

31st March, 1917, during which the highest previous output was obtained. The disposal, allowing for stock on hand at beginning of year, was as follows :—

Supplied to					Screened.	Unscreened.	Small.	Totals.
					Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Depots ...	...	...	...	...	7,927	30,245	...	38,172
Railways ...	...	...	...	...	307	9,667	...	9,974
Other Government Departments ...	...	...	...	...	9	188	...	197
Shipping companies ...	...	...	...	...	33	28,968	2,218	31,219
Gas companies ...	...	...	...	...	170	39,207	460	39,837
Other consumers ...	...	...	...	...	3,667	18,678	6,499	28,844
Totals ...	...	...	...	...	12,113	126,953	9,177	148,243

The total sales of State coal from the mines for the year amounted to 148,335 tons, value £222,127, as compared with 149,850 tons, value £192,958, for last year, a decrease of 1,515 tons, but an increase in value of £29,169.

For the purpose of easy comparison the figures are restated below in tabulated form :—

Comparative Statement of Sales from Collieries.

Mine.	Total Sales, 1920–21.			Total Sales, 1919–20.		
	Quantity.		Value.	Quantity.		Value.
	Tons	cwt. qr.	£ s. d.	Tons	cwt. qr.	£ s. d.
Point Elizabeth ..	91	8 0	59 8 2	34,676	3 3	33,750 14 3
Liverpool ..	148,243	11 0	222,067 19 8	115,174	3 1	159,207 15 8
Totals ..	148,334	19 0	222,127 7 10	149,850	7 0	192,958 9 11

The average price per ton realized by the mines on the total sales for the year was £1 9s. 11·4d., an increase of 4s. 2·36d. on last year's average.

The sales of coal, &c., through the medium of the depots totalled 60,912 tons, value £137,910, as against 40,157 tons, value £80,083, for last year.

There was an increase of sales from the Liverpool Colliery of 33,069 tons, with a value of £62,860.

The total profit at the mines was £17,681, and after deducting losses at the depots, &c., there remained a balance of £13,962, out of which £6,828 was applied to Sinking Fund Account and £222 to Bad Debts Reserve, leaving £6,912 to be carried forward.

During the year a tennis-court at Runanga was completed, and a large number of miners and others have made full use thereof for recreation purposes. A bowling-green is also in course of preparation, and it is expected that it will be available for use this coming summer. The ground which has been set aside for a recreation-ground has also been drained, and the surface covered with ashes, which have been ploughed in. Arrangements have been made for harrowing the ground and sowing grass-seed therein.

In carrying out these works a number of the employees at the State colliery voluntarily, and without payment, undertook the work of clearing the sites and of assisting in other directions.

JAMES COLLIERY.

Further development works, including the re-erection of a portion of the coal-storage bins which were shifted from the Point Elizabeth Colliery, and the installation of the requisite equipment, have been carried out. The development of this colliery has to some extent been governed by the progress made in constructing the railway-line giving access thereto. It is expected that the railway will be sufficiently completed for the haulage of coal within a few months.

Trial samples of the coal from this colliery have upon test shown that it is a first-class household coal. When supplies are available it will greatly stimulate the activities at the several State coal-depots.