1944 NEW ZEALAND

STATE COAL-MINES

(REPORT ON THE WORKING OF) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1944

Prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 184 of the Coal-mines Act, 1925

REPORT ON SOUTH ISLAND STATE COAL-MINES

The Deputy Superintendent, State Coal-mines, Greymouth, to the Under-Secretary, Mines Department, Wellington.

Sir,—

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the working of the State Coal-mines for the year ended 31st March, 1944.

LIVERPOOL COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 135,260 tons 9 cwt., a decrease of 30,576 tons 14 cwt. when compared with the figures for the previous year. After allowing for waste (620 tons 9 cwt.) and surplus stocks taken on charge (908 tons 3 cwt.), there remained for disposal a net output of 135,548 tons 3 cwt.

Taking into account the stocks on hand at the beginning and end of the year, the following statement shows details of the coal disposed of during the year:—

1st April, 1943—			Tons cwt. qr.	Tons cwt.	qr.
Stock in bin and yard			2,016 18 1		
Stock on wharf			1,010 11 0		
				3,027 9	1
Add net output for year (1.	34,640 tons	and			
surplus stock (908 tons				135,548 3	0
				190 575 10	
75 7 7044				138,575 12	Ţ
31st March, 1944—			1 054 0 1		
Less stock in bin and yard	• •	• •	1,674 6 1		
Less stock on wharf	• •		571 9 2	0.045.15	
				$2,245\ 15$	3
Total disposed of	• •			136,329 16	2
	Disposals				
Shipped			71,636 11 0		
Railed to Canterbury, Otago, &c.			23,396 1 3		
Railway sales			27,720 12 0		
Local and mine sales			8,303 14 2		
Sales to workmen and free issues			1,642 17 1		
Used on works			3,630 0 0		
Once of worth	• •			136,329 16	2

The gross output from the colliery since its inception totals 3,925,143 tons 6 cwt.

Days Worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 235 days, the same number of days as in the previous year. The possible working-days, including six back Saturdays, were 268. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 3 days, power failure; 2 days, heavy rain; 1 day, dispute re pay tickets; 1 day, mechanical fault; 3 days, fire in mine; 8 days, Christmas holidays; 1 day, protest regarding shortage of tobacco-supplies; 2 days, dispute re miners; 1 day, dispute re truckers; 1 day, slip on railway; 1 day, funeral of employee; 1 day, breakdown of hoist; 1 day, union meeting; 1 day, insufficient truckers to work the mine; 4 days, dispute re recalling to camp of furlough men from mines

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 299 men and 16 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 84; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 149. Surface: 66 men and 16 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with subsidies on railway tickets and cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £138,026, as compared with £154,980 for the previous year.

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Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 8s. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 4s. 9d., a decrease of 3s. 9d. per day when compared with the previous period.

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Daily Output.—The average daily output was 575 tons 12 cwt. and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 7 tons 11 cwt., as compared with 705 tons 14 cwt. and 9 tons 1 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £78 1s. 6d.

Accidents.—In addition to numerous accidents of a minor nature, one fatal and one serious accident occurred in the Liverpool Colliery.

Fatal Accident: On 15th October, 1943, a miner working in the No. 2 bank received head injuries through being struck by a piece of stone, and died in the Greymouth Hospital the following day.

Serious Accident: On 8th February, 1944, a miner sustained a fracture of the left leg through being struck by a run-away truck on a jig.

Stone-dusting.—Work under this heading was continued during the year. The number of samples taken from the Liverpool Colliery and analysed was 713. In addition, 118 samples from co-operative mines were analysed and 71 samples of coal from various State coal-mines were also analysed.

Underground Workings.—The major portion of the output was obtained from pillar-extraction in the Morgan and Kimbell sections. Development is being carried on in the Morgan and Kimbell dip sections. Development in the Morgan East dips has been advanced about 10 chains, and the headings off the East level about 8 chains to the rise. The East workings are dusty and water has been laid on to allay the dust.

A stone drive was started about the middle of the year to connect through the main haulage road to the Morgan dip workings. This drive will cut off the long haulage which is at present being used from this section. The completed drive will be about 17 chains, and one-half of this has now been completed.

Kimbell Section: Pillaring in the Kimbell East level has been carried on during the year, but owing to heating in November the section was sealed, practically all the available coal being extracted.

Fire Stoppings.—All fire stoppings have been maintained in good order.

Dangerous Occurrence.—An indication of heating was experienced in the Kimbell East section on 26th November. The area was sealed by temporary stoppings before there were any signs of actual fire. These stoppings have since been replaced by permanent ones.

Plant.—Electrification: The electrification of the screening plant has been completed, and the haulage winch from the timber-yard has also been converted to electricity.

The main haulage at the middle brake has also been electrified, and a substation at the power-house with the necessary switch gear has been erected.

JAMES COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output up to the 23rd July, 1943, when the colliery closed down, was 5,119 tons 6 cwt. After allowing for waste (165 tons 6 cwt.), there remained for disposal a net output of 4,954 tons.

