

This scheme, which originated with the Miners' Phthisis Act, 1915, is administered by the Social Security Commission, and the following is a summary of the operations for the year ended 31st March, 1949 :—

	£
Payments from 1st November, 1915, to 31st March, 1948 ..	1,878,548
Payments from 1st April, 1948, to 31st March, 1949 ..	113,659
	<u>£1,992,207</u>

Number of new grants for the year 1948-49—

Males	15
Females (widows of miners)	10
	<u>25</u>

Number of benefits in force at 31st March, 1949—

Males	575
Females (widows of miners)	85
	<u>660</u>

Annual value of benefits in force at 31st March, 1949 £108,900

Dissection of benefits in force at 31st March, 1949—

Single miners	262
Married miners	313
Widows	85
	<u>660</u>

MEN EMPLOYED IN MINING AND QUARRYING

The table shows the numbers of men employed in each inspection district during 1948 and 1947 :—

	Inspection District.			Totals.	
	Northern (North Island).	West Coast (South Island).	Southern (South Island).	1948.	1947.
Gold, silver, and scheelite ..	459	434	165	1,058	1,191
Coal	2,156	2,490	936	5,582	5,442
Bentonite	7	..	..	7	4
Clays	69	14	57	140	119
Diatomite	..	..	1	1	2
Dolomite	..	4	..	4	7
Fuller's earth	..	..	..	..	1
Iron-ore	13	3	..	16	17
Limestone	212	79	271	562	621
Magnesite	..	2	..	2	3
Pumice	11	..	..	11	10
Quartzite	..	4	..	4	3
Rock, sand, &c.	1,020	32	391	1,443	1,361
Serpentine	7	..	2	9	8
Silica sand	5	1	10	16	9
Totals	3,959	3,063	1,833	8,855	8,798