

# QUARTZ MINING AT SADDLE HILL

## TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Can any of the readers of the Otago Daily Times give the history of the quartz mine at Saddle Hill? I remember about 30 years ago going down behind the old Coach and Horses Hotel, and there was a battery of about 30 head of stampers so that the lode must have been a fairly large one to keep 30 stampers going. In the early days very little was known of the cyanide or chlorination process, so that if the gold was in the pyrites it would be impossible to save it. Our prospectors may have an Eldorado at their back door instead of going away back into the hills.—I am, etc., J. B. M.

(The above was in the Otago Daily Times 1932)

## TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—One would think from the information given in your correspondence columns of the 5th inst. with reference to the Saddle Hill reefs that it was only recently that the reefs were located. The fact is that seven reefs were known 60 years ago, probably others too, and that a considerable sum of money was expended on working them, but a loss was incurred owing to the low gold content and the broken nature of the lodes. From a geological point of view this part of the country is known to be badly faulted, hence the need of caution, which past experiences amply verify.—I am, etc.,

**Gangue.**

## TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—I have noticed recently in your columns a reference to traces of gold being found in the vicinity of Saddle Hill. The following is an extract from "Early Gold Mining in Otago," by Vincent Pyke (1887): "The nearest point to Dunedin where gold has been discovered is on a property at Chain Hill, where a party of miners wrought a small gully, finding gold in remunerative quantities. They worked for some time before being discovered by the land owners, when they were compelled to abandon their operations. A sample brought to my office was of a coarse, rugged nature, indicating the presence of a quartz lode in the vicinity."—I am, etc., Digger.  
Papanui, December 8.