1916.

NEW ZEALAND.

STATE COAL-MINES

(REPORT ON THE WORKING OF), FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1916.

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

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

SIR,— New Zealand State Coal-mines, Greymouth, 15th May, 1916.

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the work done at the State Collieries for the year ended 31st March, 1916.

The gross output of the mines was 249,839 tons, which, after allowing for mine consumption and waste and with the addition of stocks from last year, left 249,619 tons for disposal, and when compared with the figures of last year shows an increase of 34,161 tons.

The Point Elizabeth Mine produced 125,827 tons of marketable coal, an increase of 8,566 tons on last year's figures.

The following table shows the quantity disposed of, after allowing for stocks on hand and afloat at beginning and end of year :—

To whom.	Screened.	Unscreened.	Bunker.	Small.	Totals.
	Tons cwt. qr.	Tons cwt. qr.	Tons cwt. qr.	Tons cwt. qr.	Tons cwt. qr.
Depots	25,241 15 3	10,259 9 3	...	16,498 6 0	51,999 11 2
Railways	18,504 14 2	8,799 9 0	...	...	27,304 3 2
Other Government departments	1,447 12 2	117 0 0	1,209 10 0	248 15 3	3,022 18 1
Private consumers ...	7,501 7 0	6,400 18 0	16,218 18 0	13,071 10 3	43,192 13 3
Totals ...	52,695 9 3	25,576 16 3	17,428 8 0	29,818 12 2	125,519 7 0

The Liverpool Mine produced 113,486 tons of marketable coal, an increase of 27,420 tons. The following table shows the quantity disposed of, after allowing for stocks on hand and afloat at beginning and end of year :—

To whom.	Screened.	Unscreened.	Bunker.	Small.	Totals.
	Tons cwt. qr.	Tons cwt. qr.	Tons cwt. qr.	Tons cwt. qr.	Tons cwt. qr.
Depots	21,200 10 2	424 10 0	...	41,632 7 3	63,257 8 1
Railways	16,747 4 0	374 1 2	...	7 0 0	17,128 5 2
Other Government departments	415 6 1	1,307 2 1	143 10 0	...	1,865 18 2
Private consumers ...	1,414 7 1	7,114 4 2	317 1 0	24,405 14 3	33,251 7 2
Totals ...	39,777 8 0	9,219 18 1	460 11 0	66,045 2 2	115,502 19 3

This mine is now in full working-order, and the increase in its output should be substantial for the next few years.

Point Elizabeth Colliery.

Coal-winning.

The gross total output for the colliery since its inception in June, 1904, amounted to 2,080,687 tons.

The colliery worked on 237 days 6 hours for the year, making an average of 4·57 per week. The average numbers of men and boys employed in and about the mine were as follow: Underground—82 miners, 76 in other branches, including truckers, shiftmen, deputies, &c., and 3 boys; on the surface there were 46 men and 15 boys: making a total of 204 men and 18 boys.

The total payments made on wages account, exclusive of stores, compensation, timber, and royalty, amounted to £35,705 17s. 11d. The coal-miners' average daily earnings were 18s. 10·03d.

Underground Development.

The bulk of the year's output was obtained from pillar-extraction in both sections of the colliery, the only exception being in the rise workings of the No. 2 section, where a small area of new ground was developed. The latter completes all solid work in connection with this colliery, and the output from now on until the mines are exhausted will be entirely dependent on coal won from standing pillars. In my last annual report reference was made to an area in the No. 2 section of the colliery that had to be sealed off owing to spontaneous combustion. During the year under review all available coal below where the fire originated, and for 3 chains above it, has been extracted, and the water allowed to rise with the object of extinguishing the fire. Upon investigation it was found the fire had spread much higher than the original seat. Arrangements were then made for extracting pillars up the dip for another 4 chains, and when this is completed and the water allowed to rise to that distance investigations will again be made to ascertain whether it will be safe to open up that area. If it is possible to win some of the coal from this area the life of this section would no doubt be prolonged for a few months, but from past experience in dealing with underground fires I am doubtful whether any of the plant and coal can be taken therefrom.

Reference to the accompanying plans will show that the workings of this colliery are fast approaching exhaustion, and, as it is unlikely that further areas will be found available for exploitation from the present mine-openings, the time is not far distant when, from the above cause, it will be necessary to dispense with some of the employees at this colliery; but it is to be hoped that when such steps are taken the Liverpool Colliery will be developed to such an extent that it will be only a matter of transferring them from one colliery to another.

Surface Works and Accidents.

The whole of the plant and machinery in and about the mine has been maintained in efficient working-order. During the year there were several minor accidents, but none of a serious nature.

Liverpool Colliery.

Coal-winning.

The colliery worked on 222 days, an average of 4·27 days per week. The balance of the possible working-time—viz., 314 days—is accounted for as follows: Pay Saturdays, 26; union holidays, 15; want of shipping, 33; bar unworkable, 13; slips on the railway, 5 days.

The average numbers of men and boys employed in and about the mine in connection with coal-winning were 219 men and 16 boys, made up as follows: Coal-hewers, 96; other adult underground employees, 82. On the surface, 41 men and 16 boys were employed. In addition to those employed in connection with coal-winning there were employed on property and development-work 16 men and 1 boy, making a total of 235 men and 17 boys for this colliery.

Underground Development.

