

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
1949	741,987	500	1,484
<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
1949	2,813,275	5,877	479

It will be noted that there has been a substantial increase in the number of men employed in coal-mines, and it is gratifying that men are being attracted to the industry and, in particular, to underground work. No doubt the improvement of living conditions at coal-mining townships is in part responsible for the increase, and a major contribution to this has been the provision of hostels for single men by the Labour and Employment Department. During 1949, hostels were completed at Ohura and Ohai, so that hostels are now available at five mining centres: Huntly, Reefton, Granity, Ohura, and Ohai. During this present year it is intended to adapt a large house at Blackball for use as a hostel, the hostel at Renown is to be improved and extended, and minor extensions are to be made at Ohura. On the completion of this programme, it is felt that adequate accommodation for single men will be available in every important coal-mining centre. The position has so far improved that the hostel projected for Denniston and the additional