

twenty-eight of which, the property of registered companies, paid dividends amounting in the aggregate to £38,841. Fifteen dredges are operating on the West Coast and seventy-two in Otago and Southland.

The following is a statement regarding the gold-production and dividends by the most important gold-dredges during 1912 :—

Name of Dredge.	Production during 1912.	Dividends paid*	
		During 1912.	Total to End of 1912.
	£	£	£
Worksop	15,159	8,400	24,300
Pactolus	5,877	2,500	65,000
Hessey, Cameron, and Co.	5,488	1,560	6,255
Crewe	5,699	2,250	8,625
Masterton	4,609	1,750	33,250
Rising Sun	6,367	2,400	18,400
Magnum Bonum	4,873	2,000	10,875
Electric (two dredges)	7,702	2,600	128,692
Kohinoor	2,455	1,424	1,424
Paterson's Freehold (two dredges)	7,032	4,500	19,500
Seventy-five other working-dredges	192,072	9,457	†
Totals	257,333	38,841	†

* Dividends paid as here recorded are by registered companies only. The majority of the dredges are privately owned, and the profits therefrom are not known.

† Unknown.

SCHEELITE.

The quantity of scheelite concentrates exported during the year amounted to 135 tons, valued at £13,347, being a slight increase (as regards value only) over the output during the previous year. This mineral is usually obtained in conjunction with auriferous-quartz mining in Otago and Southland, but during 1912 a quartz-scheelite mine of some magnitude has been opened at Wakamarina Valley, Marlborough.

KAURI-GUM.

The quantity of kauri-gum exported during 1912 amounted to 7,908 tons, valued at £401,305, as against 7,587 tons, value £395,707, during the previous year. The total value of kauri-gum exported to the end of 1912 amounted to £16,210,457.

COAL-MINING.

The output of coal during 1912 amounted to 2,177,615 tons, as against 2,066,073 tons during 1911, being an increase of 111,542 tons. There has also been a considerable increase in the quantity of coal imported into the Dominion, 364,359 tons having been imported during 1912, as compared with 188,068 tons during 1911. The quantity of coal exported during 1912 was 229,012 tons, and during 1911 223,275 tons. Our annual consumption of coal has therefore increased by about 282,096 tons during the past year.

The following is a comparative statement of the coal and lignite raised during the years 1910, 1911, and 1912 :—

Inspection District.	Output for 1911.	Output for 1912.	Increase or Decrease, 1911 and 1912.	Output for 1910.	Increase or Decrease, 1910 and 1911.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Northern	397,872	383,847	Decrease 14,025	400,664	Decrease 2,792
West Coast	1,218,693	1,301,461	Increase 82,768	1,341,032	„ 122,339
Southern	449,508	492,307	„ 42,799	455,666	„ 6,158
Totals	2,066,073	2,177,615	Increase 111,542	2,197,362	Decrease 131,289