

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
<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	5,537	503
1947	2,751,725	5,442	506

The trend that has been noted in previous years' Statements whereby production from underground mines decreased and production from opencast mines increased continued during 1947. Likewise, the decline in the output-per-man figures for underground mines both in the output per man underground and in the output per man on pay-roll was continued during 1947, while the number of men employed both underground and on the surface at underground mines also decreased. As previously pointed out, this is due to more difficult mining conditions, shortage of equipment required to mechanize operations, and the reluctance of men to enter the industry despite the improved conditions now prevailing.

As has already been mentioned above, coal-production during the present year has already shown an upward trend, and what is most reassuring is that 80 per cent. of this increase has been due to production from underground mines. It has been most gratifying that this increase has been maintained and increased, if anything, since the introduction of the seven-hour day in underground mines which commenced in April of this year.

The provision of hostels in mining centres now being undertaken by the Labour and Employment Department whereby excellent accommodation and living conditions are provided for single men should assist in attracting young men into the industry.