

1922.
NEW ZEALAND.

STATE COAL-MINES

(REPORT ON THE WORKING OF) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 118 of the Coal-mines Act, 1908.

The GENERAL MANAGER, State Coal-mines, Wellington, to the UNDER-SECRETARY, Mines Department, Wellington.

SIR,—
I have the honour to submit my annual report on the working of the State coal-mines for the year ended 31st March, 1922.

9th May, 1922.

LIVERPOOL COLLIERY.

The gross total output of coal for the year was 137,908 tons, a decrease of 15,814 tons 19 cwt. when compared with the figures of last year. After making allowance for stocks on hand at the beginning of the year, and deducting mine consumption and waste, there remained for disposal 135,766 tons 11 cwt., which is accounted for as follows:—

					Tons	cwt.	Tons	cwt.
Export—								
Screened coal	..	..	..	..	14,286	11		
Unscreened coal	..	..	..	..	76,287	18		
Small coal	..	..	..	..	17,715	1		
							108,289	10
Local sales—								
Screened coal	..	..	..	..	2,371	10		
Unscreened coal	..	..	..	..	11,675	5		
Small coal	..	..	..	..	5,727	0		
							19,773	15
Mine sales	..	..	..	..	250	2		
Sold to workmen	..	..	..	..	2,419	9		
Stock in bin	..	..	..	..	3,846	2		
							6,515	13
Stock on wharf—								
Screened coal	..	..	..	..	299	19		
Unscreened coal	..	..	..	..	660	19		
Small coal	..	..	..	..	226	15		
							1,187	13
Total	..	..	..	..			135,766	11
Used on works					3,255	0		
Waste	..	..	..	..	1,017	0		
							4,272	0

The gross total output won from this colliery since its inception is 1,026,065 tons 14 cwt.

Time worked.—During the year the Nos. 1 and 3 mines worked 229½ days and 228½ days respectively, out of a possible 313 days, a decrease of 21½ days respectively as compared with the number of days worked last year. The difference between the days worked and the possible working-days is accounted for as follows:—

	No. 1 Mine.	No. 3 Mine.
Pay Saturdays	26	26
Stop-work meetings	4	3
Union holidays	14	14
Quarterly cavils	1½	1½
Slips on railway	3	3
Slip on haulage-road	1	..
Breakdown Railway Department's locomotive.. .. .	..	2
No steamers or orders	13	13
Wharf labourers idle	2	2
Strike <i>re</i> new agreement	18	18
Fall on rope-road	..	1
Bad bar	1	1
	83½	84½

Employees.—The average number of persons employed in and about the mine in connection with coal-winning was 318 (a decrease of 7 as compared with the previous year), made up as follows: Underground—Coal-hewers, 102; deputies, shiftmen, and truckers, 124. On the surface—63 men and 29 boys. In addition to those employed under the heading of “coal-winning,” there were 14 men and 1 boy employed on property and development work, making a total number for this colliery of 303 men and 30 boys.

Payments.—The total payments made in connection with coal-winning on account of wages, stores, mine-timber, and compensation amounted to £89,686 12s. 10d., a decrease of £7,619 6s. 2d. in payments made compared with the previous year.

Coal-hewers' Average Daily Earnings.—The coal-hewers' average daily gross earnings were 28s. 63d., and the net return after making deductions for stores was 26s. 073d., a net increase of 1·28d. per day compared with the previous year.

Average Output per Miner.—The average daily output per miner was 6 tons 5·61 cwt.

Underground Exploration.—At this colliery two mines are now being worked—namely, the Nos. 1 and 3 mines. In connection with the former two seams are worked, and are known as the Top seam and the Morgan seam. From the top seam the output was principally obtained from the working of pillar coal, the only exception being in a few places where the pillars could not be wholly extracted, but simply split and formed into small pillars, which are left to support the roof and prevent damaging the surface in the vicinity of small creeks.

During the greater part of the year the output from the Morgan seam was derived from workings in course of being opened on the northern and western sides of the haulage-tunnel; but during the latter part of the year all development places had to be stopped owing to the seam pinching and the intrusion of stone bands. The output in future from this seam from the present mine-entrance will be obtained from the extraction of pillars.

The output from the No. 3 mine was obtained from the extraction of pillars. At the beginning of the year twenty-one pairs of miners were employed therein, but owing to the working-area being reduced it was found necessary to reduce the number to fourteen pairs. Owing to the near exhaustion of this mine, a reduction in output must be expected in the near future.

