

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,— Wellington, 14th June, 1929.
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, 1928, 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 :—

Class of Coal.	Output of Coal during 1928.				Total Output to the End of 1928.
	Northern District (North Island).	West Coast District (South Island).	Southern District (South Island).	Totals.	
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Bituminous and sub-bituminous	179,460	1,169,272	..	1,348,732	41,819,046
Brown	602,429	31,408	339,401	973,238	22,734,951
Lignite	..	159	114,624	114,783	4,208,838
Totals for 1928 ..	781,889	1,200,839	454,025	2,436,753	68,762,835
Totals for 1927 ..	747,530	1,156,191	463,019	2,366,740	66,326,082

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.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1911 ..	2,066,073	188,068	2,254,141	1920 ..	1,843,705	476,343	2,320,048
1912 ..	2,177,615	364,359	2,541,974	1921 ..	1,809,095	822,459	2,631,554
1913 ..	1,888,005	468,940	2,356,945	1922 ..	1,857,819	501,478	2,359,297
1914 ..	2,275,614*	518,070	2,793,684*	1923 ..	1,969,834	445,792	2,415,626
1915 ..	2,208,624	353,471	2,562,095	1924 ..	2,083,207	674,483	2,757,690
1916 ..	2,257,135	293,956	2,551,091	1925 ..	2,114,995	572,573	2,687,568
1917 ..	2,068,419	291,597	2,360,016	1926 ..	2,239,999	483,918	2,723,917
1918 ..	2,034,250	255,332	2,289,582	1927 ..	2,366,740	378,090	2,744,830
1919 ..	1,847,848	391,434	2,239,282	1928 ..	2,436,753	247,861	2,684,614

* Includes 21 tons shale.

The output of coal for 1928 was the highest annual output yet recorded, and was greater by 70,013 tons than the output for 1927. The production of bituminous coal increased by 58,203 tons, that of brown coal by 18,802 tons, while the production of lignite decreased by 6,992 tons. The increases in bituminous and brown coal are largely the result of an endeavour on the part of the Railway Department to use wherever possible local coal, in preference to imported coal.
The output of bituminous coal in the Northern District showed an increase for the year of 7,112 tons and of brown coal an increase of 27,247 tons, a total increase of 34,359 tons.