

1939.
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, 1938.

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 1938 and 1937 :—

Mineral.	1938.		1937.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Gold and silver*	509,759 oz.	£ 1,214,054	612,468 oz.	£ 1,319,743
Platinum	1 ⁶ / ₂₀ „	7	55 „	423
Iron-ore	1,218 tons	3,666	571 tons	880
Stone	..	555,295	..	444,837
Pumice	3,046 „	8,811	2,931 tons	8,057
Coal	2,222,088 „	2,222,088	2,277,799 „	2,277,799
Tungsten-ore	45 ¹³ / ₂₀ „	8,604	23 ¹⁴ / ₂₀ „	6,468
Manganese-ore	90 „	450	5 „	50
Silica sand	1,459 „	1,126	164 „	236
Quicksilver	760 lbs.	190	1,344 lb.	336
Fuller's earth	56 tons.	154	..	..
Diatomaceous earth	..	70	..	..
Totals	..	£4,014,515	..	£4,058,829

* 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 £3,672,075, as compared with £3,916,176 during 1937. The total value of such minerals exported to the end of 1938 amounted to £203,548,007.