

1936.
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, 1935.

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 1935 and 1934 :—

Mineral.				1935.		1934.	
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Gold and silver*	..	..	..	603,244 oz.	£ 1,300,046	542,863 oz.	£ 1,195,840
Platinum	..	..	..	14 "	79	..	..
Pig-iron	..	..	..	4,902 tons	23,775	1,337 tons	6,484
Stone	..	..	..	..	289,274	..	261,637
Pumice	..	..	..	3,300 tons	8,769	2,491 tons	6,796
Coal	..	..	..	2,115,184 "	2,115,184	2,060,315 "	2,060,315
Tungsten-ore	..	..	..	39 ⁷ / ₂₀ "	4,719	39 "	4,678
Quicksilver	..	..	..	563 lb.	132	3,852 lb.	516
Totals	..	..	..	..	£3,741,978	..	£3,536,266

* The gold-silver bullion is generally exported unseparated.

The value of minerals, including kauri-gum, exported and of the coal used in the Dominion, which is shown in Table No. 1 accompanying this Statement, amounted to £3,694,480, as compared with £3,482,490 during 1934. The total value of such minerals exported to the end of 1935 amounted to £192,268,337.

GOLD AND SILVER MINING.

During the year 603,244 oz. of bullion, valued at £1,300,046, was produced, an increase in quantity of 60,381 oz., and an increase in value of £104,206, as compared with the previous year.

The gold-content of the bullion is estimated at 165,277 oz., valued at £1,243,552.