1910. NEW ZEALAND.

STATE COAL-MINES

(REPORT ON THE WORKING OF) FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1910.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly in accordance with the requirements of Section 118 of the Coal-mines Act, 1908.

W. C. GASQUOINE, Esq., General Manager, State Coal-mines, to the Under-Secretary, Mines Department, Wellington.

Sir. New Zealand State Coal-mines Office, Wellington, 27th June, 1910.

I have the honour to submit the annual report and balance-sheet of the New Zealand State Coal-mines for the period ended 31st March last.

The gross output of these mines for the year was 289,673 tons, which, after allowing for mine-consumption and waste, left 281,630 tons for market, being a decrease of 18,406 tons when considered as against the figures of the preceding yearly period.

The Point Elizabeth Mine produced 207,449 tons 18 cwt. 1 qr. of marketable coal, which was disposed of in the following manner:

				nage.		Val	ue.	
			Tons	cwt.	qr.	£	s.	d.
Railways			 49,466	6	3	 48,590	5	6
Depots			 58,293	()	3	 52,214	19	4
Other Govern	ment Dep	artments	 6,322	14	3	 5.929	5	5
Shipping and	private c	onsumers	 93,367	16	0	 55.476	8	11
Tota	.ls		 207,449	18	l	 162,210	19	2

Of this quantity, 123 tons 14 cwt. 2 qr. screened, 1,539 tons 12 cwt. 1 qr. unscreened, 6,027 tons 18 cwt. 2 qr. steam, 6,434 tons 12 cwt. 1 qr. small, of a total value of £12,033 3s. 8d., were disposed of through the medium of the hulks. This has proved a very profitable means of sale, as well as providing a very necessary outlet for surplus small coal.

The coal maintains its excellent quality, and the demand far exceeds the present output.

The year's result would have been very much more satisfactory were it not for the strike at the mine, which not only caused a considerable reduction in the output, but entailed large expenditure maintaining the machinery, and pumping to keep the pit clear of water.

The Seddonville Mine produced 74,180 tons 16 cwt. 1 qr. of marketable coal, which was disposed of as follows:—

			iage.		V a	lue,	
		Tons	cwt.	qr.	£	s.	d.
Railways		20,396	2	2	 20,983	11	8
Depots		8,392	19	3	 5.695	13	0
Other Government Departm	ients .	539	17	2	 426	5	4
Shipping and private consu		-41.303	11	2	 21.743	19	11
Dari in and a sure also		3,548	5	0	 975	15	0
Totals		74,180	16	L	 49.825	4	11

Of this quantity, 5 tons screened, 1,918 tons 12 cwt. 2 qr. steam, 82 tons 17 cwt. 1 qr. small, of a total value of £1.802 8s. 9d., were sold through the medium of the hulks.

The briquette-works produced briquettes and eggettes, which, after allowing for those affoat and in stock last year, were disposed of in the following manner:

			Tonnage.	Val	ue.	
			Tons cwt. qr.	£	s.	d.
Railways		 	3.269 - 5 - 2	 3,384	6	0
Depots		 	870 17 0	 1,088	0	0
Consumers at	works	 	19/12 0	 16	5	6
Totals	٠	 	4.159 14 2	 4,488	11	6
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The coal from this mine has been of a good marketable character, and while it maintains its quality very little difficulty will be experienced in disposing of it. There was a considerable increase in the output as against last year. This, however, is partly due to the strikes at Newcastle and Point Elizabeth Mine, from which most of the small coal for shipping is usually supplied, and to some extent what has been Point Elizabeth's loss has been Seddonville's gain.

The briquette-works were closed down for about nine months, in the first instance on account of alterations, and thereafter owing to the coal strike, as all small coal could be more profitably disposed of through other channels. Briquettes and eggettes are gaining in public favour, no doubt on

account of its being recognised that they are a most economical and useful fuel.

