

1943
NEW ZEALAND

STATE COAL-MINES

(REPORT ON THE WORKING OF) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1943

Prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 184 of the Coal-mines Act, 1925

REPORT ON SOUTH ISLAND STATE COAL-MINES

The DISTRICT MANAGER, State Coal-mines, Greymouth, to the UNDER-SECRETARY, Mines Department, Wellington.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the workings of the State coal-mines (South Island) for the year ended 31st March, 1943.

LIVERPOOL COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 165,837 tons 3 cwt., an increase of 2,038 tons 8 cwt. when compared with the figures for the previous year. After making allowances for stocks on hand and deducting mine consumption and waste, there remained for disposal 162,942 tons 9 cwt. 2 qr., which is accounted for as follows:—

					Tons	cwt.	qr.
Shipped	..	..	..	..	70,084	6	1
Railed Canterbury	..	..	..	..	34,386	1	2
Local sales	..	..	..	..	53,764	8	3
Mine sales	..	..	..	..	88	2	0
Sales to workmen, and free issues	..	..	..	..	1,592	1	3
Stock in bin and yard..	..	..	..	..	2,016	18	1
Stock on wharf	..	..	..	..	1,010	11	0
					162,942	9	2
Used on works	..	..	..	..	4,710	0	0
Waste	..	..	..	..	867	3	0
					168,519	12	2

The gross output from the colliery since its inception amounts to 3,789,882 tons 17 cwt.

Days Worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 235 days, an increase of 12 days when compared with the previous year. The possible working-days, including 13 back Saturdays, were 274. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, Labour Day; 2 days, dispute *re* horse-drivers; 1 day, dispute *re* late train; 5 days, shortage of transport; 1 day, dispute *re* preference of men going on coal; 1 day, slip on rope-road; 11 days, slips on railway; 1 day, wind damage; 1 day, power failure; 1 day, funeral of employee; 4 days, heavy rain; 8 days, Christmas holidays.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 303 men and 13 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 86; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 150. Surface: 67 men and 13 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with subsidies on railway tickets and cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £154,980, as compared with £138,426 for the previous year.

Coal-hewers' average daily earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 12s. 1d. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 8s. 6d., an increase of 4s. 6d. per day when compared with the previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 705 tons 14 cwt., and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 9 tons 1 cwt., as compared with 734 tons 10 cwt. and 9 tons 4 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £3 10s. 3d.

Accidents.—In addition to numerous accidents of a minor nature, one fatal and one serious accident occurred in the Liverpool Colliery:—

Fatal Accident: On 25th July, 1942, a miner was killed in the No. 2 bank, Morgan West section. Deceased was engaged trimming down loose coal when approximately 2 tons of coal fell from the rib-side, completely burying him, and inflicting injuries from which he died.

Serious Accident: On 28th October, 1942, a horse-driver sustained a fracture of the left leg through being struck by a piece of coal which fell from the rib-side. The accident occurred in the No. 2 Morgan West section.

Stone-dusting.—Work under this heading was continued during the year. The total number of samples taken from the Liverpool Colliery and analysed was 853. In addition, 116 samples from co-operative mines were analysed.

Underground Workings.—Morgan Seam: The major portion of the output from the Morgan seam was won from the extraction of pillars in Nos. 1, 2, and 3 banks, Morgan West; cross-cut No. 3, Morgan West; and Nos. 1, 3, 3½, and 4 banks, Morgan East. Development in the Morgan West cross-cut was carried on to the fault, and pillar-extraction has now been commenced. The Morgan East dip has been extended to a distance of 22 chains, and developing levels have been driven east and west off the main dip heading. A new compressed-air haulage winch has been installed, and as this is the principal development in the mine, arrangements have been made for the work to be carried out on two shifts. Machines are being used in this section with good results.

Fire Stoppings: All fire stoppings have been maintained in good order.

Kimbell and Anderson Seams.—Anderson Dip Section: Development is still being carried on this section, the seam remaining at a high inclination. The coal remains of a soft nature, and these places require careful timbering.

Kimbell East Section: All the coal is being won from pillar-extraction, very little work remaining to be done.

Kimbell West Dip: The coal is being won partly from solid work and partly from pillar-extraction. The solid places are developing in a southerly direction.

Dangerous Occurrence.—An indication of heating was experienced in No. 2 Morgan East on 18th November, 1942. The area was effectively sealed off before there were any signs of fire.

