

This scheme, which originated with the Miners' Phthisis Act, 1915, is administered by the Social Security Commission, and the following is a summary of the operations for the year ended 31st March, 1948 :—

	£
Payments from 1st November, 1915, to 31st March, 1947 ..	1,768,442
Payments from 1st April, 1947, to 31st March, 1948 ..	110,106
	<u>£1,878,548</u>
Number of new grants for the year 1947-48—	
Males .. .. .	24
Females .. .. .	5
	<u>29</u>
Number of benefits in force at 31st March, 1948—	
Males .. .. .	604
Females .. .. .	81
	<u>685</u>
Annual value of benefits in force at 31st March, 1948 ..	£111,518
Dissection of benefits in force at 31st March, 1948—	
Single miners .. .. .	292
Married miners .. .. .	312
Widows .. .. .	81
	<u>685</u>

### MEN EMPLOYED IN MINING AND QUARRYING

The table shows the numbers of men employed in each inspection district during 1947 and 1946 :—

	Inspection District.			Totals.	
	Northern (North Island).	West Coast (South Island).	Southern (South Island).	1947.	1946.
Gold, silver, and scheelite ..	492	527	172	1,191	1,166
Coal .. .. .	2,086	2,408	948	5,442	5,557
Bentonite .. .. .	4	..	..	4	..
Clays .. .. .	54	11	54	119	..
Diatomite .. .. .	2	..	..	2	..
Dolomite .. .. .	..	7	..	7	..
Fuller's earth .. .. .	1	..	..	1	..
Iron-ore .. .. .	17	..	..	17	..
Limestone .. .. .	243	83	295	621	1,960
Magnesite .. .. .	..	3	..	3	..
Pumice .. .. .	10	..	..	10	..
Quartzite .. .. .	..	3	..	3	..
Rock, sand, &c. .. .. .	1,018	50	293	1,361	..
Serpentine .. .. .	6	..	2	8	..
Silica sand .. .. .	5	..	4	9	..
Totals .. .. .	3,938	3,092	1,768	8,798	8,683