Taking into account the stocks on hand at the beginning and end of the year, the following statement shows details of the coal disposed of during the year:—

1	0						
1st April, 1943—			Tons cwt.	qr.	Tons	\mathbf{cwt}	qr.
Stock in bin and yard			82 0	0			
Stock on wharf			59 - 6	3			
Stock on dump			1,09912	1			
•					1,240	19	0
Add net output for year	• •		• •		4,954	0	0
					6,194	19	
Add slack taken on charge	ex dump				6,883		
					13,078	7	1
31st March, 1944—							
Less stock on wharf		• •	• •		117	7	0
Total disposed of			• •		12,961	0	1
	Disposals						
Shipped			9,814 16	2			
Railed to Canterbury, Otago, &c.			2,588 10				
Local and mine sales				1			
Used on works			24 - 0	0			
					12.961	0	1

The gross output from the colliery since its inception and up to the time the mine ceased production on 23rd July, 1943, was 682,741 tons 13 ewt.

Days worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 82 days. The possible working-days, including five back Saturdays, were 87. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, dispute re stoppage of lamps; 1 day, dispute re wages; 1 day, dispute re rope-boys.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 25 men and 1 boy, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 7; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 9. Surface: 9 men and 1 boy.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with subsidies on bus fares and cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £5,455.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £3 2s. 4d. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 15s. 10d., an increase of 6s. 8d. per day when compared with the previous period.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 62 tons 9 cwt. and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 9 tons 17 cwt., as compared with 115 tons 2 cwt. and 8 tons 11 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—During the year no payments were made under the minimum-wage clause.

Accidents.—No serious accidents were reported at the James Colliery during the year.

Underground Workings.—Work up to the time the mine closed down on the 23rd July, 1943, was confined to pillar-extraction, and the total tonnage won during the period was 5,119 tons.

STRONGMAN COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 105,701 tons 4 cwt., an increase of 11,531 tons 8 cwt. when compared with the figures for the previous year. After allowing for waste (946 tons 4 cwt.) and adding coal purchased (169 tons 4 cwt. 3 qr.) there remained for disposal 104,924 tons 4 cwt. 3 qr.

Taking into account the stocks on hand at the beginning and end of the year, the following statement show details of the coal disposed of during the year:—

1st April, 1943—			Tons cwt.	ır.	Tons	\mathbf{cwt}	qr.
Stock in bin and yard			412 16	0			
Stock on wharf			402 - 3	3			
Stock on dump			2,742 10	3			
1				—	3,557	10	2
Add net output for year (1	.04,755 tons)	and					
coal purchased (169 to					104,924	4	3
					108,481	15	1
31st March, 1944—							
Less stock in bin and yard		• •		3			
Less stock on wharf		• •		1			
Less stock on dump			$2,011\ 19$	0		_	
			100 mm - 100		2,940	3	0
Total disposed of	••	• ••	• •		105,541	12	1
	Disposals						
Shipped	••		70,741 - 3	2			
Railed to Canterbury, Otago, &c.			19,149 15	1			
Railway sales				2			
Local and mine sales			8,292 10	2			
Sales to workmen and free issues				2			
Used on works			485 0	0			
					105,541	12	1

The gross output from the colliery since its inception totals 410,469 tons 16 cwt.

Days Worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 256 days, an increase of 4 hours when compared with the previous year. The possible working-days, including 16 back Saturdays, were 278. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 2 days, re wages; 1 day, dispute re shotfirer; 1 day, bathhouse cold; 1 day, dispute re truckers; 1 day, dispute re miners; 1 day, dispute re stoppage of lamps; 1 day, funeral of employee; 4 days, dispute re recalling to camp of furlough men from mines; 8 days, Christmas holidays.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 219 men and 10 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 62; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 110. Surface: 47 men and 10 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with subsidies on bus fares and cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £112,600, as compared with £103,185 for the previous year. Capital expenditure was £4,695, as compared with £14,583 for the previous year.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 6s. 8d. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 2s. 2d., a decrease of 2s. 5d. per day when compared with the previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 412 tons 18 cwt. and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 6 tons 14 cwt., as compared with 368 tons 11 cwt. and 7 tons 10 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £37 9s.

Accidents.—No serious accidents were reported at the Strongman Colliery during the year.

Stone-dusting.—Work under this heading was continued during the year. The total number of samples taken from the Strongroom Colliery and analysed was 291.

Underground Workings.—Coal-winning operations have been confined to the development of solid places with the exception of two pairs of miners extracting head-coal in the No. 1 North section. The development has been continued satisfactorily in the No. 2 North heading, No. 2 South, and No. 1 South dip. In the No. 2 South heading, conditions have become extremely wet with bad roof, and the coal-seam has thinned to 8 ft. The fault encountered on the west side of No. 2 North heading was passed through with prospects of a good section opening out on this side. During the year the number of miners has been increased from 48 to 66, the increase being partly accounted for by the miners from the James Colliery being transferred to this mine. The main East heading has been stopped on the "Bob" fault for a considerable time and a start has been made with a drive to cross this fault. The position of the coal-seam has been proved by a rise which was driven through from the back heading.

BLACKBALL COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 45,029 tons 9 cwt., an increase of 10,502 tons 7 cwt. when compared with the figures for the previous year. After allowing for waste (300 tons 11 cwt.) and taking into consideration 3,300 tons written off in April, 1943, there remained for disposal a net output of 41,428 tons 18 cwt.