I would like to point out that of the total quantity of coal procured from both mines 117,000 tons of steam and small was sold to consumers other than the Railways, that department taking 38,741 tons of screened coal, 30,533 tons of unscreened, and 588 tons of screened nuts, but no small coal: also that the sales to shipping and other consumers are at the f.o.b. rate, while in all cases the sales to the Railways include the cost of sea-carriage to the port of delivery.

It might be as well to note that the very large amount of £63,530 3s. 6d. was paid for steamer-

freights

The Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Wanganui depots are all increasing their sales, and there is no doubt that when the advantage derived by the general public is recognised this means of disposal will amply justify their establishment.

Work at the mines has been fairly regular, taking all circumstances into consideration.

The railway and development-work at Point Elizabeth No. 2 Mine is being rapidly pushed on, and it is hoped that coal will be produced very shortly. This mine should not only produce enough to make good any shortage in No. 1, but materially add to the output from Point Elizabeth, thereby overcoming the present difficulty in meeting demands for coal from this district.

The officers and men connected with the various branches have all worked energetically and well

for the furtherance of the industry.

All the ways and working-plants in and about the mines are being maintained in good repair.

Attached are the separate reports of the Managers at Point Elizabeth and Seddonville, giving

the necessary detailed information.

In conclusion it may not be out of place to add a word of warning to those whom it most concerns, that the success of an undertaking such as this is dependent not only upon the industry of those who are employed, but also the price paid. In other words, if the cost of winning and handling the coal increases, it will be necessary to take into consideration the raising of the selling-price.

1 have, &c., W. C. GASQUOINE, General Manager.

The Under-Secretary, Mines Department, Wellington.

Mr. James Bishop, Manager of the Point Elizabeth State Coal-mine, to the Under-Secretary of Mines. Wellington.

Greymouth, 4th July, 1910.

Thave the honour to submit my annual report on the Point Elizabeth State Collieries for the year ending 31st March last.

No. 1 Colliery, Underground Developments.

No new developments have taken place during the year. The workings have been carried on in the dip areas of both sections of the colliery, and at present have reached the point where the coal has almost become too thin for profitable mining. A large part of the output is being obtained from pillar-workings. The dip headings have in both sections reached the fault which crosses the dip, and has been proved to displace the seam extensively, and in consequence of this and of increased water it will not be profitable to extend the headings to the small area of coal on the dip side of this fault.

COAL-WINNING.

The No. 1 section produced 114,355 tons 16 cwt., and No. 2 section 100,853 tons 10 cwt., making a gross total of 215,809 tons 6 cwt., from which has to be deducted the quantity used on works, and waste, which left 207,449 tons available for market, a considerable decrease on the quantity raised last year.

The mine worked on 242 days 1 hour. Union holidays accounted for 41 days 4 hours, lost time by bar-blocks 5 days 5 hours, strike of miners 15 days 2 hours, lost time due to accidents 7 days 5 hours, cavilling 5 hours, and stoppage of machinery 2 hours. The average time per week works out to 4.65 days, the daily average output to 891 tons 6 cwt.

The gross total output from the colliery since coal was put on the market. June, 1904, to 31st March,

1910, is 1,100,142 tons 16 cwt.

SURFACE WORKS.

The plant, machinery, and buildings have been maintained in good and efficient working-order. In consequence of increased pumping-power being required, a new air-compressor and two additional pumps have been added to the plant.

EXPLORATION.

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The work done in this connection during the year has been limited to putting down bores outside the boundaries of the present working-areas, the result of which has proved that for some distance beyond the fault-line which cuts across the dip headings the coal is too thin to warrant expensive works being undertaken to reach it.

ACCIDENTS.

A number of minor accidents occurred during the year, and it is to be deeply regretted that there were three fatalities, on all of which special reports have been forwarded.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

Reference to the colliery plans will show that the areas at present being operated on are almost surrounded by faults, and where not faulted the coal has thinned out, and it is unlikely that further areas of coal will be found available for exploitation from the present mine-openings. Thus the work to be undertaken with a view to future working will consist of surveys, examination of outcrops, and bores to test the coal in such portions of the field as can be most conveniently operated on and coal delivered from to the present bins and railway.

