

The following is a table showing the quantity of quartz crushed and scheelite concentrates obtained for the year ended 31st December, 1919:—

Name of Mine or Company.	Locality.	Quartz crushed.	Scheelite Concentrates obtained.	Value.
<i>Marlborough—</i>				
Dominion Consolidated Company	Wakamarina	Tons. 8,443	Tons. cwt. qr. lb. 21 0 1 0	£ *
J. M. Cadigan	Concentrates	11 0 0 0	†750 0 0
<i>Otago and Southland—</i>				
Glenorchy Scheelite Company, and eight parties of miners	Glenorchy, Lake County	271	65 4 0 22	15,146 14 7
J. R. Tripp	2 9 0 21	572 8 8
C. E. G. Paulin	20	3 6 3 16	740 7 1
Sutherland and Hood	1 3 2 14	278 15 5
Black and McPherson	6	2 12 2 18	563 14 8
Grant and Sinclair	0 7 0 26	86 19 4
J. J. Hall	0 5 2 15	64 6 8
Callery and Donoghue	Macrae's, Waihemo County	20	5 4 1 15	1,222 2 3
E. Gaytan	5	0 19 2 18	241 15 10
Gaytan and Innes	30	2 1 3 20	505 3 0
Deep Dell Mining Company	4½	0 16 2 24	203 14 11
H. Fraser	4	0 9 0 1	103 7 10
Donaldson and Ellis	2	0 3 2 0	43 8 8
Cockerell and Randall	20	2 2 3 2	469 18 5
J. Donaldson	1	0 4 1 12	47 18 8
A. A. Cockerell	3	0 15 2 19	177 3 11
J. H. Evans	0 5 2 10	61 19 7
D. Peddie	0 7 0 23	74 9 1
F. A. Smith	10	0 16 3 14	196 13 11
G. Bertenshaw	Waipori, Tuapeka County	..	0 5 1 5	65 15 2
C. G. White	The Reefs, Taieri County	15	0 8 1 21	98 0 9
Pukerangi Mining Company	35	0 5 2 18	63 18 6
Totals, 1919	8,889½	122 16 2 26	21,770 16 11
Totals, 1918	15,098	143 6 0 17	31,279 0 0
Decrease	6,208½	20 9 1 19	9,508 3 1

* Output still on hand.

† Only 5 tons sold.

Certain of the above mines also produced gold as follows: Dominion Consolidated, £4,485; Golden Point, £23; Deep Dell, £3.

PETROLEUM.

Oil-boring operations have continued at New Plymouth, Waipatiki, and Chertsey, but in several instances progress has been retarded through the delay in receiving new cables ordered or mishaps to the existing casing. No development of commercial value occurred as the result of oil-prospecting operations, and none of the existing bores yielded oil in payable quantity.

Taranaki (New Zealand) Oil-wells (Limited).—In the early part of the year the company dismantled its refinery plant which had been acquired for re-erection in Persia. Operations at No. 5 bore were confined to drilling through some cement which had been placed inside the 8 in. casing to shut off the water, and to relining the borehole with 6½ in. casing. Difficulties were still being experienced with the escaping sand and gas cutting through the inner casing when operations ceased through lack of funds. Early this year advice was received from London that the company had gone into liquidation.

Blenheim Oil-wells (Limited).—Much time was lost during the year in waiting the arrival of drilling-cable from England. In the interval the company lost its staff of expert Galician drillers, who had carried the borehole down successfully from the commencement. The well has now attained a depth of 5,534 ft., and is penetrating a dark calcareous mudstone from which there are strong gas-emissions. A small flow of petroleum occurs at 2,200 ft., and during the year 7,485 gallons of oil were collected.

British Petroleum Development Company.—This new company was formed late in the year to sink a borehole at Patch's farm, which is about seven miles from New Plymouth along the Carrington Road. It is anticipated that oil will be struck at about 2,500 ft., and operations so far have consisted in the erection of a derrick and installing the necessary machinery.

Waipatiki Oil-wells (Limited).—This company, which acquired the interests at Hawke's Bay of the Kotuku Oil-wells Syndicate, has continued boring operations during the year, but work has been delayed first through the casing breaking and afterwards by the late arrival of a new drilling-cable. There have been strong emissions of gas and a small quantity of oil from this borehole, but so far the formations penetrated have not been such as would contain an extensive oil-pool. The borehole is now down 3,600 ft.

Canterbury Petroleum Prospecting Company.—This company's borehole is still penetrating the alluvial deposits of gravel and conglomerate which form the Canterbury Plains, and has now attained a depth of 2,140 ft.