

APPENDIX B.

REPORTS RELATING TO THE INSPECTION OF COAL-MINES.

THE INSPECTING ENGINEER AND CHIEF INSPECTOR OF COAL-MINES to the UNDER-SECRETARY OF MINES.

SIR,—

Wellington, 2nd July, 1931.

I have the honour to present my annual report, together with statistical information, in regard to coal-mines of the Dominion for the year ended 31st December, 1930, in accordance with section 42 of the Coal-mines Act, 1925. The report is divided into the following sections :—

- I. Output.
  - II. Persons employed.
  - III. Accidents.
  - IV. Working of the Coal-mines Act—(a) Permitted Explosives ; (a) List of Mines required by Law to use Permitted Explosives ; (c) List of Mines required by Law to use Safety-lamps ; (d) Dangerous Occurrences ; (e) Electricity at Collieries ; (f) Prosecutions.
  - V. Legislation affecting Coal-mining.
- 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 1930.				Total Output to the End of 1930.
	Northern District (North Island).	West Coast District (South Island).	Southern District (South Island).	Totals.	
Bituminous and sub-bituminous	Tons. 140,911	Tons. 1,241,964	Tons. ..	Tons. 1,382,875	Tons. 44,569,085
Brown .. ..	625,401	43,710	377,566	1,046,677	24,831,231
Lignite .. ..	..	397	112,143	112,540	4,440,475
Totals for 1930 ..	766,312	1,286,071	489,709	2,542,092	73,840,791
Totals for 1929 ..	769,858	1,290,008	475,998	2,535,864	71,298,699

The following is a table showing the annual production of coal and the quantity of coal imported since 1911 :—

Year.	Coal produced.	Coal imported.	Total Quantity of Coal produced and imported.	Year.	Coal produced.	Coal imported.	Total Quantity of Coal produced and imported.
1911 ..	Tons. 2,066,073	Tons. 188,068	Tons. 2,254,141	1921 ..	Tons. 1,809,095	Tons. 822,459	Tons. 2,631,554
1912 ..	2,177,615	364,359	2,541,974	1922 ..	1,857,819	501,478	2,359,297
1913 ..	1,888,005	468,940	2,356,945	1923 ..	1,969,834	445,792	2,415,626
1914 ..	2,275,614*	518,070	2,793,684*	1924 ..	2,083,207	674,483	2,757,690
1915 ..	2,208,624	353,471	2,562,095	1925 ..	2,114,995	572,573	2,687,568
1916 ..	2,257,135	293,956	2,551,091	1926 ..	2,239,999	483,918	2,723,917
1917 ..	2,068,419	291,597	2,360,016	1927 ..	2,366,740	378,090	2,744,830
1918 ..	2,034,250	255,332	2,289,582	1928 ..	2,436,753	247,861	2,684,614
1919 ..	1,847,848	391,434	2,239,282	1929 ..	2,535,864	215,656	2,751,520
1920 ..	1,843,705	476,343	2,320,048	1930 ..	2,542,092	157,943	2,700,035

\* Includes 21 tons shale.

The output for 1930, 2,542,092 tons, was the highest recorded for any one year. It showed a small increase of 6,228 tons over the output for 1929.

In the Northern District the output was 3,546 tons less than that of the previous year. During the first half of the year the market was very dull, but during the second half it was helped considerably by the coming into continuous operation of the Auckland Power-station consequent on the breakdown of the hydro-electric power-station at Arapuni. Two new mines came into operation during the year, the Wilton and Macdonald Mines. The productive capacity of the mines in the Waikato is now far ahead of the market requirements. During 1930 much idle time was experienced at the Waikato mines. The indications are that this will be more serious during the present year, while the outlook