

REEFTON DISTRICT

Doran's Mine, Boatmans.—Very little prospecting work was done during the year in a small seam of coal.

Alborn's Mine, Caplestone.—Six men were employed at this mine in Nos. 1 and 2 seams, principally on pillar-extraction.

Kleen Mine (Archer Bros.), Caplestone.—Pillar-extraction was continued in a vertical seam of good-quality coal averaging 12 ft. thick.

Coghlan's Freehold Mine, Caplestone.—The output was won solely from pillar-extraction on the rise side of the main level.

Hillcrest Top Mine, Waitahu.—The output was won from pillar-extraction to the rise of the main level in coal of good quality averaging 5 ft. in thickness.

Griggs and Party's Mine, Waitahu.—Pillar-extraction on the rise side of the horse level was completed early in the year. Development was continued in a north-easterly direction for a distance of 7 chains from the lower end of the dip haulage road. Coal was of good quality. Roof conditions, however, necessitated constant care and attention.

Dauntless Mine, Waitahu.—This mine was operated by Woodbury and party at the beginning of the year, but was later taken over by the Pyramid Coal-mining Co., Ltd. The output was won from development work to the dip and level course in a north-easterly direction. The coal was of excellent quality averaging 15 ft. thick. A new dip haulage road was driven parallel with and approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ chains from the boundary with the Pyramid Mine, thus improving the haulage facilities for the coal on this side of the mine.

New Pyramid Mine (Crown Lease), Waitahu.—Development was continued towards the boundary with the Morrisvale leases in good-quality coal 12 ft. thick. Increased quantities of water however, forced this company to abandon further development on this lease, and the company took over the Dauntless Mine adjacent. The Pyramid dip haulage road is now being used as a pumping-pit.

Burke's Creek State Mine, Reefton.—Development continued north-east and south-west of the Slant Dip Extension on level course. From the level on the north-east side it is intended to drive to the rise and connect with the bottom of the present main dip haulage. Pillar-extraction on the south-west side commenced in the second half of the year with satisfactory results. No dip development was attempted during the year. Repairs and improvements to the dip haulage road were carried out, and preparations were made for the installation of a man-haulage on this main dip haulage road. A new electric haulage winch on the surface was installed and was almost ready for operation at the close of the year.

Morrisvale Opencast Mine (Morrisvale Lease), Reefton.—An intermittent output was obtained from No. 4 seam during the year.

Perfection Valley Mine (Morrisvale Lease), Reefton.—Development was commenced in No. 3 seam adjacent to the old Perfection Mine. The workings progressed on a level course in No. 3 seam for a distance of approximately 7 chains, when disturbed conditions were encountered, the grade of the seam approaching vertical and becoming thin and dirty. Pillar-extraction later commenced at the inbye end of the workings, this work having very good results. The thickness of the coal was 4 ft. 6 in.

Pyramid Section (Morrisvale Lease), Reefton.—A small output was won from intermittent work carried out during the year.

Higrade Mine (Morrisvale Lease), Reefton.—A small output was won from an area of Reefton No. 2 seam adjacent to the Burke's Creek Mine. Pillar-extraction commenced in the vertical section during the latter part of the year with good results. The coal is of good quality.

Ferndale Mine (Lockington's Lease), Reefton.—This mine started during the year, a small output being won by opencast and underground methods. The opencasting was done in the No. 4 seam, and reopening of No. 2 seam previously worked by Watson and Hamill was attempted and abandoned after a small output was won.

Burnwell Mine (D. Hamill), Reefton.—The output was obtained solely from development work on a level course in a north-easterly direction and to the rise in a south-easterly direction. Attempts to provide a new return airway to the surface proved fruitless owing to the difficult roof conditions. However, a new attempt is being made to provide this airway.

Central Mine (D. Hamill), Reefton.—The output from this mine was won solely from development, principally on level course to the north towards the boundary of the coal-bearing land in this direction. Dip development was continued intermittently in a north-westerly direction towards Reefton Railway-station. The seam continued to pitch steeply in this direction.

Terrace Mine, Reefton.—Development was continued in this mine in three main levels working Reefton No. 4 seam towards Reddale Valley. Advancing headings were almost through to the outcrop in this valley. It is proposed to drive through to the outcrop to assist in the ventilation of the mine.

Defiance Mine, Murray Creek.—Development was continued throughout the year on level course to the east and on the rise to the north. The workings were advanced 7 chains or 8 chains from the mine entrance. The seam has thinned to 3 ft. 6 in. with a general deterioration in the quality of the coal. The general inclination of the seam increased along the main level, with indications pointing to disturbed ground ahead.