

TATU COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 32,572 tons 16 cwt., a increase of 1,163 tons 8 cwt. when compared with the figures of the previous year. After allowing for waste (1,244 tons 2 cwt.) and the quantity of coal used on works (349 tons 6 cwt.), there remained for disposal a net output of 30,979 tons 8 cwt.

Taking into account the stocks at the beginning and end of the year, the following statement shows details of the coal disposed of during the year :—

| 1st April, 1945— | | | | Tons | cwt. | qr. |
|--------------------|----|----|----|--------|------|-----|
| Stocks in bin | .. | .. | .. | 135 | 10 | 0 |
| Add net output | .. | .. | .. | 30,979 | 8 | 0 |
| Slack raised | .. | .. | .. | 50 | 8 | 0 |
| 31st March, 1946— | | | | 31,165 | 6 | 0 |
| Less stock in bins | .. | .. | .. | 90 | 0 | 0 |
| Total disposed of | | | | 31,075 | 6 | 0 |

Disposals

| | | | | Tons | cwt. | qr. |
|------------|----|----|----|--------|------|-----|
| Railed | .. | .. | .. | 29,084 | 18 | 0 |
| Mine sales | .. | .. | .. | 1,363 | 8 | 0 |
| Workmen | .. | .. | .. | 577 | 19 | 0 |
| Free | .. | .. | .. | 49 | 1 | 0 |
| | | | | 31,075 | 6 | 0 |

The gross output from the colliery since inception amounts to 140,210 tons 19 cwt.

Days worked.—The colliery worked 206·375 days out of a possible 242 ordinary working-days. In addition, the colliery worked 6 statutory holidays, making the total days worked 212·375. The difference between the ordinary days worked, 206·375, and the possible number of working-days is accounted for as follows: 7·5 days, floods; 10·375 days, disputes; 1 day, VE Day; 1·5 days, VJ Day; 4·375 days, stop-work meetings; 1·5 days, fatal accident; 3 days, boiler breakdown; 0·125 day, winch breakdown; 1 day, funeral of workmate; 4·5 days, fall in main haulage; 0·75 days, runaway in haulage.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of men employed in and about the mine was 98 men and 3 boys, made up as follows—Underground: hewers, 22; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 36. Surface: 40 men and 3 boys. Total 101.

Coal-hewers' Daily Average Earnings.—The coal-hewers' daily earnings were gross £3 8s. 9d., and after deducting stores (explosives, 6s.) their net return was £3 2s. 9d., a net increase of 16s. 5d. per day when compared with the previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 153 tons 7 cwt. and the average daily output per coal-hewer was 8 tons 14 cwt. compared with 141 tons 9 cwt. and 7 tons 17 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—Nil.

Accidents.—During the year there were numerous minor accidents (98), a large proportion of these being bruises and cuts and several cases of strains. One fatal accident happened when a rope runner fell and was jammed between a skip and a 4 in. air-pipe, resulting in his death some six hours later.

Workings.—Pillar-extraction was started on completion of development of the panel north of the No. 1 north-west headings, but excessive floor heave caused it to be abandoned after a few months. Similar conditions caused work in the No. 1 north-west section to be stopped in June, it being intended later to win the remaining pillars in this section by means of a new roadway from the south-west heading a short distance inbye of the Cunningham fault.

The old south-west heading was reconditioned to a point selected for the start of a pair of headings at an angle to it of 45° to the north in order to cross the VJ fault, shown by boring to be an upthrow of 50 ft. as a better access to reach the seam beyond.