POINT ELIZABETH No. 2 COLLIERY.

This colliery now in course of development is located five miles almost direct north from the No. 1 colliery, and is to be connected by the extension of the Greymouth State Collieries line for a distance of three miles, the grade of the railway being 1 in 30. The coal-storage bins will be located on the west side of the Seven-mile Creek, where the station-yard will be laid out.

The colliery will be connected with the station-yard and bins by two miles of endless rope-haulage line, worked by gravity and controlled by hydraulic brakes.

The construction of this haulage-line involves the driving of approximately 6,338 ft. of tunnels, in four sections, of which 1,710 ft. had been done at the 31st March. The balance of the line is in earthwork and trestle bridges.

The opening-up of the mine is being pushed on, and the coal is proving of excellent quality, from 12 ft. to 20 ft. thick.

The railway connection is making good progress, and the work connected with the storage-bins, brakes, and other appliances is being got ready.

When opened, this colliery will be entirely water-level free, and with the other favourable features it should prove a commercially sound enterprise.

GENERAL.

Referring to the quantity of coal raised during the year, the reduced output as compared with 1909 may be said to be due in great part to the reduced time worked owing to the strike, &c., and to the conditions leading up to the strike may be attributed the reduced daily average for the period.

HARBOUR.

Although the working of the mines has not been so seriously affected by the difficulties of working the port as in some past years, somewhat serious loss has been caused by the detention of steamers, and difficulties of loading to their proper draught. A port such as Greymouth requires special facilities to be given in the way of rolling-stock, cranes, &c., so that vessels may be rapidly loaded and dispatched; a day's delay may mean much longer detention.

The officers in all branches have carried out their duties in a most satisfactory way, all doing their best to maintain the output and to carry on the work under their charge on safe and economical lines.

The Consulting Engineer has at times rendered me much assistance.

The Under-Secretary of Mines, Wellington.

JAMES BISHOP, Manager.

Mr. James Fletcher, Manager of the Seddonville State Coal-mine, to the Under-Secretary, Mines Department, Wellington.

Sir,—

I have the honour to submit my annual report on the working of the Seddonville State Coalmine for the year ending the 31st March last.

OUTPUT.

The output won from the mine during the year was 74,463 tons 18 cwt., from which had to be deducted for mine-consumption and waste 283 tons, leaving available for market 74,180 tons 16 cwt 1 qr.

The briquette-works at Westport were only in a producing state during the first five months of the year, and consequently only 3,521 tons of fine small were used for briquetting purposes. During the stoppage of the works a keen demand was experienced for all classes of coal, which caused the bulk of the output to be sent to market as "run of" the mine, consequently there was no waste of small coal.

Again, the largest portion of the output has been won from the New Area, thirty-six coal-miners producing 60,300 tons, and the balance was won from the West and Bridge sections.

DAYS WORKED.

An increase in the number of working-days is shown for the year, 250½ days worked as against

244½, which gives an average of 4.8 days per week.

The miners' daily average for the year was 16s. 6d., being an increase of 4d, per day over the pre-

ceding year.

The number of men and boys ordinarily employed in and about the mine throughout the year was 110.

There were no accidents of any serious nature to report.

The only addition during the year has been fifty new steel tubs, and the installation of a fire-equipment service about the bins, engine-house, and workshops.

The Sirocco fan, as mentioned in the previous annual report, for ventilating the New Area, has continued to run well during the year, the ventilation results obtained being satisfactory throughout.

General repairs have been carried out to the coal-screening plant, main-haulage boiler, and one boiler at the ventilating shaft. The plant in and about the mine is now in an efficient state of repair.

UNDERGROUND WORKINGS.

The work chiefly done has been the winning of coal from the New Area. The coal won has been of good quality, as instanced by the output, which was greatly increased over the previous year.

