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.—

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, 1931, 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; (b) 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:— $\,$

				Total Output			
Class of Coal.			Northern District (North Island).	West Coast District (South Island).	Southern District (South Island).	Totals.	to the End of 1931.
Bitumine Brown Lignite	ous and sub-bitum	inous 	$\begin{array}{c} { m Tons.} \\ { m 129,725} \\ { m 705,174} \\ { m .} \end{array}$	Tons. 849,911 39,824 759	Tons. 324,751 107,612	Tons. 979,636 1,069,749 108,371	Tons. 45,548,721 25,900,980 4,548,846
	Totals for 1931		834,899	890,494	432,363	2,157,756	75,998,547
	Totals for 1930		766,312	1,286,071	489,709	2,542,092	73,840,791

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 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916 1917 1918 1919 1920	Tons. 2,066,073 2,177,615 1,888,005 2,275,614* 2,208,624 2,257,135 2,068,419 2,034,250 1,847,848 1,843,705 1,809,095	Tons. 188,068 364,359 468,940 518,070 353,471 293,956 291,597 255,332 391,434 476,343 822,459	Tons. 2,254,141 2,541,974 2,356,945 2,793,684* 2,562,095 2,551,091 2,360,016 2,289,582 2,239,282 2,320,048 2,631,554	1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930	Tons. 1,857,819 1,969,834 2,083,207 2,114,995 2,239,999 2,366,740 2,436,753 2,535,864 2,542,092 2,157,756	Tons. 501,478 445,792 674,483 572,573 483,918 378,990 247,861 215,656 157,943 179,060	Tons, 2,359,297 2,415,626 2,757,690 2,687,568 2,723,917 2,744,830 2,684,614 2,751,520 2,700,035 2,336,816