

APPENDIX B.

INSPECTION OF COAL-MINES.

Mr. FRANK REED, M.Inst.M.M., Inspecting Engineer, to the UNDER-SECRETARY FOR MINES.

SIR,—

Mines Department, Wellington, 3rd May, 1912.

I have the honour to present the annual reports of inspection, together with statistical information in regard to the coal-mines of the Dominion, for the year ended 31st December, 1911.

The reports are divided into the following sections:—

- I. Output of Mineral.
- II. Persons employed.
- III. Accidents.
- IV. General Remarks.

Annexures—

- (a.) Inspectors' Reports.
- (b.) Mine Officials' Examinations, and List of Certificate-holders.
- (c.) Miners' Baths.
- (d.) Statistics of Working Collieries.

SECTION I.—OUTPUT OF MINERAL.

The output of the several classes of coal mined in each inspection district is summarized as follows:—

Class of Coal, &c.	Northern District.	West Coast District.	Southern District.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Bituminous and semi-bituminous coal ...	139,159	1,218,693	505	1,358,357
Pitch-coal	4,411	4,411
Brown coal... ..	258,713	...	342,380	601,093
Lignite	102,212	102,212
Totals for 1911...	397,872	1,218,693	449,508	2,066,073
Totals for 1910 ...	400,664	1,341,032	455,666	2,197,362

From the foregoing it will be seen that there has been a decrease of 131,289 tons in the output as compared with the previous year. The output during 1910 was unduly high, owing to the Newcastle (New South Wales) strike, which caused orders to be diverted to New Zealand, so that the decline for 1911 should not be regarded as serious, for the year's production was considerably greater than the output during any year prior to 1910.