For a short period during the year coal was produced from four mines—namely, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 3A—but owing to the presence of stone bands and the high inclination of the seam the No. 2 Mine was stopped in June last, as it became a matter of impossibility for the miners to fill the coal in a marketable condition. The No. 3A Mine, which was opened up during the year, is situated midway between the bins and the upper section of the haulage-road. The seam worked is a continuation of the No. 3 Mine, and the coal won therefrom is of excellent quality. The thickness, so far, has not increased as was anticipated, but as the workings advance in a westerly course there is every reason to expect the seam to increase in thickness.

It is not anticipated that the workings in this mine will be in any way extensive; it was developed only with the object of working a block of coal which could not be economically worked from the No. 3 Mine near the bins.

No. 1 Mine, situated near the upper terminus of the main haulage, has been worked continuously during the year. Reference was made in my last annual report to the limited area, also the friability of the coal in this mine; and, although there is no prospect of further development-work in an easterly and westerly course, it is gratifying to report that as the workings are extended in a northerly direction, the quality and hardness of the coal has improved considerably, enabling a much larger percentage of screened coal to be obtained. The chief drawback in connection with this mine is that the width of the block to be worked is limited, thus

limiting the number of miners, and consequently the output; but since the Morgan seam will be operated on from the entrance of the No. 1 Mine, and its output will also be handled in conjunction with the output of the No. 1 Mine without any additional labour being employed between the mine and the storage-bins, the cost of production from this mine will be lessened.

No. 3 Mine, situated near the bins, from which the principal part of the output of this colliery was obtained, was for the greater part of the year worked on two shifts. Since the fault referred to in my previous report has been crossed over and a moderate area opened up it has been the means of enabling all the men to be employed on one shift, which is more satisfactory in every respect.

A main haulage-road has been constructed from a point near the bins, connecting with the mine-workings in as central a position as was possible, and it is expected that the same will be put into commission at an early date.

Surface Works.

The whole of the surface works and machinery have been maintained in efficient working-order, and during the year several alterations and additions were carried out, as follows:—

The screened-coal conveyer at the storage-bins was extended, thus enabling the coal to be delivered direct into the railway-wagons and minimizing the breakages considerably.

The unscreened-coal storage-bin was reduced, and the small-coal bin correspondingly increased. An elevator was also installed for elevating the small coal from beneath the shaking-screen. From the elevator the coal is distributed to any required part of the bin by means of chutes automatically arranged.

Near the storage-bins a new lamp-room was built and fitted with a charging-stand and other appliances necessary for dealing with the Gray-Sussman electric lamps; also a large stable and feed-house to enable the horses to be brought out of the mine daily.

At the power-house midway between the storage-bins and the upper section of the haulage-road an air-compressing plant was erected to supply power for driving a fan engine, and also a dip-haulage engine at the No. 3A Mine.

At the upper section (No. 1 Mine) an endless-rope haulage was installed, dispensing with horses. A large Sirocco fan has also been erected, and a cable line laid for conveying power from the power-station for driving this fan, which is so situated that both the No. 1 Mine and the underlying Morgan seam can be ventilated by it.

Exploratory Work.

Work under this head was confined to boring and surface prospecting in various parts of the reserve.

Boring operations were carried out between the No. 3 Mine and Spring Creek, off the service tramway, and also between Spring Creek and the main haulage-road near the upper terminus. The former boring operations were carried out with the object of proving whether the seam at present worked in No. 3 Mine existed beyond where some disturbance had been encountered in the main level of that mine. Three bores were put down, each proving the continuity of the seam, but at a much deeper level. The seams penetrated were also so much intersected with dirt-bands that it was not deemed advisable to recommend any expenditure in the development of that area.

The latter boring was carried out with the object of ascertaining the depth to the seam that had been located on the banks of Bishop Creek and dipping south. This hole was bored to a depth of 650 ft. and abandoned, it having proved that the coal was too deep to be commanded by the present haulage-road. Surface prospecting was carried out for a short period on the western part of the reserve, but when, as above stated, it was proved by boring that practically all coal on the western part of the field was too deep to be commanded by the present haulage this work was discontinued.

Future Development-work.

The principal work under this head for some considerable time to come will be confined to developing the Morgan seam, which has been proved by bores to exist over a considerable area. This seam has now been connected with the No. 1 Mine by means of a cross-measure drift, but so far very little development-work has been done, it being impossible to do so until the second connection, which is now in the course of construction, is completed.

When the seam was struck in the drive the coal appeared to be of a soft nature, with signs of being disturbed by faulting. Subsequently the presence of a fault was conclusively proved, for when driving east to make ready for the second connection an upthrow of 20 ft. was encountered. Further driving beyond the fault shows considerable improvement in the hardness of the seam.

As this seam when passed through in all the bores appeared to be of a hard nature, there is every reason to expect that the seam will improve as the workings are extended from the line of this fault.

ELECTRIC SAFETY-LAMPS.

During the last few years the question as to the advisability of installing electric lamps in the coal-mines of the United Kingdom has been a very live one, and, although considerable extension in the use of these lamps has taken place, the results obtained at several collieries were not the success anticipated. To make a success of these lamps a great deal more depends on the management of the lamp-cabin and the care exercised by those who use the lamps than appears to be generally known.

