

SESSION II.
1912.
NEW ZEALAND.

STATE COAL-MINES

(REPORT ON THE WORKING OF) FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1912.

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

The GENERAL MANAGER, State Coal-mines, to the UNDER-SECRETARY, Mines Department, Wellington.

SIR,—

New Zealand State Coal-mines Office, Wellington, 25th June, 1912.

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

The gross output of the mines was 271,626 tons; which, after allowing for mine consumption and waste, left 244,478 tons for disposal, which when compared with the figures of last year shows a decrease of 16,325 tons.

The Point Elizabeth Mine produced 187,921 tons of marketable coal of the following grades : Screened, 67,966 tons ; unscreened, 55,790 tons : bunker, 13,790 tons ; small, 50,375 tons.

The following table shows the quantity disposed of :—

To whom.	Screened.	Unscreened.	Bunker.	Small.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Depots	29,056	27,024	167	7,100	63,347
New Zealand railways	27,140	7,209	..	..	34,349
Other Government Departments	1,000	1,691	29	180	2,900
Private consumers and shipping companies	10,615	19,715	14,712	42,898	87,940
Totals	67,811	55,639	14,908	50,178	188,536

The sales of coal from this mine are 18,749 tons less than last year. This is due to the fact that most of the output is now being obtained from pillar workings, and also to the exceptionally bad weather which has prevailed at Greymouth, causing stoppages at the mine aggregating $21\frac{1}{2}$ days. The demand for all classes of this coal has been far in excess of the capacity of the mine. This is especially the case at our depots, no doubt owing to some of the other collieries having raised their prices. It is hoped, however, when the No. 2 Colliery is turning out coal in a few months time, all demands will be met.