

(2.) GOVERNMENT PROSPECTING DRILLS.

The following table gives details of the drilling done and the results obtained for twelve months ended 31st December, 1925 :—

Drill Superintendents : W. H. Warburton, E. A. Wilson, R. Pengelly, G. Andrews, F. Carter, and H. Butland.
Drills used : Schram-Harker diamond and Keystone drills.

Number of Holes drilled.	Total Depth, in Feet.	Diameter of Hole.	Mineral sought.	Character of Rocks drilled through.	To whom lent.	Cost per Foot of Drilling.	Cost per Foot of Transport.	Cost per Foot of Carbon's Wear.	Results.
1	Ft. 842	In. 3	Coal	Sandstones, shales, grits, and clays	New Zealand State Coal-mines	s. d. 4 3	s. d. 1 6	s. d. 2 10	Unsatisfactory.
1	376	3	*	Mudstones, sandstone, shales, and grit	Manderson and party	8 2	2 6	0 8	Satisfactory. Good flow of water.
1	756	2½	Gold	Andesites and tuff	Waihi Grand Junction Gold Company (Ltd.)	38 1	0 5	10 0	Inconclusive.
49	2,367	6	Gold	Clay, blacksand, and sandstone	Clutha Development Syndicate	..	..	..	Fair. Unfinished.
156	2,367	2½ & 3	†	..	Napier Harbour Board	13 6	..	..	..
61	2,509	6	Gold	Gravels ..	Rimu Gold Dredging Company (Ltd.)	8 3	..	..	Unfinished.
4	186	6	‡	Greywacke, &c. ..	Public Works Department	81 1	12 4	..	Satisfactory.

* Drainage.

† Harbour-works.

‡ Hydro-electric scheme.

(3.) SUBSIDIZED ROADS ON GOLDFIELDS.

The expenditure in the form of subsidies and direct grants upon roads on goldfields amounted to £6,033, as compared with £4,126 during the previous year.

(4.) GOVERNMENT WATER-RACES.

The Waimea-Kumara water-races, constructed by the Government for the purpose of assisting alluvial gold-mining in the district of Kumara (Westland), showed a loss for the year ended 31st March, 1926, of £384 9s. 2d. Water was supplied to claims employing in all an average of 6.08 persons, and gold to the value of £1,283 9s. 6d. was obtained.

The following is a statement showing the cash received by the Government for water sold, and the expenditure on the upkeep of the races, together with the average number of miners supplied with water, and the approximate quantity and value of gold received for the year ended 31st March, 1926 :—

—	Receipts. (Sales of Water.)	Expenditure.	Debit Balance.	Average Number of Miners supplied with Water.	Approximate Quantity and Value of Gold obtained.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		Oz.	£ s. d.	
Waimea-Kumara Water-races ..	914 6 3*	1,298 15 5	384 9 2	6.08	327	1,283 9 6	

* Including royalty on timber.

The amount outstanding on the Waimea-Kumara water-races on the 31st March, 1926, was £933 2s. 3d., an increase of £87 16s. 8d. on the previous year.

(5.) SCHOOLS OF MINES.

The expenditure on Schools of Mines for the year ended the 31st March, 1926, was £4,004, against £3,501 11s. 3d. during the previous year. This included a grant of £750 to the University of Otago for the Otago School of Mines.

The Schools of Mines continue to do very useful and necessary work; but at schools on the goldfields very few of the students take mining and allied subjects, with the result that in these districts the schools are technical schools rather than Schools of Mines.

I desire to acknowledge the efficient help and co-operation which I have received from the Inspectors during the past year.

I have, &c.,

J. A. C. BAYNE,

Inspecting Engineer of Mines.