

# APPENDIX 3.

## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION OF KEY INDIVIDUALS

### **John Alexander Agnew, Chairman, The Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa**

John Agnew was born in New Zealand in 1872.<sup>1</sup> After studying at the Thames School of Mines, he worked at the Thames gold fields on the north island of New Zealand. Agnew married Ellen Solan in 1895 and they had three children, including Rudolph John Agnew. In 1898 Herbert Hoover, then a young American mining engineer, appointed Agnew, aged 26, to the British mining engineering firm of Bewick, Moreing and Company (Bewick Moreing). Agnew came to Australia to take charge of the underground mining operations of the Sons of Gwalia gold mine, and the following year accompanied Hoover to China where he had responsibility for developing several new mines. Returning to Western Australia, Agnew managed several other Bewick Moreing-operated mines, including the Golden Age Mine, East Murchison United, Vivien Gold Mine and the Lancefield Gold Mine. Agnew was involved in the management of Bewick Moreing's agency and exploration company, London & Western Australia Exploration Co. and its successor, London, Australian & General Exploration Co.<sup>2</sup>

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1 Information on the Agnew family history was supplied by Delia Buchan, daughter from the second marriage of Rudolph (Dolph) Agnew and Roma Leigh Stephens, and Hugh Agnew, grandson of Dolph Agnew from his first marriage to Pamela Geraldine Campbell.

2 Cumming and Hartley, *Westralian Founders of Twentieth Century Mining*, pp. 2–3.

In 1906, Agnew was appointed Western Australian assistant general manager of Bewick Moreing, located at Kalgoorlie, and from 1912 general manager. Agnew resigned from Bewick Moreing in 1912 and joined Hoover in London. When Hoover moved from mining engineer and company promoter to oversight of the provision of food aid to Belgium, Agnew took over the management of Hoover's business interests, including holding directorships on a range of companies that required technical input in various countries. According to Sir Rudolph Agnew, John Agnew's grandson and a person who played a major role in Gold Fields as chairman and group chief executive officer in the late 1970s and 1980s, his grandfather persuaded Hoover not to sell his share investments, but allow him to manage them on his behalf, with some later sold at an enhanced profit. Hoover provided Agnew with a part of the profit from the sale of those shares.<sup>3</sup>

In 1922, Agnew was appointed a director of The Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa. In 1933, he became chairman, the first mining engineer to be appointed to the position.<sup>4</sup> A major part of Agnew's career encompassed the responsibilities as chairman of The Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa and its major gold mining interests in the Rand and Transvaal, as well as broader international interests. Agnew also played a direct role in the company's investments in Australia, which included establishing a major shareholding in what became the two largest gold producers in Western Australia in the 1930s, Wiluna and Lake View and Star. He was also responsible for Gold Fields making technical and financial contributions to the formation of several Collins House group companies, not least Western Mining Corporation, as well as investments in the Lake George Mine at Captains Flat in New South Wales and gold mining properties in New Guinea.

In 1939, Agnew died in California after contracting pneumonia while visiting mining properties. He was 67 years of age. Herbert Hoover said that the 'British Commonwealth had lost its most eminent mining engineer'.<sup>5</sup> As one contemporary recalled of Agnew: 'He had a wide knowledge of man and things ... a great sobriety and sagacity of judgment, amazing industry, and a sense of probity and a habit of straightforwardness which

3 Sir Rudolph Agnew, personal communication, 9 August 2018.

4 Macnab, *Gold Their Touchstone*, p. 120; see also Wilson, *The Professionals: The Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, 1892–1992*, p. 227.

5 *The Financial Times*, 4 August 1939.

commanded the confidence of all whom he came into contact'.<sup>6</sup> Agnew had been awarded a gold medal of the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy in recognition of services in the 'development of mineral resources of the Empire, and to the mining industry'.<sup>7</sup> In Western Australia, the township of Agnew was named after him.

## **Rudolph John Agnew, Chairman, Gold Fields Australian Development Company**

Rudolph Agnew, or Dolph as he was known, was born in Thames, New Zealand on 9 May 1896. He travelled with his parents to Western Australia and was educated at Christian Brothers College, Perth. Dolph then lived in London when his father moved to take up employment with Hoover. He studied mining engineering at the Royal School of Mines.<sup>8</sup> He volunteered for the Artists Rifles, 28th Battalion London, in 1916 while still a student. Dolph arrived in Perth in 1919 and travelled with his wife to Kalgoorlie to take up a position at the Ivanhoe Gold Corporation and later at Great Boulder Perseverance Gold Mining Company. He attended the Kalgoorlie School of Mines to further his mining studies, gaining a Diploma in Mining.