For the past nine months the Gray-Sussman electric lamps have been used at one of the mines of the Liverpool Colliery, and when first installed were intended only for the coal-hewers, but, owing to their superior light and their many advantages as compared with the oil safety-lamp, it soon became evident that better results would be obtained by the general use of these lamps, therefore, with the exception of the mine officials, every underground employee in this mine now uses the electric safety-lamp. Within a week from the time these lamps were issued to the workmen it was discovered that a weakness existed in the accumulators: this was due to the breaking of the lead conductor between the connecting-bar of the positive plate and the terminal.

A new conductor and terminal were designed with a greater cross-sectional area than the original ones: these have been fitted to all the lamps, and have withstood the most severe test. After nine months' continuous service the whole of the original lamps and accumulators are still in good working-order.

The accumulator of this lamp is of the lead-cell type, 2 volts, the electrolyte being dilute sulphuric acid of 1·2 specific gravity. On an average ninety-five of these accumulators are charged on a special charging-stand fitted with spring-contact clips for conveying the current. The accumulators being placed on a shelf, the terminals come in contact with the spring clips, which automatically connect the cells in series for charging. The charging-current is obtained from a 220-volt circuit through suitable switch-gear and safety devices, the voltage for charging being regulated by adjustable resistance to obtain the required charging-current, the rate of which is 1½ amperes for approximately seven hours after eight hours discharge.

These lamps have sometimes failed to light when the switch was turned on, and upon investigation it has been discovered that the failure was principally due to two causes—viz., broken lamp-bulbs and bad contacts. These bad contacts are caused by the action of the sulphuric acid on the brass terminals, causing them to sulphate, thus breaking the circuit. Although the electric lamps are heavier than the ordinary oil safety-lamp, the many advantages derived more than compensate the user for the extra weight carried about.

Change and Bath House.

In accordance with Mines Regulation 143, a change and bath house is now in the course of erection at the Liverpool Colliery.

The building is of wood, with an iron roof and concrete floor, the dimensions of which are as follow: Length, 35 ft.; width, 26 ft.; height to where the clothes will be suspended, 14 ft.; height of lower walls of the cabinets, 8 ft.

Cabinets: There are fourteen cabinets provided, seven on each side of the building, the dimensions of which are 5 ft. long and 4 ft. wide. The inner walls are lined with sheet iron to within 10 in. of the floor of the building, this space being necessary to enable the cabinets to be thoroughly cleansed daily. In each cabinet a shower, wash-basin, and seat will be provided; the water supplied will be heated to the required temperature by steam passing through a copper coil in the tank or receiver used for this purpose.

Change-house: In the change-house twelve seats will be provided, capable of seating from sixty to seventy men. Above the seats the workmen's clothes will be suspended from the ceiling, and at the same time be subjected to the drying effect of heated air supplied by heated pipes passing along the entire length of the building.

Accidents.

There were several minor accidents during the year, and one that may be classed as serious, on which a special report was written.

General.

Although the output from each colliery shows an increase when compared with last year's figures, it is regrettable to report that considerable time was lost, especially at the Liverpool Colliery, for the want of steamers, also through the bar being unworkable.

The average number of days worked per week throughout the year was only four and a quarter, whereas the possible working-days, excluding holidays, average five and a quarter, thus showing an average loss of one day's work per week. In addition to the loss of wages to the employees, the output from the Liverpool Colliery alone was reduced by approximately 25,000 tons, and the cost of production increased.

In conclusion, permit me to say that the officers in all branches have performed their duties in a most satisfactory manner, and the Inspecting Engineer has in the course of his duties rendered good service.

I have, &c.,

I. A. James, Manager.

Balance-sheet of the New Zealand State Coal-mines.

Statement of Liabilities and Assets at 31st March, 1916.

Liabilities.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Debenture loan	175,000 0 0	
Loan under Appropriation Act, 1912	50,000 0 0	
Inscribed stock	2,601 0 7	
		227,601 0 7
Debenture sinking fund	13,200 0 0	
Reserve fund	5,884 11 2	
		19,084 11 2
Accrued interest	4,282 4 6	
Sundry creditors	22,652 16 0	
		26,935 0 6

Assets.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Point Elizabeth Colliery—			
Machinery, plant, ropes, and rolling-stock—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	8,535 11 2		
Less Sale	2 1 0		
	8,533 10 2		
Depreciation	6,705 14 5		
		1,827 5 9	
Buildings at mine—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	1,421 14 3		
Less sale	0 5 0		
	1,421 9 3		
Depreciation	358 7 4		
		1,063 1 11	
Cottages—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	1,514 18 7		
Depreciation	255 8 3		
		1,259 10 4	
Stores (stock on hand)	4,122 8 3		
Coal (stock on hand at mine and wharf)	1,547 13 1		
Coal (stock on hand, afloat)	799 4 9		
		6,469 6 1	
			10,619 14
Point Elizabeth (Liverpool) Colliery and Development Property Account—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	95,541 11 2		
Additions during the year	4,386 3 4		
	99,927 14 6		
Depreciation	5,311 6 4		
		94,616 8 2	
Machinery, plant, ropes, and rolling-stock—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	48,010 4 1		
Additions during the year	2,983 4 10		
	50,993 8 11		
Depreciation	3,673 17 4		
		47,319 11 7	
Buildings at mine—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	3,562 18 0		
Additions during the year	379 1 11		
	3,941 19 11		
Depreciation	208 2 5		
		3,733 17 6	
Cottages at mine	3,063 13 2		
Additions	469 11 5		
	3,533 4 7		
Depreciation	184 16 11		
		3,348 7 8	
Coal (stock on hand at mine and wharf)	2,005 8 5		
Coal (stock on hand, afloat)	1,022 0 7		
		3,027 9 0	
			152,045 13 11
Hulks Property Account—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	765 19 7		
Less sale	50 0 0		
	715 19 7		
Depreciation	119 3 10		
		596 15 9	
			596 15 9

Balance-sheet of the New Zealand State Coal-mines—*continued*.

