

COAL MINING TRAINEES REPORT.

Our cameraman, Jeck Gemell, goes to a Yorkshire Colliery to witness the arrival at the pithead of a party of Mr. Duvlin's boys...young conscripts drafted into the mines instead of the armed forces. Like the Merchant seamen their battle dress is an old suit of civilian clothes, with the added equipment of their service. Safety helmets and pit boots are part of their kit.

Then comes some advice on mining given by experienced instructors. They'll learn a lot - not least, how a coal miner lives as well as works. Safety lamps are issued, and the party prepares to descend into the dark labyrinth of tunnels deep below the surface. The journey starts at the air lock leading to the cage. It's the first day of work for these lads who have been drafted into one of the toughest and but most essential jobs of the war. This latest development of the Nations man power has a great influence on the battlefronts overseas.

Black ammunition arrives in Italy from Britain. Coal for the running of locomotives left behind intact by the retreating enemy.

Every ounce of it helps to put rolling stock back on the lines for the transport of essential supplies to our armies in the field.

Those lads in the mines may not look at it like this, but they are hewing a way into occupied Europe.