The No. 3A mine was closed in November last, all pillars that could be safely won having been extracted.

During the year an outcrop of coal on the eastern side of the new Morgan seam haulage-road has been prospected. The seam is 8 ft. thick, and dipping 1 in 3. The upper 3 ft. of the seam is good marketable coal, but the remaining 5 ft. is soft and suitable only for use on works for steam-raising.

Property and Development Work.—The principal work carried out under this heading was the construction of a tunnel rising 1 in 1 from the Morgan seam tunnel to the surface for ventilation purposes. Where this tunnel intersected with the surface the strata was very broken for fully 40 ft., and to properly secure this portion arrangements have been made to put in a concrete arch, which will also be carried forward to connect with the fan which will be installed near where the tunnel connected with the surface. When this work is completed, and the fan installed, it should ensure good ventilation during the time the main tunnel is being driven to intersect with the Morgan and the upper seam.

The distance remaining to be driven in the main tunnel is 24 chains to the upper seam and 29 chains to the Morgan seam. Immediately the fan herein referred to is erected arrangements will be made to commence driving the tunnel; this is imperative in view of the near exhaustion of the No. 3 mine.

Surface Works.—The whole of the plant, machinery, and buildings have been maintained in good order and condition.

Addition to Plant.—The work of installing the Bellis Morcomb engine and electric generator from the Point Elizabeth Colliery, at the central power-house, is well under way, and should be completed at an early date.

Accidents.—There have been several minor accidents during the year, and I regret to report that one which was at first considered a minor accident proved fatal. The accident referred to was caused through the late R. J. Meade slipping on a flat-sheet outside the mine, whilst attending to a boiler used for heating the water for the bath-house at the No. 1 mine.

JAMES MINE.

Underground Development.—The main haulage-drive has now been driven a distance of 29 chains. The first 15 chains were driven in stone, and at this distance borehole No. 15 was intersected, likewise the seam, the latter being only 3 ft. thick, as boring had already proved. From the latter point onward the main haulage-drive has been driven a distance of 14 chains in part stone and part coal. In driving the latter distance the seam has been variable both in thickness and quality, and in no case could be classed as marketable coal.

In addition to driving the main haulage-drive, two level places are being driven in the direction of Kane's workings. The first level was started off the haulage-road near borehole 15, and the second level off the haulage-road midway between bores 15 and 16. The seam in both these levels has also been variable in quality and thickness. It is, however, pleasing to report that the seam in the main heading and also in the second level is improving both in thickness and quality.

Surface Works.—During the year the following work has been completed on the surface: The erecting of the coal tipping and screening plant, together with the engine for driving the same; the installation of an electrically driven Sirocco fan; the laying-down of the concrete foundations for the unscreened portion of the bins; the erection of an additional boiler; and the clearing of sites for change and bath house, and storage magazine for explosives. In addition to the work referred to, two men have been employed for several months at the Point Elizabeth workshops repairing mine-tubs for this colliery.

Employees and Expenditure.—The average number of persons employed in and about the colliery during the year was thirty. The expenditure incurred during the year was £17,365 9s. 5d.; this, together with the amount previously expended, brings the total amount expended in connection with the opening-up of this colliery to £37,809 6s. 5d.

Accidents.—A few minor accidents have occurred, and it is pleasing to report there have not been any of a serious nature.

Sawmill.—The mine sawmill, which was situated at Dunollie for many years, has been dismantled and re-erected at Runanga. The sawmill is now centrally situated for the supplying of timber to the James and Liverpool Collieries.

MACDONALD MINE.

Operations for the past year have included the extension of the main heading, laying foundations for the screening plant, completion of workshop and store, additions and alterations to two cottages on the property, and the planting of 31,000 trees suitable for mining-timber.

Main Heading.—This heading was extended 390 ft. during the year, the total length now being 520 ft. The strata driven through from the commencement consisted of clean fireclay with thin veins of coal. This heading is now stopped, and is within 110 ft. of a borehole where the seam was proved to be 13 ft. 5 in. in thickness. From this point onwards the seam has been proved to be continuous for a mile with no evidence of disturbance.

Plant, &c.—The workshop and store have been completed, and equipped with sufficient suitable plant to meet present requirements. Other plant delivered at the mine includes a large stock of rails, flat-sheets, and mine-tub wheels. Foundations containing 70 cubic yards of concrete for the screen buildings have also been laid.