Statement of Liabilities and Assets at 31st March, 1916—continued.

Liabilities—continued.	£ s. d.
	£273,620 12 3

Assets—continued.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wellington Depot Property Account—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	3,522 13 10		
Additions during the year	38 10 0		
	3,561 3 10		
Depreciation	292 16 0		
		3,268 7 10	
Stocks on hand		2,240 9 9	
			5,508 17 7
Christchurch Depot Property Account—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	4,387 18 8		
Additions during the year	231 14 6		
	4,619 13 2		
Depreciation	360 14 3		
		4,258 18 11	
Stock on hand	..	1,956 14 10	
			6,215 13 9
Wanganui Depot Property Account—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	1,461 16 5		
Additions during the year	334 0 0		
	1,795 16 5		
Depreciation	123 16 10		
		1,671 19 7	
Stock on hand	..	1,439 10 6	
			3,111 10 1
Dunedin Depot Property Account—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	799 4 10		
Depreciation	85 8 0		
		713 16 10	
Stock on hand	..	1,231 1 8	
			1,944 18 6
Wellington Office Furniture Account—			
Cost at 31st March, 1915	47 8 5		
Depreciation	47 8 5		
		..	
Sundry debtors	..	21,815 15 6	
Suspense Account, premiums, deposits, &c.	..	504 6 0	
Loan Flotation Account	..	1,561 0 0	
			23,881 1 6
Cash in hand and in Public Account on 31st March, 1916	..	34,960 0 7	
Less vouchers outstanding	..	209 6 9	
			34,750 13 10
General Profit and Loss Account—			
Balance, 31st March, 1915	..	37,460 12 8	
Less profit for year	..	2,514 19 5	
			34,945 13 3
			£273,620 12 3

State Coal-mines Office, Wellington, 16th June, 1916.
W. D. S. MacDonald, Minister of Mines.

Louis H. Eilers, F.R.A., N.Z., Accountant.

Note.—The profit shown is due to recoveries and less depreciation on Point Elizabeth assets, otherwise a loss would have resulted.

Examined and found correct.—R. J. Collins, Controller and Auditor-General.