JAMES COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 29,529 tons 6 cwt., an increase of 3,955 tons 14 cwt. when compared with the figures for the previous year. After making allowance for stocks on hand and deducting mine consumption and waste, there remained for disposal 29,299 tons 5 cwt. 3 qr., which is accounted for as follows:—

						Tons	cwt.	qr.
Shipped	..	..	..	..	..	12,680	3	1
Railed Canterbury	..	..	..	..	..	14,409	13	1
Local sales	..	..	..	..	..	968	10	1
Mines sales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sales to workmen, and free issues	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Stock in bin and yard..	..	..	..	..	..	82	0	0
Stock on wharf	..	..	..	..	..	59	6	3
Stock on dump	..	..	..	..	..	1,099	12	1
						29,299	5	3
Used on works	..	..	..	..	..	84	0	0
Waste	..	..	..	..	..	675	6	0
						30,058	11	3

The gross output from the colliery since its inception amounts to 677,622 tons 7 cwt.

Days worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 256 days 4 hours, an increase of 15 days when compared with the previous year. The possible working-days, including 13 back Saturdays, were 274. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, Labour Day; 2 days, dispute *re* buses; 1 day, dispute *re* truckers; 1 day, funeral of employee; 4 hours, power failure; 2 days, slips on road; 8 days, Christmas holidays.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 39 men and 2 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 12; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 19. Surface: 8 men and 2 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with subsidies on bus fares and cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £25,929, as compared with £20,830 for the previous year.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 15s. 11d. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 9s. 2d., an increase of 17s. 6d. per day when compared with the previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 115 tons 2 cwt., and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 8 tons 11 cwt., as compared with 105 tons 16 cwt. and 6 tons 17 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—During the year no payments were made under the minimum-wage clause.

Accidents.—No serious accidents were reported at the James Colliery during the year.

Stone-dusting.—Work under this heading has been continued. The total number of samples taken from this colliery and analysed was 31.

Underground Workings.—All work in this mine was confined to splitting and extracting of pillar coal in the area north of Cannell Creek. Approximately only 5,000 tons to 6,000 tons of coal remains to be won from the James mine.

STRONGMAN COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 94,169 tons 16 cwt., an increase of 6,767 tons 6 cwt. when compared with the figures for the previous year. After making allowances for stocks on hand and deducting mine consumption and waste, there remained for disposal 97,232 tons 12 cwt. 3 qr., which is accounted for as follows:—

	Tons	cwt.	qr.
Shipped	47,988	18	2
Railed Canterbury	19,903	5	3
Local sales	23,441	6	2
Mine sales	113	7	0
Sales to workmen and free issues	2,228	4	2
Stock in bin and yard.. .. .	412	16	0
Stock on wharf	402	3	3
Stock on dump	2,742	10	3
	97,232	12	3
Used on works	414	0	0
Waste	1,575	16	0
	99,222	8	3

The gross output from this colliery since its inception amounts to 304,768 tons 12 cwt.

Days Worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 255 days 4 hours, an increase of 13 days 5 hours when compared with the previous year. The possible working-days, including 13 back Saturdays, were 274. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, Labour Day; 2 days, dispute *re* buses; 1 day, dispute *re* truckers; 1 day, funeral of employee; 1 day, 4 hours power failure; 2 days, slips on road; 8 days, Christmas holidays.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 183 men and 11 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 52; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 79. Surface: 52 men and 11 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with subsidies on bus fares and cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £103,185, as compared with £81,767 for the previous year. Capital expenditure was £14,583, as compared with £4,898 for the previous year.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 9s. 9d. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 4s. 7d., an increase of 4s. 5d. per day when compared with the previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 368 tons 11 cwt., and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 7 tons 10 cwt., as compared with 361 tons 7 cwt. and 7 tons 10 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £71 1s. 11d.

Accidents.—In addition to numerous accidents of a minor nature, one serious accident occurred at the Strongman Colliery, when a shotfirer sustained compound fractures of both bones of the left leg above the ankle through being struck by a piece of coal approximately 3 cwt. in weight. The accident occurred in the South No. 2 section on 8th September, 1942.

Stone-dusting.—Work under this heading has been continued during the year. The total number of samples taken from this colliery and analysed was 236.

Underground Workings.—Coal-winning operations have been confined to development in the solid, with a limited amount of head-coal work in the No. 1 North.

No. 1 North: Two main headings in the bottom seam advanced 25 chains in stony-coal, bands varying from 3 ft. 6 in. to 5 ft. in thickness. This section has deteriorated since the last report, but boreholes in Griffiths Creek about 11 chains ahead show 20 ft. to 23 ft. of clean coal.

East Dip: The east dip was opened out in excellent working-places.

No. 1 North Level: The four-a-time incline in the top seam was driven 16 chains, and the section narrowed between the juncture of the 90 ft. fault and another fault. Splitting of pillars and mining of head coal has been commenced in this section.

No. 2 South: This section advanced 20 chains from the rope-road, and an endless-rope haulage was installed. Development is being carried out in the No. 1 South dip.

East Heading: This section was stopped for the greater part of the year on the Docherty fault. During the latter portion of the year, regrading of the main heading has been carried out with the object of working the area between the Docherty and Bob faults.

