

At the Blackwater Mine, Waita, the "Prohibition" shaft was sunk another 150 ft. to the No. 13 level, and by the end of the year preparations for the new electric winder were well advanced. During 1935, 45,660 tons of ore was mined from the Blackwater Mine, being 13,798 tons more than in 1934, and 21,216 oz. of gold, valued at £173,541, was recovered. In 1935 about 2,500 ft. of development work was done in the Nos. 10, 11, 12, and 13 levels and 150 ft. of shaft-sinking. The work in No. 10 level was rather disappointing, but in the Nos. 11, 12, and 13 levels it was very satisfactory.

From the Alexander Mine 3,008 tons of ore was treated, from which 2,552 oz. of gold, valued at £20,304, was obtained. Owing to losses the furnace was closed down in October, and since then the concentrates have been sent to Australia for treatment.

The Big River Mine produced 2,431 tons of ore for a yield of 2,323 oz. of gold, valued at £19,028.

The battery at the Mount Greenland Mine crushed 391 tons of ore, which yielded, by amalgamation alone, 330 oz. of gold, valued at £1,961.

At the Golden Progress Mine, near Oturehua, operations were confined to stoping on the 200 ft. level. Work ceased altogether in September, 1935.

The low-level tunnel in the New Bendigo Gold-mining Co.'s Mine, which was driven in 1910 to 650 ft. in from the portal, was extended in 1935 to the 1,960 ft. mark. No payable stone having been met and indications of faulting being encountered, work ceased pending a further report on the area.

A winding plant was installed at the Bendigo Rise and Shine Gold-mining Co.'s shaft, and, between the crosscut and the rise on the 60 ft. level, stoping was commenced. An adit has been driven into the hill, on the line of the North-South lode, for a distance of 100 ft. and crosscuts put out east and west without exposing anything of value.

## (2) DREDGE MINING.

The following is a statement showing the capacity and production of bucket gold-dredges and dividends declared by dredging companies during 1935. (NOTE.—The dividends declared 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.	D = Diesel. S = Steam. E = Electrical. H = Hydraulic.	Average Depth of Ground dredged	Quantity and Value of Bullion obtained during 1935.			Dividends declared.	
							Ft.	oz.	£	£	£
<i>West Coast.</i>											
Mataki .. ..	Murchison ..	7	20	120	S	16½	1,972	14,633	1,406	4,218	
Workshop .. ..	Antonio's ..	4	12	140	D	17	2,045	13,871	4,800	8,000	
Mossy Creek ..	Hukarere ..	4	26	225	E	15	1,784	13,382	3,750	3,750	
Brian Boru .. ..	German Gully ..	9	20	250	E	45	114	842	..	1,350	
Argo .. ..	Blackball ..	5	18	210	E	30	588	4,000	..	..	
Maori Gully .. ..	Maori Gully ..	4	20	205	E	17½	1,440	10,677	2,400	2,400	
Bundi Tin .. ..	Cameron's ..	10	18	500	S	32	2,242	17,480	..	..	
Stafford .. ..	Stafford ..	8	12	220	E	18	2,181	18,518	3,750	3,750	
Rimu .. ..	Rimu ..	12	23	922	E	41	13,634	114,274	13,814	77,882	
Okarito (Five Mile Beach)	Okarito ..	5	10	..	H	20	1,665	12,354	7,000	31,500	
Gillespie's Beach ..	Gillespie's Beach ..	5	13	225	E	19	1,622	11,965	1,750	4,667	
<i>Otago and Southland.</i>											
Aitken's .. ..	Maitland ..	6	10	32	S	14	1,190	9,084	..	..	
Goldfield's .. ..	Shotover River ..	8	18	305	E	23	503	3,543	..	..	
Rainbow .. ..	Waimumu ..	2½	12	38	D	7	121	744	..	..	
Nevis Crossing ..	Nevis ..	3½	10	12	S	10	379	2,803	..	..	
Bendigo-Goldlight ..	Bendigo ..	7½	9	20	S	55	70	499	..	..	
Waipapa Beach ..	Otara ..	2½	14	70	D	18	512	3,754	..	..	
Totals, 1935 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32,062	252,423	38,670	Unknown	
Totals, 1934 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24,092	190,319	41,406	Unknown	

At the end of 1935 fifteen dredges were being worked and three that had previously been operated were idle. Of seven other dredges under construction, the one at Alexandra and another at Clyde were ready for launching, but for months the Molyneux River did not rise high enough to permit the launching being done.

Of the seven dredges operating in the West Coast in 1934, six worked continuously during the past year, but the Brian Boru dredge ceased working at the end of February, 1935, and has not been operating since.

The Mossy Creek, Argo, Maori Gully, and Bundi Tin (Camerons) dredges were brought into commission, and have proved valuable additions to the list of operating dredges. Another dredge is almost completed and six are being built.

During 1935 the eleven West Coast dredges recovered 29,287 oz. of gold, valued at £231,996, and the four southern dredges 2,775 oz. of gold, valued at £20,427.

Of the West Coast return the Rimu dredge recovered 13,634 oz., valued at £114,274, and paid a dividend of £13,814 for the year.

Of the five dredges operating in the Southern District in 1934, four continued during the past year. The Nevis-Diesel dredge was not worked, but further drilling was done on the area early in the year.