NEW ZEALAND STATE COLLIERIES

Plan of the

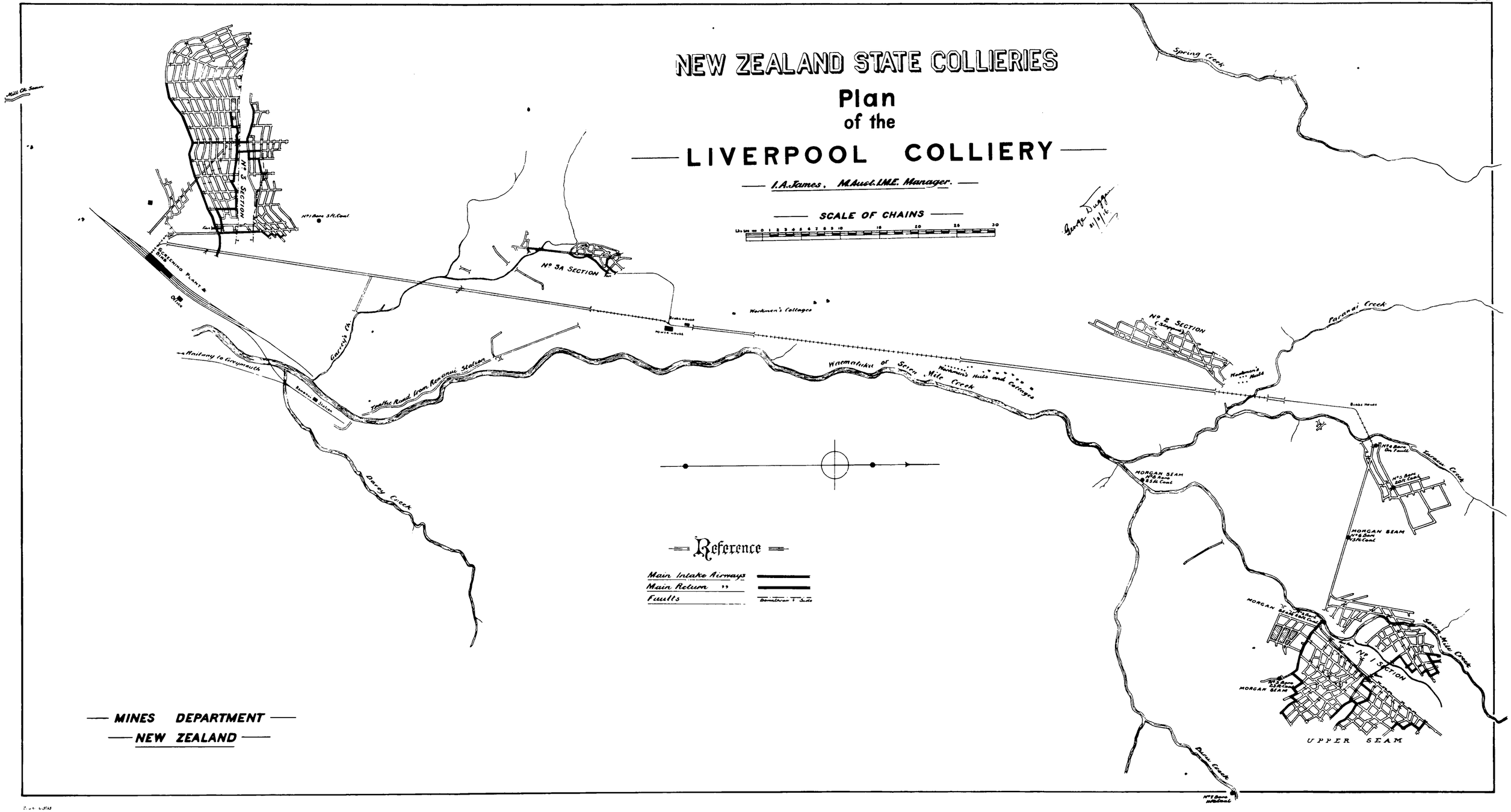
LIVERPOOL COLLIERY

I.A.James, M.Aust.I.M.E. Manager.

SCALE OF CHAINS

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 15 20 25 30

George Duggan 31/10/16



Reference

Main Intake Airways
Main Return "
Faults

MINES DEPARTMENT
NEW ZEALAND

Statement of General Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Point Elizabeth Colliery Trade Expenses Account ..	52,164 10 11		By Point Elizabeth Colliery Working Account—Gross profit ..	60,790 8 3	
Liverpool Colliery " " ..	63,905 9 0		Liverpool Colliery " " ..	53,430 1 9	
Wellington Depot " " ..	12,636 11 11		Wellington Depot Trading Account—Gross profit ..	13,638 19 5	
Christchurch Depot " " ..	6,383 6 5		Christchurch Depot " " ..	7,620 17 2	
Wanganui Depot " " ..	2,500 7 7		Wanganui Depot " " ..	2,140 12 4	
Dunedin Depot " " ..	1,770 8 5		Dunedin Depot " " ..	2,005 7 3	
		139,360 14 3			139,626 6 2
Wellington office furniture depreciation		47 8 5	Seddonville Colliery recovery	1,506 17 11	
Balance profit for year		2,514 19 5	Briquette works recovery	280 0 0	
			Point Elizabeth Colliery rents	153 2 9	
			Liverpool " "	356 15 3	
					2,296 15 11
		£141,923 2 1			£141,923 2 1
Balance down at 31st March, 1915		37,460 12 8			
Less profit for year		2,514 19 5			
		£34,945 13 3			

Statement of Point Elizabeth Colliery Working Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Stock of coal on hand at 31st March, 1915		2,297 14 10	By Sales of coal	104,537 16 4	
Coal-winning—			Sales of timber	235 7 11	
Wages	37,577 2 4		Sales of stores	2,829 3 10	
Materials used	3,104 14 10				107,602 8 1
Stores used	1,686 6 2		Stock of coal on hand at 31st March, 1916—		
		42,368 3 4	At mine and wharf	1,547 13 1	
Timber cut	166 1 7		Afloat	799 4 9	
Stores sold	2,625 9 2				2,346 17 10
		2,791 10 9			
Special rate	993 15 9				
Royalty	707 13 0				
		1,701 8 9			
Balance: Gross profit at mine		60,790 8 3			
		£109,949 5 11			£109,949 5 11

Statement of Point Elizabeth Colliery Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Management and office salaries	1,113 4 10		By Balance of Working Account—		
Interest and exchange	2,940 3 8		Gross profits at mine	60,790 8 3	
Travelling-expenses	80 11 4		Rents	153 2 9	
Printing and stationery	57 1 10				60,943 11 0
Repairs and maintenance	1,172 3 8				
Telegrams and postages	61 12 5				
Railway haulage	11,218 17 0				
Insurances	155 12 6				
Compensation for accidents and fund	687 7 3				
Cargo adjustments	9 4 4				
General expenses	48 18 11				
Marine freights	25,734 18 9				
Hulks Working Account (proportion)	1,325 15 9				
Terminal charges	105 3 1				
Audit fees	18 17 3				
Bad debts	115 8 4				
Depreciation: Mine, buildings, plant, and machinery	7,319 10 0				
		52,164 10 11			
Net profit		8,779 0 1			
		£60,943 11 0			£60,943 11 0

Statement of Point Elizabeth (Liverpool) Colliery Working Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Stocks on hand, 31st March, 1915		4,279 4 10	By Sales of coal		97,025 14 8
To Coal-winning—			Stock of coal on hand at 31st March, 1916—		
Wages	37,396 6 5		At mine and wharf	2,005 8 5	
Materials used	2,005 4 9		Afloat	1,022 0 7	
Stores used	1,848 3 2				3,027 9 0
		41,249 14 4			
Special rate		1,094 2 9			
Balance: Gross profit at mine		53,430 1 9			
		£100,053 3 8			£100,053 3 8