He returned to England in 1925 and became surveyor at the Mill Close lead mine in Derbyshire. In 1928, the family, which now comprised three children, travelled to Yugoslavia where Dolph took up an appointment as assistant manager with Central European Mines in Mezica, a lead-zinc mine located near the border with Austria. He took a position as superintendent of a zinc mine of Societa Anonima Miniera, Cave del Predil, in northern Italy from 1931.<sup>9</sup> Dolph returned to Western Australia via London in 1932 as general manager of Gold Fields Australian Development Company and to take charge of the Wiluna mine and the evaluation of nearby leases, as well as investigate other mining investment opportunities on behalf of Gold Fields. During World War II Dolph served with the Department of Munitions in Victoria. In 1946 he returned again to England to take up duties with the Gold Fields group in London

6 'Wiluna Gold Corporation', *The Mining World*, 16 December 1939.

7 *The Times*, 4 August 1939.

8 Royal School of Mines, *Register of Old Students, 1851–1920 and History of the Royal School of Mines*, Royal School of Mines Old Students' Association, 1920, p. 17.

9 Delia Buchan, personal communication. See also Rudolph John Agnew, [www.nmrs.org.uk/resources/obituaries-of-members/a/rudolph-john-agnew/](http://www.nmrs.org.uk/resources/obituaries-of-members/a/rudolph-john-agnew/) and Cumming and Hartley, *Westralian Founders of Twentieth Century Mining*, p. 3.

before returning to Western Australia in 1950. He was general manager of Lake View and Star from 1950 and a director from 1956. With only brief periods in London, he lived in Western Australia for the remainder of his life as chairman of the London-listed Gold Fields Australian Development Company and Mount Ida Mine.

Dolph proved himself a skilled, practical mining man. He preferred the activities of the mine site to the administrative responsibilities of a company executive or the board room in London. He was an advocate for the development of the mining sector in Western Australia, serving as vice-president and president of the Chamber of Mines of Western Australia in Perth and Kalgoorlie. His services to the mining industry led to him being awarded the Coronation Medal of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy in 1953. Dolph Agnew died in 1960 at the age of 64 and is buried at the Kalgoorlie Cemetery.

### **Frank R Beggs, Chairman, Consolidated Gold Fields (Australia)**

Frank Beggs was the first Australian representative of New Consolidated Gold Fields (Australasia), established in 1956, and was appointed managing director and chairman of Consolidated Gold Fields (Australia) in 1960, retiring in October 1962. Beggs had been general manager of British Metal Corporation (Australia) before resigning in 1954 to be appointed general manager of Rye Park Scheelite, as well as holding directorships of Uranium Corporation of Australia Pty Ltd, Tungsten Consolidated Ltd and Drilling Corporation of Australia Pty Ltd. In 1955 he was appointed to the board of Pacific Uranium and Oil Syndicate Ltd to fill a casual vacancy.

### **Keith Addison Cameron, Managing Director, Commonwealth Mining Investments (Australia), Director of Consolidated Gold Fields (Australia)**

Keith Cameron was born in 1902 and died in 1967. He was the first managing director of Commonwealth Mining Investments and a director of Consolidated Gold Fields (Australia). Cameron was employed at Mount Lyell Mining and Railway Company, and worked in Canada, Alaska and also Mount Isa Mines. He had a close association with the Collins House group of companies, having been on the manager's staff

of Gold Mines of Australia and a director of Gold Mines of Kalgoorlie and Bendigo Mines. He was also managing director of Mount Morgan. John Agnew had contact with Cameron when he was a director of Lake View South, while Dolph Agnew and Cameron were both members of the Kalgoorlie Chamber of Mines. Cameron also had an association with New Consolidated Gold Fields (Australasia) in the 1950s as a director of one of its investments.<sup>10</sup>

### **John Brian Massy-Greene, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Consolidated Gold Fields Australia**

Brian Massy-Greene was born in 1916 and died in 2001. He was educated at Sydney Grammar School, Geelong Grammar School and University of Cambridge. Massy-Greene worked at Metal Manufactures before enlisting and serving as a lieutenant in the Australian Imperial Force, New Guinea. After the war, he joined Austral Bronze, a subsidiary of Metal Manufactures, and was general manager before joining Consolidated Gold Fields (Australia) in 1962. During and after leaving CGFA, Massy-Greene held various directorships, including with National Mutual Life Association, Hazelton Air Services Holdings Ltd, and Santos and was chairman of Pacific Dunlop and Commonwealth Banking Corporation. Other roles included board positions with the Australian Mining Industry Council, Manufacturing Industries Advisory Council and CSIRO.