North No. 2: This section advanced a total of 22 chains from the rope-road. Development is still being carried on.

Plant.—During the year the plant has been maintained in good order, and a new 765 cubic feet Fullerton, Hodgart, and Barclay compressor installed, also a 110,000-cubic-feet-capacity "Aerex" torpedo-type fan.

BLACKBALL COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 34,527 tons 2 cwt. After making allowances for stocks on hand, deducting mine consumption, and allowing for 1,700 tons written off, there remained for disposal 35,821 tons 16 cwt., which is accounted for as follows:—

	Tons	cwt.	qr.
Shipped	16,400	17	0
Railed Canterbury	5,147	14	0
Local Sales	8,212	11	0
Mine sales	384	10	0
Sales to workmen, and free issues	657	0	0
Stock in bin and yard	4,823	12	0
Stock on wharf	195	12	0
	35,821	16	0
Used on works	227	2	0
	36,048	18	0

The gross output from this colliery since it was taken over by the State Coal-mines amounts to 60,477 tons 5 cwt.

Days Worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 212 days. The possible working-days, including 4 back Saturdays, were 265. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, Labour Day; 3 days, flooding in mine; 3 days, retimbering of roadways; 36 days, bins full due lack of transport; 8 days, Christmas holidays.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 83 men and 4 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 27; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 33. Surface: 23 men and 4 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £48,250.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 8s. 7d., and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 4s. 7d., an increase of 5s. 4d. per day when compared with the previous period (7th July, 1941, to 31st March, 1942).

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 162 tons 17 cwt., and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 7 tons 11 cwt., as compared with 175 tons 7 cwt. and 5 tons 19 cwt. respectively for the previous period (from 7th July, 1941, to 31st March, 1942).

Deficiencies.—During the year no payments were made under the minimum-wage clause.

Accidents.—There were no accidents of a serious nature at the Blackball Colliery during the year.

Underground Workings.—All the coal has been won from development work.

Main Dip Section.—The main dip has been continued to a distance of 38 chains from the mine entrance. The latter portion of this has been in very troubled country, in one place the coal "pinching" to 3 ft. in thickness. The dip is being continued.

No. 2 North: This section was developed to a distance of 6 chains from the main dip, and stopped temporarily.

No. 2 South: This section was developed to a distance of 7 chains from the main dip.

Borehole dip: This dip section is being developed in the direction of No. 4 borehole.

During the year a borehole 12 in. in diameter was commenced from the surface for the purpose of pumping, and it is proposed to connect this to the seam on the rise side of No. 2 South level.

Flooding.—On 14th July, 1942, water broke in in large quantities in No. 1 North resulting in the mine being idle for several days. Fortunately the water was soon under control.

WALLSEND COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—This colliery was taken over by the State Coal-mines on 22nd February, 1943, and the gross output from that date to 31st March, 1943, was 6,883 tons 9 cwt. 2 qr. After making allowances for stocks on hand at the date of taking over and deducting

mine consumption and waste, there remained for disposal 7,241 tons, which is accounted for as follows:—

	Tons	cwt.	qr.
Shipped	2,509	10	0
Railed Canterbury	50	12	0
Local sales	3,314	2	0
Mine sales	2	10	0
Sales to workmen, and free issues	41	0	0
Stock in bin and yard	693	15	0
Stock on wharf	629	11	0
	7,241	0	0
Used on works	268	0	0
Waste	174	9	2
	7,683	9	2

Days Worked.—During the period 22nd February to 31st March, 1943, the colliery worked on 28 days, which were the possible working-days.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 163 men and 1 boy, made up as follows—Underground: coal-hewers, 47; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 91. Surface: 25 men and 1 boy.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £7,627.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 5s. 10d. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 3s. 2d.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 245 tons 17 cwt., and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 7 tons 12 cwt.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £6 9s. 5d.

Accidents.—There were no accidents of a serious nature at the Wallsend Colliery during the period.

Underground Workings.—The major portion of the coal is being won from developing places.

Slant Dip Section: The work in one portion of this section is development in the direction of the Taylorsville fault. In the other portion pillars are being split.

No. 2 Slant Dip: All development work in this section is being carried out in an area parallel to the fault which was struck in the dip workings. It is proposed to prospect this fault by driving and boring.

B Panel: Coal is being won from this section by splitting pillars.

Plant.—Since the colliery was taken over by the State Coal-mines a new electric haulage winch has been installed at the top of the dip extension, and a new "Cameron" pump has been installed as a water-supply pump for boilers and compressors.