Statement of Point Elizabeth (Liverpool) Colliery Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Management and office salaries	1,132 10 7		By Gross profits at mine	53,430 1 9	
Interest and exchange	5,027 7 2		Rents	356 15 3	
Travelling-expenses	94 3 8				53,786 17 0
Printing and stationery	54 16 5		Balance: Loss	..	10,118 12 0
Repairs and maintenance	627 4 1				
Telegrams and postages	56 10 7				
Railway haulage	13,288 5 4				
Bad debts	7 15 0				
Insurances	145 7 7				
Compensation for accidents and fund	719 17 9				
Cargo adjustments	12 5 1				
General expenses	53 11 4				
Marine freights	32,598 10 2				
Hulks Working Account (proportion)	94 4 3				
Terminal charges	77 14 3				
Audit fees	17 2 9				
Loan-flotation charges	520 0 0				
Depreciation: Mine, buildings, plant, and machinery ..	9,378 3 0				
		63,905 9 0			
		£63,905 9 0			£63,905 9 0

Wellington Depot Trading Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1915	..	1,218 16 8	By Sales of coal	60,113 4 11	
Purchases of coal	47,071 15 4		Sales of firewood, coke, &c.	1,089 18 7	
Purchases of firewood, coke, &c.	648 18 5				61,203 3 6
		47,720 13 9	Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1916—		
Cartage to depot	..	865 3 5	Coal	1,895 13 2	
Balance: Gross profits	..	13,638 19 5	Firewood, &c.	344 16 7	
					2,240 9 9
		£63,443 13 3			£63,443 13 3

Wellington Depot Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.
To Wages	3,508 13 2		By Balance of Trading Account	13,638 19 5
Salaries	1,041 2 1			
Rents	856 0 0			
Rates	146 15 6			
Interest	176 17 9			
Travelling-expenses	37 8 0			
Repairs and maintenance	688 5 5			
Telegrams and postages	26 0 0			
Printing and stationery	90 10 8			
Insurances	15 11 0			
Cartage	3,482 5 8			
Sacks	178 18 1			
Wharfages, &c.	1,914 2 7			
General expenses	86 3 5			
Alterations	65 0 0			
Audit fees	18 13 4			
Bad debts written off	11 9 3			
Depreciation	292 16 0			
		12,636 11 11		
Net profit		1,002 7 6		
		£13,638 19 5		£13,638 19 5

Christchurch Depot Trading Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Stocks on hand, 31st March, 1915		874 10 5	By Sales of coal	48,843 2 7	
Purchases of coal	36,349 11 5		Sales of firewood, coke, &c.	1,012 2 3	
Purchases of firewood, coke, &c.	824 17 4				49,855 4 10
		37,174 8 9	Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1916—		
Haulage to depot		6,142 3 4	Coal	1,568 12 9	
Gross profit		7,620 17 2	Firewood, coke, &c.	388 2 1	
					1,956 14 10
		£51,811 19 8			£51,811 19 8

Christchurch Depot Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.
To Wages	2,025 2 3		By Balance of Trading Account	7,620 17 2
Salaries	851 0 0			
Rents	99 5 3			
Interest and exchange	216 13 11			
Repairs and maintenance	82 0 2			
Telegrams and postages	12 0 0			
Printing and stationery	71 6 2			
Insurances	11 16 6			
Travelling-expenses	75 5 4			
Cartage	2,207 6 7			
Sacks	81 19 4			
Freights	198 12 1			
General expenses	49 15 4			
Audit fees	37 0 0			
Bad debts	3 9 3			
Depreciation	360 14 3			
		6,383 6 5		
Net profit		1,237 10 9		
		£7,620 17 2		£7,620 17 2

Wanganui Depot Trading Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1915		1,860 11 9	By Sales of coal	10,855 1 1	
Purchases of coal	7,992 4 0		Sales of firewood, coke, &c.	813 2 6	
Purchases of firewood, coke, &c.	409 14 5				11,668 3 7
		8,401 18 5	Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1916—		
Haulage to depot		704 11 7	Coal	1,177 12 0	
Gross profit		2,140 12 4	Firewood, coke, &c.	261 18 6	
					1,439 10 6
		£13,107 14 1			£13,107 14 1

Wanganui Depot Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.
To Wages	579 14 1		By Balance of Trading Account	2,140 12 4
Salaries	416 11 7		Balance: Loss	359 15 3
Rents	110 0 0			
Interest and exchange	74 16 5			
Repairs and maintenance	69 11 4			
Telegrams and postages	12 8 1			
Printing and stationery	10 13 1			
Travelling-expenses	21 13 6			
Insurance	6 10 8			
Cartage	845 7 8			
Sacks	33 3 8			
Freights, &c.	97 1 1			
General expenses	61 17 0			
Audit fees	15 6 8			
Bad debts	21 15 11			
Depreciation	123 16 10			
		2,500 7 7		
		£2,500 7 7		£2,500 7 7

Dunedin Depot Trading Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1915		917 8 5	By Sales of coal	12,389 5 0	
Purchases of coal	9,328 11 9		Sales of firewood, coke, &c.	72 11 0	
Purchases of firewood, coke, &c.	54 1 4				12,461 16 0
		9,382 13 1	Stocks on hand at 31st March, 1916—		
Wharfages, &c.	1,263 4 5		Coal	1,194 10 5	
Cartage to depot	124 4 6		Firewood, coke, &c.	36 11 3	
		1,387 8 11			1,231 1 8
Balance: Gross profit		2,005 7 3			
		£13,692 17 8			£13,692 17 8