### **Sidney Leopold Segal, Executive Director, Chairman, Consolidated Gold Fields Australia**

Sidney Segal was born in 1913 in Cape Town, South Africa and died in Sydney in 1999. Segal was educated at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Laws in 1935. After completing articles, he practised as a lawyer. In 1945 Segal joined the South African bar and practised for a brief period. He worked as a stockbroker before joining New Union Goldfields, where he became joint managing director. New Union Goldfields was acquired in 1959 by The Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa. In 1960, Segal and his family moved to Sydney where he joined the newly established Consolidated Gold Fields (Australia). He commenced as the finance executive, became an executive director and went on to

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<sup>10</sup> Branagan, 'Cameron, Keith Addison (1902–1967)'.

become a director and chairman, as well as director and executive director of various subsidiary companies of CGFA. Segal stepped down as chairman in 1980 but remained as a director until his retirement on 31 December 1982.

### **Bartholomew Carrack Ryan, Executive Director, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Consolidated Gold Fields Australia**

Born in Adelaide on 24 August 1926, Bart Ryan died on 18 December 2018. Ryan was educated at St Patrick's College, Goulburn and the Broken Hill School of Mines, where he graduated in mining engineering in 1949. He joined Consolidated Zinc Corporation at Broken Hill as a mining engineering cadet, and was then a mine superintendent at Rum Jungle, Northern Territory, from 1957 to 1959. He was then appointed mining engineer with Zinc Corporation. Between 1959 and 1961 he was mine superintendent at Mary Kathleen Uranium and then manager of operations, Rio Tinto Collieries, Camden, New South Wales, from 1962 to 1965. He joined Consolidated Gold Fields (Australia) in 1965 and in October of that year joined Renison as general manager. In 1967 he was appointed resident manager at Goldsworthy Mining, the operating company for Mount Goldsworthy Mining Associates at Port Hedland, Goldsworthy and then Perth. He was appointed general manager in 1969. From December 1972 to May 1976 he was technical director, Consolidated Gold Fields, London. Ryan recalled that he and his wife lived a 'stone's throw' from Hyde Park in a handsome terrace house. According to Ryan's recollection, his wife considered it to be 'the best mining town they had lived in'.<sup>11</sup> On 14 October 1975 he was appointed deputy chairman of Consolidated Gold Fields and deputy managing director on 1 January 1976. Ryan was in contention for the role of chief executive and managing director of Consolidated Gold Fields. It was perhaps not surprising that Rudolph Agnew, a former military man, self-educated in finance and a descendant of a line of Agnews prominent in the company, would be the favoured choice to his Antipodean contender. On 1 May 1976 he was appointed managing director of Consolidated Gold Fields Australia, succeeding Sir Brian Massy-Greene. On 31 December 1980, Ryan stepped down as managing director. He remained a director

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<sup>11</sup> Bart Ryan, personal communication, August 2018.

of Renison Goldfields Consolidated until 1982 and had a consultancy arrangement with Consolidated Gold Fields, London. Other directorships he held included Pioneer Concrete, Placer Development and Placer Pacific.

### **Maxwell John Roberts, Executive Chairman, Chairman, Renison Goldfields Consolidated**

Max Roberts was born in Adelaide, South Australia, in 1920 and died in 2008. He attended Nailsworth Public School and Adelaide Technical College. He joined the State Bank of South Australia before enlisting with the RAAF and training as a pilot. In 1945, he joined Castrol Australia and became South Australian state manager. Roberts moved to Sydney in 1963 as managing director of Castrol Australia. He then went to Swindon, England, where he became chief executive officer of Burmah Castrol. He moved to the United States in 1971 and presided over Burmah's purchase of Signal Oil and Gas and later its sale, after losses in Burmah's shipping business required the sale of its 22 per cent holding in British Petroleum and most of its oil and gas assets in the North Sea, North America and Australia, including controlling shareholdings in Woodside and Santos. Returning to Australia in 1980, he stayed on as non-executive chairman of Burmah Oil Australia and, having joined the board of Consolidated Gold Fields in London, became executive chairman of Consolidated Gold Fields Australia. He stepped down as managing director and chief executive of Renison Goldfields Consolidated in 1985 and remained as chairman until his retirement in 1993.