Taking into account the stocks on hand at the beginning and end of the year, the following statement shows details of the coal disposed of during the year:—

1st April, 1943— Stock in bin and yard	••		Tons cwt. 4,823 12	qr. 0	Tons	cwt.	qr.
Stock on wharf			$195 \ 12$	0			
4.7.7					5,019		
Add net output for year	• •	• •	• •		41,428	18	0
31st March, 1944—					46,448	2	0
Less stock in bin and yard	• •		• •		1,111	13	2
Total disposed of					45,336	8	2
	Disposals						
Shipped	• •		20,171 9	2			
Railed to Canterbury, Otago, &c.			8,375 1	0			
Railway sales			9,824 - 6	0			
Local and mine sales			5,652 18	0			
Sales to workmen and free issues			899 0	0			
Used on works			413 14	0			
					45,336	8	2

The gross output from the colliery since it was taken over by the State Coal-mines totals 105,506 tons 14 cwt.

Days worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 264 days, an increase of 52 days when compared with the previous year. The possible working-days, including 16 back Saturdays, were 278. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, burnt-out motor; 2 days, dispute re truckers' time; 1 day, breakdown at fan; 8 days, Christmas holidays.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 95 men and 3 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 30; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 42. Surface: 23 men and 3 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with cost of fuel used on works, amounted to £61,105, as compared with £48,250 for the previous year.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 7s. 9d. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £2 3s. 1d., a decrease of 1s. 6d. per day when compared with the previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 170 tons 11 cwt. and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 7 tons 9 cwt., as compared with 162 tons 17 cwt. and 7 tons 11 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £49 0s. 9d.

Accidents.—There were no accidents of a serious nature at the Blackball Colliery during the year.

Underground Workings.—All the coal is being won from development work. A pair of headings were developed off No. 2 South level to meet No. 4 Bore. These headings have been extended a distance of 16 chains, the floor being extremely undulating, and the coal, maintaining an average thickness of about 10 ft. to 12 ft., is of good quality.

Between the South heading and the main drive a section has been developed with a "Jeffrey" coal-cutting machine, and this section will eventually be used as a water-sump.

The main drive was developed for 10 chains and then was stopped in about 4 ft. of coal. The main dip crossed a "roll" in the floor of about 12 ft.

To the north of the main drive and 2 chains back from the face two levels have been driven for a distance of 5 chains. These levels were stopped as the result of a large inflow of water. About 1 chain from the face a pair of headings are being driven towards No. 1 North, from which it is hoped to develop a panel.

Plant.—During the year a "Sirocco" fan was installed, thus effecting a considerable improvement in the ventilation.

WALLSEND COLLIERY

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 58,742 tons 9 cwt. 3 qr. After allowing for waste (960 tons 18 cwt. 3 qr.) and adding surplus stocks (1,075 tons 9 cwt. 2 qr.), there remained for disposal a net output of 58,857 tons 0 cwt. 2 qr.

Taking into account the stocks on hand at the beginning and end of the year, the following statement shows details of the coal disposed of during the year:—

1st April, 1943— Stock in bin and yard				Tons e 693	15	0	Tons	ewt.	qr.
Stock on wharf	• •		• •	629		0	1,323	6	0
Add net output for year	r (57.78	1 tons 11	cwt)				1,020	U	U
and surplus stock (58,857	0	2
				,			60,180	6	2
31st March, 1944—									_
Less stock on wharf	• •	• •	• •				219	8	0
Total disposed of	••			••			59,960	18	2
	L	Disposals							
Shipped			4	12,816	5	0			
Railed to Canterbury, Otago, &c	·.			2,153	10	3			
Railway sales				9,311	10	1			
Local and mine sales				2,658	2	3			
Sales to workmen and free issues	š			523	10	0			
Used on works				2,497	19	3			
			_				59,960	18	2

The gross output from the colliery since it was taken over by the State Coal-mines totals 65,625 tons 19 cwt. 1 qr.

Days worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 250 days. The possible working-days, including 14 back Saturdays, were 276. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, dispute re lamps; 3 days, insufficient men to work mine; 3 days, fault in cage mechanism; 3 days, dispute re recalling to camp of furlough men from mines; 4 days, funerals of employees; 2 days, gas in mine; 8 days, Christmas holidays.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 153 men and 5 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 46; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 86. Surface: 21 men and 5 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with cost of fuel used on works and subsidies on railway tickets, amounted to £81,360.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 2s. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £1 19s. 11d.

Daily Output.—The average daily output was 234 tons 19 cwt. and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 6 tons 18 cwt.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £135 1s. 7d.

Accidents.—In addition to numerous accidents of a minor nature, two fatal accidents occurred at the Wallsend Colliery. There were no other serious accidents.

Fatal Accidents: On the 27th April, 1943, a miner working in the Wallsend Mine received severe head injuries through being struck with a piece of coal, and died in the Greymouth Hospital the following day.

On the 30th October, 1943, a shiftman working in the No. 3 overcast of the Wallsend Mine received severe head and hand injuries through being run over by a truck. He died in the Greymouth Hospital the following day.

