

LEAD INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION.

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NEW MINE DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA*

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New developments at the Tsamab Corporation Limited's lead, copper and zinc mine can be summed up in the statement that the mine and mill plant is being developed to a capacity of 85,000 short tons of recoverable copper, lead and zinc per year. During the first quarter of the year 1952 the mine was operating at the rate of 78,000 short tons of recoverable metal per year. Mill heads average 23 percent total recoverable metal per ton.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1951 refined metals, accounted for by smelters from Tsamab production were:

Lead.....	32,637 short tons
Zinc.....	12,847 short tons
Copper.....	11,231 short tons

making a total production of recoverable copper, lead and zinc of 56,715 short tons. In addition, there were produced 532,439 pounds of cadmium and 773,582 ounces of silver.

The results of deep drilling below 2,390 foot level indicates the persistence of high-grade ore for at least 1,000 feet in depth below that level. It is planned to sink the new DeWet shaft to 4,150 feet, the limit of presently installed hoisting facilities.

Steps are being taken by the South African Railways Administration, in cooperation with Tsamab, to relieve a shortage in locomotives and rolling stock on the narrow gauge railroad from Tsamab to Usakos, the junction with the main line to Walvis Bay on the South Atlantic Seaboard. The capacity of this railroad is being increased to 20,000 tons per month. At the same time Tsamab Corporation, at its own expense, is installing mechanical loading facilities at Walvis Bay, which will be a great improvement over present and limited facilities at that port.

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