

The MANAGER, Wairaki State Mine, Ohai, to the UNDER-SECRETARY, Mines Department,
Wellington

SIR,—

14th June, 1946.

I have the honour to submit my report on the workings of the Wairaki State Colliery for the year 1st April, 1945, to the 31st March, 1946.

WAIRAKI COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 68,425 tons 5 cwt. After allowing for waste (1,959 tons 14 cwt.) and the quantity used on works (3,122 tons 16 cwt.), there remained for disposal a net output of 63,342 tons 15 cwt.

The following statement shows details of coal disposed of during the year:—

1st April, 1945—				Tons cwt. qr.	
Stocks in yard	..	..	..	Nil	
Add net output for year	..	..	..	63,342	15 0
31st March, 1946—					
Less stock in yard	..	..	..	Nil	
Total disposed of				63,342	15 0

Disposals

				Tons cwt. qr.	
Railed	..	..	..	60,434	8 0
Local and mine sales	..	..	..	2,424	3 0
Workmen and free issues	..	..	..	484	4 0
				63,342	15 0

The gross output from the colliery since operated by the State totals 81,261 tons 6 cwt. 3 qr.

Days worked.—The Wairaki Colliery worked 235 days out of a possible 242 ordinary working-days. In addition, the colliery worked 12 back Saturdays and 6 statutory holidays, making the total days worked 253. The difference between the days worked and the possible number of ordinary working-days is accounted for as follows: 2 days, dispute *re* travelling-time; 1 day, funeral of a member of Miners' Union; 1 day, VE celebrations; 2 days, VJ celebrations; 1 day, Easter Tuesday.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 97 men and 3 boys, made up as follows—Underground: coal-hewers, 36; deputies, 5; shiftmen and truckers, 28. Surface: 28 men and 3 boys.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 270 tons 9 cwt. and the coal-hewers average daily output was 8 tons 2 cwt., as compared with 273 tons 2 cwt. and 8 tons 16 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—No payments were made under the minimum-wage clause.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £3 2s. 6d., and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 17s. 7d., an increase of 5s. 2d. per day when compared with the previous year.

Accidents.—Only a few minor accidents occurred during the year under review.

Stone-dusting.—This work was done regularly throughout the year.

Underground Workings.—The output was obtained from the dip pillars being extracted below No. 2 East level in No. 1 Mine and solid workings in No. 3 Mine.

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

Dangerous Heatings.—Two minor heatings were effectively sealed off.

I have, &c.,

T. YOUNG, Manager.