Underground Workings.—The major portion of the coal is being won from developing places.

No. 1 Slant Dip: During the year this section reached a large upthrow fault, for the full width of the panel, at approximately 23 chains from the main rope-road. Since striking this fault eight pairs of miners have been engaged splitting pillars, working from the sides back towards the rope end taking three pillars on each side.

No. 2 Slant Dip: This section is also cut off by the large upthrow fault, and one pair of miners have been splitting the pillars next to the fault on the west side, while the east side dip has been driven about $4\frac{1}{2}$ chains towards the barrier. This section was stopped for over three months on account of a blower of gas which was eventually piped to the return airway.

Dip Extension Section: Seven pairs of miners developing in this section have driven two levels west a distance of 9 chains, the greater part being on top of the stone band. The coal here is maintaining its quality, and the thickness of the seam is increasing slightly.

B and C Panels: Four pairs of miners are engaged in splitting pillars, and one pair in developing C panel, where the coal is approximately 5 ft. thick.

Plant.—During the year considerable alterations have been made to the plant. The new concrete bin has been completed and is now in use. A new drive for the creeper and an extra 600 ft. "Reavell" compressor have been installed. A new electric haulage winch has been installed on the dip extension, and the main endless-rope haulage, which was at the top of the stone drive, has been installed at the bottom of the main shaft. A start has also been made to improve the auxiliary winding arrangements.

Dobson Colliery

Coal-winning.—The gross output for the year was 61,875 tons 19 cwt. After allowing for waste (993 tons 9 cwt. 2 gr.) there remained for disposal a net output of 60,882 tons 9 cwt. 2 gr.

Taking into account the stocks on hand at the beginning and end of the year, the following statement shows details of the coal disposed of during the year:—

1st April, 1943—				Tons	ewt.	qr,	Tons c	wt.	qr.
Stock in bin and yard				949	9	2			
Stock on wharf				654	8	0			
							1,603	17	2
Add net output for year	r	• •		• •			60,882	9	2
							62,486	7	0
31st March, 1944—									
Less stock in bin and yard				550	7	2			
Less stock on wharf				501	19	0			
					·		1,052	6	2
Total disposed of			٠.	••			61,434	0	2
		Disposals							
		-		Tons o	ewt.	qr.	Tons e	wt.	qr.
Shipped				41,025	19	O			
Railed to Canterbury, Otago, &c				10,391	10	3			
Railway sales				5,071	14	O			
T 1 1 1				3,712	11	2			
Sales to workmen and free issues				1,005		2			
Used on works				226	9	3			
* .							61,434	0	2

The gross output from the colliery since it was taken over by the State Coal-mines totals 68,957 tons 6 cwt.

Days worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 263 days. The possible working-days, including 15 back Saturdays, were 277. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, account fall of stone in main drive; 1 day, account shortage of water for compressor; 1 day, union meeting; 1 day, dispute re recalling to camp of furlough men from mines; 8 days, Christmas holidays.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of persons employed in and about the mine was 181 men and 4 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 57; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 96. Surface: 28 men and 4 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with cost of fuel used on works and subsidies on railway tickets, amounted to £89,073.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings (gross) were £2 0s. 1d. per day, and after deducting stores (explosives) their net return was £1 17s. 8d.

 $Daily\ Oouput.$ —The average daily output was 235 tons 5 cwt. and the coal-hewers' average daily output was 4 tons 18 cwt.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wage clause was £324 6s. 8d.

Accidents.—There were no serious accidents at the Dobson Colliery during the year.

Underground Workings.—All coal in this mine is being won from developing places.

Main Dip Section: Towards the end of the year the main dip development struck very irregular and disturbed country and was stopped.

No. 4 West Level Section: This section is nearing the Dobson or other fault.

No. 4 East: This section has been completed, and development in No. 5 East is rapidly approaching the steep rise towards Mount Buckley.

Plant.—The main endless haulage system has been extended to No. 5 level.

I have, &c.,

J. Hadcroft, Deputy-Superintendent.

REPORT ON THE NORTH ISLAND STATE COAL-MINES

The District Manager, State Coal-mines, Benneydale, to the Under-Secretary, Mines Department, Wellington

23rd June, 1944.

SIR,-

I have the honour to submit my report on the working of the State Coal-mines (North Island) for the year ended 31st March, 1944.

MANGAPEHI COLLIERY

Output.—The gross output for the year was 70,929 tons, an increase of 18,897 tons 15 cwt. when compared with the previous year. After allowing for waste (868 tons 7 cwt.) there remained for disposal a net output of 70,060 tons 13 cwt.

Taking into account the stocks at the beginning and end of the year, the following statement shows details of the coal disposed of during the year:—

1st April, 1943—							Tons		
Stock in bin .							85	0	0
Net output for yea	ar	• •		• •	•••	• •	70,060	13	0
							70,145	13	0
31st March, 1944—							100	Ω	
Less stock in bin.	•	• •	• •	• •	• • •	• •	. 100	0.	0
							70,045	13	0
			Disposals						
					Tons ewt.	qr.			
Railway					16,23912	0			
Depot and local sales					52,490 14	0			
Mine sales					24 0 15	0			
Workmen and free issu	ies				456 12	0			
Used on works					618 0	0		•	100
							70,045	13	0

The total output from the colliery since it has been taken over by the State Coal-mines is 176,925 tons 10 cwt.

