

(2) GOVERNMENT PROSPECTING DRILLS.

The following table gives details of the drilling done and the results obtained for twelve months ended 31st December, 1935:—

Drills used : Diamond and Keystone drills. Percussion and Hand-placer drills.

Number of Holes drilled.	Total Depth, in Feet.		Diameter of Hole.	Mineral sought.	Character of Country drilled through.	To whom lent.	Cost per Foot of Drilling.		Cost per Foot of Transport.		Cost per Foot of Carbon's Wear.	Remarks.
	Ft.	In.					s. d.	s. d.	s. d.			
18	307	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Alluvial Holdings, Ltd.	12 2	0 4.5	..	..	..	..
5	1,591	6	Gold	Clay and sand ..	Argyle Mining Co.	10 2.2	1 2.08	..	..	..	..
2	79	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Austral Malay Tin, Ltd.	8 4	6 10	..	..	..	..
5	218	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Brian Boru Gold-dredging Co., Ltd.	4 3.2	6 11.1	..	..	..	..
28	518	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Consolidated Goldfields of N.Z., Ltd.	14 1.7	4 3.6	..	..	..	..
4	90	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Consolidated Goldfields of N.Z., Ltd.	7 11	6 5	..	..	..	..
4	167	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Consolidated Goldfields of N.Z., Ltd.	13 7	2 8	..	..	..	..
16	388	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Dredging Developments, Ltd.	8 9	3 5	..	..	..	..
3	197	6	Gold	Sand and gravel ..	Ferntown Dredging Syndicate	10 0	3 4	..	..	..	..
49	4,260	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Investigations, Ltd.	11 1	1 1	..	..	..	..
14	1,269	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Investigations, Ltd.	..	..	..	..	..	In progress.
3	75	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Learmont and party	..	..	..	..	..	In progress.
63	979	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Mataki Gold-dredging, Ltd.	7 9	0 6.7	..	..	..	..
1	901	2½	Gold	Andesite and quartz	Mining Trust and Finance, Ltd.	25 3	0 2.5	1 9.5	..	..	..
1	395	2½	Gold	Andesite and quartz	Ohinemuri Gold and Silver Mines, Ltd.	..	..	..	..	..	In progress.
7	314	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Provident Investments, Ltd.	8 2	2 0	..	..	..	..
135	4,219	6	Gold	Gravel ..	Rimu Gold-dredging Co., Ltd.	..	..	..	..	..	In progress.
43	1,433	3½	Gold	Gravel and schist	Unemployment Board	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	628	4½	Gold	Gravel ..	Unemployment Board	..	..	..	..	..	In progress.
11	618	6	Gold	Gravel and clay ..	Unemployment Board	..	..	..	..	..	In progress.
3	1,444	2¾	Coal	Sandstone and conglomerate	Puponga Coal-mines, Ltd.	..	..	..	..	..	In progress.
1	171	2	Coal	Coal and shale ..	Sparks and party	4 2.9	0 11.3	0 10.4	..	..	..
2	246	2	Coal	Sandstone and shale	Goldlight Co-op. party	5 4.7	0 6.9	0 5.8	..	..	..
2	320	2	Coal	Shale and sandstone	Duggan and party	4 4.1	0 5.38	0 2.3	..	..	..
440	20,827											

(3) SUBSIDIZED ROADS ON GOLDFIELDS.

The expenditure in the form of subsidies and direct grants upon roads on goldfields amounted to £1,051 18s. 10d., as compared with £766 13s. 8d. during the previous year.

The absorption by the Labour Department of officers of the Unemployment Board in no way interrupted the excellent work done by the qualified mining engineers who had been working for that Board, and they continued to render much assistance to the District Inspectors of Mines.

Through that assistance and the gradual lessening of work required of the Inspector at the Cromwell area, it became practicable to transfer one of the two Inspectors from the Southern district.

Mr. G. W. Lowes was transferred from Dunedin, where he had been assisting Mr. T. McMillan, to Reefton.

Mr. E. J. Scoble, who had been the Inspector of Mines stationed at Reefton, was then transferred to Waihi, where he relieved Mr. J. F. Downey, who was transferred to Wellington.

The duties of the West Coast Inspector have for some time past been gradually increasing in volume. To relieve an overtaxed but uncomplaining officer and to ensure full efficiency of the inspection work, it was decided to appoint a second Inspector for that district.

I desire again to acknowledge the very efficient help and co-operation rendered by all the District Inspectors.

I have, &c.,
 GEORGE DUGGAN,
 Inspecting Engineer of Mines.