

Mt. Kembla Mine.
THE NEW ELECTRIC-LIGHT PLANT.

A long felt want has been supplied at Mount Kembla Colliery recently by the installation of a most thoroughly efficient and up-to-date electric-light plant. The main rope roads, along which the skids(sic) (*skips*) go laden with coal on their way to the tunnel mouth, which were hitherto given up to the blackest gloom, are now studded with brilliant globes of light, illuminating the mine as only electricity can. Even the lay mind will be struck with the advantages of this latest and necessary addition to this great coal mine. The working staff experience great difficulty in keeping the trucks on the rails, and in the past, having only safety lamps to work by, a derailed truck caused a lot of trouble and much time was lost in restoring traffic. Now with the

advent of electric light, all is changed, and many an accident is detected before much danger is done, and thereby serious delays, which mean time and money are avoided. Over eight miles of cables were, used in wiring the inside portion of the mine, and the working electrical pressure of the dynamos being 250 volts, the resistance of the circuit is easily overcome, and a brilliant light obtained throughout the mine even at the farthest point. The engine house, workshops and offices and all the outbuildings at the mouth of the tunnel are electrically fitted, and at night present a brilliant aspect. In the lamp room has been placed an automatic contrivance for lighting the safety lamps electrically, which has proved a great success. These lamp-lighters are also placed at many points in the mine, easy of access to the miners, where they may light their lamps at all times without danger. The dynamos are belt-driven multipolar type, placed in the main engine-house. Near by is a large switch-board constructed of marble, and appointed with nicely-finished controllers and measuring instruments. This board governs the whole of the lights, each circuit being run separately to its respective switches. The work was carried out by Messrs G. S. Warburton and Co. of 343 Kent Street, Sydney who also supplied the generating plant.