

for 1932 is bad, since it is expected that Arapuni Power-station will resume operations in June, 1932, with an output of 60,000 kw., and the Auckland Power-station, which now consumes over 3,000 tons of coal per week, will then close down. During 1930 competition between the various mines was very keen, and prices have been forced down to such an extent as to make it doubtful if any of the mines can produce coal and sell it at a profit at the present prices.

The output from the West Coast District decreased by 3,937 tons. In the early part of the year the market was fairly good by reason of the coal strike on the Maitland field in New South Wales, but in the latter part of the year much idle time was experienced. The trade depression has reduced the consumption of coal on the railways, while the extended use of hydro-electricity is reducing the demand for coal for gasworks, household, and industrial purposes. The Buller district is more affected than the Grey district. The Buller district in former years supplied most of the bunker coal used in New Zealand ports; that market has been much reduced through the increasing use of oil fuel on ocean liners. The Grey district has the advantage of through railway connection to Canterbury and has increased its market there at the expense of the Buller district. Both districts are suffering from competition with coal imported from Australia; Newcastle screened coal can at present be landed at New Zealand main ports at prices below which it is possible to land screened bituminous coal from the West Coast.

In the Southern District the output for the year showed an increase of 13,711 tons. In spite of this, much idle time was experienced during the summer months, and at some of the mines the miners are sharing the available work.

Comparatively little time was lost during the year from industrial troubles. The number of co-operative parties working small mines still continues to increase.

The production from and the number of persons employed at the collieries of the Dominion are shown in the following table:—

| Name of Colliery.                        | Locality.         | Class of Coal.  | Output for 1930. | Total Output to 31st December, 1930. | Total Number of Persons ordinarily employed. |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Northern District.</i>                |                   |                 | Tons.            | Tons.                                |  |
| Hikurangi .. .. .                        | Hikurangi ..      | Sub-bituminous  | 46,773           | 394,762                              | 187  |
| Wilson's .. .. .                         | " ..              | " ..            | 58,787           | 546,142                              | 188  |
| Rotowaro .. .. .                         | Huntly ..         | Brown ..        | 143,163          | 1,503,102                            | 273  |
| Pukemiro .. .. .                         | " ..              | " ..            | 127,205          | 1,886,708                            | 257  |
| Waipa .. .. .                            | " ..              | " ..            | 33,071           | 1,071,346                            | 107  |
| Glen Afton .. .. .                       | Glen Afton ..     | " ..            | 177,244          | 1,180,373                            | 361  |
| Renown .. .. .                           | Waikokowai ..     | " ..            | 88,790           | 187,880                              | 179  |
| <i>West Coast District.</i>              |                   |                 |                  |                                      |  |
| Westport-Stockton .. ..                  | Ngakawau ..       | Bituminous ..   | 152,600          | 2,795,042                            | 311  |
| Millerton .. .. .                        | Millerton ..      | " ..            | 168,185          | 8,071,556                            | 450  |
| Denniston .. .. .                        | Denniston ..      | " ..            | 187,165          | 9,973,114                            | 522  |
| Westportmain .. .. .                     | Westport ..       | " ..            | 29,272           | 157,340                              | 43   |
| Cardiff Bridge .. .. .                   | Seddonville ..    | " ..            | 24,844           | 190,280                              | 28   |
| Paparoa .. .. .                          | Roa ..            | Semi-bituminous | 28,150           | 652,995                              | 36   |
| Blackball .. .. .                        | Blackball ..      | Sub-bituminous  | 96,076           | 3,897,427                            | 301  |
| Liverpool (State) .. ..                  | Rewanui ..        | Bituminous ..   | 132,550          | 2,163,947                            | 334  |
| James (State) .. .. .                    | Rapahoe ..        | Sub-bituminous  | 42,284           | 269,421                              | 79   |
| Dobson .. .. .                           | Dobson ..         | Bituminous ..   | 117,386          | 445,538                              | 311  |
| Wallsend .. .. .                         | Brunnerton ..     | " ..            | 62,573           | 314,999                              | 161  |
| <i>Southern District.</i>                |                   |                 |                  |                                      |  |
| Shag Point .. .. .                       | Shag Point ..     | Brown ..        | 21,464           | 284,624                              | 60   |
| Kaitangata and Castlehill (3 collieries) | Kaitangata ..     | " ..            | 101,672          | 4,792,036                            | 249  |
| Linton (2 collieries) .. ..              | Nightcaps ..      | " ..            | 116,910          | 731,549                              | 165  |
| Wairaki (2 collieries) .. ..             | " ..              | " ..            | 39,489           | 366,415                              | 94   |
| Mossbank (2 collieries) .. ..            | " ..              | " ..            | 50,613           | 314,495                              | 78   |
| 155 other collieries .. .. .             | All coalfields .. | Various ..      | 495,826          | 7,887,214                            | 1,093  |
| Collieries abandoned or suspended, &c.   | Various ..        | " ..            | ..               | 23,762,486                           | ..   |
| Totals .. .. .                           | ..                | ..              | 2,542,092        | 73,840,791                           | 5,867  |

## SECTION II.—PERSONS EMPLOYED.

| Inspection District. | Average Number of Persons employed during 1930. |               |        |
|----------------------|---|---------------|--------|
|                      | Above Ground.                                   | Below Ground. | Total. |
| Southern .. .. .     | 232   | 701           | 933    |
| West Coast .. .. .   | 766   | 2,354         | 3,120  |
| Northern .. .. .     | 439   | 1,375         | 1,814  |
| Totals, 1930 .. .. . | 1,437   | 4,430         | 5,867  |
| Totals, 1929 .. .. . | 1,370   | 4,127         | 5,497  |