

## APPENDIX B.

### REPORTS RELATING TO THE INSPECTION OF COAL-MINES.

THE INSPECTING ENGINEER OF MINES TO THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF MINES.

SIR,—

Wellington, 15th March, 1921.

I have the honour to present my fifteenth annual report, together with statistical information, in regard to coal-mines of the Dominion, for the year ended 31st December, 1920, in accordance with section 78 of the Coal-mines Act, 1908. The report is divided into the following sections :—

- I. Output.
  - II. Persons employed.
  - III. Accidents.
  - IV. Working of the Coal-mines Act—
    - (a.) Ventilation.
    - (b.) Systematic Timbering.
    - (c.) Permitted Explosives.
    - (d.) Dangerous Occurrences.
    - (e.) Electricity at Collieries.
  - V. Legislation affecting Coal-mining.
  - VI. Transportation of Coal by Flume.
- Annexures—
- A. Summary of Annual Reports by Inspectors of Mines.
  - B. Colliery Statistics.

#### SECTION I.—OUTPUT.

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

Class of Coal.	Output of Coal during 1920.				Total Output to the End of 1920.
	Northern District (North Island).	West Coast District (South Island).	Southern District (South Island).	Total.	
Bituminous and semi-bituminous	Tons. 102,801	Tons. 820,774	Tons. ...	Tons. 923,575	Tons. 33,055,687
Brown ... ..	380,691	733	334,285	715,709	15,880,197
Lignite ... ..	...	...	204,421	204,421	2,948,509
Totals for 1920 ...	483,492	821,507	538,706	1,843,705	51,884,393
Totals for 1919 ...	511,451	845,826	490,571	1,847,848	50,040,688

The continued annual decline in coal-production was caused by stoppage of work and restriction of output at the Waikato and West Coast collieries. The Inangahua, Otago, and Southland coalfields, however, produced a record output.