

Paparoa Colliery (Paparoa Coal Co., Ltd.).—Aerial Section: The output from this area was obtained from development work on the north side of the main dip where a small panel was completed near the fault which terminated development in the dip extension heading. A panel to the rise of the main north level was further extended and all headings driven to the fault.

Owing to the steepness of the seam, operations in the slant dip, which is advancing towards the old No. 2 seam workings, was suspended early in the year. Towards the end of the year preparations were under way for establishing a connection with No. 2 seam and the Aerial Section by driving through the old workings from the original main level on the west level main haulage road.

West Level Section: A little development work was carried out on both sides of the top incline tunnel, but thin coal and the presence of numerous thin bands of stone rendered the seam unworkable, and operations were abandoned.

United Brunner Mines, Ltd., Brunner.—Opencast operations were carried out early in the year at an exposed outcrop 10 ft. in height on the northern bank of the Grey River. On account of the proximity of the Blackball Highway, work ceased, and a level was subsequently driven in coal in a northerly direction for a distance of 60 ft., when operations were again stopped.

CO-OPERATIVE MINES IN THE GREY DISTRICT.

Spark and Party's Mine, Rewanui.—All coal was won from development work in the main east level (advanced a further 5 chains during the year) and the area between the east level and the northern boundary of the lease. Due to having reached the boundary, work in No. 1 north heading was stopped. Two new headings were advanced a distance of approximately 2 chains in a northerly direction at the inbye side of the east level.

Old Runanga Mine (O'Brien and Party).—No. 1 Seam: Pillar-extraction was commenced in thin coal at the inbye side of the main level, and at the end of the year the line of extraction had reached a point 12 chains from the mine entrance.

No. 2 Seam: Pillar-extraction was continued throughout the year in Nos. 1 and 2 panels.

Moody Creek Mine (Simpson and Party).—Development of No. 2 main dip was stopped early in the year on account of unworkable conditions of the seam, and pillar-extraction commenced on the fault line running between Nos. 1 and 2 dips below No. 6 east level.

In No. 5 east level the fault was penetrated by a stone drive and the level advanced in clean, hard coal 9 ft. thick.

A small amount of development work was also carried out towards the upthrow fault west of No. 2 dip. *Goldlight Colliery (McKenzie and Party).*—The main dip has been advanced 5 chains in a south-westerly direction, making the total distance 8 chains, and suitable connections for a return airway provided. From the bottom of the dip a pair of levels have been driven in a northerly direction for 5 chains in coal 8 ft. thick.

New Point Elizabeth Colliery (Guy and Party).—Operations were confined to pillar-extraction from an area lying to the north-east and near two faults on the inbye side of the main heading.

Fiery Cross Mine (Currie and Party), Dunollie.—This is a new mine operating under the old name, and situated on the south side of the railway between Moody Creek and Hunter and Party's Mine. The mine has been opened up with a pair of levels driven in a south-easterly direction for a distance of 12 chains. Height of coal, 6 ft. Bords driven for 2 chains in a north-easterly direction entered troubled country and development stopped in this direction. The inclination of the seam is approximately 65°.

Castlepoint Mine (Duggan and Party).—The whole of the output has been secured from pillar-extraction on the rise side of the haulage road.

Hilltop Mine (Armstrong and Party), Ten-mile.—Operations were practically confined to pillar-extraction in the area between the main level and outcrop of seam, sufficient coal being left to protect the surface along the line of outcrop. Driving to the dip was commenced in September, and had been advanced to a distance of 3 chains in good, clean coal having an average height of 6 ft.

Kaye and Party's Mine, Ten-mile.—No coal was produced from this mine during the year.

Hunter and Party's Mine, Dunollie.—During the first quarter of the year a stone drive 2½ chains in length was completed, and the coal-seam, 9 ft. in height, located on the southern side of Rewanui Creek. Development of the seam was commenced, and two main levels have been advanced approximately 6 chains in a southerly direction. A second outlet was also completed.

Schultz Creek Mine (Marshall and Party), Twelve-mile.—Extraction of pillars in the area situated between two faults at the inbye side of the stone drive was completed during the year. Driving was again resumed and the coal-seam located after driving 200 ft.

Bellbird Mine (Stuart and Party), Ten-mile.—Output was secured from the driving of No. 6 level, extraction of pillars, and driving in a 4½ ft. seam on the rise side of a 40 ft. upthrow fault. This fault was crossed by a stone drive, from No. 5 east level, driven approximately 2 chains on a variable gradient of 1 in 3 to 1 in 2½.

Bellvue Mine (Hadercroft and Party), Rapahoe.—The coal in the lease originally held by this party having become worked out, operations ceased in August. A new mine, under the old name, is being opened up on State reserve approximately one mile in a north-easterly direction from the old mine. The main drive has been driven approximately 2½ chains in a 9 ft. seam.

Jubilee Mine (Finning and Party), Rapahoe.—This is a new mine opened up in close proximity to the Bellvue Mine. Two levels, 12 ft. wide by 9 ft. high, have been driven for a distance of 3 chains from the surface.

Cliffside Mine (Moore and Party), Nine-mile.—Extraction of pillars was completed, and the old mine abandoned in June. At a point approximately 7 chains to the dip of the old mine a stone drive 4½ chains in length tapped the coal-seam and an area of coal 3½ chains by 1½ chains has been developed. The coal is of good quality, hard, and has an average height of 10 ft.

Smith and Party's Mine, Dunollie.—With the exception of a small percentage of coal won from a level at the bottom of the dip, the output has been secured from pillar-extraction to the east of the main dip.

Braehead Mine (Boote and Party), Dunollie.—Solid work at this mine was completed in May, and since then the output has been won from pillar-extraction.

Harrison and Party's Mine, Ten-mile.—The work at this mine (formerly known as Hunter and Party's Mine) comprised the completion of a stone drive to cross an upthrow fault of 28 ft. and developing in the seam beyond the fault. A return airway was secured by driving in the seam on a level course for 3 chains and thence by a heading to the rise for 3½ chains connecting on to a level on the rise side of the fault. Height of seam, 8 ft. 6 in.; quality of coal, good. Safety-lamps were installed in March.

REEFTON DISTRICT.

Archer's Mine, Caplestone.—Top Mine: The output was won from development work in No. 1 seam, completed early in the year, and then from extraction of pillars near a line of faulting. At a point 175 ft. from the surface, No. 2 seam was tapped by a stone drive which proved a thickness of 9 ft. of good coal. Development of the seam is postponed until a second airway, which is in process of driving, has been completed.

Bottom Mine: Extraction of pillars was continued until the 7th July, when, as a result of an outbreak of fire, a permanent seal was constructed in the main tunnel.

Doran's Section.—The output was secured from the extraction of pillars to right and left of the main dip. A cross-measure stone drive was completed during the year and the coal-seam tapped at a point ahead of the upper dip approximately 100 ft. below the upper main level. Development of a main heading to connect with the upper workings was proceeding at the end of the year.

Archer Bros' Mine.—At a point approximately 12 chains west of the Bottom Mine, the vertical seam (No. 4) was tapped by a short stone drive, and development of the seam to right and left commenced from the point of contact. At the end of the year two levels, 1 chain apart, had opened up a total width of 9 chains, showing an average thickness of 9 ft. of clean, hard coal.

Coghlan's Mine, Caplestone.—The output for the year was won from pillar-extraction in No. 2 seam. The prospect heading in No. 1 seam was extended a further 30 yards, but no improvement in the composition of the seam occurred in that distance.