DOBSON COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—This colliery was taken over by the State Coal-mines on 22nd February, 1943, and the gross output from that date to 31st March, 1943, was 7,081 tons 7 cwt. After making allowances for stocks on hand at the date of taking over and deducting mine consumption and waste, there remained for disposal 7,482 tons 19 cwt. 2 qr., which is accounted for as follows:—

	Tons	cwt.	qr.
Shipped	2,767	13	0
Railed Canterbury	1,677	4	0
Local sales	1,326	14	0
Mine Sales	58	7	0
Sales to workmen, and free issues	49	4	0
Stock in bin and yard	949	9	2
Stock on wharf	654	8	0
	7,482	19	2
Used on works	31	10	2
Waste	136	13	0
	7,651	3	0

Days worked.—During the period 22nd February to 31st March, 1943, the colliery worked on 28 days, which were the possible working days.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 166 men and 5 boys made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 55; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 86. Surface: 25 men and 5 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £8,724.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 6s. 6d. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 4s. 9d.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 252 tons 18 cwt., and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 5 tons 7 cwt.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £19 8s. 1d.

Accidents.—There were no serious accidents at the Dobson Colliery during the period.

Underground Workings.—All the coal in this mine is being won from developing places.

Main Dip Section: The main dip section is being developed on double shift with the object of making more pit room for the miners employed.

No. 5 East Level Section: Two dips are being developed on the low side of this level.

No. 4 West Level Section: All places are developing in very hard coal which is very difficult to mine. It is proposed to introduce machine-mining into this section at some later date.

No. 4 Dip: Four places developing.

No. 4 East: Three pairs completing the development of a small block of coal in this section.

The main dip endless haulage rope has been extended from the No. 4 to the No. 5 main level. Coal cannot be hauled by this rope from the No. 5 level until the laybys have been completed.

Plant.—The plant generally has been maintained in good working-order.

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J. HADGROFT, District Manager.

REPORT ON THE NORTH ISLAND STATE COAL-MINES

The DISTRICT MANAGER, State Coal-mines, Mangapehi, to the UNDER-SECRETARY Mines Department, Wellington

17th April, 1943.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit my report on the working of the State coal-mines (North Island) for the year ended 31st March, 1943.

MANGAPEHI COLLIERY

Output.—The gross output for the year was 52,031 tons 5 cwt., an increase of 11,205 tons on the previous year, and after deducting mine consumption and waste and allowing for stock in bin and surplus stock taken on charge there remained for disposal 50,975 tons 14 cwt., which is accounted for as follows:—

	House.	Kitchen.	Slack.	Total.
	Tons. cwt. qr.	Tons. cwt. qr.	Tons. cwt. qr.	Tons. cwt. qr.
Sales to Railways Department	7 1 0	14,711 12 0	..	14,718 13 0
Sales to depot and local sales ..	9,000 13 0	2,828 5 0	23,929 10 0	35,758 8 0
Mine sales	62 18 0	26 0 0	22 0 0	110 18 0
Sales to workmen, and free issues	302 15 0	..	..	302 15 0
Stock in bin .. .. .	..	..	85 0 0	85 0 0
	9,373 7 0	17,565 17 0	24,036 10 0	50,975 14 0
Unscreened—				
Used on works .. .. .	..	..	..	480 0 0
Waste .. .. .	..	..	..	666 17 3
Totals	9,373 7 0	17,565 17 0	24,036 10 0	52,122 11 3

The total output from the colliery since it has been taken over by the State Coal-mines is 105,996 tons 10 cwt.

During the year the mine worked on 244 days 7 hours out of a possible 275, including 14 back Saturdays. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 4 days 5 hours, union meetings; 6 hours shortage of railway wagons; 1 day, power failure; 1½ days, dispute with truckers; 5 hours, no boxes; 8 days, Waikato strike; 1 day, stoppage *re* foot disease; 5 hours, breakdown in haulage; 6 hours, smash on jig; 2 hours, no drinking water; 8 days, Christmas holidays; 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, Labour Day.

Employees.—The total number of employees at the beginning of the year was 74 men and 3 boys, but this was gradually increased, and at the 31st March, there were employed in and about the mine, 107 men and 4 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 30; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 57. Surface: 20 men and 4 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with the subsidy on bus fares and the cost of fuel used on works and electric power, amounted to £44,481.

Coal-hewers' Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings were (gross) £2 7s. 4d., and after deducting stores (explosives) 4s. 4d., their net return was £2 3s., an increase of 1s. 4d. per day when compared with the previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 212 tons 10 cwt., and the average daily output per coal-hewer was 8 tons 3 cwt., as compared with 173 tons 15 cwt. and 8 tons 5 cwt. for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was 7s. 8d.

Accidents.—During the year there were several minor accidents, but none of a serious nature.

Mine Workings.—Development has been to the east and west of the main dip. Most of the output was obtained from Nos. 1 and 2 panels to the rise off the upper east level and from the lower west level (after piercing the fault) and a rise panel off this level.

