The magic million...

There is something immensely satisfying in belonging to a pit which mines a million tons in the year. It is particularly pleasing here at Woolley to achieve this in our centenary year. It is something in which the whole pit can take pride. I for my part am not ashamed to express my pride — in the management team, the unions and the men in every part of Woolley pit who have made this possible.

Now, of course, we have something to live up to. The task ahead is a real challenge. Our reserves are in thinner seams — but they are of such quality that they will attract a ready market and provide a future for Woolley and its men for some considerable time ahead. But if thin seams are our problem, they also represent our main strength. Our men and officials have learned to adapt themselves very rapidly to new techniques. They have tackled the near-impossible with remarkable success in the past and for this reason I am confident that they will continue to meet the challenges of improving efficiency and developing new methods.

George Duncan
Colliery General Manager