

APPENDIX B.

REPORTS RELATING TO THE INSPECTION OF COAL-MINES.

The INSPECTING ENGINEER OF MINES to the UNDER-SECRETARY OF MINES.

SIR,—

Wellington, 26th May, 1915.

I have the honour to present the annual reports of inspection, together with statistical information, in regard to the coal-mines of the Dominion, for the year ended 31st December, 1914.

The reports are divided into the following sections :—

- I. Output of Mineral.
- II. Persons employed.
- III. Accidents.
- IV. General Remarks.

Annexures—

- (a.) Examination of Colliery Officials, and List of Certificate-holders.
- (b.) Statistics of Working Collieries.

SECTION I.—OUTPUT.

The output of the several classes of coal mined in each inspection district is summarized as follows :—

Class of Coal.	Output of Coal during 1914.				Total Output to the End of 1914.
	Northern District.	West Coast District.	Southern District.	Total.	
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Bituminous and semi-bituminous coal	141,133	1,351,182	...	1,492,315	23,978,642
Pitch-coal	...	...	1,998	1,998	1,995,592
Brown coal	299,320	...	392,047	691,367	11,766,311
Lignite	...	...	89,913	89,913	1,883,867
Totals for 1914 ...	440,453	1,351,182	483,958	2,275,593	39,624,412
Totals for 1913 ...	349,586	1,057,564	480,855	1,888,005	37,348,819

The annual output during 1914 constitutes a record for New Zealand, and is remarkable owing to the fact that there was a considerable quantity of imported coal stored in the Dominion at the beginning of the year, carried over from the 1913 strike reserves.

The quantity of coal imported during 1914 amounted to 518,070 tons, being 49,130 tons in excess of that imported during the previous year.

The output of coal from each coalfield is as follows :—

Coalfield.	Output during 1914.	Total Output to End of 1914.
	Tons.	Tons.
North Auckland	141,133	3,268,246
Waikato	295,442	3,769,526
Mokau	3,878	88,998
Nelson	16,574	255,895
Buller	818,176	12,976,087
Inangahua	11,362	240,956
Grey	505,070	7,637,142
Canterbury	11,707	683,178
Otago	312,685	8,277,981
Southland	159,566	2,426,403
Totals	2,275,593	39,624,412