Dunedin Depot Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	*Cr.*	£ s. d.
To Wages	495 17 7		By Balance of Trading Account	2,005 7 3
Salaries	340 0 0			
Rents	200 0 0			
Rates	25 16 9			
Interest	56 1 11			
Repairs and maintenance	18 19 7			
Telegrams and postages	4 0 9			
Printing and stationery	18 14 2			
Insurances	2 6 10			
Travelling-expenses	1 3 4			
Cartage	468 4 2			
Freights, &c.	1 0 10			
General expenses	21 13 3			
Sacks	23 1 3			
Audit fees	8 0 0			
Depreciation	85 8 0			
		1,770 8 5		
Net profit		234 18 10		
		£2,005 7 3		£2,005 7 3

Statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of the New Zealand State Coal-mines for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

Receipts.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Cash in hand and in Public Account at 31st March, 1915		25,405 15 1
Proceeds of sale of coal	224,326 2 4	
Proceeds of sale of hulk	50 0 0	
		224,376 2 4
Recoveries	6,966 0 5	
Refunds, &c.	108 11 10	
		7,074 12 3
		£256,856 9 8

Expenditure.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Point Elizabeth Colliery—		
Machinery, plant, and rolling-stock	36 7 6	
Stores and materials	11,649 7 11	
Wages	37,181 19 5	
Timber	275 9 4	
Special rate	1,640 10 3	
Royalty	739 2 0	
		51,522 16 5
Liverpool Colliery—		
Property and development	4,300 12 10	
Machinery, plant, and rolling-stock	1,946 2 1	
Buildings	358 2 8	
Cottages	449 4 4	
Stores and materials	1,990 2 10	
Wages	36,497 16 6	
Special rate	1,396 17 9	
		46,938 19 0
Seddonville Colliery—		
Wages	..	2 0 0
Hulks, working	1,212 8 2	
Wellington Depot, working	14,107 9 5	
Christchurch Depot, working	12,780 14 11	
Wanganui Depot, working	3,700 5 4	
Dunedin Depot "	2,943 7 8	
		34,744 5 6
Management and office salaries	2,249 4 0	
Interest and exchange	8,564 12 0	
Marine freights	50,355 14 5	
Travelling-expenses	182 3 7	
Printing and stationery	105 2 7	
Telegrams and postages	118 3 0	
Repairs and maintenance	1,339 3 9	
Railway haulage	23,807 4 9	
Insurances	301 0 1	
Compensation for accidents and fund	1,557 1 3	
General expenses	100 16 7	
Terminal charges	32 0 6	
Refunds	54 8 5	
Audit fees	28 0 0	
Deposit Contract Account	103 0 0	
		88,897 14 11
Cash in hand and in Public Account at 31st March, 1916	34,960 0 7	
Less vouchers passed	209 6 9	
		34,750 13 10
		£256,856 9 8

State Coal-mines Office, Wellington, 16th June, 1916.
LOUIS H. EILERS, F.R.A., N.Z., Accountant.

W. D. S. MACDONALD,
Minister of Mines.

Examined and found correct.—R. J. COLLINS, Controller and Auditor-General.

Remarks on the State Coal-mines Accounts for the Year ended 31st March, 1916.

The total capital expenditure on State Coal-mines Account to the 31st March last was £344,664 16s. Of this amount £175,568 18s. 6d. has been written off in depreciation, equal to 50·93 per cent.

The railway has cost to date under review £255,056, making a grand total expenditure in connection with the mines of £599,721. The payments to the Railway Department from the State Coal-mines, Greymouth, for haulage since the inception totalled £201,126 to the 31st March last. This represents 78·85 per cent. on the cost of the railway.

The amount expended on the Liverpool Colliery to the above date was £168,220, the additional amount for the year being £8,218, as against £16,400 for previous year.

The total tonnage and value of sales from the mines and depots to the 31st March last are as follows:—

	Tons.	£ s. d.
Point Elizabeth Colliery	1,957,756	1,609,400 17 11
Liverpool Colliery	216,535	187,885 14 7
Seddonville Colliery	520,848	366,380 9 7
Grand total output sales	2,695,139	£2,163,667 2 1
Wellington Depot	290,948	371,090 2 5
Christchurch Depot	255,103	313,900 8 2
Wanganui Depot	61,048	98,398 13 11
Dunedin Depot	55,923	72,759 6 1
Grand total depot sales	663,022	£856,148 10 7

Point Elizabeth Colliery.—The sales increased at this mine by 8,916 tons, with a value of £7,144. The cost of production, including royalty and special rate, was 7s. 0·06d., or 1s. 0·55d. per ton less than last year. The cost of trading was 8s. 3·74d. per ton, 8·79d. lower than last year. Of this amount interest and depreciation account for 1s. 7·62d. per ton. The sales averaged 16s. 7·88d., or 0·58d. per ton less than in the previous year.

Liverpool Colliery.—A substantial increase in sales took place here—viz., 31,386 tons, with a value of £10,877. This mine is in full working-order now, and a further increase may be looked for in the coming year. The cost of production was, including special rate, 7s. 5·54d., or 4·13d. per ton less than last year. The cost of trading was 11s. 0·78d. ,or 1s. 6·24d. per ton lower than last year, and of this amount depreciation, interest, and loan charge account for 2s. 7·01d., less by 7·23d. per ton than in the previous year. The average price obtained was 16s. 9·60d. per ton, 1s. 3·66d. lower than last year. The loss equals 1s. 9·02d. per ton.

