, 1938.

Particulars of the gold mining industry of Australia for the month of November, 1938, have been made available by the Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson).

PRODUCTION.

The production of gold during the month of November, 1938, amounted to 139,753 fine ounces, valued in Australian currency at £1,273,322 or £stg.1,018,657. Compared with the corresponding month of the previous year, it represents an increase in production of 11,771 fine ounces or 9 per cent.

The following table shows details of the quantity and value (in Australian and British Currency) of the gold produced in each of the main gold-producing States during the months of November, 1937 and 1938:-

PRODUCTION OF GOLD - AUSTRALIA - NOVEMBER, 1937 AND 1938.

State	November, 1937			November, 1938 (a)		
	Quantity fine ounces	Value		Quantity fine ounces	Value	
		£A.	£stg.		£A.	£stg.
New South Wales ..	5,868	50,760	40,608	5,736	52,262	41,810
Victoria ..	11,812	102,178	81,742	14,120	128,651	102,920
Queensland ..	13,077	113,120	90,496	13,747	125,252	100,202
Western Australia	94,385	816,460	653,168	103,040	938,821	751,056
Other States ..	2,840	24,567	19,654	3,110	28,336	22,669
TOTAL:	127,982	1,107,085	885,668	139,753	1,273,322	1,018,657

(a) Subject to revision.

In the next table the total quantity and value of gold produced in Australia during the eleven months ended November, 1938 are compared with the corresponding details for the previous year.

PRODUCTION OF GOLD - AUSTRALIA - ELEVEN MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER, 1937 AND 1938.

State	Eleven months ended November					
	1937			1938 (a)		
	Quantity fine ounces	Value		Quantity fine ounces	Value	
		£A.	£stg.		£A.	£stg.
New South Wales ..	62,870	546,361	437,091	80,396	704,676	563,742
Victoria ..	130,107	1,131,130	904,904	127,931	1,123,470	898,776
Queensland ..	110,372	958,884	767,104	133,499	1,170,750	936,603
Western Australia	904,361	7,858,247	6,286,596	1,054,500	9,245,389	7,396,326
Other States ..	34,703	301,610	241,287	34,591	303,125	242,503
TOTAL:	1,242,413	10,796,232	8,636,982	1,430,917	12,547,410	10,037,950

(a) Subject to revision.

The production of gold in Australia declined without interruption from a maximum output of 3,898,000 fine ounces in 1903 to 427,000 fine ounces in 1929. In 1930, due mainly to the increased production in Western Australia, the output increased to 468,000 fine ounces. Following the heavy depreciation of Australian currency in terms of gold which occurred in 1930 and 1931, the production of gold commenced to increase during 1931 and has since continued to expand. The extent of this expansion is shown in the next table:-

PRODUCTION OF GOLD - AUSTRALIA.

Month	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938 (a)
	fine ounces	fine ounces	fine ounces	fine ounces	fine ounces	fine ounces
January ..	55,613	68,437	68,594	79,031	93,611	112,797
February ..	58,314	65,700	(b) 42,062	82,010	109,966	126,563
March ..	62,242	69,868	(b) 42,923	84,519	105,166	122,929
April ..	74,908	74,775	77,116	92,763	110,738	125,565
May ..	66,281	71,749	74,554	90,465	115,518	125,676
June ..	70,627	79,235	81,644	102,726	116,016	134,716
July ..	69,855	75,225	77,497	106,517	114,141	126,861
August ..	70,744	76,362	83,536	101,974	117,067	139,443
September ..	78,110	76,536	86,364	103,832	117,664	140,626
October ..	71,869	72,090	85,269	106,848	114,544	135,988
November ..	74,227	77,711	94,805	103,174	127,282	119,753
Total for 11 months	753,550	807,738	814,364	1,053,859	1,242,413	1,430,917
December ..	76,782	79,752	100,372	124,722	136,722	
Total for 12 months	830,332	887,490	914,736	1,178,581	1,381,135	

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Industrial disputes, Western Australia.

The production of 1,381,135 fine ounces during the year 1937 is the greatest quantity produced in any year since 1917, when the output was 1,456,000 fine ounces. Although production has more than trebled between the years 1929 and 1937, the output during the latter year was still only about one-third of the maximum of 3,898,000 fine ounces recorded in 1903.

TRADE.

The following tables show particulars of the imports and exports of gold during the month of November, 1937 and 1938.

IMPORTS OF GOLD.

Country of Origin	November, 1937			November, 1938		
	fine os.	2A.	2ctg.	fine os.	2A.	2ctg.
<u>GOLD - BAR, DUST, INGOOT AND SHEET.</u>						
Fiji ..	1,817	15,949	12,734	14,571	134,709	107,552
Malaya (British) ..	28	247	197	-	-	-
New Zealand ..	4,753	41,706	33,298	4,158	38,438	30,689
Papua ..	961	8,425	6,727	1,539	14,228	11,360
Territory of New Guinea ..	29,752	274,280	218,986	23,485	217,121	173,350
Importing States -						
New South Wales ..	30,601	281,728	224,933	38,364	354,675	283,174
Victoria ..	6,710	58,879	47,009	5,389	49,821	39,777
TOTAL:	37,311	340,607	271,942	43,753	404,496	322,951

GOLD SPECIE - NIL.

GOLD CONTAINED IN MATTE - NIL.

EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Country of Destination	November, 1937			November, 1938		
	fine oz.	2A.	Estg.	fine oz.	2A.	Estg.
<u>GOLD - BAR, DUST, INGOT AND SHEET.</u>						
United Kingdom ..	71,104	614,359	491,486	8,968	81,748	65,399
France ..	4,053	35,036	28,029	-	-	-
U. S. America ..	68,049	589,084	471,268	152,745	1,394,000	1,115,199
<u>Exporting States -</u>						
New South Wales	49,060	424,719	339,775	34,161	312,407	249,925
Victoria ..	21,171	183,227	146,582	33,026	298,270	238,616
South Australia	1,127	9,752	7,802	327	3,024	2,419
Western Australia	71,848	620,781	496,624	94,199	862,047	689,638
TOTAL:	143,206	1,238,479	990,783	161,713	1,475,748	1,180,598

GOLD SPECIE - NIL.

GOLD CONTAINED IN MATTE - NIL.

NET EXPORTS OF GOLD IN EXCESS OF NET PRODUCTION.

Particulars	1937-38	Five Months ended November		Month of November	
		1937	1938	1937	1938
		Estg.	Estg.	Estg.	Estg.
Exports of gold bullion, specie and matte ..	12,729,874	5,214,013	6,287,945	990,783	1,180,598
Gold contents of ores, concentrates, etc. ..	343,181	145,316	139,611	59,590	243
Total exports of gold in all forms ..	13,073,055	5,359,329	6,427,556	1,050,373	1,180,841
Imports of gold bul- lion, specie and matte ..	2,193,039	814,211	1,307,489	271,942	322,951
Net exports of gold ..	10,880,016	4,545,118	5,120,067	778,431	857,890
Production of gold in all forms ..	(b)10,207,328	(b)4,091,548	(b)4,866,044	(b)885,668	(b)1,018,657
Net exports in excess of production ..	672,688	453,570	254,023	(c)107,237	(c) 160,767

(a) Roughly estimated.

(b) Subject to revision.

(c) Production in excess of net exports.

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CANBERRA, A.C.T. 9th January, 1939.