

Liverpool Mine, Rewanui.—On 14th February a slight heating was discovered in the third bord to the right off No. 2 Bank, Morgan East. Water was led on to the heating mass of coal and stone, and by its use the heating was soon under control and everything appeared normal.

Liverpool Mine, Rewanui.—On 13th May a heating in its initial stage was discovered by the deputy in a large fall below Butler's place, No. 2 Bank, Morgan East. Water was led by pipe-line to the top of fall, and by its use the heating was controlled.

Owen Colliery, Owen River.—On 10th June fire broke out in a waste dump outside the mine. The men were withdrawn owing to the fumes from the fire entering the mine mouth, which was close by. Water was played on the fire as much as possible and the heated material moved by bulldozer.

Strongman Mine, Nine-mile.—On 27th June No. 3 North Heading struck No. 6 Bore and quantities of gas and water were given off. When the working-places were tested, it was found that there was a $2\frac{1}{2}$ percentage of gas present, and five pairs of men were withdrawn.

Liverpool Mine, Rewanui.—On 5th August a heating was discovered in No. 2 Bank, Morgan East Section. Preparations were made for quenching with water, and the situation was under control the following day.

Blackball Mine, Blackball.—On 16th September a heating was discovered in the goaf in one of the pillar places in the Crow's Nest Section. Stoppings were erected and the place sealed off.

Liverpool Mine, Rewanui.—On 8th November a heating in its early stages was discovered in the goaf in Top Panel, Morgan East Dip. As it could not be attacked directly, the panel was sealed off with temporary brattice stoppings plastered with lime and cement.

PROSECUTIONS UNDER THE COAL-MINES ACT, 1925

No informations were laid during the year.

SOUTHERN INSPECTION DISTRICT (J. HUGHES, Inspector of Coal-mines)

NORTH OTAGO DISTRICT

St. Andrews, Ngapara, Shag Point, Airedale, and Willett's Mines.—Coal-production at these mines was confined to pillar-extraction only, no development work of any interest being undertaken during the year.

Rockvale Mine.—Pillar-extraction was continued and development work was continued to the west. This latter work now promises to open up a further small area of workable coal.

OTAGO CENTRAL DISTRICT

Idaburn, Oturehua, Coal Creek, and Cambrian Pits.—Opencast mining operations were carried out during the year and along similar lines to previous years.

Shepherd's Creek Mine.—Pillar-extraction is continuing and a further small area has been developed on the south side of the main dip which will give a slightly increased life to the mine.

Cairnmuir Mine.—A very limited amount of development work has been carried out to the south and this work is approaching old workings. No further development to the dip has been undertaken, and this is necessary before a reasonable output can be obtained from the mine.

SOUTH OTAGO DISTRICT

Benhar Mine.—The bulk of the output has been obtained from partial pillar-extraction in the top seam. A dip cross-measure drive was driven from the higher to the lower seam and a small amount of development work in the lower seam took place early in the year.

Wangaloa and Sunnyvale Mines.—Both of these mines are working the Wangaloa Lease. In the former mine, pillar-extraction is continuing and the quantity of coal now remaining to be won is nearing its end. The Sunnyvale Mine is developing the area at its southern end, and indications are that a large quantity of coal still remains to be won from the lease.

Wangaloa State Mine.—Opencast operations are being continued at this pit and a reasonable output is being obtained.

New Fernhill No. 1.—All available coal was won from this mine, and the mine ceased operations and was abandoned.

Fernhill No. 2 Mine.—Pillar-extraction was continued throughout the year, and the mine is nearing its end.

Fernhill No. 3 Mine.—A small amount of development work was carried out at this mine, but the area so far proven is small.