Tree-plantation.—Two areas containing 34 acres were cleared and fenced, and the greater portion planted in trees suitable for mining-timber. The plants consisted of 8,000 *Eucalyptus saligna* and 23,000 *Pinus radiata*. The season proved a very favourable one, and the bulk of the trees are growing satisfactorily.

Employees.—During the early part of the year there were, on an average, nine men regularly employed, but during the latter part the number was reduced to four, and operations were then confined to driving the main heading.

GENERAL.

Reviewing the work for the year, it will be seen there is a decided decrease in output, also in the number of days worked as compared with the previous year. The reduction of working-time has always a serious effect not only on the output but on the general average cost of production, for it must be noted that the maintenance of the mines must be attended to whether working or not.

A new industrial agreement was entered into on the 3rd March, 1922, with a currency of nearly three years, and I am indebted to you for the valuable assistance rendered in connection with the drawing-up of the same.

In conclusion I wish to say that all the officers have performed their duties in a satisfactory manner; and the Consulting Engineer, also the Director of Geological Survey, has rendered valuable assistance in the various developments connected with the mines.

I have, &c.

I. A. JAMES,

General Manager.

The Under-Secretary, Mines Department, Wellington.

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—continued.

STATEMENT OF THE RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

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STATEMENT OF GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Liverpool Colliery Trade Expenses Account	115,167	14	5				By Liverpool Colliery Working Account—Gross profit ..	128,515	2	3			
Wellington Depot Trade Expenses Account	11,249	5	11				Wellington Depot Trading Account—Gross profit ..	13,872	16	5			
Christchurch Depot Trade Expenses Account	5,915	6	1				Christchurch Depot Trading Account—Gross profit ..	5,882	15	8			
Wanganui Depot Trade Expenses Account	2,505	14	1				Wanganui Depot Trading Account—Gross profit ..	2,515	9	2			
				134,838	0	6	Seddonville Colliery—Recovery ..	110	14	7	150,786	3	6
Point Elizabeth—Bad debts ..	5	9	1				Point Elizabeth Colliery—Recovery ..	4,338	10	2			
Dunedin Depot—Bad debts ..	0	8	6			5 17 7	Liverpool Colliery—Rents ..	483	10	3			
Balance—Profit for year carried down ..				21,766	9	7	Christchurch Depot—Recovery ..	54	10	0			
							Interest on investments ..				4,987	5	0
											836	19	2
				£156,610	7	8					£156,610	7	8
Sinking Fund Account for redemption of loan capital				4,552	0	0	Balance—Profit for year 1921–22 ..				21,766	9	7
Balance—Net profit for year				17,214	9	7							
				£21,766	9	7					£21,766	9	7

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—continued.

STATEMENT OF LIVERPOOL COLLIERY WORKING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Stock on hand	..	..	..	5,737	0	8	By Sales of Liverpool coal ..	222,818	10	9			
Coal-winning—							Sales of Dunollie coal ..	23	16	9			
Wages	77,793	1	0				Sales of timber	262	10	2			
Materials used	4,105	19	3				Sales of stores	5,198	7	8			
Stores used	6,234	13	7				Sales and hire of plant ..	161	13	2			
Railway tickets	550	6	6								228,464	18	6
Plant sales and hire ..	103	13	2				Stock of coal on hand at 31st March, 1922, at						
Special trains	2,782	18	4				mine and wharf	..	..	..	3,701	15	6
				91,570	11	10							
Timber cut	156	12	5										
Stores sold	4,851	13	10										
Dunollie coal purchased ..	47	17	11										
				5,056	4	2							
Special rate	..	..	..	1,287	15	1							
Balance—Gross profit ..	..	..	..	128,515	2	3							
				£232,166	14	0					£232,166	14	0

STATEMENT OF LIVERPOOL COLLIERY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Management and office salaries ..	4,725	6	6				By Gross profits at mine ..	128,515	2	3			
Interest and exchange	5,703	18	10				Rents	483	10	3			
Travelling-expenses	321	17	8								128,998	12	6
Printing and stationery	242	3	9										
Repairs and maintenance	4,130	14	10										
Telegrams and postages	247	10	2										
Railway haulage	18,221	16	1										
Insurances	468	3	11										
Compensation for accidents and fund	1,552	19	0										
Cargo adjustments	82	5	6										
General expenses	389	17	7										
Marine freights	60,473	0	0										
Terminal charges	294	0	0										
Audit fees	70	0	0										
Bad debts—Coal	5	5	4										
Wharfage	3,850	13	10										
Horses destroyed	47	0	0										
Depreciation—Mine, buildings, plant, and machinery ..	14,341	1	5										
				115,167	14	5							
Balance—Net profit				13,830	18	1							
				<u>£128,998</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>					<u>£128,998</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>

