

## GOLD AND SILVER MINING.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of bullion-production, the dividends paid by registered companies, and the number of productive claims and gold-dredges during 1934 and 1933 :—

Class of Gold-mining.	Production of Bullion.				Dividends paid by Registered Companies.		Number of Productive Claims and Dredges.	
	1934.		1933.		1934.	1933.	1934.	1933.
	Oz.	£	Oz.	£	£	£		
Quartz .. ..	475,230	699,273	534,821	721,692	155,099	163,870	73	51
Alluvial .. ..	43,541	306,248	35,381	217,854	11,222	19,648	4,357	2,410
Dredging .. ..	24,092	190,319	22,045	160,033	41,406	25,819	12	7
Totals .. ..	542,863	1,195,840	592,247	1,099,579	207,727	209,337	4,442	2,468

## GOLDFIELDS REVENUE AND GOLD DUTY.

The amount of goldfields revenue received and credited to the accounts of local bodies during the year ended 31st March, 1935, was £24,438 17s. 2d., an increase of £5,058 15s. over the previous year. During the same period the total of the three duties on exported gold amounted to £112,755 17s. 5d., of which £7,057 14s. 1d. was credited to the accounts of local bodies under section 12 of the Gold Duty Act, 1908. The special export duty of 12s. 6d. per ounce amounted to £102,616 16s. 7d., which sum was paid into the Consolidated Fund.

## MINING PRIVILEGES.

That interest is being maintained in the mining industry is shown by the fact that during the year ended 31st March, 1935, 3,051 licenses for mining privileges were granted under the provisions of the Mining Act, 1926, as compared with 3,093 for the previous year. Out of this number 437 were licenses for claims authorizing the holders to mine for gold. For the same period 79 mining privileges including 9 licenses for claims, were struck off the registers under the provisions of section 188 of the Act.

## PROSPECTING FOR OIL.

During the year the Moturoa Oil Fields, Ltd., was the only company actively engaged in boring for oil, No. 4 well being extended from 2,085 ft. to 2,186 ft.

A production of 155,698 gallons was obtained from Moturoa Nos. 2 and 4 wells at New Plymouth.

The Dominion's total production of crude petroleum oil to 31st December, 1934, is estimated at 2,223,162 gallons.

## COAL-MINING.

From the coal-mines operating in the Dominion 2,060,315 tons of coal was produced during the year 1934, representing an increase of 239,057 tons as compared with the figure for the previous year.

The annual production of coal since 1930 has been as follows :—

	Tons.		Tons.
1930 .. ..	2,542,092	1933 .. ..	1,821,258
1931 .. ..	2,157,756	1934 .. ..	2,060,315
1932 .. ..	1,842,022		

The industry recovered 13·1 per cent. in its output in 1934, as compared with the following figures for several of the principal coal-producing countries of the world for the same period :—

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
Great Britain .. ..	6·7	United States .. ..	8·5
Germany .. ..	10·8	Canada .. ..	15·9
France .. ..	1·7	New South Wales .. ..	10·6