

VI. STONE-QUARRY INSPECTION AND STATISTICS.

By section 2 of the Stone-quarries Amendment Act, 1920, the application of the Act was extended to include every place, not being a mine, in which persons work in quarrying stone and any part of which has a face more than 15 ft. deep, and also in any tunnel in the construction of which explosives are used. The Act, however, does not apply to any Government operations, or any road or railway cutting, or excavations for buildings.

The following is a table showing the number of quarries under the Stone-quarries Act, also the number of persons ordinarily employed thereat, and the annual output and value of crude stone during 1930 :—

Provincial District.	Name and Address of Government Inspector of Stone-quarries.	Number of Working Quarries under the Act.	Number of Persons ordinarily employed.	Output of Stone.							
				Stone or Gravel for Macadamizing or Ballast.	Stone for Harbour-works.	Building or Monumental Stone.	Limestone for Agriculture.	Limestone for Cement or Mortar.	Phosphate for Agriculture.	Miscellaneous.	Value at Quarry.
Auckland ..	James Newton, Mines Dept., Auckland	165	872	Tons. 532,114	Tons. ..	Tons. ..	Tons. 55,007	Tons. 214,175	Tons. ..	Tons. 6,321	£ 167,760
	J. F. Downey, Mines Dept., Waihi (Hauraki Mining District only)	14	99	92,196	..	2,002	..	..	..	..	31,167
Hawke's Bay	James Newton, Mines Dept., Auckland	27	152	37,462	10,175	..	15,090	..	..	..	10,650
Taranaki ..	Ditto	10	45	16,080	633	..	3,441	..	..	..	5,831
Wellington	„	44	227	162,344	..	..	12,695	680	..	20,000	44,788
Nelson ..	E. J. Scoble, Mines Dept., Reefton	14	138	10,505	24,347	74	5,684	35,189	..	4,883	19,040
Westland ..											
Marlborough	T. McMillan, Mines Dept., Dunedin	44	425	256,332	91,494	1,620	112,894	49,804	..	..	134,055
Canterbury											
Otago ..											
Southland ..											
Totals, 1930	..	318	1,958	1,107,033	126,649	3,696	204,811	299,848	..	31,204	413,291
Totals, 1929	..	293	2,130	1,087,294	110,348	7,502	221,756	322,986	..	11,408	479,199

There were 172 fewer men employed than during the previous year, and a decrease in the value of the stone produced of £65,908.

QUARRY ACCIDENTS.

The following is a summary of serious accidents during 1930 at quarries under the Stone-quarries Act :—

Cause.							Number of Accidents.		Number of Sufferers.	
							Fatal.	Serious.	Killed.	Seriously injured.
Haulage ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Machinery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Explosives	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
Falls of ground	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	1	3
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Totals	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	1	7

Accounts of the accidents are given in the District Inspectors' reports attached hereto.

VII. STATE AID TO MINING.

(1) SUBSIDIZED PROSPECTING.

Upon subsidized prospecting operations 245 persons were intermittently employed during the year. This number includes seventy-three persons prospecting under subsidies granted out of the Unemployment Fund.

The following is a statement showing the results of prospecting operations as reported by the Inspectors of Mines :—