

Otago and Southland.

During the early part of the year severe floods considerably retarded alluvial-mining operations.

The Golden Crescent have opened up a cement face exceeding 120 ft. in height without reaching the rock bottom, which dips towards Weatherstone's Creek. Much of the most payable wash was blocked out in the early days, but the company is able to pay dividends from the ground remaining. Nine heads of water are used, under a pressure due to 700 ft. of fall.

The Nokomai Sluicing Company again heads the list of dividend-paying alluvial mines, £6,600 being so distributed during 1913; the total dividends paid—viz., £40,284—amount to six times the paid-up capital. Three claims are worked on the sluicing and elevating principle by this company, who employ fifty men.

The Havelock Sluicing Company, operating at Waitahuna, again appear on the list of dividend-paying. This company uses twelve sluice-heads of water, under a pressure due to 700 ft., for sluicing and elevating from a face ranging from 10 ft. to 70 ft. in height.

Near Waikaia the Muddy Terrace Gold-mining Company has produced during the year gold to the value of £4,004, which is £3,500 less than during 1912. During March the company's timber dam, a badly built and unnecessary structure, which diverted the water from Dome Creek into the main race, was carried away by flood. The company then extended their main race 30 chains up the creek and now lift the water directly therefrom, which should have been done at the beginning. To the loss of time by this misfortune may be attributed the considerable reduction in gold-output. Three faces, varying in height between 10 ft. and 50 ft., are worked on the sluicing and elevating principle, about thirty men being constantly employed.

V. MINERALS OTHER THAN GOLD.

SCHEELITE.

The quantity of scheelite exported during the year amounted to 221 tons, valued at £22,933, as compared with 135 tons, valued at £13,347, in 1912. The following statement shows the quantity and value of scheelite exported since the year 1899 :—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.	Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£		Tons.	£
1899	32	2,788	1908	68	6,055
1900	54	2,635	1909	58	4,263
1901	2	83	1910	143	15,070
1902	39	1,200	1911	138	11,853
1903	42	1,439	1912	135	13,347
1904	17	791	1913	221	22,933
1905	28	1,848			
1906	55	3,407	Totals ..	1,169	103,198
1907	137	15,486			

In the following table is shown the quantity of quartz crushed, and scheelite (tungstic trioxide) concentrates, and gold obtained by the seventeen companies and parties of miners engaged in this industry, together with the value, during the year 1913 :—

Name of Mine or Company.	Locality	Quartz crushed.	Scheelite (Tungstic Trioxide) Concentrates obtained.	Value.
		Tons.	Tons cwt.	£ s. d.
Dominion Consolidated Development Company	Marlborough - Wakamarina Valley	8,180*	60 0	6,491 13 5
Glenorchy Scheelite Syndicate	Lake County, Glenorchy	533	83 5	8,158 10 10
Nine parties of miners ..				
Fraser and Smith	Waihemo County, Macrae's	40	..	230 5 6
Deep Dell	Ditto	660	12 0	1,220 0 0
Maritana Mining Company		1,297†	6 6	506 3 2
Stoneburn		..	10 17	1,017 0 0
Berry Syndicate.. ..		14	0 16	57 5 8
Golden Point		4,428‡	28 15	2,191 4 2
Buckland and Ewart	Taieri County, Barewood	..	..	100 0 0
Gold and Tungsten	Maniototo County ..	2,377§	8 10	784 4 6
Total scheelite		17,529	210 9	20,756 7 3
Total gold		..	..	7,670 3 6
Grand total		..	..	28,426 10 9

* Also produced gold to the value of £5,428 5s. 3d. † Also produced gold to the value of £63. ‡ Also produced gold to the value of £1,817 12s. 10d. § Also produced gold to the value of £361 5s. 5d.

It is improbable that the scheelite-mining industry in New Zealand will ever attain great importance, but the increased prosperity as shown above is very satisfactory.