

At Dobson Mine, on the 12th October, James Ford, aged 67 years, was injured by a fall of roof, and died from shock on the same day. Deceased was engaged taking out a lift of a pillar in the Mount Buckley section of the mine. The lift had been holed through to the level above and was in faulted ground. When stripping back the coal, deceased uncovered a greasy back. A fall took place, which swung the timber and struck deceased.

At Millerton Mine, on the 23rd October, a miner named James White was killed by a fall of top coal. A narrow road had been driven through the corner of a pillar to get at the top coal inside, a triangular stump being left on the right-hand side for protection. The seam had a thickness of over 30 ft. Tops had been dropped ahead of the narrow place, and as the stump had crushed it was taken out. The rails were then lifted and laid along the continuation of the board, and top coal was being filled from the left-hand side. To the left of the road the roof was too high for timber, and the trucking-road was protected by one row of props on the low side. The place was very wide, the width being necessary to get the tops to fall. Just prior to the accident a shot had been fired, and deceased had thereafter returned to his place, and was engaged in filling a truck when a piece of top coal fell from overhead and injured him so seriously that he died almost immediately.

#### SECTION IV.—WORKING OF THE COAL-MINES ACT.

##### (a.) PERMITTED EXPLOSIVES.

(Regulations 241 to 245 inclusive.)

The following is a table showing the quantity of permitted explosives used and the number of shots fired at New Zealand coal-mines during 1925 :—

Inspection District.	Quantity of Permitted Explosives used (lb.).			Number of Shots fired.	Number of Misfired Shots.			Approximate Quantity of Coal produced.	
	A2 Monobel.	Ligdynite.	Samsomite.		By Defective Explosive.	By Defective Detonators.	By Defective Leads.		Total.
Northern (i.e., North Island) ..	79,103	..	..	94,639	..	184	32	216	Tons. 217,389
West Coast (of South Island) ..	159,209	..	68,155	255,045	43	352	145	540	949,957
Southern (i.e., Canterbury, Otago, and Southland)	26,745	..	25,096	78,159	..	48	15	63	225,076
Totals .. ..	265,057	..	93,251	427,843	43	584	192	819	1,392,422

Sixty-six per cent. of the coal produced in the Dominion during 1925 was broken down by permitted explosive, and the average production of coal per pound of explosive used was 3·8 tons, and per shot fired 3·2 tons.

##### (b.) LIST OF MINES REQUIRED BY LAW TO USE PERMITTED EXPLOSIVES.

The following is a list of mines as at the 1st December, 1925, required by law to use permitted explosives :—

###### Northern Inspection District.

Pukemiro Collieries, Pukemiro—throughout South Mine.  
 Rotowaro Colliery, Rotowaro—throughout Nos. 1 and 3 Mines.  
 Glen Afton Colliery, Glen Afton—All sections of the mine with the exception of A section.

###### West Coast Inspection District.

North Cape Mine.	Ferndale-Timaru Coal Company's Mine.
Puponga Mine.	Sherwood (now Morrisvale) Mine (Morris and Learmont).
Westport-Stockton Mine.	Paparoa Mine.
Westport Coal Company's Mines.	Blackball Mine.
J. T. Dove's Mine.	Armstrong and party's Mine.
Coal Creek Mine (McGuire and party).	Baddeley and party's Mine.
Cardiff Bridge Mine.	Boote and party's Mine.
Old Cardiff (Clay Pit).	Dixon and party's Mine.
St. Helens Mine (McAllister and party).	Clark and party's Mine (Hillside).
Westport-Mokihinui Mine.	Duggan and party's Mine.
Chester and party's Mine.	Hunter and party's Mine.
Marris and Murray's Mine.	Manderson and party's Mine.
Ngakawau Mining Syndicate's Mine.	McIvor and party's Mine.
Whitecliffs Mine.	Moody Creek Mine (Simpson and party).
Reefton Coal Company's Mine.	Smith and party's Mine.
Phoenix and Venus Mine.	Spark and party's Mine.
Victory Mine (now Caliope).	James Mine.
Woodlands Mine.	Liverpool Collieries.
Empire Mine.	
Lankey's Creek Mine (Bolitho Bros.).	