

QUARRY ACCIDENTS

The following is a summary of serious accidents during 1943 at quarries under the Stone-quarries Act :—

| Cause.                  | Number of Accidents. |          | Number of Sufferers. |                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|--------------------|
|                         | Fatal.               | Serious. | Killed.              | Seriously injured. |
| Haulage .. .. .         | ..                   | ..       | ..                   | ..                 |
| Machinery .. .. .       | ..                   | ..       | ..                   | ..                 |
| Explosives .. .. .      | 3                    | 1        | 4                    | 1                  |
| Falls of ground .. .. . | ..                   | 1        | ..                   | 1                  |
| Miscellaneous .. .. .   | ..                   | 1        | ..                   | 1                  |
| Totals .. .. .          | 3                    | 3        | 4                    | 3                  |

One fatal accident occurred in a North Island quarry during 1943, and there were two fatal accidents causing three deaths in South Island quarries. Of the three serious but non-fatal accidents which occurred during 1943, all were in North Island quarries.

STATE AID TO MINING

(1) SUBSIDIZED PROSPECTING

A total sum of £43,043 was advanced by way of subsidy, loan, or other form of financial assistance to companies and individuals engaged in prospecting and/or mining for gold, coal, and other minerals.

The Department has also undertaken surveys, prospecting, mining, and development work in selected areas at a cost of £9,506.

(2) GOVERNMENT PROSPECTING DRILLS

During the year the Department's drills were hired out on six occasions to various companies and parties. 234 holes were drilled for a footage of 14,572 ft.

(3) SUBSIDIZED ROADS TO MINING AREAS

The expenditure in the form of subsidies and direct grants upon roads and tracks to mining areas amounted to £621, as compared with £3,968 during the previous year.

LEGISLATION AFFECTING METALLIFEROUS MINES

There were no amendments to the Mining Act, 1926, during 1943, nor were any of the regulations under that Act amended.

I have, &c.,  
GEORGE DUGGAN,  
Inspecting Engineer of Mines.