

## REEFTON DISTRICT

*Doran's Mine, Boutmans.*—Intermittent prospecting work was carried out during the year in a small seam of coal.

*Alborn's Mine, Caplestone.*—Pillar-extraction was continued throughout the year in good-quality coal averaging 8 ft. thick.

*Kleen Mine (Archer Bros.), Caplestone.*—The output was gained mainly from pillar, extraction in Nos. 1 and 2 levels. The seam is vertical, of good quality, and averages 12 ft. thick.

*Coghlan's Freehold Mine, Caplestone.*—The output consisted solely of coal from pillar-extraction on the rise side of the main level.

*Hillcrest Top Mine (previously Waitahu Mine; A. D. Williams), Waitahu.*—The output was won from development easterly to the rise in coal of good quality averaging 5 ft. thick.

*Griggs and Party's Mine (previously McKinlay's Mine), Waitahu.*—Pillar-extraction on rise side of horse level was almost completed, while development of levels to the right of the lower end of the dip was continued. Roof conditions in these latter places was not good and required constant attention.

*Dawntless Mine (previously Lewis and Party), Waitahu.*—Two levels advanced in a north-easterly direction from the main dip and encountered the upthrow fault which limits the development on this side. Two levels south-west of the dip were advancing in very good coal 12 ft. thick. Seven chains of solid coal remained between these workings and the boundary of the mine with the New Pyramid Mine.

*Pyramid Mine (Morrisdale Lease), Reefton.*—Extraction of pillars was completed during the year and the mine closed down, except for a small output intermittently obtained from a 3 ft. seam in an adjacent hill.

*Pyramid New Mine (Crown Lease), Waitahu.*—Developing to the dip was terminated at 10 chains and a pair of levels were driven 4 chains under the bed of the Waitahu River. These levels are to be used for the development of the field to the south. The coal is of good quality 12 ft. thick. Ventilation of the mine is by an electrically driven propeller-type fan. An electrically operated winch has been installed at the surface as the main haulage winch, while an electrically driven four-stage turbine pump is dealing with the pumping problem.

*Burke's Creek Mine, Reefton.*—Pillar-extraction ceased early in the year in the slant dip, due to a heating which was sealed off by stoppings. A new dip was driven 5 chains in an attempt to prove the coalfield further to the dip. Very little progress was made, chiefly due to lack of adequate pumping, hauling, and ventilating equipment. The main haulage dip was repaired and regraded early in the year, thus effecting an improvement in the haulage conditions on this road.

*Morrisdale Opencast Mine, Reefton.*—Coal-production from No. 4 seam was continued intermittently throughout the year, difficulty being experienced in maintaining a steady output owing to weather conditions and old workings. Mechanical means are employed for the removal of the overburden and filling the coal.

*Burncett Mine (D. Hamill), Reefton.*—Development has been continued on the level course in a north-easterly direction and to the rise in a south-easterly direction.

*Central Mine (D. Hamill), Reefton.*—The dip development to the north was continued and on level course towards the eastern boundary of the lease.

*Terrace Mine, Reefton.*—Development work was continued during the year in three main levels. A cross-measure drift to the north intersected No. 2 seam, but no work has been done beyond the point of intersection, due to lack of adequate ventilation.

*Defiance Mine, Murray Creek.*—A prospecting stone drive 130 ft. long was driven into the seam at a lower level to the old Defiance workings. The seam was proved to be 7 ft. thick and of good quality.

*Butler's Section, Defiance Mine.*—Four men were employed prospecting some solid coal in this section. The coal varied from 8 ft. to 15 ft. thick and was of fairly good quality.

*Clele Mine, Merriiggs.*—All the output was won from pillar-extraction in Nos. 1 and 2 Sections.

*Nicholls' Mine, Caplestone.*—Development was continued by four men to the rise. The main heading holed to the surface, effecting an improvement in the natural ventilation. The quality of coal was good and thickness increased to 10 ft.

*Banks' Opencast Mine (A. E. Eklund), Waitahu.*—Coal-production from this opencast was maintained throughout the year. During the period the stripping of overburden by mechanical means was abandoned in favour of mining the coal hydraulically.

*Star Mine (Lewis and Party), Murray Creek.*—An intermittent output was obtained from open-casting a small block of old workings in the Cement Town area. Coal up to 15 ft. in thickness with 20 ft. of hard overburden was worked by a combination of mechanical and hydraulic stripping methods. Owing to the difficulty of handling the overburden, operations were abandoned at the end of the year.

*Royal Coal Syndicate, Rainy Creek.*—A small quantity of coal was won from a pair of development levels in a vertical seam 5 ft. thick.

*Turner and Party's Opencast Mine, Murray Creek.*—Coal-production from this mine was commenced early in the year from an area previously worked by underground mining and abandoned owing to fire. Coal of good quality, up to 10 ft. in thickness under an average of 10 ft. of overburden, is being successfully worked. The coal is hand filled and stripped by means of a bulldozer or dragline.

*W. G. Chandler's Opencast Mine, Murray Creek.*—The coal won from this mine is being won from an area worked previously by underground mining and abandoned owing to fire. Stripping is being done by a bulldozer and the filling by hand. Coal up to 12 ft. in thickness has been worked under 25 ft. of overburden.