

The gross output from the colliery since its acquisition by the Government totals 122,287 tons 12 cwt.

*Days worked.*—The colliery worked 232·125 days out of a possible 242 days. In addition, the colliery worked 18 back Saturdays and 6 statutory holidays, making the total days worked 256·125. The difference between the days worked and possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 2 days, VE celebrations; 2 days, VJ celebrations; 1 day, extension of VJ days by the men; 1 day, men returned home after stop-work meeting; 1 day, men attended funeral of ex-employee; 2·875 days, stop-work meetings.

*Employees.*—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 178 men and 4 boys, made up as follows—Underground: coal-hewers, 70; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 67. Surface: 41 men and 4 boys.

*Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.*—The average daily earnings of the coal-hewers after deducting explosives were £2 9s. 6d., which showed an increase of 1s. when compared with the previous year.

*Daily Output.*—The average daily output from the mine was 346 tons 2 cwt. and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 9 tons, compared with 343 tons 4 cwt. and 7 tons 0 cwt. 2 qr. respectively for the previous year. The number of hewer shifts worked was 9,851·375.

*Deficiencies.*—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £192 4s. 3d.

*Accidents.*—There were 196 accidents reported during the year, none of which were serious or fatal.

*Underground Workings.*—The output was obtained from pillar-extraction in the No. 3 Mine; completion of development and extraction of pillars in No. 2 Mine; also development of No. 3 Extended Mine and the extraction of a few pillars in No. 1 East panel of this mine. The main headings of No. 3 Extended Mine are driven to their southern boundary, a distance of 23½ chains. From these headings various panels were opened up. Those on the east side have developed satisfactorily and continue to do so, whilst those on the west side after travelling a few chains encounter stone bands and intrusions in the seam as they approach the major fault between the present mine and the old workings of No. 1 Mine. However, from present indications this has so far only occurred in Nos. 1, 2, and 3 West sections, as No. 4 West headings, which are being opened up, are still in excellent coal and likely to remain so for a much longer distance than the previous headings mentioned. Pillar-extraction is being carried out in a satisfactory manner in No. 3 Mine from two sections—namely, the east side, which is nearing completion, also in B panel. The haulage rope was extended to the inbye end of No. 3 Extended Mine during the year, whilst a small endless hauler is being installed to serve No. 2 East headings. Development in No. 2 Mine was completed early in the year; the whole of the operations now consist of pillar-extraction. We have been able to maintain sufficient places for all our men; our chief difficulty has been to keep them manned up, due to absenteeism. During the winter months the incidence of wet-time places rises sharply, due to the seam being only about 100 ft. from the surface.

*Stone-dusting.*—This was carried out at regular intervals during the year in addition to the daily dusting of the places. During the year seventy-six samples of dust were taken and analysed.

*Dangerous Occurrences.*—Nothing of the above nature occurred during the year.

*Stoppings.*—The permanent stoppings of brick were erected in the Extended Mine between the intakes and returns in the main roads. Work is still proceeding in the panels.

*Plant.*—The main fan from No. 1 Mine having been dismantled, was re-erected at No. 3 Extended Mine during the year. An overhead transmission line was erected from