At Roberts's funeral, Campbell Anderson delivered a eulogy, part of which included:

My recollections of Max would not be complete without making some reference to his extraordinary capacity to remember and then, incessantly, to tell jokes. I recall a plane trip from Frankfurt (so long ago that we had to buy our own drinks on board!) when Max suggested that we swap jokes, with the proviso that if the listener couldn't interrupt and correctly finish the story, he had to buy a drink. By the time we landed in London, I hadn't been able to finish one single story that Max hadn't heard—his recall for jokes was extraordinary. You could always depend on Max to have a joke—not necessarily a new one or a good one—but

he always had a joke. He also had the less than endearing habit of forever laughing at his own jokes, but this was actually quite helpful in identifying the punch-line, which his rapt audience could otherwise often miss!<sup>12</sup>

### **Campbell McCheyne Anderson, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Renison Goldfields Consolidated**

Campbell Anderson (born 1941) graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Economics and gained qualifications in accounting. After working with Priestley and Morris, Anderson joined Boral. He then became the managing director and chief executive of Reef Oil and Basin Oil. He joined Burmah Oil Australia and Burmah Oil Corporation, holding various positions including chief financial officer and group managing director in the United Kingdom from 1982 to 1985. He was appointed managing director of Renison Goldfields Consolidated in 1985 and from 1986 was chief executive officer. Following his departure from RGC in 1993, he was managing director of North Limited. He served as president and council member of the Business Council of Australia from 1998 to 2000 and held various directorships including chairman of Laguna Resources, Ampolex and Energy Resources of Australia and co-chairman of Southern Pacific Petroleum (USA) Inc. He was an advisory council member of The Sentient Group and director of Clough, as well as CGNU Australia Holdings, IBI Bank Australia and Macquarie Direct Investment and of SPP Europe S.A. Anderson also served as president of the Minerals Council of Australia, the New South Wales Chamber of Mines, Australian Mines and Metals Association and the Australia–Japan Society of Australia.

### **Francis Mark Bethwaite, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Renison Goldfields Consolidated**

Mark Bethwaite (born 1948) completed a civil engineering degree at the University of Sydney. He joined the Commonwealth Department of Construction, moved to Mobil and completed an MBA. He represented Australia in sailing at the Olympics in 1972 and 1976, and in the

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12 Eulogy for Max Roberts, 2 January 2009. The eulogy was provided to the author by Campbell Anderson.

1980 team that did not go to Moscow. Bethwaite joined North Broken Hill, knowing Lawrence Baillieu, the chairman, with whom he had a mutual interest in sailing. In 1983, he was invited to join the board as managing director, succeeding Baillieu. At North Broken Hill, he was responsible for the acquisition of Associated Pulp and Paper Mills and the \$520 million takeover of EZ Industries. Bethwaite was appointed deputy managing director of Renison Goldfields Consolidated in 1987 and managing director and chief executive officer in 1995. He left RGC in 1998 and served as chief executive of Australian Business. He held numerous directorships, including Goldfields Kalgoorlie, Pancontinental Mining and RCR Tomlinson. He also served as chairman of the Australian National Maritime Museum.

### **Anthony (Tony) R Cotton, Chairman and Executive Chairman, Renison Goldfields Consolidated and RGC**

Tony Cotton was educated as a chartered accountant. His career at Hanson between 1973 and 1998 included roles as financial comptroller of the construction equipment division, deputy group financial comptroller, managing director of Hanson Sykes Pumps Australia, and then chief executive of Hanson Industrial Services. He served as an associate director in 1981 and was a director on the Hanson board between 1990 and 1995. Cotton took Australian citizenship and, after leaving his directorship with RGC in January 1999, he was chairman of Snowy Hydro Trading and Snowy Hydro Limited, after its corporatisation, between 1997 and 2003. Cotton was appointed chairman of Renison Goldfields Consolidated in 1994 and served as executive chairman from 1998. He was chairman of Goldfields Limited after it was formed by RGC in 1996 to hold the RGC and Pancontinental gold assets.

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