Days worked.—During the year the mine worked on 245 days 5 hours, an increase of 6 hours when compared with the previous year. The possible number of working-days, including 12 back Saturdays, was 274, and the difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows: 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 4 days $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours, union meetings; 2 days 2 hours, power failures; 6 hours, dispute re hot-water in bathhouse; 2 hours, dispute re stone-dusting; 1 day $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours, miscellaneous breakdowns; 2 hours, heating in mine; 2 hours, shortage of truckers on back shift; 2 hours, no horse; 1 day 3 hours, dispute for no apparent reason; 1 day, dispute re wet time for rope-boys; 6 hours, dispute amongst truckers; 1 day 6 hours, no railway wagons; 9 days, Christmas holidays; 1 day, dispute re horse; 1 day, foot-disease.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, there were employed in and about the mine an average of 110 men and 4 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Coal-hewers, 33; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 56. On surface: Men, 21; boys, 4.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, and compensation, together with subsidy on bus fares and the cost of fuel used on works and electric power, amounted to £63,276 12s. 9d.

Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' daily earnings were (gross) £2 15s. 3d., and after deducting stores (explosives, 4s. 3d.) their net return was £2 11s., an increase of 8s. per day when compared with the previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily mine output was 288 tons 15 cwt. and the average daily output per coal-hewer was 9 tons 19 cwt., as compared with 212 tons 10 cwt. and 8 tons 3 cwt. for the previous year.

Deficiencies.—The total amount paid under the minimum-wages clause was £1 19s. 4d.

Accidents.—During the year there were several minor accidents, but none of a serious nature.

Mine Workings.—Development has been confined to Nos. 1 and 2 East levels and rise panels, and the completion of the rise panel Bottom West, where pillaring has commenced.

During most of the year top coal was won in the Nos. 1 and 2 panels, Top East level, and these areas are now sealed. The proximity of the escarpment, with surface-water risks, warrants caution, hence pillaring has not been attempted there.

Faulting to the rise limited development in No. 3 panel, and prospecting failed to locate the seam at the point selected for driving to develop the area beyond. The fault was proved as a 40 ft. downthrow by boring underground in No. 2 panel.

Beyond the double-step faulting in the Top East level, development proceeded satisfactorily in a

Beyond the double-step faulting in the Top East level, development proceeded satisfactorily in a thickened seam of excellent coal, and when the prospecting dip through this faulting is widened a pair of slant dip headings will be started in a north-easterly direction. Development in the Bottom East level ceased owing to irregular measures, but prospecting in the companion level indicates a lessened displacement of the step faulting, and development will be recommenced there. The rise panel off this level is opening out satisfactorily with excellent coal and uniform conditions.

To the west and parallel with the main dip a second haulage road is being formed by driving to the rise from three intermediate levels.

Prospecting.—Development in the lowest East level (where the old Mangapehi Co. experienced trouble) was continued after recovering the level, but the stone "roof-roll" continues to retard progress.

Reconditioning and continuing the main dip in a 3 ft. seam beyond the crushed faulting was undertaken, and where the measures proved to be again normal a bore in the floor reached a 12 ft. seam of coal 13 ft. below the 3 ft. one.

The number of miners at present is eighteen pairs, and a fairly high output per man-shift is obtained, the peak daily output reached being 388 tons.

Throughout the year no dangerous occurrence or serious accident occurred.

No major installations have been undertaken, but surveys for a surface rope-road and screening plant at the railway siding have been completed.

A modern bathhouse near the mine entrance, and a bulk machinery store and a deputy's cabin, have been built.

Township Extension.—A further ten five-roomed (prefabricated type) cottages and four double-unit improved baches, a residence for the District Manager, and a modern mine office have been built during the year.

In addition, a contractor is making good progress with the construction of a combined hall - library -billiard-room, and it should be completed in July. The septic tank and sewerage installations have been completed, and all cottages are now connected to water and sewer systems. The fencing of forty cottages is nearing completion.

Improvements to hostel during the year have been made by the addition of a sitting-room, side entrance, porch to dining-room, bulk store, washhouse, and a coal-shed, and the grounds have been fenced and laid out in lawns, and shrubs planted.

TATU COLLIERY

Output.—The gross output was 28,948 tons 10 cwt., a decrease of 671 tons 6 cwt. when compared with the figures of the previous year. After allowing for waste (1,616 tons 10 cwt.) there remained for disposal a net output of 27,332 tons.

Taking into account the stocks in hand at the beginning and end of the year, the following statement shows details of the coal disposed of during the year:—

1st April, 1943—					Tons ewt. qr.
Stock in bin		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		 	163 8 0
Net output for the year	• •		• •	 	27,332 0 0
31st March, 1944					$\overline{27,495} \ \ 8 \ \ 0$
Less stock in bin	• •	• •	••	 	92 13 3
					27,402 14 1

			Disposals				
				Tons ewt.	qr.		
Railway		 		 7,042.18	0		
Depot		 		 13,984 12	0		
Local sales		 		 1,408 3	1		
Free issues		 		 29 - 6	0		
$\mathbf{Workmen}$	••	 		 457 15	0		
Used on wor	$^{ m ks}$	 		 4,480 0	0		
						27,40214	1

The gross output from the colliery since inception amounts to 76,228 tons 15 cwt.

