

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 1932 :—

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	171	929	Tons. 317,219	Tons. ..	Tons. ..	Tons. 63,003	Tons. 92,322	Tons. ..	Tons. 1,200	£ 85,118
	J. F. Downey, Mines Dept., Waihi (Hauraki Mining District only)	14	63	47,140	..	..	..	..	..	..	13,165
Hawke's Bay	James Newton, Mines Dept., Auckland	31	128	34,426	..	..	19,678	..	..	..	10,892
Taranaki ..	Ditto .. ..	14	68	21,004	..	..	4,002	..	..	..	5,297
Wellington	„ .. ..	41	208	70,556	..	..	8,930	..	..	1,012	17,141
Nelson ..	E. J. Scoble, Mines Dept., Reefton	20	187	54,881	15,888	50	6,628	25,465	..	2,808	19,846
Westland ..											
Marlborough	T. McMillan, Mines Dept., Dunedin	41	305	169,506	70,352	834	99,494	33,313	..	..	90,461
Canterbury											
Otago ..											
Southland ..											
Totals, 1932	..	332	1,888	714,732	86,240	884	201,735	151,100	..	5,020	241,920
Totals, 1931	..	318	1,995	871,681	120,492	12,132	171,159	226,247	..	4,578	316,366

There were 107 fewer men employed than during the previous year, with a decrease in the value of the stone produced of £74,446.

QUARRY ACCIDENTS.

The following is a summary of serious accidents during 1932 at quarries under the Stone-quarries Act :—

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

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 216 persons were intermittently employed during the year.

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