This Public Bill originated in the House of Representatives, and, having this day passed as now printed, is transmitted to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

House of Representatives. 26th October, 1906.

Hon. Sir J. G. Ward.

STATE COAL-MINES ACCOUNT.

Title.

ANALYSIS.

1. Short Title.

2. Accounts to be kept and balance-sheet pre-pared. Balance-sheet and accounts to be audited. Repeal.

3. Account how operated on. 4. All moneys to be property of Crown.

A BILL INTITULED

An Act to make Better Provision with regard to the State Title. Coal-mines Account.

BE IT ENACTED by the General Assembly of New Zealand 5 in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. The Short Title of this Act is "The State Coal-mines Short Title. Account Act, 1906"; and it shall form part of and be read together with "The Coal-mines Act, 1905" (hereinafter referred to as "the

10 principal Act").

2. (1.) The Minister shall cause full and faithful accounts to be Accounts to be kept kept of all moneys received and expended under Part II of the and balance-sheet principal Act, and of all assets and liabilities, and of all profits and losses.

- (2.) The Minister shall cause a balance-sheet for each financial year to be prepared, together with a statement of accounts (including a capital account and a profit and loss account for each mine worked under Part II of the principal Act).
- (3.) Such balance-sheet and statement shall be so prepared as to 20 show fully and faithfully the financial position of each such mine, and the financial result of its operations for the year.
- (4.) Such balance-sheet and statement shall be submitted to the Balance-sheet and Audit Office for audit, and shall be certified by the Audit Office accounts to be audited. either wholly or with such exceptions as may be necessary, and when 25 so audited and certified shall be published in the Gazette.

(5.) The balance-sheet and statement of accounts duly audited, together with a report by the Manager on the operations of each mine for the year, shall, within fourteen days after the commencement of the next ensuing session, be laid by the Minister before 30 Parliament.

No. 160—2.

Repeal.

(6.) Section one hundred and eight of the principal Act is hereby repealed.

Account how operated on.

3. All moneys withdrawn from the State Coal-mines Account shall be withdrawn only by cheque signed by the Under-Secretary for Mines, or such other person as the Minister may from time to time appoint, and countersigned by the Audit Office.

All moneys to be property of Crown.

4. All moneys in the State Coal-mines Account, or payable into that account by any person whomsoever, and also all moneys owing by any person under this Act, are hereby declared to be the property of the Crown, and recoverable accordingly as from debtors to the 10 Crown.

By Authority: John Mackay, Government Printer, Wellington.—1906.