Early in the year a rise panel off the upper west level was cut off (to the rise) by an abrupt stone face. Later the No. 1 panel (east upper level) reached a predetermined point. Some four months later the winning of the top coal from this area commenced and is being continued, while further solid work in the south-east corner of this panel is being done, as a survey of the creek course revealed a larger workable area than was anticipated.

Development in the lower east level ceased about August, the intention being to group the workmen until such time as the main dip haulage roadway could be roof-brushed. This work, together with the brushing and cleaning up of the lower dip area, has been attended to, and the opening of No. 1 panel off the lower east level will soon be commenced. Faults have been met to the east, west, and south, and although that met to the south (to the rise of No. 2 panel, upper east level) has been proved by driving and boring, the workable area here is limited.

In the upper east levels a 12 ft. downthrow fault was crossed, but a further downthrow of a similar displacement was met and work has temporarily ceased.

Faulting has also been pierced in the lower west level. After driving in good coal for about 5 chains, further trouble in the form of upward steps and mushy coal was encountered. From experience in the bords proceeding west to the rise, prospects in this direction are by no means encouraging, and any further prospecting would be better undertaken from the lower main dip, which has recently been unwatered. Brushing of the return airway where floor heave was very pronounced was done for over eight months; then roof-brushing and arching of the lower 16 chains of the main haulage roadway and adjacent haulage levels was commenced, and is about completed.

The endless-rope haulage, upper east level, has been improved and extended, the rolling-stock has been increased, and an empty tub creeper installed on the surface. The railway siding has been extended on the full side 7 chains, and duplicated to enable despatches to be made to north and south. The empty truck siding has been extended 5 chains and a shunt formed for unloading material. The loading-bank has been flood-lit, repaired, and cross-braced.

Boring.—Progress has not been satisfactory, and the No. 4 bore, which encountered greywacke was stopped at 670 ft. A start on the second series of holes was delayed until 30 chains of road could be constructed through the bush to the proposed site of No. 5 bore. Considerable delay in securing a bulldozer, breakdowns, and continued wet weather made the transport of the 7-ton boiler impossible, while boring difficulties, combined with faults, have been experienced.

A fractured rod and the loss of the lower 180 ft. of rods caused a temporary cessation of drilling of the No. 5 bore at a depth of 869 feet. Various recovery methods have so far been unsuccessful.

Housing Accommodation.—A further forty-three houses and a hostel have been erected, while 36 chains of roadway has been formed to provide access.

A water scheme has been completed and high-pressure water connected to all the houses. Sewerage mains have been completed, and the septic-tank and pumping equipment are now being installed.

TATU COLLIERY

Output.—The gross output for the year was 29,619 tons 16 cwt., an increase of 12,525 tons 7 cwt. when compared with the figures for the previous year. After making allowances for stocks on hand and deducting mine consumption and waste, there remained for disposal 24,499 tons 11 cwt., which is accounted for as follows:—

					Tons	cwt.	qr.
Sales to Railways Department	..	..	..	..	7,738	1	0
Sales to depot	..	..	..	..	15,087	6	0
Mine sales	..	..	..	..	1,168	8	0
Sales to workmen, and free issues	..	..	..	..	342	8	0
Stock in bin	..	..	..	..	163	8	0
					24,499	11	0
Used on works	..	..	..	..	3,802	0	0
Waste	..	..	..	..	1,378	5	0
					29,679	16	0

The gross output from the colliery since its inception amounts to 47,280 tons 5 cwt.

Days Worked.—During the year the colliery worked 255½ days, the possible being 272, including 16 back Saturdays, on which day shift only was worked. These have been counted as half-days in computing the time worked. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1½ days, breakdown

of winch; 1 day, aerial breakdown; $\frac{1}{2}$ day, union meeting; $\frac{1}{2}$ day, shortage of railway wagons; 9 days, Christmas holidays; 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, May Day; 1 day, Labour Day.

Employees.—The number of employees engaged in and about the mine was 88, made up as follows: Hewers, 24; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 24; others, 40.

Earnings.—The coal-hewers' daily net earnings were £2 2s. 6d., an increase of 4s. 8d. a day over the previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 115 tons 18 cwt., and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 6 tons 4 cwt.

Deficiencies.—There were no payments under the minimum wage clause during the year.

Accidents.—While there were numerous accidents of a minor nature during the year, there were no fatal accidents, neither were there any that could be classed as serious.