Days worked.—During the year the colliery worked on 258 days 2 hours, an increase of 2 days 6 hours as compared with the previous year. The possible working-days were 281, including 19 back Saturdays on which day shift only was worked. The difference between the days worked and the possible working days is accounted for as follows: 10 days, Christmas holidays; 1 day, Good Friday; 1 day, Easter Monday; 1 day, Anzac Day; 1 day, aerial breakdown; 1½ days, boiler breakdown; 1 day, fan breakdown; ½ day, engine-shed fire; 3 days, slip at mine mouth; 1 day, insufficient men; 1½ days, fatal accident; 2 hours, stop-work meeting.

Employees.—In connection with coal-winning, the average number of men employed in and about the mine was 87 men and 4 boys, made up as follows—Underground: Hewers, 24; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 34. Surface: 29 men and 4 boys.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure in connection with coal-winning for wages, stores, mine timber, compensation, together with subsidies on bus fares and cost of coal, was £50,474 ls. 3d.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily earnings were (gross) £2 9s. 9d., and after deducting stores (explosives, 6s. 9d.) their net return was £2 3s., an increase of 6d. per day when compared with previous year.

Daily Output.—The average daily mine output was 112 tons 1 cwt. and the average daily output per coal hewer was 7 tons 1 cwt., as compared with 115 tons 18 cwt. and 6 tons 4 cwt. respectively for the previous year.

Deficiencies,—There were no payments made under the minimum-wage clause during the year,

Accidents.—During the year there were numerous minor accidents but only two of a serious nature. These were as follows: On 19th June a miner struck his head against a bar and suffered a fracture of the cervial region of his spine, and on 19th July a miner received a compound fracture of the right leg when a stone rolled on him.

Mine Workings. Development proceeded to the south-west beyond the Cunningham fault, and the south-west heading was driven back to this fault from the No. I panel intersection. Off the south-west headings to the south a pair of levels, after advancing 7 chains, met the Cunningham fault, which cut across at a long angle, but a shaft revealed that the lessened displacement experienced at other points did not continue. An alteration in plans had to be made, and a pair of north-west dip headings, some 14 chains from and parallel to the original north-west heading, were commenced.

These headings have been advanced 5 chains, the coal being 6 ft. 6 in. in thickness and of excellent quality with a good roof and uniform conditions. At the face of the south-west main heading the seam is only 4 ft. 6 in. thick and is of splendid coal with a good sandstone roof, while the usual thin band of overlying fireday is absent. The floor is fireday and under wet conditions is sloppy and subject

to excessive floor heave.

The heading, before reaching the measures described above, passed through about 4 chains of troublesome measures with wet conditions and irregular lenses of foreign roof stone, which forced the timber bodily into the soft floor and considerably increased maintenance costs.

The north headings were developed under difficult conditions and they cut the 8 ft. fault line with only a thinning of the seam being experienced at this point. Later a rise panel was developed.

The north heading afterwards met further faulting and broken ground from which water and slurry

entered the drive, so the intention to make a drainage adit was abandoned.

Owing to costly road-maintenance, development ceased in November in the south-west and north-west headings until the Cunningham fault was pierced and a better haulage established, the North Section alone being concentrated on.

As the North Section developed, the seam increased to 9 ft. in thickness, the coal being friable and fully half the places were wet. Although the roof was poor at the start, it improved considerably, and the panel (limited to the south-west by the 8 ft. fault, to the south-east by the Cunningham fault, and to the north-east by the faulting met in the north heading) has been completed and pillar-splitting commenced with satisfactory results.

To furnish a direct haulage roadway to the south-west and north-west headings the Cunningham fault was pierced on a grade of 1 in 13, a holing being made on 14th April, 1944, by working three

shifts of two men on both ends.

In July an improvement in output was shown, the peak of 174 tons being reached, with figures in excess of 150 tons recorded on fifteen days during that month, but the output generally was poor, particularly during the latter half of the year, when miners were transferred to the stone tunnel and maintenance work.

Trucking on contract continued throughout the year, the average earnings being 33s. 72d. per shift,

with the peak fortnight 41s. 4d. and the lowest at 28s. 1d.

Saturday coal-production gave poor results, the men choosing to work day shift every Saturday instead of both shifts on back Saturday.

With the faulted conditions encountered, irregularities in grades, and much water, a greater call on the power plant resulted in boiler troubles on many occasions, and as the old boilers have nearly reached the end of their useful life they will be superseded when the electrification of the mine is completed.

Electrification.—In July the Public Works Department commenced the installation of a substation near Mangaparo to tap the 110,000 volt circuit. Early in 1944 this work was completed, together with the installation of the necessary transformers and current is now used at the mine and bins.

