

Linton Coal-mine, Nightcaps.—Two seams are being worked from separate adits, and the coal produced is conveyed 100 chains by surface tram-line to Wairio Branch Railway terminus. Ventilating-fan being constructed was expected to arrive at the mine before the end of the year.

Birchwood Coal-mine (Ross Bros. and Reed).—An opencast working recently opened on private land.

Diamond Lignite-mine, Seaward Bush.—An opencast working continued for sale of local requirements.

Orepuki Coal-mine, Orepuki.—The new tram-line of half a mile in length is being constructed to Waincimea Railway-siding. The dip drive was stopped on a fault and had not been extended, but levels were being driven south for prospecting the field.

Linwood Coal-mine, Te Anau.—A small opencast pit worked for the requirements of the Tourist Department's steamer on Lake Te Anau.

Dangerous Occurrences notified under Regulation 81.

Mount Torlesse Colliery, Avoca.—8th June, 1920: Outbreak of fire in No. 2 west workings, which were sealed off in the meantime as reported by me to Chief Inspector, 21st June, 1920.

Kaitangata No. 1 Mine, Kaitangata.—3rd August, 1920: Ignition of firedamp at a spontaneous fire which had arisen in the back airway at the corner of old No. 4 dip, McGhie's level. Fire immediately overcome and no damage done. Reported by me to Chief Inspector, 9th August, 1920.

Waronui Mine, Milton.—11th October, 1920: Outbreak of fire and smoke from old workings; men withdrawn for one day while fire being stopped off. Reported by me to Chief Inspector, 18th October, 1920.

Kaitangata No. 1 Mine, Kaitangata.—14th October, 1920: Workmen in Mundy's dip section withdrawn owing to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of firedamp in the air coming from waste workings. Place reported clear on 15th, and work resumed. Reported by me to Chief Inspector, 18th October, 1920.

Taratu Colliery, Taratu.—25th November, 1920: Outbreak of fire in the surface-seam workings, where a fire had been previously stopped off, but a shot fired at "knock-off" had evidently opened a vent emitting smoke. The fire was eventually smothered by falls of surface clay. Reported by me to Chief Inspector, 29th November, 1920.

Kaitangata No. 1 Mine, Kaitangata.—26th November, 1920: Owing to smoke from a stopping in No. 7 dip the workmen in that section were withdrawn from their places. The smoke was stopped and the places cleared in about an hour. Reported by me to Chief Inspector, 29th November, 1920.

Fatal Accidents.

Dunlop's Mine, Otago.—21st August, 1920: John Archibald, forty, miner. While squaring the coal-side for erection of a set of timber a fall of coal came away from a smooth parting in low roof, and a block of coal weighing about 3 cwt. crushed him to the floor, causing fracture of left leg and severe bruising of back, face, and head, resulting fatally on the 14th September, 1920.

Serious Non-fatal Accidents.

Mataura Colliery, Mataura.—22nd January, 1920: Duncan Ballock, miner—severely bruised shoulder. While firing a group of shots one exploded. Fifty-eight days off work.

Shag Point Mine, Shag Point, Otago.—26th April, 1920: John Atkinson, fifty-six, underviewer—injury to ribs (right side), right-kidney area, and left shoulder. Struck by runaway empty box while repairing signal wire on self-acting haulage incline. Off work 187 days.

Nightcaps Mine, Nightcaps.—24th May, 1920: Percy Braithwaite, twenty-three, miner—severe cut of eyeball by a piece of coal flying from pick-point, necessitating removal of right eye. Thirty-five days off work.

Mount Torlesse Mine, Avoca.—14th May, 1920: William Davis, forty-two, miner—unhealed ulcerating wound of right lower leg, said to have been caused while trucking, when he slipped on flatsheet and struck leg against the truck. Off work 201 days.

McGill's Mine, Milton, Otago.—23rd July, 1920: James Scott, thirty-seven, miner—sprain and bruising of back and fracture of left ankle. Was taking a 3 ft. strip off the side when a fall of coal came from greasy parting in low roof between timber and side of place. Off work 136 days, and still off at 31st December, 1920.

Mount Torlesse Mine, Avoca.—24th July, 1920: George Littlewood, forty-two, underviewer—fracture of lower right leg. Was making alteration to short jig when empty truck landed suddenly, striking Littlewood on the leg. Off work 141 days.

Benhar Mine, Benhar, Otago.—6th August, 1920: James Walls, forty-five, deputy—burns of right hand, forearm, side of neck, and head. While reaching a pellet from powder-tin a spark fell from naked light upon the powder in tin, which instantly exploded. Sixty-two days off work.

Kaitangata No. 1 Mine, Kaitangata.—16th August, 1920: John W. Fenton, thirty-eight, miner—fracture of left fibula. Struck by piece of coal which fell from side of working-place. Sixty-nine days off work.

Waronui Mine, Milton.—30th October, 1920: Robert Robertson, fifty-three, miner—fractured right leg. Struck by lump of coal, which rolled over on the dross and caught leg against a prop. Still off work.

Kaitangata Mines (Pit-head).—10th December, 1920: Hamilton Jarvie, nineteen, box-runner, sustained fracture of left forearm, being jammed between two full boxes of coal. Forty days off work—resumed work on 27th January, 1921.

Mount Torlesse Mine, Avoca.—12th November, 1920: James Blaney, twenty-nine, miner—injured left eye. Struck by piece of steel which broke off pick-point while working at the face. Still off work.