The small area of 10 acres which was tapped through a fault in the West section has yielded very good coal: although not having been worked continually for the year, the quantity won was 9,600 tons, and it is giving promise of lasting some time vet.

The balance of the output was won from the Bridge section, south of Chasm Creek, which con-

tained only a few corners of hard coal which were left on the abandonment of it.

No standing pillars of coal were extracted, there being plenty of suitable coal in the solid to meet the requirements of the trade.

The production per miner per shift for the year is 6.35 tons, as against 6.21 tons, thus showing that the seam worked possesses its usual freedom for "getting."

FUTURE PROSPECTS AND DEVELOPMENTS.

In view of the near exhaustion of the present workings, an area of country has been attached to the present reserve extending right to the Ngakawau River, embracing an area of 3,821 acres. Charming Creek, a slow-running stream, runs practically through the centre of it, and from this the area has been designated the "Charming Creek Area."

This portion of country has never been geologically surveyed, but now that special surface examinations have been completed it is evident that it is an area of great promise, and requires to be thoroughly tested by boring. A site was selected for the first bore, which was well in the heart of the field, and after boring 90 ft. a seam of coal 20 ft. thick was pierced. From the borings obtained it was shown to be of a hard and good quality. This result being very promising, a site for No. 2 bore was picked, half a mile to the eastward of No. 1, and the drill is still boring in the apparent coal-measures. With a view of testing the field quickly and cheaply, a diamond drilling plant has arrived, and the intention is to bore, commencing from near the confluence of Charming Creek with the Ngakawau River, systematically right through the field.

GENERAL.

This mine being classed as a small producer, regarding tonnage, it is a matter for congratulation that the working-time experienced has been so good, on account of having to depend on so many small boats to take away the output. The output is sorted into screened, unscreened, screened nuts, and small, and often the mine works four days before a cargo of screened is ready.

The Railway Department do all they can to help along with the supply of railway-wagons, and it is hoped they will be as generous for the current year. The output is expected to again exceed

70,000 tons.

A new working-agreement was entered into during the year, with a currency of two years, and is

giving every satisfaction.

The officers have again performed their duties in a most satisfactory manner, and I am indebted to the Consulting Engineer for valuable assistance rendered in connection with the working of the mine, and the prospecting and testing of the new field. I have, &c.,

JAMES FLETCHER, Manager.

The Under-Secretary, Mines Department, Wellington.

BALANCE-SHEET OF THE NEW ZEALAND STATE COAL-MINES.

1910.
March,
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Assets
und
Liabilities a
to
Statement

General Profit and Loss Account —
Balance of profit at 31st March,
1909 ...
Net profits for the year ended
31st March, 1910 ... 4
Loss sinking fund ... 2

Debenture loan ... Sundry creditors ... Accrued interest ... Debenture sinking fund Reserve fund

	Assets.	€ 8. d.	ъ З	દ કે તે	
. x	Point Elizabeth Colliery and Development Property Account— Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Depreciation	19,636 2 2 981 16 1 18,654	9		
	Machinery, plant, ropes, and rolling-stock—Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	33,925 9 10 3,718 8 4			
48,191 12 11 ded 4,909 8 0 5 600 0 0	Depreciation	37,643 18 2 1,882 3 11	761 14 8		
>	Buildings at mine— Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	2,642 8 11 290 13 4			
	Depreciation	2,933 2 3 146 13 1 2,786	?* 5:		
	Cottages — Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	2,927 2 9 89 18 0	i		5
•	Depreciation	2,966 15 9 148 6 10	; a		
	Stores (stook on hand) Timber (stook on hand)	17 6 17 5	D .		
	:	938 13 4 4,447	7 2 10		
	Point Elizabeth Colliery No. 2, Development and Property Account— Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	6,301 4 9 12,754 5 5 10	6 6		
	Point Elizabeth Colliery No. 2, machinery, plant, ropes, and rolling-stock —				
	Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	1,592 2 1 6,456 11 10 8,048 13	8 13 11		
	Point Elizabeth Colliery No. 2, buildings at mine— Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	176 6 8 484 1 9	1		C
	Port Elizabeth Colliery No. 2, Timber Account	76		98,329 19	—ЗE ഫ
	Railway-construction Property Account Balance outstanding	:	. - :	1,356 19	3.

