

Vincent County

Long Drive Syndicate, Gum Trees, Kawarau Gorge (downstream from Roaring Meg Junction).—Driving and sinking operations have been carried out during the year and the deep lead channel was intersected. The gravels did not contain values near the bedrock, but a layer of the gravels about 5 ft. above the bed of the channel is slightly auriferous and operations are being continued by a tributer.

Gees Flat, Kawarau Gorge.—The Homer party have installed a petrol-operated pumping plant just above the Cromwell Development Co. weir, and are now making a tailrace under the headrace. When this work is completed, sluicing operations will be commenced in the Gees Flat Channel.

Nevis Valley.—*Williamson's Mine, Stone Huts, Cameron's Gully, Upper Nevis*: Sluicing and elevating operations have been carried out in the auriferous lead near the Stone Huts.

Whitton's Creek: Jones and party operated during the early part of the year, but values were low and operations ceased. The plant and equipment has been sold for removal.

Old Township Workings: The McLean party continued to sluice and elevate at the upstream section of the old township workings. D. Adie is ground sluicing at the downstream end of the old workings.

Prospecting operations for antimony-ore have been carried out in the Vincent and Taieri Counties during the year.

DREDGING

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Austral New Zealand Mining, Ltd.—This large electrically operated dredge has continued to operate on the Clutha River flats upstream from the Lowburn Bridge. During the year the downstream cut in the western river flat was completed, and the dredge was then turned and dredged upstream in one of the river channels. During the year the acreage dredged was $44\frac{2}{3}$ acres, and this yielded 3,359,000 cubic yards for a recovery of 8,674 oz. of bullion. The dredge is kept in good running-order.

Clutha River Gold-dredging, Ltd.—This electrically operated paddock dredge continued operations on the high terrace, Alexandra Flats, and operated for 5,644 hours and treated 2,522,000 cubic yards of material for a return of 6,761 oz. of melted gold; of the above total of 2,522,000 cubic yards, 494,000 cubic yards were tailings that had been treated by former dredges. From such tailings a return of approximately 1.75d. per cubic yard was obtained. The average depth of these tailings was approximately 30 ft. and the total depth of the solid ground (below and above water-level) approximately 78 ft., and the area of the ground dredged was 26.5 acres. The dredge course was to the west or upstream until November, then it was turned to the east or downstream. The old low terrace dredge tailings were entered in order to get an easy turn for the dredge and to bring in a water-channel from the river. This dredge is in good running-order and is operating in the high terrace.

Molyneux Gold-dredging Co., Ltd.—This electrically operated river dredge has been tied up in the Kawarau River at Scotlands Point.

Southland

The Rainbow Dredging Syndicate, Maitland, Waikaka Valley.—This is a small Diesel-operated sluice-box dredge suitable for dredging shallow ground. The present dredging area is practically exhausted.

ACCIDENTS

There was one fatal accident during the year. On the 11th November Edwin Francis Jopson, shift foreman on the Austral New Zealand dredge, suffered fatal injuries through being caught between the tailings stacker terminal pulley and the framing.

QUARRIES ACCIDENTS

There were two fatal accidents during the year:—

On the 23rd February John McCone, a quarry driller, suffered fatal injuries from a fall of rock in the quarry of the Totara Lime Co.

On the 24th June John Pavelka, quarry-manager, suffered fatal injuries from a fall of rock at the View Hill Chalk-quarry, Oxford.