

Year.				Output.	Men Employed.	Tons per Man Employed.
<i>Opencast Mines</i>						
1930	..	..	..	11,431	28	520
1931	..	..	..	14,733	39	378
1932	..	..	..	15,912	43	370
1933	..	..	..	23,389	58	403
1934	..	..	..	18,087	57	317
1935	..	..	..	16,280	44	370
1936	..	..	..	31,979	63	508
1937	..	..	..	39,148	55	712
1938	..	..	..	41,966	53	792
1939	..	..	..	46,632	56	833
1940	..	..	..	50,763	36	1,410
1941	..	..	..	54,183	33	1,642
1942	..	..	..	55,774	47	1,187
1943	..	..	..	62,037	46	1,349
1944	..	..	..	196,454	242	812
1945	..	..	..	452,680	332	1,363
1946	..	..	..	528,700	425	1,244
1947	..	..	..	644,692	432	1,492
1948	..	..	..	676,728	455	1,487
<i>All Mines</i>						
1930	..	..	..	2,542,092	5,867	433
1931	..	..	..	2,157,756	5,745	376
1932	..	..	..	1,842,022	4,636	397
1933	..	..	..	1,821,258	4,386	415
1934	..	..	..	2,060,315	4,478	460
1935	..	..	..	2,115,184	4,231	500
1936	..	..	..	2,140,217	4,257	503
1937	..	..	..	2,277,799	4,417	516
1938	..	..	..	2,222,088	4,563	487
1939	..	..	..	2,342,639	4,762	492
1940	..	..	..	2,516,099	5,046	499
1941	..	..	..	2,639,507	4,991	529
1942	..	..	..	2,680,041	4,997	536
1943	..	..	..	2,787,868	5,374	519
1944	..	..	..	2,805,970	5,595	502
1945	..	..	..	2,833,576	5,592	507
1946	..	..	..	2,793,870	5,557	503
1947	..	..	..	2,751,725	5,442	506
1948	..	..	..	2,775,886	5,582	497

In order to maintain and increase present coal-production it is necessary to recruit men to the industry to replace wastage due to ageing miners, to lay out the development of a mine from the opening stages so that the mine can operate with maximum efficiency, and to equip the mines with mechanical equipment suitable to the conditions. During 1948 progress has been made in these directions.

There has been a small increase in the number of men employed both underground and on the surface, but the intake was necessarily confined to inexperienced men and some time must elapse before they have acquired the necessary skill to make any marked effect upon output. Any increase in the number of men employed in the industry is dependent upon the provision of suitable accommodation. As far as single men are concerned, the position is being adequately met by the provision of hostels by the Labour and Employment Department at various mining centres. During 1948 hostels were completed at Reefton, Granity, and Huntly, while during the present year hostels have recently been opened at Ohura and Ohai. At the moment additional huts,