WELLINGTON DEPOT TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1921 ..				1,510	10	9	By Sales of coal	128,121	15	2			
Purchases of coal	113,144	15	2				Sales of firewood, coke, &c. ..	2,383	14	0			
Purchases of firewood, coke, &c. ..	1,582	14	7								130,505	9	2
				114,727	9	9	Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1922—Firewood, &c.				2,047	18	7
Cartage to depot	1,273	17	10										
Wharfage	1,168	13	0										
				2,442	10	10							
Balance—Gross profits				13,872	16	5							
				<u>£132,553</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>					<u>£132,553</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>

WELLINGTON DEPOT PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Dr.				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	Cr.			
To Wages	..	..	..	2,887	7	1	By Balance of Trading Account	..	..	..	13,872	16	5
Salaries	..	..	..	1,527	13	2							
Rents	..	..	..	856	0	0							
Rates	..	..	..	252	2	8							
Interest	..	..	..	171	5	8							
Travelling-expenses and allow- ances	..	..	..	34	11	8							
Repairs and maintenance	..	..	..	592	16	3							
Telegrams and postages	..	..	..	57	8	3							
Printing and stationery	..	..	..	194	4	9							
Insurances	..	..	..	9	0	5							
Cartage	..	..	..	4,124	12	5							
Sacks	..	..	..	21	11	9							
Freights, &c.	..	..	..	82	17	0							
General expenses	..	..	..	154	8	3							
Compensation	..	..	..	5	7	6							
Audit fees	..	..	..	38	0	0							
Bad debts written off	..	..	..	5	17	0							
Depreciation	..	..	..	234	2	1							
							11,249	5	11				
Balance—Net profit	..	..	..				2,623	10	6				
							£13,872	16	5				

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—*continued*.

CHRISTCHURCH DEPOT TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1921				1,324	16	7	By Sales of coal	54,284	19	10			
Purchases of coal	48,161	13	2				Sales of firewood, coke, &c. ..	2,007	2	0	56,292	1	10
Purchases of firewood, coke, &c. ..	1,989	6	0										
				50,150	19	2	Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1922—						
Haulage to depot				1,587	4	7	Coal	1,901	5	1			
Gross profit				5,882	15	8	Firewood, coke, &c. ..	752	9	1	2,653	14	2
				£58,945	16	0					£58,945	16	0

CHRISTCHURCH DEPOT PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Wages	1,894	10	1				By Balance of Trading Account				5,882	15	8
Salaries	1,390	19	5				Recoveries				54	10	0
Interest and exchange	172	19	10										
Repairs and maintenance	144	4	2										
Telegrams and postages	30	11	5										
Printing and stationery	40	5	9										
Insurances	10	19	5										
Travelling-expenses	161	4	5										
Cartage	1,515	17	0										
Freights	81	9	9										
General expenses	77	16	5										
Audit fees	14	13	4										
Compensation	18	10	9										
Depreciation	361	4	4										
				5,915	6	1							
Balance—Net profit				21	19	7							
				£5,937	5	8					£5,937	5	8

WANGANUI DEPOT TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1921				2,137	13	4	By Sales of coal	25,516	14	11			
Purchases of coal	23,639	5	0				Sales of firewood, coke, &c. ..	1,545	9	9	27,062	4	8
Purchases of firewood, coke, &c. ..	690	10	11										
				24,329	15	11	Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1922—						
Haulage to depot				259	18	9	Coal	1,272	2	6			
Gross profit				2,515	9	2	Firewood, coke, &c. ..	908	10	0	2,180	12	6
				£29,242	17	2					£29,242	17	2

WANGANUI DEPOT PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1922.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Wages	521	19	1				By Balance of Trading Account				2,515	9	2
Salaries	565	0	7										
Rents	150	0	0										
Interest and exchange	130	15	2										
Repairs and maintenance	41	3	1										
Telegrams and postages	23	13	4										
Printing and stationery	54	13	9										
Travelling-expenses	55	0	0										
Insurance	6	10	8										
Cartage	706	12	5										
Freights, &c.	40	10	5										
General expenses	36	2	0										
Audit fees	35	0	0										
Depreciation	138	13	7										
				2,505	14	1							
Balance—Profit				9	15	1							
				£2,515	9	2					£2,515	9	2

NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES—*continued*.