Balance-sheet of the New Zealand State Coal-mines—continued. Statement of Liabilities and Assets at 31st March, 1910—continued.

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			11,732		11,637	949	218		14,567 14	2,681 17 565 18	1,620	2,415	3,138 156	2,981 50	2,981 1,020
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30 SAC	Seddonville Colliery and Development Property Account- Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	Depreciation	Machinery, plant, ropes, and rolling-stook- Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	Depreciation	Buildings at mine Cost at 31st M Depreciation	Cottages— Cost at 31st I Depreciation	Briquette plant— Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	Depreciation	Briquette materials (stock on hand) Stores (stock on hand)	Seddonville Stores (stock on band) Coal (stock on hand, at mine and wharf) Coal (stock on hand, afloat)	Hulks Property Account— Cost at 31st March, 1909 Depreciation	Wellington Depot Property Account— Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	Depreciation	Loss of horses	Stocks on hand

Liabilities & s. d.	Christohurch Depot Property Account— Coffs at Slat March, 1909	:	Assets.	:	:	£ s. d. 5,886 11 2	છ . ક
	Depreciation	: :	: :	: :	: :		
	Stocks on hand	:	:	:	:	5,735 4 3	
	Wanganui Depot Property Account— Cost at 31st March, 1909 Additional outlay during the year	::	::	::	::	1.627 0 7 35 0 C	5,984 13 ()
	Depreciation	:	:	:	:	1,662 0 7 83 2 0	
	Stocks on hand	:	:	:	:	1,578 18 7	
	Dunedin Depot Property Account— Cost at 31st March, 1999 Additional outlay during the year	::	::	::	::	1,068 6 9	2,214 0 10
	Depreciation	:	:	:	:	1,081 1 9	
-	Stocks on hand	:	:	:	:	1,027 0 8	•
	Wellington office furniture— Cost at 31st March, 1909 Depreciation	::	::	::	::	90 9 11	_
	Sundry debtors Deposits, contracts account Suspense Account, Premiums 1910-11	:::	:::	:::	:::	40 0 40 0 90 19 8	
	Cash in hand and in the Public Account at 31st March, 1910 Less vouchers outstanding	31st Man	rcb, 191(::	::	61,559 0 7 7,072 8 5	
6223,932 18 11						1 04	\$223,932 18 11
State Coal-mines Office, Wellington, 25th May, 1901. Lours H. Ellers, Accountant.					ಡ	R. McKenzie, Minister of Mines.	Mines.

Louis H. Eilers, Accountant.

Examined and found correct, subject to the following remarks:—

1. The Sinking Fund shown as a liability has not been established by being set apart from the moneys of the State Coal-mines Account.

2. There is no authority of law for the establishment of a Reserve Fund shown as a liability.

ROBERT J. COLLINS, Controller and Auditor-General. 4/7/10.

Statement of General Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

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# s. d. 87,127 12 11 30,380 19 8 668 5 11 8,981 13 0 6,159 12 11 1,931 9 10 1,959 3 5		•	:
rking Account—Gross profit ccount—Gross profit			: : :
By Point Elizabeth Colliery Working Account—Gross profit Seddonville Colliery Briquette Wellington Depot Trading Account—Gross profit Christehurch Depot Warganui Depot Dunedin Depot			By balance down
ැප් ශ් ශා	132,294 19 2 4 10 6 4.909 8 0	£137,208 17 8	4,909 8 0 £4,909 8 0
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80,688 30,186 3,152 8,462 5,563 1,961 2,280		2,600	2,309
80,688 3,136 3,136 3,137 3,157 2,566 2,286	::	2,600	2,309
To Point Elizabeth Colliery Trade Expenses Accounts 80,688 Seddonville Colliery Briquette-works Wellington Depot 3,155 Waristohurch Depot 5,566 Waristohurch Depot 1,566 Waristohurch Depot 1,566 Waristohurch Depot 1,566 Unnedin Depot 2,288	::	. 2,600	2,309