Wellington Depot.—The sales at this place increased by 14,882 tons, valued at £10,487. The total cost of trading was 4s. 9·73d., or 11·04d. per ton less than last year, due to larger quantities being handled. The average price realized was 21s. 9·69d., short by 2s. 9·40d. per ton on last year's figures: this is due to increased small-coal trade.

Christchurch Depot.—There was an increase in sales here on the past year of 5,638 tons, and value £7,308, mainly due to contracts. The cost of trading was 6s. 5·06d., or 1·56d. per ton in excess of previous year. The average price obtained was 25s. 6·69d., 0·74d. more per ton than last year.

Wanganui Depot.—A decrease in sales resulted at this depot of 112 tons and a value of £830. The difference between tonnage and value appears peculiar on the face of it, but is explained by the heavy falling-off in household coal as against increased sales of small coal. The cost of trading was 8s. 9·27d., less by 6·36d. per ton than last year, and the average price obtained 31s. 11·24d. per ton, 1s. 9·06d. short of previous year. The loss amounts to 11·81d. per ton.

Dunedin Depot.—An increase of 1,032 tons, with a value of £782, took place here. The cost of trading was 6s. 1·35d. per ton, being 8·92d. less than last year; and the average price obtained was 24s. 1·44d. per ton, or 11·95d. less than previous year.

3rd July, 1916. L. H. Eilers, Accountant.

TABLE SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE STATE COAL-MINES ACCOUNT FROM INCEPTION TO 31ST MARCH, 1916.

Name of Works.	Total Capital Expenditure.	Total Amount of Depreciation written off.	Assets: Net Capital as per Balance-sheet, 1916.	Net Profits.	Net Losses.	Liabilities as per Balance-sheet, 1916.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Point Elizabeth Colliery	97,342 18 11					
Less loss by fire and sales	463 3 8					
	96,879 15 3	92,729 7 3	4,150 8 0	99,971 15 7	..	..
Point Elizabeth (Liverpool Colliery)	168,220 0 3	19,201 15 4	149,018 4 11	..	24,712 6 8	..
Seddonville Colliery	38,187 6 8					
Less sales	548 11 0					
	37,638 15 8	37,638 15 8	..	..	29,618 3 7	..
Briquette-works property	16,135 2 6					
Less sales of plant	2,066 5 0					
	14,068 17 6	14,068 17 6	..	..	16,663 1 11	..
Charming Creek prospecting	3,000 18 4	3,000 18 4	..	..	..	..
Wellington Depot property	5,856 0 3					
Less sales	292 0 0					
	5,564 0 3	2,295 12 5	3,268 7 10	1,712 9 2	..	..
Christchurch Depot property	7,214 5 4					
Less loss on horses	40 0 0					
	7,174 5 4	2,915 6 5	4,258 18 11	1,307 13 0	..	..
Wanganui Depot property	2,476 16 0					
Less loss on horses	40 0 0					
	2,436 16 0	764 16 5	1,671 19 7	..	243 3 7	..
Dunedin Depot property	2,007 17 7					
Less sale of plant	300 0 0					
	1,707 17 7	994 0 9	713 16 10	..	2,455 19 9	..

TABLE SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE STATE COAL-MINES ACCOUNT FROM INCEPTION TO 31ST MARCH, 1916—*continued*.

Name of Works.	Total Capital Expenditure.	otal Amount of Depreciation written off.	Assets: Net Capital as per Balance-sheet, 1916.	Net Profits.	Net Losses.	Liabilities as per Balance-sheet, 1916.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Hulks property	4,033 15 5					
Less sales	1,650 0 0					
	2,383 15 5	1,786 19 8	596 15 9	..	..	..
Office furniture	189 13 9					
Less sales	17 5 0					
	172 8 9	172 8 9	..	..	..	..
Grand total	344,664 15 0					
Less losses and sales	5,417 4 8					
	339,247 10 4	175,568 18 6	163,678 11 10	..	..	..
Special depreciation	..	..	..	..	45,000 18 4	..
Discounts	..	..	..	13 2 9	..	..
Furniture depreciation	..	..	..	..	172 8 9	..
Totals profit and losses	..	..	..	103,005 0 6	118,866 2 7	..
Balance losses over profits	..	..	..	15,861 2 1		
Stocks on hand	..	..	16,364 11 10	..	..	..
Loan, flotation charges (balance)	..	..	1,561 0 0	..	..	..
Suspense and Deposits Accounts	..	..	504 6 0	..	..	..
Sundry debtors	..	..	21,815 15 6	..	..	..
Cash on hand	..	..	34,750 13 10	..	..	..
Debentures and Loan Account	..	..	..	..	..	227,601 0 7
Sundry creditors	..	..	..	..	..	22,652 16 0
Accrued interest	..	..	..	..	..	4,282 4 6
Sinking Fund Account	..	..	..	..	..	13,200 0 0
Reserve Fund Account	..	..	..	..	..	5,884 11 2
General Profit and Loss Account	..	..	34,945 13 3	..	..	..
			273,620 12 3	118,866 2 7	118,866 2 7	273,620 12 3

L. H. EILERS, Accountant.

NOTE.—The special depreciation of £45,000 18s. 4d. was written off in 1912, and distributed as follows: Point Elizabeth Colliery, £25,000, thus reducing the net profit to £74,971 15s. 7d.

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