Mine Workings.—After the north-west headings had crossed the 40 ft. upthrow fault and had been extended another 9 chains the seam flattened in grade. Then it dipped in the main heading, which afterwards entered very faulted country, but the companion heading continued normally and is skirting the troubled area. For about $\frac{1}{2}$ chain the north-west heading was driven altogether in stone, as the seam was missing as if in a "wash out." Later, however, the measures met in this heading showed definite faulting. After continuing in this faulted zone for 165 ft. the measures dipped abruptly and another fault was met, and the heading was stopped. The back heading and a third heading which is also skirting the troubled area are being extended. The places to the north off the north-west heading have met the upthrow fault which was crossed in the main drive, but the throw of the fault had increased.

The No. 1 panel headings have been continued beyond the panel area. Development in line with the main tunnel has been undertaken back towards the 40 ft. fault (here reduced in displacement to 22 ft.) and also to the dip, where a total distance on this bearing of upwards of 14 chains has been driven. This pair of headings is advancing satisfactorily, with places opening out to the south and north; but the area to the south will, for a time, be restricted by the Cunningham fault, while places driven to the north are steepening. It appears that this pair of headings is at present skirting a depression which lies to the north and probably extends to the trouble experienced in the north-west heading. The seam in the No. 1 panel (prior to the troubled areas being encountered) was opening out well, being from 7 ft. to 8 ft. in thickness with very moderate inclination and fairly good roof. The troubled areas, with considerably increased grades and wet places, required extra pumping and haulage gear, and a second boiler and another compressor had to be installed. The enlarging of the return aircourse which had been driven small through the fault, and the reconditioning of the airway where excessive floor heave had taken place, has involved a considerable amount of deadwork.

Preparations are now being made to brush and recondition the lower part of the main tunnel heading and pierce this fault to connect with the south-west headings now being driven in line beyond the fault.

During the year the loco-type boiler was transported from Mangapahi and installed at Tatu Mine, and although this gave improved power, the extra haulages and pumps necessary to deal with the troubled conditions soon exceeded the compressor capacity, and a high-speed Diesel-driven compressor had to be installed to meet the continually changing underground conditions.

The accommodation problem at Tatu and Ohura has been acute and has resulted in a shortage of men.

In April inflammable gas was discovered in the mine and preparations made for the installation of electric safety-lamps. The places exuding gas were sealed off until the safety-lamps were available.

With the increasing output, overtime had to be worked on the aerial ropeway, but towards the end of 1942 some of the one hundred ropeway buckets made by Price's Foundry, Thames, arrived, and these extra buckets have enabled the ropeway to be clothed more uniformly, and eliminated overtime and, to some extent, ropeway troubles.

During the year a number of aerial towers have been repaired, while two of the wooden ones have been replaced by steel towers. Repairs to screening plant and to ropeway engine have been carried out, the mine rolling-stock has been more than doubled, and a tippler has been erected in the mine bin.

Mine Buildings.—In addition to shelters and the roofing of upper bins and temporary workshop, the following permanent buildings have been erected: Mine bath-house and lamp cabin at the mine, and mine store, and a house-coal bin of 20-ton capacity.

Housing. A further six residences, making a total of eight, have been erected in Ohura, and assistance given to seven workmen to purchase residences.

A township at Tatu has been surveyed, sections bulldozed, and roads formed, and the contractor has fourteen of the twenty residences which he has to build well advanced. The eleven Public Works Department three-roomed hutments will soon be available for single men.

Surveys of the Mangaparo siding have been completed, and bulldozing will soon commence.

The survey of the aerial ropeway and the proposed Heao Saddle tunnel has also been completed.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE SMITH, District Manager.

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES
COLLIERY SALES ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1943

Dr.	LIVER- POOL.	JAMES.	STRONG- MAN.	DOBSON.	BLACK- BALL.	MANGA- PEHL.	Cr.	LIVER- POOL.	JAMES.	STRONG- MAN.	DOBSON.	BLACK- BALL.	MANGA- PEHL.
Railway haulage ..	£ 14,195	£ 1,882	£ 14,618	£ 1,113	£ 3,843	£ 7,375	Subsidy and sales of coal f.o.r., c. and f., and f.o.b.	£ 233,434	£ 45,311	£ 167,926	£ 9,909	£ 43,239	£ 58,304
Wharfage ..	3,054	480	1,494	39	643	..							
Special rate ..	872	137	427	11	185	..							
Marine freight ..	45,665	10,674	35,397	1,427	8,883	..							
Working Account : Coal sales net f.o.r.	63,786 169,648 233,434	13,173 32,138 45,311	51,936 115,990 167,926	2,590 7,319 9,909	13,554 29,685 43,239	7,375 50,929 58,304							