Concrete substations have been erected at Mangaparo and the mine, with the necessary switchgear and wiring installed, and the aerial ropeway and screening plant are now electrically operated. One of the compressors is also electrically operated.

A permanent compressor house is being erected, and the mine substation switchgear and wiring

have been installed.

Buildings.—A small bathhouse for the bins hands and a petrol-shed have been provided at Manga-

paro, while the screening plant has been housed.

The twenty prefabricated houses at Puketihi Township were completed, the sections fenced, and roadway and gravel paths attended to, while at Ohura the contractor has almost completed five cottages of a similar type.

WAITEWHENA

On the 20th March, 1944, operations commenced to open up in the Lee Creek by opencast machine mining.

Surveys have been made and plans prepared for an access road from the Waitewhena Road to the coal-face, and a heavy "bulldozer" is engaged on this work and the haulage of heavy logs for bridging the Waitewhena Stream.

The bush on the route of the access road has been cleared and sites for huts prepared. Two three-roomed hutments have already been erected.

The matter of a railway siding and loading-bank has been investigated and an ideal site two miles from Ohura selected.

Contracts for machine mining the coal, for carting it to the railway siding, and for the stripping of the coal-scam have been arranged.

This area should provide an ideal opencast machine-mining proposition, as the seam is thick, clean, and hard, and the overburden shallow, while a good dump for the overburden is available.

I have, &c., Geo. Smith, District Manager.

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES

COLLIERY SALES ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1944

TATU,	£ 28,677	28,677
Manga- Pehi.	£ 86,256	86,256
BLACK- MANGA- BALL. PEHI.	£ 68,51;	68,513
WALL- SEND*.	£ 108,169	108,169
Dobson.	£ 117,736	117,736
STRONG- DOBSON.	£ 211,450	211,450
James.	£ £ £ £ £ £ 211,450 117,736 108,160	216.648 18,563 211,450 117,736 108,169 68,513
LIVER- POOL.		216,648
, Co	Subsidy and sales of coal fort, c. and f., and f.	
Taur,	મ્યું : : : :	28,677
Manga- Peht.	£ 9,765 	9,765 76,491 86,256
BLACK- BALL.	£ 8,106 619 175 11,514	20,414 48,099 68,513
WALL- SEND*,	£ 9,727 888 254 18,165	29,034 79,135 108,169
Dobson.	£ 7,708 9±0 268 29,972	38,888 78,848 117,736
STRONG-	£ 14,776 2,210 631 51,710	69,327 142,123 211,450
JAMES.	£ 1,638 401 114 8,164	10,317 8,186 18,503
LIVER-	£ 17,513 2,658 760 45,324	66,255 150,393 216,648
	: ; : :	Coal
Dr.	Railway haulage Wharfage Special rate	Working Account sales net f.o.r.

* From 23rd February, 1943, to 31st March, 1944.

COLLIERY WORKING ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1944

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—continued

É

	TATU.	£. 1,242 28,423	29,665
	Manga- Pehi.	2, 12, 816 	15,364
	BLACK- MANGA- BALL, PEHI,	21.768	23,617
	WALLS- END.*	3	22,747
	Dobson.	25. 254. 26,046	26,300
	Strong. Man.	2, 12, 1925 	1,669 12,925
сн, 1944	JAMES.	1,669	
lst Mar	LIVER- POOL.	£ 218 11,173 10,830	12, 221
ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1944	Cr.	Gross profit at mine Rents, &c Net loss, transferred to General Profit and Loss Account	
CCOUNT	TAIC.	23,579 170 987 445 415 4132 3,092 192 192 10 29,665	29,665
- 1	Manga- Pehi.	2	15,364
OFIT ANI	BLACK- BALL.	£ 19,326 131 132 132 132 132 173 1	23,617
COLLIERY PROFIT AND LOSS	Walls- end.*	2.2, 747	22,747
Cor	Dobson, Walls-End.*	20.088 :: 162 231 521 52 13 7 1,705 186 186 186 25 26,300	26,300
	STRONG- MAN.	13.7 13.7 13.7 13.8 13.8 13.8 13.8 13.8 13.8 13.8 13.8	12,925
	James.		1,669
	LIVER- POOL.	2	12,221
	Dr,	Loss on working Rents Insurance General expenses Travelling-expenses Printing and stationery Audit fees Advertising Salaries Depreciation Postages and telegrams Subsidy Bad Debts Reserve October Depreciation Rother Common Comm	Account

* From 23rd February, 1943, to 31st March, 1944.

