

*Statement showing the Production and Dividends paid by Dredges the property of Registered Companies, 1915.*

| Name of Dredge.                                                              | Production during<br>1915 of<br>all Dredges. | Dividends paid by Dredges owned by<br>Registered Companies. |                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                                                                              |                                              | During 1915.                                                | To 31st December,<br>1915. |
| Otago and Southland—                                                         | £                                            | £                                                           | £                          |
| Rise-and-Shine (2) ... ..                                                    | 11,060                                       | 7,800                                                       | 47,700                     |
| Rising Sun ... ..                                                            | 5,739                                        | 800                                                         | 22,400                     |
| Electric (2) ... ..                                                          | 5,808                                        | 2,600                                                       | 132,600                    |
| Earnsclough (3) ... ..                                                       | 14,901                                       | 3,300                                                       | 30,250                     |
| Ngapara ... ..                                                               | 4,374                                        | 1,050                                                       | 2,925                      |
| New Golden Run ... ..                                                        | 6,387                                        | 1,200                                                       | 3,200                      |
| Golden Gate ... ..                                                           | 2,492                                        | 1,000                                                       | 1,000                      |
| Golden Bed ... ..                                                            | 2,199                                        | 667                                                         | 667                        |
| Cardrona ... ..                                                              | 1,639                                        | 400                                                         | 800                        |
| Lower Nevis ... ..                                                           | 2,821                                        | 690                                                         | 2,730                      |
| Crewe No. 2 ... ..                                                           | 1,964                                        | 250                                                         | 9,125                      |
| Otakau ... ..                                                                | 3,975                                        | 975                                                         | 975                        |
| Willowbank ... ..                                                            | 2,055                                        | 600                                                         | 6,600                      |
| Paterson's Freehold ... ..                                                   | 3,016                                        | 600                                                         | 22,200                     |
| West Coast, South Island—                                                    |                                              |                                                             |                            |
| Success ... ..                                                               | 7,126                                        | 2,000                                                       | 2,000                      |
| Red Jacks ... ..                                                             | 4,357                                        | 900                                                         | 900                        |
| Workshop ... ..                                                              | 4,708                                        | 1,500                                                       | 43,350                     |
| Thirty-one other New Zealand dredges,<br>including those privately owned ... | 79,984                                       | *                                                           | *                          |
| Totals ... ..                                                                | <b>164,605</b>                               | <b>26,332</b>                                               | *                          |

\* The profits made by privately owned dredges are unknown, not being included in returns to the Mines Department.

The following table shows the result of dredge-mining operations in New Zealand during the past ten years:—

| Year.   | Total Number<br>of Dredges<br>working. | Value of<br>Production. | Average<br>Production per<br>Dredge. | Dividend-paying Dredges owned<br>by Registered Companies. |            | Number of<br>Persons<br>employed. |
|---------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|
|         |                                        |                         |                                      | Number.                                                   | Dividends. |                                   |
|         |                                        | £                       | £                                    |                                                           | £          |                                   |
| 1906 .. | 167                                    | 505,199                 | 3,025                                | 66                                                        | 103,722    | ..                                |
| 1907 .. | 128                                    | 419,634                 | 3,278                                | 65                                                        | 89,707     | 1,150                             |
| 1908 .. | 123                                    | 373,818                 | 3,039                                | 47                                                        | 75,800     | 1,013                             |
| 1909 .. | 111                                    | 327,676                 | 2,952                                | 37                                                        | 56,788     | 893                               |
| 1910 .. | 104                                    | 315,237                 | 3,031                                | 35                                                        | 51,918     | 838                               |
| 1911 .. | 93                                     | 297,900                 | 3,203                                | 31                                                        | 45,318     | 775                               |
| 1912 .. | 87                                     | 257,333                 | 2,958                                | 28                                                        | 38,841     | 694                               |
| 1913 .. | 74                                     | 195,848                 | 2,646                                | 11                                                        | 18,750     | 621                               |
| 1914 .. | 64                                     | 191,112                 | 2,986                                | 16                                                        | 23,080     | 491                               |
| 1915 .. | 52                                     | 164,605                 | 3,165                                | 21                                                        | 26,333     | 427                               |

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 production from alluvial claims amounted to £153,360, as compared with £157,323 during the previous year. The returns would have been better but for the prolonged dry weather in parts of Otago and Southland, where the principal claims are situated. On the west coast of the South Island, where formerly alluvial mining was very profitable, no registered alluvial-gold mining company distributed a dividend during 1915.