COLLIERY WORKING ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1943

Dr.	LIVER- POOL.	JAMES.	STRONG- MAN.	DOBSON.	BLACK- BALL.	MANGA- PEHL.	Cr.	LIVER- POOL.	JAMES.	STRONG- MAN.	DOBSON.	BLACK- BALL.	MANGA- PEHL.
Stocks on hand, 1st April, 1942..	£ 3,052	£ 65	£ 1,427	£ ..	£ 1,172	£ ..	Sales Account : Sales of coal f.o.r. Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1943, at mine, wharf, and afloat as per Stock Account	£ 169,648 2,695	£ 32,138 59	£ 115,990 1,263	£ 7,319 2,015	£ 29,685 1,260	£ 50,929 59
Coal winning—													
Wages ..	125,776	21,350	80,645	6,403	32,832	36,457							
Stores and materials ..	11,787	869	9,353	579	5,284	3,257							
Rail and bus fares ..	978	253	2,338	..	..	407							
Coal purchased ..	18	9	82	502	..	..					
Electric power ..	1,405	86	2,103	502	3,754	785							
Gross profit : To Profit and Loss Account	143,016 29,327 172,343	22,632 9,555 32,197	95,948 21,395 117,233	7,983 1,348 9,334	43,042 .. 43,042	40,906 10,982 50,988	Gross Loss : To Profit and Loss Account	172,343 .. 172,343	32,197 .. 32,197	117,253 .. 117,253	9,334 .. 9,334	30,945 12,097 43,042	50,988 .. 50,988

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—continued
COLLIERY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1943

Dr.	LIVER- POOL.	JAMES.	STRONG- MAN.	DOBSON.	BLACK- BALL.	MANGA- PEHL.	Cr.	LIVER- POOL.	JAMES.	STRONG- MAN.	DOBSON.	BLACK- BALL.	MANGA- PEHL.
Loss on working ..	£ ..	£ ..	£ ..	£ ..	£ ..	£ ..	Gross profit at mine ..	£ 29,327	£ 9,565	£ 21,305	£ 1,348	£ ..	£ 10,082
Rents ..	..	39	122	..	12,097	..	Rents, &c. ..	279	..	..	3	1,924	1,434
Travelling-expenses ..	153	28	89	3	33	216	Net loss: Transferred to General	..	..	..	456	19,497	..
Printing and stationery ..	86	15	50	2	18	26	Profit and Loss Account	..	..	..	..	..	..
Repairs and maintenance ..	6,048	564	3,824	477	4,111	1,037							
Telegrams and postages ..	466	84	270	11	99	143							
Insurance ..	6,962	1,126	4,409	422	2,208	2,227							
Coal Miners' Relief Fund ..	344	59	195	14	68	107							
General expenses ..	1,177	111	366	26	216	373							
Audit fees ..	80	14	45	..	17	16							
Superannuation Fund subsidy ..	50	8	25	..	6	12							
Depreciation ..	5,613	636	6,276	371	1,177	1,935							
Rescue-station levy ..	332	58	189	..	71	..							
Advertising ..	29	5	17	1	6	9							
Salaries ..	3,298	603	1,912	164	1,294	1,427							
Rates ..	..	..	..	94	..	..					
Royalty ..	..	..	..	222	..	..					
Bad Debts Reserve ..	..	..	..	..	..	20							
Net profit: Transferred to General Profit and Loss Account	24,638 4,968 29,606	3,350 6,215 9,565	17,789 3,516 21,305	1,807 .. 1,807	21,421 .. 21,421	7,548 3,968 11,516		29,606	9,565	21,305	1,807	21,421	11,516

MACDONALD COLLIERY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1943

Dr.	Cr.
Depreciation ..	£ 200
Net profit: Transferred to General Profit and Loss Account	.. 5,877
	<u>£6,077</u>

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—continued
DEPOT TRADING ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1943

Dr.	WELLINGTON.	CHRISTCHURCH.	Cr.	WELLINGTON.	CHRISTCHURCH.
Stocks on hand at 1st April, 1942	£ 3,013	£ 8,715	Sales of coal	£ 372,641	£ 104,166
Purchases of coal	347,937	75,396	Sales of coke, wood, &c.	17,960	4,157
Purchases of wood, coke, &c.	15,513	3,181	Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1943—		
Wharfage and freights	2,598	11	Coal	1,210	5,786
Haulage to depot	3,364	16,697	Wood, coke, &c.	231	192
Wages : Discharging	159	493			
Gross profit : To Profit and Loss Account	19,458	9,808			
	392,042	114,301		392,042	114,301

DEPOT PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1943

Dr.	WELLINGTON.	CHRISTCHURCH.	WANGANUI.	Cr.	WELLINGTON.	CHRISTCHURCH.	WANGANUI.
Advertising	£ 36	£ 36	£ ..	Trading accounts : Gross profit	£ 19,458	£ 9,808	£ ..
Wages : Yard	1,954	2,118	..	Sacks .. .. .	..	109	..
Salaries	2,571	1,675	..	Rents .. .. .	..	..	30
Rents	632	59	..				
Travelling-expenses	8	20	..				
Repairs and maintenance	522	596	..				
Postages and telegrams	151	172	..				
Printing and stationery	80	66	..				
Insurance	62	67	3				
Cartage	3,916	2,122	..				
Sacks	335	..	..		
General expenses	753	117	..				
Audit fees	144	62	..				
Superannuation Fund subsidy	5	8	..				
Reserve for bad debts	69	..	..		
Rates	32	..	..		
Depreciation	669	465	10				
Net profit : To General Profit and Loss Account	7,519	2,334	17				
	19,458	9,917	30		19,458	9,917	30