WacDonald Colliery Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March. 1944

	÷	200	6,718	£6,918	-
t		:	:		
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TOTO		:	;		
ENDED .		:	:		
LEAK		:	:		
TECK THE	Ċ.	ents	coyalties		
ACCOUR.	- ∓	1,093 R	5,825 Royaltie	$\pm 6,918$	
MACLONARD COLLIERT INCRIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE LEAK ENDED OLST MARCH, 1977	Dr.	Depreciation	Net profit, transferred to General Profit and Loss Account	7.6	

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—continued
Depot Trading Accounts for the Year ended 31st March, 1944

Dr.	Wellington.	CHRISTCHURCH.		WELLINGTON.	Wellington. Christchurch.
	3+3	Ç.		C. I	44
Stocks on hand at 1st April, 1943	1,441	5,978	Sales of coal	535,426	91,259
rchases of coal	454,438	65,213	Sales of coke, wood, &c	15.883	4.641
Purchases of wood, coke, &c	13,610	3,463	Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1944—		
Wharfage and freights	5,743	ō	Coal	306	648
ulage to depot	50,820	11,718	Wood, coke, &c	061	85
ages: Discharging	207	190			
Gross profit: To Profit and Loss Account	25,546	10,063			
1	551,805	96,630		551,805	96,630

1944
MARCH.
31sT
ENDED
YEAR
THE
FOR
ACCOUNTS
Loss
AND
PROFIT
DEPOT

Wanganui.	् _स :	59
CHRISTCHURCH.	10,063	10,070
Wellington.	25, 546 	25,546
Cr.	Trading accounts: Gross profit Rents	
Wanganur.	90 91	67
CHRISTCHURCH.	2, 929 1,926 1,570 1,570 1,570 1,570 1,280 2,929 2,929 4,0 4,0 4,0 1,262 1,262 1,262	10,070
Wellington.	2,106 2,662 632 632 15 17 125 125 126 70 109 109 109 109 13,542	25,546
Dr.	Advertising Wages: Yard Salaries Rents Repairs and maintenance Postages and telegrams Printing and stationery Insurance Cartage Sacks General expenses Audit fees Superannuation Fund subsidy Reserve for bad debts Rates Depreciation Account	ALCO CHILD

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—continued

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

		GENERAL	Profit A	ND LOSS ACCOUNT	
Dr. Net loss, 1943-44- Liverpool Colliery Dobson Colliery Wallsend Colliery Blackball Colliery Tatu Colliery Interest on loans		£ 10,836 26,044 22,74 21,766 28,42:	3 7 8 8 8 - 109,814	Net recoveries—	29 49 25 12 12 32 26
					$\begin{array}{ccc} & 268 \\ & 99,156 \end{array}$
			£133,298	,	£133,298
		PROFIT AND	Loss Api	PROPRIATION ACCOUNT	
Dr.		2.1002.2	£	Cr.	£
Net loss for year 1943-44 Taxation reserve for ine short-transferred, 1942-	some and other	taxes (amoun		Transfer from General Reserve	120,209
Loans Redemption Accou			21,052		
			£120,209		£120,209
		Balance-s	HEET AS A	ат 31st Максн, 1944	
	Liabilities	£	£	Assets	a
Loan capital: Securities Sundry creditors— South Island collieries North Island collieries Christchurch Depot Wellington Depot Deposits on contracts Debt Redemption Reserv Applied for Redemptio Reserves— General Reserve Accident Insurance Re Bad Debts Reserve	e— n of Capital	117,37 13,91 2,49 16,06 	$egin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Buildings at mines	07 15 15 38 37 27 66 80
Dati Denis Ineserve	,			Briquetting:—Preliminary expenses Prospecting on State coal reserve Plant, equipment, &c., on hire 7	. 380 . 9,853 98 10 — 788
				16,6	73
				Harris and the same to make the same to th	14,541
				1	29
				Miscellaneous advances 7,9 Less provisionally written off	33
				Sundry debtors— 52,2 South Island collieries 4,5 North Island collieries 1,2 MacDonald Colliery 71,2 Wellington Depot 71,2 Christehurch Depot 10,5	11 32 96 40
				Less provisionally written off 139,8	37
				Cash in Receiver-General's Deposit Account) ()
				Cash in Loans Redemption Account	-53,003 $-21,052$
		:	£1,169,667		£1,169,667
a. a. a. 1 1 0/0	337 117			D G IV. Der	

State Coal-mines Office, Wellington C. I, M. L. Thomas, Accountant.

P. C. Webb, Minister of Mines.

I hereby certify that the attached Working and Profit and Loss Accounts of Depots and Collieries, General Profit and Loss Account, and Balance-sheet have been duly examined and compared with the relative books and documents submitted for audit, and correctly state the position as disclosed thereby.—Cyrll G. Collins, Controller and Auditor-General.

STATEMENT OF PROPERTY ACCOUNTS AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1944

MacDonald, Total.	£ £ 89,270 295,606 257,807 84,138 129,737 608 627 129,737	39.878 851.876
TATU.	£ 50,650 37,562 8,399 35,028 73	138,305
Мамбарені.	2,385 17,397 10,804 68,637 .71 8,029	108,323
WALLSEND.	23,614 	87,644
Dobson.	£ 26,056 34,612 11,568 2,806 1,801 4,672	81,515
BLACKBALL.	£ 715 2,796 4,066 6,273 8,273	33,714
STRONGMAN.	2, 277 62, 277 34, 524 3, 874 21, 823	239,923
James.	15 15 516 123 145	799
LIVERPOOL.	£ 33,991 43,447 3,861 17,158 2,998 2,998 20,301	121,775
	Development and Property Account Electrical Plant Account Machinery, plant, ropes, and rolling-stock Buildings at mine Cottages at mine Plantations at mine Coal (stock on hand at mine, wharf, and afloat) Stores (stock on hand)	

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