

In the No. 1 Mine four pairs have been engaged in pillar-extraction in each of the following sections : No. 3 East Rope End, No. 3 East Panel, and No. 5 West Heading Section. Developing-work is being carried on in a small area of No. 5 West Heading Section, three pairs being so employed ; the coal here is thinning out and also running into faulted country. In No. 5 North, three pairs are engaged driving towards No. 4 North Panel with a view to extracting No. 4 pillars, the coal to be transported to main rope road through the No. 5 Section.

*Wilton Colliery.*—No. 2 Mine : The output from the mine has been secured from pillar-extraction in the Dawson's Dip area, where eight pairs of miners are placed.

No. 3 Mine : Five pairs of miners are engaged completing the extraction of the remaining pillars in B Panel.

No. 3 Extended Mine : Nineteen pairs of miners are engaged on development work in the Nos. 2, 3, and 4 East Heading Sections and Nos. 3 and 4 West Sections. In the Nos. 2 and 3 East Sections the headings have been advanced to a distance of 16 chains and 14 chains respectively from the main haulage road, the output from both sections being handled by means of endless-rope haulage systems installed during the year. The No. 2 Section consists of six headings with necessary crosscuts, and the No. 3 Sections consists of five headings with necessary crosscuts, the coal in both of these sections being mechanically cut by means of machines of the Korfmann type ; in No. 3 East Section several faults have been intercepted. In the No. 4 East headings a downthrow fault of approximately 15 ft. was encountered, stopping further advancement, it being the intention to open up on the inside beyond the fault from No. 3 Section. In the No. 4 West headings after advancing for a distance of 11 chains a downthrow fault of approximately 8 ft. was encountered. From the No. 3 West headings, which were standing on coal only 2 ft. 6 in. in thickness, slant headings are being driven towards the No. 4 headings, which they will intercept ahead of their present position ; the slants, which have advanced for a distance of 4 chains, are in 6 ft. of good-quality coal. The main mine haulage rope has been extended into the No. 4 West Heading Section. It appears that the coal-seam deteriorates in quality and tends to thin out as it advances to the west ; this is disappointing from an output point of view, as only a one-sided mine is provided.

*Rotowaro Colliery.*—No. 1 Colliery (Top Seam) : Pillar-extraction was continued until August in No. 4 Section, when, due to heating, this section was temporarily sealed off. In the Hill 60 and New Haulage or No. 1 Sections pillar-extraction has been continued intermittently during the year.

Callaghan's Dip Section (Bottom Seam) : The main headings have been advanced to 55 chains from the No. 1 Main Haulage. A stone band has been met with and appears to be thickening. No. 6 Panel headings have been broken away from the main headings. No. 5 Panel headings have been advanced to 13 chains from the main heading. No. 5A Panel is in process of formation, coal being cut with coal-cutting machines. In No. 5 Panel the development work was completed and pillar-extraction commenced during the year. In No. 4 Panel, pillar-extraction was continued throughout the yearly period.

No. 3 Mine : Pillar-extraction was continued in Brown's Section, Wilkie's Dip, and New Dip Sections, whilst development work is being carried out in the Shaft Section.

In the Callaghan's Dip area an extensive boring programme has been carried out proving fairly large deposits of workable coal.

Alison No. 1 Colliery : Pillar-extraction was continued throughout the year in all panels and in No. 2 Dip.

In No. 1 Dip and Rope End, pillars heating necessitated the closing of these two sections in the latter part of the year.

Development in the top-seam panel, No. 4A Jig, was discontinued early in the year owing to shortage of miners.

In the North Drive the headings were advanced to a distance of 8 chains beyond the fault where the seam cut out. Development of bords to the rise is being carried out.

Alison No. 2 Colliery : The main dip headings were advanced 4 chains beyond the fault, while the return airway has been completed back through the fault.

B Section headings have been advanced to 20 chains from the main dip.

B South Slant headings were commenced during the year and advanced a distance of 3 chains from B Section heading.

Development of B1 Section was continued by machines throughout the year.

"A" Section has been closed throughout the year owing to shortage of miners.

Pillar-extraction continued throughout the year in the rise panel.

Two new Mavor and Coulson coal-cutters were delivered in December and will be installed in this colliery early in the New Year.

*Glen Afton No. 1 Colliery.*—Output during the year was secured from pillar-extraction in E2 Panel, E2 Rope End Section, and L Section. The only work of development carried out was in the driving of a pair of headings from H Section towards K rope road, the purpose of these being to secure an easy haulage way for the extraction of K roadside pillars and, if possible, the opening-up of a small area of coal lying between the E and K rope roads.