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—*continued*

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
Net Loss, 1942-43—	£	Net profit, 1942-43—	£
Dobson Colliery	456	Liverpool Colliery	4,968
Blackball Colliery	19,497	James Colliery	6,215
	19,953	Strongman Colliery	3,516
Runanga Water-supply Scheme	1,000	Mangapehi Colliery	3,968
Interest on loans	12,573	MacDonald Colliery	4,653
Balance: Net profit for year carried down	4,079	Wellington Depot	7,519
		Christchurch Depot	2,334
		Wanganui Depot	17
			33,190
		Net recoveries—	
		Seddonville Colliery	27
		Royalties	4,088
			4,115
		Net revenue from hire of plant, buildings, &c.	300
	£37,605		£37,605

PROFIT AND LOSS APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
Taxation reserve for income and other taxes	£ 7,107	Net profit for year 1942-43	£ 4,079
Sinking Fund Account for redemption loan capital	14,324	Transfer from General Reserve	17,352
	£21,431		£21,431

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1943

<i>Liabilities</i>		<i>Assets</i>	
Loan capital: Securities at 4 per cent.	£ 536,967	Collieries—	£
Accrued interest on loan capital	1,809	Development and Property Accounts	261,483
Sundry creditors—	£	Machinery, plant, ropes, and rolling-stock	157,279
South Island collieries	68,204	Electrical plant	1,101
North Island collieries	18,300	Buildings at mines	67,889
Christchurch Depot	3,738	Cottages at mines	90,718
Wellington Depot	14,655	Plantation at mines	631
	104,897	Coal stocks (bins, wharf, and afloat)	7,501
Deposits on contracts	1,640	Stores on hand	87,581
Excess receipts over expenditure: Wallsend Colliery	2,088		674,183
Sinking Fund	14,324	Less provisionally written off	90
Reserves—			674,093
General Reserve	233,650	Prospecting on State coal reserve	6,001
Accident Insurance Reserve	25,412	Plant, equipment, &c., on hire	1,956
Bad Debts Reserve	2,025	Less provisionally written off	10
Taxation Reserve	7,013		1,946
	268,100	Depots—	
		Property Accounts	13,361
		Stocks and stores on hand	10,100
			23,461
		Less provisionally written off	2,106
			21,355
		Sinking Fund investments	14,324
		Housing advances to workmen	54,215
		Interest accrued and due	462
			54,677
		Miscellaneous advances	6,175
		Sundry debtors—	
		South Island collieries	39,845
		North Island collieries	3,314
		MacDonald Colliery	1,366
		Wellington Depot	64,761
		Christchurch Depot	10,952
			120,238
		Less provisionally written off	68
			120,170
		Cash in Receiver-General's Deposit Account	1,640
		Cash in Public Account	29,444
	£929,825		£929,825

State Coal-mines Office, Wellington C. 1,
M. L. THOMAS, Accountant.

P. C. WEBB, Minister of Mines.

I hereby certify that the attached Working and Profit and Loss Accounts of Depots and Collieries, General Profit and Loss Account, and Balance-sheet have been duly examined and compared with the relative books and documents submitted for audit, and correctly state the position as disclosed thereby.—CYRIL G. COLLINS, Controller and Auditor-General.

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—*continued*
STATEMENT OF PROPERTY ACCOUNTS AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1943

	LIVERPOOL.	JAMES.	STRONGMAN.	BLACKBALL.	DOBSON.	MANGAPEHI.	TATU.	MACDONALD.	TOTAL.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Development and Property Account	28,773	1,546	116,033	614	26,129	3,516	44,509	40,363	261,483
Electrical Plant Account	..	1,101	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,101
Machinery, plant, ropes, and rolling-stock	..	824	48,355	17,559	30,045	13,982	20,911	..	157,279
Buildings at mine	..	268	34,882	2,949	11,124	8,127	6,436	..	67,889
Cottages at mine	..	..	..	4,302	3,560	62,938	7,958	..	90,718
Plantations at mine	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	612	631
Coal (stock on hand at mine wharf and afloat)	..	59	1,263	1,260	2,016	81	127	..	7,501
Stores (stock on hand)	7,915	8,467	6,435	87,581
	137,917	3,798	200,533	34,599	81,341	95,079	79,941	40,975	674,183

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