

Glen Afton No. 2 (MacDonald Colliery).—The output for the year has been won from extraction of pillars in E and H Sections and development work carried on in the extension of K rope road and panel formation to east and west from it. The rope road is 5 chains inside the McKinnon boundary, with which it runs parallel. Present position of face of rope road is approximately 7 chains to nearest position of K Section, No. 1 Mine.

Two 32-volt electric drilling-machines have been installed to be used in conjunction with the coal-cutting machines.

Two boreholes have been put down between H3 Left Section and Tapp's boundary in the No. 2 Mine for the purpose of proving whether further development can be carried out.

No. 4 Mine (MacDonald).—With the exception of No. 1 Jig Section, the output has been won from pillar-extraction. No. 1 Jig Section consists of four places between two old pillared sections, the coal here being cut with machine.

Waikato Extended Opencast (Roose Shipping Co.).—During the year 14,661 tons were produced from opencast workings. The coal is loaded by mechanical shovel into motor-trucks and conveyed to the side of the Waikato River approximately half a mile away. Total number employed, including truck-drivers, nine men.

Bell and Deelin's Mine.—Work at this party mine terminated in December, all working-material being removed to a new area. The output for the year was 2,288 tons.

Huntly Brickworks.—No coal was mined during the year; however, the clay for brickmaking was secured from a clean face, the surface subsoil having been stripped by bulldozer.

Glen Afton Potteries Opencast.—Ninety-seven tons was won during the year from an opencast face approximately 6 ft. thick; work is only carried on as required by the works.

Te Pahu Colliery, Karamu.—No work has been carried on since September. Output for year, 50 tons. Two men were employed intermittently.

Dally's Mine, Hauturu.—No coal was produced during the year.

Whatawhata Campbell Colliery.—The Main Dip has been advanced approximately 1 chain during the year, making a total of approximately 10 chains from surface. To the left from the bottom of dip a level has been driven for about 2 chains in good coal, whilst to the right a level has been driven for about 1 chain. Working has been carried out in a small area adjacent to 15 ft. upthrow fault, also to the right of jig on south-east side, where three solid places have been worked between the fault and top of main jig.

Rangitoto Opencast Coal-mine (Hamilton and Harvey), Otorohanga.—Four men have been employed during the year for an output of 2,850 tons from opencast workings. For a short period during the year work was suspended at the opencast whilst an attempt was made to open part of the lease by mining. Due to the dangerous tactics adopted to win coal, this was closed down in July, when the work was transferred back to opencast.

Kimihia State Opencast Mine.—No. 1 Area: This mine produced consistently during the year except for a period of eight weeks during mid-winter when reserves of coal were exhausted and because wet weather conditions seriously hampered stripping operations. This experience emphasizes the necessity of intensive stripping during the summer months so that prior to the onset of winter conditions ample reserves of stripped coal are available for continuity of supply.

Spoil removed during the year amounted to 291,760 cubic yards, making a total yardage since operations commenced of 592,960 cubic yards.

No. 1 Area Extension: An area to the south-west of No. 1 has been bored from a barge on the lake during the year and a deposit of from 24 feet to 28 feet of good-quality coal has been proved over an area which is estimated to contain 450,000 tons. Preparations are being made to commence work on the stopbank so that the area can be enclosed, the water pumped out, and the coal eventually stripped and recovered.

Glen Afton State Opencast.—Spoil shifted during 1946 amounted to 89,600 cubic yards for a coal recovery of 12,587 tons of coal.

To date, 415,600 cubic yards of overburden have been removed for 39,889 tons of coal. Stripping is almost completed on this area and the remaining coal will be won during the year.

Kemp's State Opencast Mine, Glen Massey.—Total spoil shifted to the end of 1946 was 1,211,820 cubic yards, including 568,030 cubic yards during 1946.

Output for the year amounted to 52,459 tons, giving a total output to date of 86,521 tons. At this mine stripping is reasonably well ahead of coal-winning. Notwithstanding variations in thickness of coal, outputs have been consistently good during the year and the mine has been valuable producing unit.

Taranaki District

Mangapehi State Colliery.—The output for the year has been secured chiefly from the extraction of pillars in Nos. 2 East and West Panels. The work of extraction in No. 2 West panel has been completed and about half the pillars have been extracted from the No. 2 East Panel. Development work has been carried on in the No. 2 East Levels, the faces of these having been advanced to about 30 chains from side of dip; the coal opened up is of good quality and approximately 25 ft. in thickness. Two rise headings have been broken away from the levels in preparation for formation of new panel