

19 'YARD VICTIMS SHARE £125,000

NINETEEN men employed in Devonport Dockyard will share about \$125,000 compensation because they have asbestosis — a lung disease caused by inhaling particles of asbestos.

The men's union, which took up their cases, says that a similar number are in the pipeline, and more are being discovered all this time.

Mr. Harold Lobb, secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union at Plymouth, said:

"The Treasury have now decided on compensation payments to 19 cases

"We aren't pleased that these men have asbestosis.

by KATIE DOYLE

but we are quite pleased with the amount of compensation paid.

"Many of the men cannot do a full day's work, so the amount is based on the expectation of life. One man, aged 67, has been awarded £3,000. Another, aged 50, has got £9,000."

Asbestosis prevents the natural expansion and contraction of the lungs and leads to progressively worse attacks of bronchitis and other chest ailments.

Occasionally asbestos particles cause lung and chest cavity cancers.

A special research unit has been set up in Devonport Dockyard to ensure the early detection of all asbestosis sufferers — and special filter masks and protection procedures are now used to protect dockyard workers.

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