Statement of Point Elizabeth Colliery Working Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

# s. d.	100,021	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$			£164,470 13 11
£ s. d. 162,210 19 2 616 9 5	598 17 5 938 13 4	:			
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d. Cr. Sales of coal Sales of timber	Stock of coal on hand at 31st March, 1910—At mine and wharf Affeat	Stook of timber on hand at 31st March, 1910	a	2	
£ s. d.	01 00615	67,545 3 1	6.497	87,127 12 11	£164,470 13 11
3. d. 5. 4. 11.		3,218 17 3	6,142 7 9	•	
£ s. 3,059 4: 241 5	60,310 11 4,015 14	6,2	6,1		
£ 8,059 3,059	60,310.4	8,81	 6,1	:	
		3,21	9	:	
		3,21	9	:	

Statement of Point Elizabeth Colliery Profit and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1910.

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		Dunedi	Dunedin Depot Profit	and Loss Accoun	and Loss Account for the Year ended 31st March, 1910.	si.		
			£ 8. d	£ 8. d.	Q			 -
: :	: :	: :	4.01	2 9	Balance: Loss	: :	: :	320 19 1
:	:	:	_	0				
:	:	:	4 8 (0				
: :	: :	: :		. 9				
Repairs and maintenance	:	:	18 14	30°				
Printing and postages	: :	: :	8 10	5 ~				
: :	: :	: :	6 5	0				
:	:	:	12	6				
	:	:	843 14 9	o -				
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	:	:		. 9 0 080 0				
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	:			2,280 2 6				£2,280 2 6

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Statement	

Receipts.	d. Axpenditure.	e, d.	£ 8. d.
d in Public Account at 31st			
March, 1909 18,046 18	7 Railway-extension construction	0	54,505 4 5
30,000	() Property and development		
4 K	Building	6	
Sales of timber, stores, &c. 5.717 7 0	Cottages	13	•
Refunds, &c. 61 6 2	Stores and materials	e:	
	Wages	695 6 7	
Refund Railway Construction Account 61.790	3 Ilmber	7	
arin	No 3 property and development	4	
nat	Machinery, plant, and rolling-stock	C 7	
te C	Buildings Buildings	_	
·	Timber	562 4 0	0 01 69 1 0
: of	Sobbonillo Collient		3 .
Pa	Dronerty and development	453 15 6	
pe	Machinery, plant, and rolling-stock		
*	Stores and materials	-	
·Pr	Wages	Ξ:	
ери	Briquette plant	22	
B.YG	Briquette stores and materials	2,710 9 1	
stic	Wages	-	08 800 0 11
on,	Hills Working Account	2.363 16 7	,
no	Wellington denot: property	737 6 0	
t gi	Working	_	
.ve	Ohristchurch depot, property	153 0 2	
n;	Working	4,312 5 9	
pr	Wanganui depot, property	35 0 0	
int	working	0.040 0.00	
ing	Duneain aepot, property		-
; (1,	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		19,283 15 5
.750	Management and office salaries	4,934 4 0	
co	Bents	1,440 6 8	
pie	E. E	# C 10	
s, i	Interest and exchange	70.569 11 3	
nei	Travelling-expenses	0 1 988	
uđi	Printing and stationery	371 19 1	
	Telegrams and postages	913 17 9	
pla	Repairs and maintenance	2,311 2 2	
a. to s	Kallway naulage	0 0 110,120	
	Compensation for accidents and fund	1,897 9 7	
:24	General expenses	525 14 4	
	Wharfage, &c.	3,118 10 9	
	Refunds	04 133 33	
	Deliver facility	_	
	TWHINMAN IT BIRTHES	:	125,861 8 1
	Cash in hand and in Public Account at 31st March, 1910	61,559 0 7	
	Less vouchers passed	0	54, 486 12 2

