The following is a statement regarding the most productive dredges owned by registered companies:—

Name of Dredge.	Production during 1913 of all Dredges.	Dividends paid by Dredges owned by Registered Companies.	
		During 1913.	To 31st December, 1913.
West Coast District—	£	£	£
Hessey Cameron (Limited)	1,856	225	6,480
Worksop	18,244	11,400	35,700
Southern District—			
Olrig	1,852	300	4,473
New Golden Run	7,534	400	400
Earnscleugh (3)	9,204	550	26,400
Rising Sun	5,159	800	19,200
Magnum Bonum	3,584	1,000	11,875
Electric (2)	5,985	1,300	130,643
Paterson's Freehold (2)	4,819	600	21,100
Ngapara	4,803	975	1,500
Willowbank	4,084	1,200	3,600
63 other working-dredges (registered or privately owned)	128,724	*	*
Totals	**195,848**	**18,760**	*

* Unrecorded.

The greatest weekly output by a gold-dredge was attained by the "Lady Ranfurly," on the 4th November, 1904. This dredge, operating on the River Molyneux (Clutha), obtained 1,273 oz. of gold in six consecutive days; it was owned by the Electric Gold-dredging Company, who at the end of 1913 had obtained gold to the value of £222,155 by dredging, of which £130,643 was distributed as dividends.

(3.) Alluvial Mining.

The value of the gold-production from sluicing claims amounted approximately to £295,704, being considerably more than that obtained by dredging. About 1,097 persons are engaged upon the alluvial mines.

Although no developments of importance occurred in this branch of the gold-mining industry during 1913, with the addition of the new mines being laid down the future prospects are favourable to an increased annual gold-production.

The following is a brief account of the most interesting alluvial-mining operations during 1913:—

West Coast, South Island.

The Lake Hochstetter Goldfields (Limited), a new company, have been engaged upon the construction of a water-race to carry eighty sluice-heads from that lake to the company's claims at Riverview, near Ahaura, there to work alluvial terraces which are believed to contain a large quantity of low-grade wash.

The evergreen Mont D'Or Gold-mining Company at Ross still remains on the dividend-paying list, although the sum distributed—£1,200—amounts only to one-half of that paid during the previous year.

The Ross Goldfields (Reconstructed) (Limited) have experienced a somewhat eventful year. During the early part of the year pumping was suspended during the installation of a Diesel engine of 250 horse-power as a stand-by in the event of stoppage of the electrical power by which pumping and winding at the mine is operated. A prospecting-drive was projected at No. 6 (315 ft.) level from near the shaft to a point about 20 ft. below the nearest and deepest workings of the old Cassius Mine; and from this drive such old workings were, at the end of June, unwatered through vertical boreholes, after two months continuous pumping by one stationary and one sinking three-stage Worthington turbine-pumps. The volume of water dealt with amounted to 2,000 gallons per minute. At times this quantity was exceeded. Upon subsequent inspection of the old Cassius Mine, which had been inundated and inaccessible since 1872, it was found that the value of the wash in sight did not justify optimistic estimates. The only payable wash left in sight by Cassius was contained in a small block near to his shaft; he had picked his mine clean before the historical inundation took place.

After unwatering the ground the Ross Company have pursued a vigorous and efficient policy in prospecting from the No. 6 level, but with the exception of one small patch of payable wash nothing of importance has yet been developed. During the year the company obtained from low-grade wash gold to the value of £1,918, and employed, on an average, fifty men.

That there remains profitable areas of wash within the Ross Company's ground there can be no reason to doubt, but the water difficulty, and the fact that the main bottom has never yet been reached in this mine, renders problematical the undertaking from a commercial point of view.