

Morgan West Dip : Development here has been pushed on a distance of 11 chains with a grade of approximately 1 in 4. The top 5 ft. of the seam has deteriorated and is now interspersed with stone bands. There is, however, 15 ft. of clean coal below these stone bands. Two pairs of miners were engaged in development work in this section.

Morgan East Dip : Two headings have been driven to the rise and to the east of the middle panel. The quality of coal is improving, and prospects look bright for another small panel in this area. Two pairs of miners were engaged on this work.

Hadercroft's Dip, Morgan East Dip Section : Development has now reached a distance of 13 chains from the bottom of Hadercroft's Dip. A new level was turned off to the east at approximately 12 chains. The thickness of coal in the dip face is 16 ft., but the level to the east appeared to be running into dirty coal. A sump is being driven off the dip heading to the west 2 chains below the bottom of Hadercroft's Dip. This will provide the main sump for all the Morgan East Dip workings. Four pairs of miners were engaged on this work.

In the top panel, Morgan East Dip, pillar-extraction was carried out, but a heating developed and the area was sealed off permanently.

Machinery installed underground included a new 40 h.p. electric winch installed in the Kimbell West Dip, a 40 h.p. main and tail compressed-air winch installed in the Anderson Dip Section, and a 20 h.p. compressed-air winch installed at the foot of Hadercroft's Dip. An electric hot-air-heating apparatus was installed in two bathhouses, while an electric system of heating water was installed in the bins bathhouse.

Strongman State Colliery.—The output was gained mainly from development work in a northerly direction from the main east haulage road and in a southerly direction in the No. 1 South Dip Section. The seam in this section deteriorated in thickness and quality due to a number of stone bands. Development was discontinued and preparations made to extract the pillars. A new dip haulage was being driven to improve the haulage facilities from this section.

A new 40 h.p. electric Carron drive haulage winch was installed for the No. 2 Dip into the lower seam, effecting a considerable improvement in the haulage for this section.

Blackball State Colliery, Blackball.—Sump Dip : Five pairs of miners on double shift developed this section with a Jeffrey coal-cutter. Workings to left of main dip are approaching No. 2 Bore. The seam is 20 ft. thick of good quality. Coal on left side of main dip seam thinned to 4 ft.

Dunn's Dip : Three pairs of miners on double shift developed this section, which is in the locality of No. 1 Bore. The coal is 15 ft. to 20 ft. thick and is of good quality.

Main and Tail Section : This section was developed by three pairs of miners on double shift with a Korfman coal-cutter. Two headings were driven 3 chains through barren ground.

Crow's Nest Section : Two pairs of miners on double shift were extracting pillars. A heating was successfully sealed.

An endless rope haulage was installed in Main and Tail Section.

Underground substation was brought into use. High tension is fed through a borehole cable, 11,000 volts, and transformed underground to 400 volts.

Blackball Creek Colliery (Balderstone and Party), Blackball.—Eight men were employed underground during the year continuing splitting and extracting pillars left behind in the old original Blackball Proprietary's workings in the top seam.

Briandale Collieries, Ltd., Ten-mile Creek.—Prospecting operations were continued in a coal-seam adjacent to the old Burnside Co-operative Mine. The quality of the coal deteriorated somewhat in very disturbed strata. A continuation of the seam is difficult to determine on this account.

Wallsend State Colliery, Brunnerton.—No. 1 Dip development was continued towards the east side, and in the area between the roll and the Dobson fault development continued for a further 2½ chains. In No. 2 Dip pumping was continued with a new Lee Howl pump, and the machine level is now dry. Brushing and retimbering was continued nearly down to this point. Concrete stoppings were erected on either side where necessary.

No. 1 Slant Dip : Splitting of pillars was continued and has now reached the line of the old dip road.

Extension Section : Development was completed and splitting of pillars commenced.

New cages with safety-catches were fitted in the main winding-shaft and a 60 h.p. electric man-haulage winch was installed at the top of No. 3 Dip. A new 6 in. compressed-air line was installed in the upcast shaft.

A stone drive connecting No. 1 Slant Dip with the old No. 2 Dip was driven to make a new return airway with a view to improving the ventilation of Nos. 1 and 2 Slant Dips and the Extension Section.

Dobson State Colliery, Dobson.—Development continued in the main dip headings and in the No. 5 West Section. A step fault developed in No. 5 West and increased in throw from north to south. There is regular formation beyond this fault, which is being pierced at No. 3 West Dip, where the displacement shows approximately 10 ft. downthrow. A new electric cable was placed down No. 2 Dip to No. 1 Pumping Station, which will be converted from compressed air to electricity.

A new transformer for the main substation is almost completed. Work has commenced on the enlarging of the main return airway for improved ventilation.

Paparua Colliery, Roa.—Aerial Section (No. 1 Seam) : Four to five pairs of colliers were employed throughout the year, mainly in solid work. Towards the end of the year a connection was made with the old top level with the intention of driving through to the outcrop in Waterfall Creek.