

MINE ACCIDENTS

It is pleasing to note that during 1948 there were no fatalities and only one serious accident in or about metalliferous mines and dredges, at which 1,090 men were employed.

The serious accident occurred on a dredge in the West Coast District, a dredge hand receiving a fractured wrist while working a hand winch.

QUARRY ACCIDENTS

A satisfactory result is also shown for the year with regard to quarry accidents. There were no fatalities and only two serious accidents in quarries, though 2,127 men were employed.

In the Hauraki District a face worker while descending the face by means of a rope was struck on the elbow by a small piece of stone, lost his hold, and fell 10 ft., fracturing his thigh. He was wearing a safety-belt, which was detached for descent.

In the Northern District an employee at a quarry, while installing a crusher, was pinned by the frame when it slipped, and sustained a compound fracture of the leg, a fractured pelvis, and spinal injuries.

Cause of Accident.	Number of Accidents.		Number of Sufferers.	
	Fatal.	Serious.	Killed.	Seriously Injured.
Fall from face	..	1	..	1
Explosives	..	..	..	..
Falls of ground	..	..	..	..
Machinery	..	1	..	1
Haulage	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..
Totals	..	2	..	2

QUARRY OUTPUTS

	Northern.		Hauraki.		West Coast.		Southern.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Bentonite	..	..	624	4,462	..	..	..	..
Clay for bricks, &c.	94,097	12,865	2,875	865	1,850	1,088	60,307	22,391
Clay for pottery, &c.	2,974	4,397	..	..	595	824	13,833	11,051
Diatomite	42	91	..	..	..	..	61	52
Dolomite	..	..	..	..	6,912	3,456	..	..
Fuller's earth	68	200	..	..	..	..	..	..
Limestone for cement	246,586	37,983	..	..	90,567	5,413	80,507	25,058
Limestone for agriculture ..	331,285	138,516	1,119	1,120	38,017	12,678	719,878	321,395
Limestone for industry	23,282	18,643	..	..	6,409	1,705	38,637	7,845
Magnesite	..	..	..	..	540	370	..	..
Phosphate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pumice	6,863	4,955	..	..	..	..	..	..
Quartzite	..	..	..	..	26	26	..	..
Rock for harbour-works	..	..	250	75	..	..	62,809	10,558
Sand, gravel, &c., for roads and ballast	979,840	307,755	281,023	116,565	12,040	1,948	742,451	181,872
Sand, &c., for building aggregate ..	232,931	73,797	16,257	10,921	..	..	147,624	56,786
Serpentine	38,217	9,397	..	..	..	..	420	1,050
Silica sand	14,113	41,817	..	..	97	97	2,526	2,807
Dimension stone for building ..	..	..	50	225	..	..	22,269	34,155
Stonedust for mines	..	..	..	..	740	370	..	..
Totals	1,970,298	650,416	302,198	134,233	145,753	38,067	1,891,122	675,020

Number of men employed: Northern, 1,952; Hauraki, 233; West Coast, 111; Southern, 731.