TABLE SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE STATE COAL-MINES ACCOUNT FROM INCEPTION TO 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Name of Works.	Total Capital Expenditure.	Total Amount of Depreciation written off.	Assets: Net Capital as per Balance-sheet, 1922.	Net Profits.	Net Losses.	Liabilities as per Balance-sheet, 1922.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Point Elizabeth Colliery ..	98,210 9 0	..	..	..	..	..
Less loss by fire and sales ..	2,291 6 11	..	..	..	..	..
	95,919 2 1	95,919 2 1	..	139,390 6 4	..	..
Liverpool Colliery ..	223,235 15 6	94,213 2 9	129,022 12 9	31,867 2 11	..	20,100 16 11
Seddonville Colliery ..	38,187 6 8	..	..	..	..	..
Less sales ..	548 17 0	..	..	..	..	..
	37,638 9 8	37,638 9 8	..	..	38,336 16 6	..
Briquette-works property ..	16,135 2 6	..	..	..	..	..
Less sales of plant ..	2,066 5 0	..	..	..	..	..
	14,068 17 6	14,068 17 6	..	..	22,660 18 10	..
Charming Creek prospecting ..	5,956 18 6	5,956 18 6	..	..	5,954 11 8	..
Wellington Depot property ..	6,247 10 10	..	..	..	..	..
Less sales ..	159 5 6	..	..	..	..	..
	6,088 5 4	3,981 6 10	2,106 18 6	..	10,568 16 9	1,351 3 0
James Colliery ..	37,809 6 5	..	37,809 6 5	..	..	339 0 9
Christchurch Depot property ..	8,522 3 11	..	..	..	..	..
Less loss on horses ..	105 0 0	..	..	..	..	..
	8,417 3 11	5,166 4 9	3,250 19 2	2,239 11 8	..	569 7 4
MacDonald Colliery ..	70,546 1 4	..	70,546 1 4	..	..	19 4 8
Wanganui Depot property ..	2,980 12 6	..	..	..	..	..
Less loss on horses ..	85 0 0	..	..	..	..	..
	2,895 12 6	1,647 10 7	1,248 1 11	..	1,836 10 1	165 12 9
Dunedin Depot property ..	2,023 3 7	..	..	..	..	..
Less sale of plant ..	641 10 0	..	..	..	..	..
	1,381 13 7	1,381 13 7	..	..	4,248 3 5	..
Hulks property ..	4,033 15 5	..	..	..	..	..
Less sales ..	1,948 17 0	..	..	..	..	..
	2,084 18 5	2,084 18 5	..	1,786 12 11	..	..
Office furniture ..	189 13 9	..	..	..	..	..
Less sales ..	17 5 0	..	..	..	..	..
	172 8 9	172 8 9	..	..	172 8 9	..
Grand total ..	514,077 19 11	..	..	..	..	..
Less losses and sales ..	7,863 6 5	..	..	..	..	..
	506,214 13 6	262,230 13 5	243,984 0 1	..	..	..
Interest on investments ..	..	..	..	2,332 1 9	..	..
Discounts ..	..	..	..	13 2 9	..	..
Cash lost (highway robbery) ..	..	..	..	..	89 0 1	..
Totals, profits and losses ..	..	..	..	177,628 18 4	83,867 6 1	..
Balance, profits over losses ..	..	..	..	..	93,761 12 3	..
Stocks on hand ..	..	..	24,228 6 0	..	..	..
Investment Account ..	..	..	20,000 0 0	..	..	..
Suspense and Deposit Accounts ..	..	..	23 11 2	..	..	..
Sundry debtors ..	..	..	28,066 7 2	..	..	..
Cash on hand ..	..	..	32,970 19 0	..	..	..
Debentures and Loan Account ..	..	..	..	..	..	227,601 0 7
Bad-debts Reserve ..	..	..	..	..	..	500 0 0
Accrued interest ..	..	..	..	..	..	4,625 19 7
Sinking Fund Account ..	..	..	..	..	..	24,580 0 0
General Reserve ..	..	..	..	..	..	51,467 2 8
General Profit and Loss Account ..	..	..	..	..	..	17,214 9 7
Contracts Deposit Account ..	..	..	..	..	..	35 0 0
Stocks Suspense Account ..	..	..	..	..	..	704 5 7
			349,273 3 5	177,628 18 4	177,628 18 4	349,273 3 5

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