

The following statement shows the value of New Zealand minerals (other than coal) exported from the 1st January, 1853, to the 31st December, 1924 :—

	1924.	1923.	Increase or Decrease.	Total from the 1st January, 1853, to the 31st December, 1924.
	£	£	£	£
Gold	551,788	698,583	Dec. 146,795	91,414,828
Silver	71,981	62,851	Inc. 9,130	2,904,651
Tungsten-ore	1,156	875	„ 281	301,870
Kauri-gum	443,576	596,222	Dec. 152,646	21,108,085
Manganese-ore	36	43	„ 7	61,994
Sand, lime, and building stone	7,625	13,609	„ 5,984	441,290
Other minerals	5,667	3,013	Inc. 2,654	
Totals	1,081,229	1,375,196	Dec. 293,967	116,232,718

II. PERSONS EMPLOYED.

The following statement shows the number of persons ordinarily employed in or about the metalliferous mines of the Dominion during the year :—

Classification.	Inspection District.			Total, 1924.
	Northern.	West Coast.	Southern.	
Gold, silver, and tungsten	963	535	332	1,830
Cinnabar	4	..	..	4
Ironstone	..	24	..	24
Totals for 1924	967	559	332	1,858
Totals for 1923	1,252	457	325	2,034

III. ACCIDENTS.

During 1924 three fatal and three serious but non-fatal accidents occurred in or about metalliferous mines, at which 1,858 persons were ordinarily employed.

Cause.	Fatal Accidents.		Serious Non-fatal Accidents.	
	Number of Separate Accidents.	Number of Deaths.	Number of Separate Accidents.	Number of Persons Injured.
Falls of ground	..	..	1	1
Explosives	..	..	1	1
Miscellaneous, on surface	2	2	..	..
Miscellaneous, underground	1	1	1	1
Totals	3	3	3	3

The following is a short description of the fatal accidents :—

On the 8th February Frederick Archer, aged 20 years, met his death by being crushed between the revolving screen and the distributing-box of the Rimu dredge. The screen was well fenced off. There was no eye-witness to the accident, but from the evidence it appears probable that deceased,