

1943
NEW ZEALAND

MINES STATEMENT

BY THE HON. P. C. WEBB, MINISTER OF MINES

MR. SPEAKER,—

I have the honour to present to Parliament the annual statement on the mining industry of the Dominion for the year ended 31st December, 1942.

MINERAL PRODUCTION

The following statement shows the quantity and value of the production of metalliferous mines, stone-quarries under the Stone-quarries Act, and of coal-mines during 1942 and 1941 :—

Mineral.	1942.		1941.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Gold and silver	*	*	*	*
Platinum	21 oz.	189	35 oz.	286
Iron-ore	2,433 tons	6,576	1,544 tons	3,894
Stone	..	539,904	..	528,313
Pumice	3,085 ..	11,673	3,160 ..	11,226
Coal	2,680,041 ..	2,680,041	2,639,507 ..	2,639,507
Tungsten-ore	67 ..	32,309	67 $\frac{7}{20}$..	13,463
Manganese-ore	321 ..	1,694	752 $\frac{6}{20}$..	2,995
Silica sand	1,875 ..	2,367	2,034 ..	2,756
Fuller's earth	138 ..	434	109 $\frac{2}{20}$..	382
Diatomaceous earth	418 $\frac{10}{20}$..	585	124 $\frac{2}{20}$..	508
Serpentine	31,248 ..	26,038	7,861 ..	6,780
Antimony	..	..	17 ..	249
Bentonite	500 ..	2,134	136 ..	578
Quicksilver	5 $\frac{2}{20}$..	11,110	2 $\frac{10}{20}$..	5,043
Asbestos	42 $\frac{13}{20}$..	1,035	53 $\frac{7}{20}$..	240
Clays	2,337 ..	2,376	1,272 ..	1,273
Dolomite	3,361 ..	1,260	2,672 ..	1,336
Quartzite	95 ..	370	..	..
Totals	..	3,320,095	..	3,218,829

* Not available for publication.

NOTE.—The values shown in the above and subsequent tables are expressed in New Zealand currency.

GOLD AND SILVER MINING

No statistical data is being published in relation to the production and exportation of gold, although it may be mentioned that there was a slight decline in output, due to problems of man-power and equipment difficulties.

Sixteen dredges operated in the West Coast District and five in the Southern District. During the year three new dredges were put in service and one suspended operations.

MINING PRIVILEGES

A total of 224 licenses for mining privileges was granted under the provisions of the Mining Act, a decrease of 163 on the previous year. Of the licenses granted in 1942, 44 were licenses entitling the holders to mine for gold.

Altogether 63 mining privileges, including 19 claim licenses and 7 water-race licenses, were struck off the registers under section 188 of the Mining Act.