

IV. GOLD-MINES.

The following statement shows the value of the bullion-production, also the dividends declared, number of persons employed, and number of gold-mines and dredges :—

	Production of Bullion, 1915.* (All Mines.)	Dividends paid, 1915. (By Registered Companies only.)	Number of Persons ordinarily employed.	Number of Working Mines, Dredges, and Claims.
Quartz-mining ...	£ 1,030,524	£ 237,165	2,703	62
Dredge mining †... ..	164,605	26,332	427	52
Alluvial mining ‡	153,360	11,118	1,019	283
Totals, 1914 ...	1,348,489	274,615	4,149	397

* In addition to the gold produced from the gold-mines, silver was obtained from them, hence the word "bullion" is used in preference to "gold."

† The bullion-production is from 52 dredges, but the dividends given are only from 21 of these, the property of registered companies. The profits of privately owned dredges and mines are unobtainable, which renders this statement incomplete.

‡ The bullion-production is from 283 alluvial claims, but the dividends are only ascertainable from those few that are the property of registered companies.

(1.) QUARTZ-MINING.

The following is a statement showing the tons of ore treated, the value of bullion produced, and the amount of dividends paid by quartz-mining companies in each of the inspection districts during the years 1914 and 1915 :—

Inspection District.	Statute Tons of Ore treated.		Value of Bullion.		Dividends paid. (By Registered Companies only.)	
	1915.	1914.	1915.	1914.	1915.	1914.
Northern	330,199	347,194	£ 796,685	£ 911,733	£ 210,016	£ 266,165
West Coast	151,161	148,069	231,150	239,237	27,249	22,100
Southern	3,269	6,076	2,689	3,244
Totals	484,629	501,339	1,030,524	1,154,214	237,265	288,265

The following is a statement of the production, dividends declared, and the number of persons employed by the principal gold-quartz mining companies during 1915 :—

Name of Company.	During 1915.			Dividends paid.		Number of Persons ordinarily employed.
	Quantity of Quartz treated.	Value of Bullion.	Average Value per Ton.	1915.	Total to End of December, 1915.	
Northern District—	Statute Tons.	£	£ s. d.	£	£	
Waihi Gold-mining Company (Ltd.)*	171,725	327,394	1 18 1½	99,181	4,676,902	753
Waihi Grand Junction Gold-mining Company (Ltd.)	112,321	200,270	1 15 8	46,047	151,750	436
Talisman Consolidated (Ltd.) ..	26,230	188,620	7 3 10	64,688	1,030,222	280
West Coast District—						
Dominion Consolidated	17,484	12,472†	0 14 3	2,250	2,250	80
Blackwater Mines (Ltd.)	54,643	109,285	2 0 0	24,999	137,495	207
New Big River Gold-mining Company (Ltd.)	2,938	11,869	4 0 9½	..	91,200	60
Other quartz-mines throughout New Zealand	99,288	180,614	1 16 4	..	Unknown	887
Totals, 1915	484,629	1,030,524	2 2 6	237,165	Unknown	2,703

* The total value of the output of this company at the end of the year was £11,114,432. The dividends here given are free of income-tax.

† In addition, sch. elite concentrate, value £14,133, was obtained from the quartz treated.