

A comparative statement for the last two financial years is shown hereunder :—

Mine.	Output 1944-45.		Output 1943-44.		Percentage Increase in Gross Output.	Percentage Increase in Net Output.
	Gross.	Net.	Gross.	Net.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		
Liverpool	121,728	116,670	135,260	131,010	-10.0	-10.94
Strongman	107,114	105,589	105,701	104,270	+ 1.34	+ 1.26
James*	7,057	7,057	12,003	11,813	-44.72	-43.83
Blackball	57,836	56,815	45,029	44,315	+28.44	+28.2
Mangapehi	60,930	59,040	70,929	69,442	-14.1	-14.98
Tatu	31,409	27,426	28,949	22,852	+ 8.5	+20.01
Wallsend	57,505	54,688	58,742	55,284	- 2.1	- 1.08
Dobson	61,461	60,373	61,876	60,656	- 0.67	- 0.46
Stockton	108,953	103,591	..	..	..	..
Mossbank	11,819	9,664	..	..	..	..
Wilton	33,634	32,014	..	..	..	..
Wairaki	12,836	11,385	..	..	..	..
Glen Afton Opencast ..	12,029	12,029	6,176	6,175	+94.77	+94.8
Kimihia Opencast ..	47,871	47,871	..	..	..	..
Beehive Opencast ..	4,009	4,009	..	..	..	..
Kemps Opencast ..	6,874	6,874	..	..	..	..
Ohai Opencast ..	704	704	..	..	..	..
Waitewhena Opencast ..	18,884	18,884	..	..	..	..
Totals	762,231	734,261	524,665	505,817	..	..

NOTE.—The difference between the gross and net output is accounted for by waste and mine consumption.
* Slack raised from dump. Colliery ceased operations on 23rd July, 1943.

The following table shows the total sale of State coal from the State mines as compared with the previous year, and the average f.o.r. price realized by each mine exclusive of subsidy :—

Mine.	Total Sales, 1944-45.	Total Sales, 1943-44.	Percentage Variation.	Average Price f.o.r. realized.	
	Tons.	Tons.		s.	d.
Liverpool	114,675	131,015	-12.47	19	3.77
Strongman	106,071	102,798	+ 3.18	24	8.40
James	7,057	12,519	-43.63	6	0.12
Blackball	55,850	44,559	+25.34	17	3.21
Mangapehi	59,068	69,391	-14.87	20	6.84
Tatu	27,301	22,893	+19.25	21	9.43
Wallsend	52,879	56,375	- 6.2	21	7.30
Dobson	59,343	60,720	- 2.26	23	3.53
Stockton	98,567	..	..	20	7.81
Mossbank	9,655	..	..	19	7.68
Wilton	32,011	..	..	19	11.81
Wairaki	11,385	..	..	18	3.76
Glen Afton Opencast ..	12,029	6,175	+94.8	24	4.94
Kimihia Opencast ..	47,871	..	..	25	11.86
Beehive Opencast ..	4,009	..	..	24	8.33
Kemps Opencast ..	6,874	..	..	19	4.61
Ohai Opencast ..	704	..	..	22	4.80
Waitewhena Opencast ..	18,884	..	..	29	3.00
Totals	724,233	506,445	+43.01	..	..

CO-OPERATIVE MINING, STATE COAL RESERVE

Eighteen co-operative parties working portions of the State Coal Reserve near Greymouth produced during the year 1944 95,946 tons, the number of men employed being 137. During the previous year the same number of parties produced 97,995 tons.
Up to the end of 1944 co-operative parties have produced a grand total of 1,907,135 tons of coal and have in the same period paid royalties to the State amounting to £91,373.

RESCUE STATIONS

The three mines rescue stations at Dobson, Rotowaro, and Ohai continue to function satisfactorily, and full advantage is being taken of them by the management of coal-mines where heating or underground fires occur.
A contract has been let for another mines rescue station which is to be built at Granity. This building will be almost identical in design to those at Rotowaro and Ohai, and will serve the mines from Seddonville to Denniston.
Since inception, 196 certificates of proficiency have been issued to trainees of stations.