

The value of gold produced during 1923 was greater by £162,182 than during 1922. This amount is made up of an increase of £170,504 from quartz-mining, an increase of £764 from dredging, and a decrease of £9,086 from alluvial mining. The greater part of the increase in the value of gold got from quartz-mining was from the mines in the Waihi Borough, where the value of the bullion produced during 1923 amounted to £427,622, against £269,238 for 1922, an increase of £158,384.

(1.) QUARTZ-MINING.

Inspection District.	Statute Tons of Ore treated.		Value of Bullion.		Dividends paid (by Registered Companies only).	
	1923.	1922.	1923.	1922.	1923.	1922.
Northern	288,036	220,263	£ 508,545	£ 338,465	£ 24,795	£ 49,591
West Coast	47,872	48,184	99,143	100,682	..	2,400
Southern	1,935	162	2,305	342	..	..
Totals	337,843	268,609	609,993	439,489	24,795	51,991

The average value per ton of ore treated during 1923 amounted to £1 16s. 1d., as compared with £1 12s. 9d. during 1922.

(2.) DREDGE MINING.

The following is a statement showing the capacity, production, and profits of bucket gold-dredges during 1923. (NOTE.—The profits made by privately owned dredges are not obtainable for publication.)

Name of Dredge.	Locality.	Capacity of Dredge-buckets, in Cubic Feet.	Number of Buckets discharged per Minute.	Nominal Horse-power of Engines.	S = Steam. E = Electrical.	Average Depth of Ground dredged.	Value of Bullion obtained during 1923.	Dividends declared.	
								During 1923.	Total.
<i>Otago and Southland.</i>									
Rise and Shine No. 1	Clutha River	5½	10	20	S	Ft. 40	£ 1,703	£ ..	£ 53,700
Lady Ranturly	Kawarau River .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	211	..	..
Earnsclough No. 3	Clutha River	7	12	150	E	50	1,499	..	30,250*
Nevis Crossing	Nevis River	3½	10	12	S	10	2,156	..	..
McGeorge's Freehold No. 3	Waikaka Valley	6½	9	20	S	35	1,538	..	..
McGeorge's Freehold No. 2	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,282	..	..
<i>West Coast.</i>									
Rimu	Rimu	10	19	525	E	58	56,190	3,283	..
Awatuna	Awatuna Beach	8	15	20	S	12	2,424	..	..
Totals, 1923 .. ..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	68,003	3,283	Unknown
Totals, 1922 .. ..	.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	67,239	..	Unknown

* Includes Earnsclough No. 5 (see previous Statement).

(3.) ALLUVIAL MINING.

The following is a statement showing the value of production and dividends declared from alluvial gold-mines during 1923 :—

Name of Company.	Estimated Value of Gold produced.	Dividends declared.	
		During 1923.	Total to End of 1923.
Vinegar Hill Sluicing Company	£ 1,191	£ ..	£ 1,050
Gabriel's Gully Sluicing Company	2,639	..	15,615
Lawrence Sluicing Company	4,681	750	1,000
W. R. Smith	1,225	..	..
Golden Crescent Sluicing Company	904	..	12,862
Sailor's Gully Sluicing Company	2,393	..	5,840
Havelock Sluicing Company	1,246	..	11,400
Graham and Party	2,686	1,400	1,400
A. Mutch	1,354	..	..
Nokomai Hydraulic Sluicing Company	4,501	..	54,684
Ourawera Gold-mining Company	233	116	15,231
Round Hill Gold-mining Company	4,593	..	12,287
Havill Bros.	1,315	..	..
Hohonu Gold Sluicing Company	1,254	..	..
Stubbs and Steel	1,230	..	..
All other claims	27,729	..	..
Totals	59,174	2,266	Unknown.