

MINERALS OTHER THAN GOLD.

Antimony.—Seventeen tons, valued at £249, was mined at the Manorburn Valley, near Alexandra.

Platinum.—The concentrates saved at the Round Hill Gold-mining Co.'s mine at Round Hill, Southland, have been treated for a return of 35 oz., valued at £286.

Silica Sand.—One thousand six hundred and eighteen tons of silica sand valued at £1,771, has been mined from Hyde, in Central Otago, Mount Somer's and Pleasant Valley, near Geraldine, in Canterbury.

Diatomaceous Earth.—Seventy-nine tons of low-grade material suitable for insulating purposes was mined at Foulden Hill, near Middlesmarch. The value was £112.

VALUABLE CLAYS (OTHER THAN FOR BRICKMAKING).

Eight hundred and two tons of clay, valued at £650, have been mined from the Benhar Mine, in Otago, and the Kakahu and Mount Somer's Mines, in Canterbury.

Tungsten.—During the year 713 tons of tungsten-bearing ore has been treated for a yield of 67 tons of scheelite concentrates (57 tons from the Glenorchy district and 10 tons from the Macrae's district), with an approximate value of £13,403.

ACCIDENTS.

There was one fatal accident during the year:—

Yun Yuk, a raceman and miner employed by the Nokomai Gold-mining Co., met his death through slipping and falling into the worked-out paddock when taking a short cut to his working-place at about 1 p.m. on the 14th June, 1941.

There were no serious non-fatal accidents at the mines during the year.

SUBSIDIZED MINING SCHEME.

An average of twenty-eight men have been employed at gold-mining under the subsidized mining scheme in the Lake, Maniototo, Tuapeka, Vincent, Waihemo, and Wallace Counties, and an average of six men employed in Scheelite-mining at Glenorchy.

STONE-QUARRIES ACCIDENTS.

There were no fatal accidents at the stone-quarries during the year.

There were two serious non-fatal accidents whereby two persons were injured:—

The foreman of the Roslyn City Council Quarry was injured on the 4th March when he was barring down the quarry face. He tripped on the rock pile and fell, suffering a fracture of the small bone of left forearm and bruises.

A quarry worker and aerial-ropeway attendant at the Timaru Lime Co.'s quarry at Cave was injured on the 7th August through being hit by a piece of stone which slipped down the quarry face. He suffered a fracture of the right tibia and right fibula.

ANNEXURE B.

STONE-QUARRIES.

SUMMARY OF REPORT BY INSPECTOR OF QUARRIES FOR THE NORTH ISLAND.

(R. T. H. DALE.)

The following is the report for the year ending 31st December, 1941, for stone-quarries and tunnels worked in the North Island District under the Stone-quarries Act, 1910.

QUARRIES.

A total of 302 quarries employing 1,292 men was worked during the year ending 31st December, 1941, producing 1,655,494 tons of stone, valued in the quarries at £314,455.

In 1940, 276 quarries employing 1,200 men were worked, and 1,534,795 tons of stone, valued at £308,443, were produced.

The bulk of the stone quarried was obtained for roading purposes and construction work, 1,009,873 tons of hard stone being used in 1941 for these purposes, an increase of 72,831 tons as compared with the previous year.

Owing to a greater demand for lime products for agricultural purposes there has also been a substantial increase in the tonnage of limestone quarried.

During 1941, 586,246 tons of limestone was quarried, 319,894 tons being for agricultural purposes and 266,352 tons for the manufacture of cement, an increase of 102,358 tons and a decrease of 24,641 tons respectively as compared with the previous year. The production of soft stone used for miscellaneous purposes, including the manufacture of bricks, tiles, and pipes, decreased from 88,472 tons in 1940 to 55,320 tons in 1941.

TUNNELS.

No tunnelling has been carried out during the year ending 31st December, 1941.

ACCIDENTS.

One fatal and two serious accidents occurred in quarries during 1941.

Fatal Accident.

On 23rd January, George Broomfield, motor attendant at the Auckland City Council's quarry, Mount Eden, was pulled into a conveyor and crushed between the belt and a terminal roller. His injuries proved to be fatal.

Serious Accidents.

On 3rd February Paul Shaw, a mechanic employed at Winstone's quarry, Mount Wellington, was caught on a revolving shaft. He received serious injuries to his right arm, necessitating amputation.

On 28th July James Scott, quarry foreman, St. Helier's Quarry, fell from a bench to the quarry floor, a distance of 30 ft., receiving severe internal injuries.

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE STONE-QUARRIES ACT, 1910.

Four informations were laid during the year and convictions obtained on each information.

On 30th June a quarry foreman was convicted and ordered to pay costs for failing to make a written report of his daily inspection of the quarry, and was fined £5 with costs for storing detonators along with gelignite in the main magazine.

On 11th September a quarry occupier was convicted and ordered to pay costs for failing to give notice in writing of intention to renew the working of a quarry, and was fined £5 and costs for acting as quarry foreman without a certificate.